

REGULAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
February 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

President Michael Lenisa called the regular meeting of the Board of Education in Bloomingdale Elementary School District 13 to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2025.

Roll Call

Present: Ms. Monika Cuellar, Mr. Marcin Kapral, Mrs. Nicole Majewski, Mr. Terry McKeown, Ms. Tamara Peterson, Mrs. Linda Wojcicki, Mr. Michael Lenisa

Absent:

Others Present: Dr. Jon Bartelt, Shannon Zinner, Nicole Gabany, Valerie Varhalla, Elizabeth Hennessy, Sam Menton, Matt Johnson, Melissa Johnson, Amy Meister, Lydia Meister, Jonah Meister, Michelle Fratto, Jenna Fratto, Karissa Shah, Ashley Harsila, Heather Del Giudice, Ramya Konkala

Above and Beyond

Board Member Nicole Majewski recognized this month's Above and Beyond recipients, Kanna Hara (DuJardin), Vishishta Madadi (Erickson) and Natalie Basiorka (Westfield).

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Majewski and seconded by Mrs. Wojcicki to approve the items in the Consent Agenda which included Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on 1-27-25, Minutes from the Closed Session Board Meeting on 1-27-25, Minutes from the Special Board Meeting on 2-10-25, and Minutes from the Closed Session Board Meeting on 2-10-25. Approval of Bills in the Education Fund in the amount of \$541,816.75; the Operations and Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$70,961.47; Debt Service in the amount of \$0.00; Transportation Fund in the amount of \$91,434.83; Capital Projects in the amount of \$0.00; and Tort Fund in the amount of \$0.00; Payroll (2-10-2025) in the amount of \$486,067.78; the Financial Reports as shown in (F.D. 02/24/25-2); **New Hires**, Julio Rodriguez Geronimo, Custodian at Westfield effective TBD, Miguel Estefania, Custodian at DuJardin effective TBD; **Resignations/Retirements**, Anthony Tellez, Custodian at DuJardin effective 1/27/25, Lauren Ott, Teacher at Erickson effective end of the 24/25 school year, Katherine Schwerin, Teacher at Erickson effective end of the 24/25 school year; **Change of Position**, Maddy Hoare, Special Education Teacher at Westfield to Structured Teacher at DuJardin, effective 8/14/25; **Leaves**, Joseph Pelletier, Custodian at Erickson, effective 12/13/2024 - 3/7/25, Noelle Menos, Math Interventionist at DuJardin and Erickson, effective 3/17/25 - 5/19/25.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Majewski, Wojcicki, Cuellar, Kapral, Peterson, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: McKeown

Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 1

Superintendent's Report

Student Presentation

Students from DuJardin's Kids of Character Club were at the meeting to present information about the club to the Board of Education.

Student Ambassador Report

8th Grade students, Evelyn Voytek and Jacob Kane provided the Board with an update on school events over the past couple of months including DuJardin's Penny Wars to support Feed My Starving Children, Jaguar Den, and Mrs. Harsila's Award of Special Recognition by ISBE and Westfield's volleyball season and masquerade dance. They also shared that the spring play this year will be Shrek, and 8th grade graduation will take place on May 28th.

Winter MAP Report

Mrs. Gabany shared the benchmark results from Winter MAP testing and answered questions from the Board.

School SIP Progress Report

Dr. Bartelt indicated that the written progress reports from all three schools, showing the progress made against their school improvement goals are located in the Board packet. The principals will be present at the May 19th Board meeting to present their final reports to the Board.

Public Comment

Sam Menton asked for any updates from DLA architects since they were at the Board meeting a couple of months ago. He also inquired about the life safety dollars and whether there were any changes to the way that they were budgeted. In addition, he requested information about the District's Bullying Policy. Mr. Lenisa indicated that some of his questions would be answered later in the meeting, and that Dr. Bartelt would follow up with him on his other questions.

Board Reports and Requests

BIG – Ms. Peterson indicated that there was no meeting this month.

CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition – Mrs. Wojcicki indicated that they are working on the recognition breakfast. Applications need to be submitted by March 1. The event will take place on Saturday, May 3 at Erickson Elementary School.

Education Foundation – Mrs. Wojcicki indicated that the glow run fundraising events will be held on March 17 at Westfield, March 18 at Erickson and March 19 at DuJardin.

LEND - Mrs. Majewski indicated that there was no meeting this month.

NDSEC – Mr. Kapral indicated that their next meeting would take place next month. Dr. Bartelt shared that the classroom lease was an action item on tonight's agenda and that while the numbers have not changed since last year, the operational board is looking into changing how the rates are calculated, and we should see a change in next year's lease.

Bloomington Council of Teachers – Mr. Lenisa shared that the negotiating team and the union have reached an agreement on contract negotiations which will be voted on at the March Board meeting. Mr. Lenisa also reported that they will be having their first joint meeting with both unions on March 7.

IASB - Mr. McKeown indicated that they had their last meeting on February 7, where they discussed the evidence-based funding increase and cell phone ban proposed for K-12 schools. The DuPage Division dinner meeting will be held on March 5, and their next ambassador meeting will be on March 14.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

Mr. Lenisa indicated that there was one FOIA request summarized in the Board packet.

Action Items

Approval of 2025-2026 School Fees (F.D. 2/24/2025-3)

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Ms. Cuellar for the Board to approve the District Fees for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Cuellar, Kapral, Majewski, McKeown, Wojcicki, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

Approval of 2025 Summer Projects (F.D. 2/24/25-4)

A motion was made by Mrs. Wojcicki and seconded by Mr. McKeown for the Board to approve the project list for the summer of 2025, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Wojcicki, McKeown, Cuellar, Kapral, Majewski, Peterson, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

Approval of NDSEC Classroom Lease Agreement (F.D. 2/24/25-5)

A motion was made by Mr. Kapral and seconded by Ms. Peterson for the Board to approve the classroom lease agreement with NDSEC, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Kapral, Peterson, Cuellar, Majewski, McKeown, Wojcicki, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$43,045,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2025, of the District for the purpose of altering and reconstructing school buildings and purchasing and installing equipment therein for fire prevention and safety, energy conservation and school security purposes and paying the costs of those capital projects approved by referendum at the November 5, 2024, general election, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof (F.D. 2/24/25-6)

A motion was made by Mr. McKeown and seconded by Mrs. Wojcicki for the Board of Education to adopt the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$43,045,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2025, of the District for the purpose of altering and reconstructing school buildings and purchasing and installing equipment therein for fire prevention and safety, energy conservation and school security purposes and paying the costs of those capital projects approved by referendum at the November 5, 2024, general election, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: McKeown, Wojcicki, Cuellar, Kapral, Majewski, Peterson, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

Discussion Items

Bond Update

Elizabeth Hennessy from Raymond James spoke to the Board about the next steps regarding the bonds following approval of the resolution earlier this evening.

Building Projects Update

Dr. Bartelt gave a brief update on the building projects to the Board of Education and the public.

Building Projects Update

Mrs. Gabany shared the process undertaken and recommendation of resources to support Math instruction in grades pre-k through 5 and answered questions from the Board.

First Reading of Amendments to Board Policy

Dr. Bartelt indicated to the Board that the proposed student handbooks for the upcoming school year are attached to the Board packet. The handbooks will be voted on at the March 24 regular Board meeting.

Topic(s) for Future Agendas

AI and how we are going to approach it.

For Information

Enrollment Report

Available for review in the Board packet.

NDSEC Profile

Available for review in the Board packet.

Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. McKeown for the Board to adjourn to closed session at 9:01 p.m. to discuss matters related to appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees and collective bargaining.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, McKeown, Cuellar, Kapral, Majewski, Wojcicki, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

President Michael Lenisa called the regular meeting of the Board of Education in Bloomingdale Elementary School District 13 back to order at 9:20 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Kapral and seconded by Mr. McKeown to adjourn the meeting. All ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Michael Lenisa, President

Linda Wojcicki, Secretary