

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
Of the Board of Education
School District No. 96
Held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025
Hauser Jr. High School
Riverside, IL

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

20-555 A. President Wesley Muirheid called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and on roll call, the following members were recorded as being present:

	Mr. Barsotti
	Ms. Gunn
	Mr. Olech
	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	Ms. Kachlic

Also in attendance were Superintendent Martha Ryan-Toye, Interim Director of Finance and Operations Mark Kuzniewski, Director of Teaching and Learning Angela Dolezal, Director of Special Education and Student Services Nora Geraghty, Steve Wright and Ryan Kelley of DLA Architects, the recording clerk to the Board of Education, a videographer from Riverside TV, several new teachers, their mentors, and community members.

B. Public Comment/Response.

There was no public comment.

C. Changes to the Agenda.

The agenda remained the same.

D. Superintendent's Report.

1. Introduction of District 96 New Teachers.

- Superintendent Ryan-Toye introduced Angela Dolezal, who introduced this year's class of new teachers. The district welcomed D96's new teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. Several new staff members were in attendance at tonight's board meeting, and the board welcomed them to District 96.

2. Blythe Park Playground Design and Visioning Update.

- Superintendent Ryan-Toye introduced Steve Wright and Ryan Kelley of DLA Architects, who assisted the district in facilitating another successful playground visioning session with students from Blythe Park and the Blythe Park community.
- DLA Architects shared highlights with the board about the vision and design process with our students and community, which took place on October 8 & 9, 2025.
- DLA shared a video and photos from the Blythe Park Playground Visioning Sessions. DLA's next steps are to take all of these ideas and create a final design.
- The timeline was discussed. The project would be bid in December, and a contract would be awarded in January.

- DLA will share a presentation with the board at an October/November board meeting so the Board has an opportunity to preview the playground design.
- This is a summer project for 2026.

20-556 E. Approval of Consent Agenda.

The Secretary to the Board of Education read the Consent Agenda items aloud.

A motion was made by Mr. Hunt and supported by Ms. Gunn to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Olech
	Mr. Barsotti
	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Gunn
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	Ms. Kachlic
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

F. Approval of Interim Director of Finance and Operations

A motion was made by Ms. Claps and supported by Mr. Barsotti to approve Mark Kuzniewski as the Interim Director of Finance and Operations Contract as presented.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Mr. Olech
	Mr. Barsotti
	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Gunn
	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	Ms. Kachlic
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

Superintendent Ryan-Toye welcomed Mr. Kuzniewski, our new Interim Director of Finance. Following a transition in leadership, the D96 school district has appointed the retired District 95 Superintendent Mr. Kuzniewski to serve as Interim Director of Finance. The temporary position will ensure a smooth transition until the role can be permanently filled.

G. Riverside Education Council.

There was no comment from the Riverside Education Council.

H. Board Member Comments.

There was no comment from the Board of Education members.

I. Old Business.

20-557 1. IASB Board Self-Assessment Follow-up - Action Item

A motion was made by Mr. Hunt and supported by Mr. Olech to approve the Board-Board and Board-Superintendent agreements as presented.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Mr. Barsotti
	Ms. Gunn
	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Hunt
	Mr. Olech
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	Ms. Kachlic
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

20-558 2. Proviso School Township Treasurer – Appointment of Trustee - Action Item.

A motion was made by Mr. Barsotti and supported by Ms. Claps to appoint the Interim Director of Finance and Operations, Mark Kuzniewski, to serve for a one-year term, which term may be renewed, as the District's trustees of schools for Riverside Township.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Gunn
	Mr. Barsotti
	Mr. Olech
	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	Ms. Kachlic
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

3. Intergovernmental Agreements Update.

- a. Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Village of Riverside and the Board of Education of Riverside School District 96 Regarding the Employment of Crossing Guards - Financial Overview.

In reviewing the IGA for crossing guards with the Village of Riverside at its August meeting, the Board noted that the IGA, developed in 2015, had a contradiction in the capped (ie, total) cost obligation to the District as expressed in its written form (Thirty Thousand Dollars) and its numerical form (\$35,000). That cost was to escalate by CPI each year.

In reviewing the District's past financial records and conferring with the Village, the District indeed was capped at Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. The annual CPI increase to the capped amount from 2015-2016 to the present was reviewed to ensure the correct CPI was applied. Indeed, the annual amounts were correctly calculated each year.

- b. Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Village of Riverside and Riverside School District 96 Regarding Improvements to Blythe Park Tennis Courts - Discontinued.

It was shared that at the time of the IGA's initial approval, both parties had a shared understanding about the use of the existing tennis court. However, now it is our shared understanding that the Village of Riverside will improve the tennis courts, and District 96 will improve the playground structure area. This IGA's original purpose is no longer relevant.

Therefore, the District has determined that the IGA to paint the existing tennis court should be considered null and void. A copy of the executed Termination of Intergovernmental Agreement for Tennis Court Painting was shared with the Board.

J. New Business/Discussion.

- A. Resolution Authorizing Transfer of \$1,276,000 from the Educational Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

At the August Board meeting, the board took action to approve the FY2026 Budget. That budget included \$1,276,000 that the Board previously approved for the security upgrade project. The money to cover those expenditures needs to be transferred from the Education Fund to the Capital Projects Fund, as they are paid from the Latter.

This draft resolution was reviewed at this meeting, with an approval set for the October meeting.

K. Public Comment/Response.

There was no public comment or statement.

L. Future Meeting Dates.

- October 8, 2025 - Committee of the Whole Meeting, 7:00 pm in the multi-purpose room at Hollywood School. The meeting date was changed from October 1 due to the holiday conflict.
- October 15, 2025 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. **(The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.).**
- November 5, 2025 - Committee of the Whole Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room at Ames School.
- November 19, 2025 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. **(The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.). Note: Hauser's Fall Play is scheduled that evening, starting at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium.**
- December 3, 2025 - Committee of the Whole Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the library at Blythe Park School.
- December 17, 2025 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. **(The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.).**

M. Information Items.

The Board received updates and information on the following monthly reports:

1. District 96 Student Enrollment Report.
2. Financial Statement.
3. FOIA Responses.

- 4. Legal Bills.
- 5. Architects Bills.
- 6. School Lunches Served Report.
- 7. August 2025 Construction Monthly Report.

N. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

September 17, 2025

Date Recorded

Date Approved

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education