

MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
Of the Board of Education  
School District No. 96  
Held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
Hauser Jr. High School  
Riverside, IL

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

20-479 A. President Wesley Muirheid called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m., and on roll call, the following members were recorded as being present:

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

Also in attendance were Superintendent Martha Ryan-Toye, Director of Finance and Operations Jim Fitton, Director of Technology Don Tufano, Director of Teaching and Learning Angela Dolezal, Director of Special Education and Student Services Nora Geraghty, Hollywood Principal Kim Hefner, Hollywood teacher Coleen Nelson, several student council members, the student presenters' parents and families, the recording clerk to the Board of Education, a videographer from Riverside TV and a staff member.

20-480 B. A motion was made by Mr. Marhoul and supported by Ms. Gunn to adjourn to Closed Session for the following reasons:

- Security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Ms. Claps
	Mr. Marhoul
	Mr. Barsotti
	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Gunn
	Ms. Kachlic, arrived at 6:25 pm
	Mr. Muirheid
Absent:	None
Nays:	None

C. Return to Open Session.

D. Public Comment/Response.

There was no public comment.

E. Changes to the Agenda.

There are no changes to tonight's meeting agenda.

F. Superintendent's Report.

1. Student Presenters - Hollywood Elementary School.

- Hollywood Principal Kim Hefner introduced Ms. Coleen Nelson, the Hollywood teacher in charge of the Student Council.
- Husky Student Council introduced themselves to the board of education and shared a video highlighting the recent mock election at Hollywood School.
- The school's art room was transformed into a polling place. Student Council members were election judges.
- The entire school voted for chocolate or vanilla ice cream in a Mock Election. Chocolate was the winner!
- All grades participated. Students could choose either paper or computerized ballots. Voting occurred in the morning, and the winner was announced during the afternoon Town Hall Meeting.
- The students enjoyed ice cream during lunch after the election.
- The presentation closed with the board members asking the students a few questions.

2. Hollywood Playground Repair - January 20.

- Superintendent Ryan-Toye updated the board on the Hollywood Playground repair.
- The replacement playground parts have arrived and will be installed once the weather cooperates.

3. Blythe Park IGA.

- Superintendent Ryan-Toye shared a brief update regarding the status of the Blythe Park IGA.
- The Village of Riverside is reexamining the title search.
- Additional meetings are scheduled to discuss this matter: January 8th - Preservation Committee; January 27th - Parks and Recreation.
- The next Village of Riverside meeting scheduled for February 6 is anticipated to provide additional direction for D96.
- This matter could be added to the February or March board meeting agenda.
- It was reiterated that this is tentatively slated as a summer 2026 project.

4. Family Literacy Night - February 26, 2025.

- Please join D96 teachers and families to dive into reading! Explore literacy stations led by D96 staff and junior high students. Games and challenges will vary by grade level, so everyone can go at their own pace.
- This district-wide event is for Pre-K-Fifth graders and their families (parent/guardian must accompany student).
- The event will be held at Hauser.
- We hope to see everyone on February 26th!

5. Virtual Kindergarten Information Night - March 6, 2025.

- The District's Virtual Kindergarten Information and Registration Night is scheduled for March 6, 2025.
- This event is a great opportunity to get families to complete registration and residency, as this helps the administration understand enrollment for the upcoming year.
- Please visit the district's website, [www.district96.org](http://www.district96.org), for more information on this event.

6. Village of Riverside Sesquicentennial Proclamation.

- Superintendent Ryan-Toye and board members Wesley Muirheid and David Barsotti attended The Village of Riverside's Sesquicentennial Opening Ceremony earlier this evening at Centennial Plaza.
- The ceremony marks the 150th anniversary of the village's incorporation in 1875.
- D96 students designed luminarias that were displayed around the water tower.
- This event represents Riverside's 150-year history as a Village and the positive spirit of this landmark community looking forward to the future.
- The Village of Riverside is also planning other events for this year-long celebration.
- Molly Castor was also in attendance and will have more to share about this event.

20-481 G. Approval of Consent Agenda.

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

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

The motion carried the following roll call vote:

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

H. Board Member Comments.

- There were no Board member comments.

20-482 I. Old Business.

1. Policy 7:190 - Student Behavior - D96 Edits - Action Item.

A motion was made by Mr. Marhoul and supported by Mr. Hunt to approve the changes made to Policy 7:190 (D96 edits) as presented.

Superintendent Ryan-Toye shared there were no language changes to the policy; however, it was clarified that the period of expulsion could be as short as 11 days and as long as two years. D96's goal was to provide flexibility on a case-by-case basis.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Mr. Barsotti
	Mr. Hunt
	Ms. Gunn
	Ms. Kachlic
	Ms. Claps

Mr. Marhoul  
Mr. Muirheid  
Absent: None  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None

J. New Business/Discussion.

1. Draft Public School Calendar 2025-2026.

- Director of Teaching and Learning Angela Dolezal shared highlights of the draft 2025-2026 school calendar.
- When drafting a calendar each year, the district's goal is to match our winter and spring breaks to those of Riverside Brookfield High School (RBHS). Therefore, the dates on this draft calendar reflect the breaks submitted on RBHS's proposed 2025-2026 calendar. The calendar team recommends a student start date of Wednesday, August 20, 2025, with an end date of May 29, 2026. Two Institute Days are scheduled for Monday, August 18, 2025, and Tuesday, August 19, 2025, would start the school year for the District 96 staff members. The first day of student attendance would be August 20, 2025.
- Summer school dates were shared. 2025 Summer School is scheduled to run from Monday, July 14, 2025, through Thursday, August 7, 2025.
- The draft calendar will be posted on the district's website.
- This matter will be returned to the board at the February 19th board meeting.

J. New Business/Discussion.

2. Illinois Vision 2030.

- The board discussed Vision 2030, a collaborative effort to set a vision for public education in Illinois. A few years ago, Vision 2020 was implemented, and now Vision 2030 is in effect. This is essentially the State of Illinois' Strategic Plan.
- Vision 2030 seeks to put systems and processes in place that support all school districts throughout the state in sharing what works for our students and communities while also preserving local flexibility and leadership so that the best decisions are made closest to home.
- IASB is looking for Illinois school districts to vote and approve their involvement in this joint effort.
- This matter will be placed on the February 19th board agenda.

K. Public Comment/Response.

There was no public comment.

L. Future Meeting Dates.

- February 5, 2025 - Committee of the Whole, 7:00 p.m. - multi-purpose room at Blythe Park Elementary School.
- February 19, 2025 - Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Auditorium (The Board will enter into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m., if necessary, and return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.).
- March 5, 2025 - Committee of the Whole, 7:00 p.m. - multi-purpose room at Central Elementary School.
- March 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.).

M. Information Items.

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

1. District 96 Student Enrollment Report.

2. District 96 Absence Report.
3. District 96 Substitute Usage Report.
4. Financial Statements.
5. Budget Progress Statement.
6. Legal Bills.
7. Architect Bills.
8. School Lunches Served Report.

N. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

January 15, 2025

Date Recorded

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Date Approved

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education