

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
Of the Board of Education
School District No. 96
Held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025
Ames Elementary School
Riverside, IL

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

20-538 A. Board Vice-President David Barsotti called the Regular Business Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and on roll call, the following members were recorded as being present:

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

Also in attendance were Superintendent Martha Ryan-Toye, Director of Teaching and Learning Angela Dolezal, Director of Special Education & Student Services Nora Geraghty, Director of Technology Molly Marquardt, Ramesh Nair, owner's rep, community member, the Board of Education recording clerk, and a Riverside TV videographer.

20-539 B. A motion was made by Mr. Hunt 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, threatened, or reasonably potential danger. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

C. Return to Open Session.

D. Public Comment/Response.

Johann Bayer shared his family's negative experience regarding early admission into kindergarten for their daughter, who is one day shy of the September 1st admission cutoff date. Handouts were shared with the board members.

E. Changes to the Agenda.

There were no changes to the agenda.

F. Superintendent's Report.

1. June 2025 Construction Monthly Report

Superintendent Ryan-Toye introduced Ramesh Nair, who updated the board on the three construction projects taking place this summer. He reported that all projects are on schedule.

- Hauser Exterior tuckpointing
 - It was reiterated that a change order was requested at a previous board meeting to replace over 83 additional lintels and purchase additional bricks. In addition, the chimney height was reduced. Grinding of all joints is complete as of today. No more dust and cleaning on the inside of the school can begin. The project is on schedule for completion on August 8.
- Ames school boiler project
 - The boiler is in place. The project is on schedule, with an inspection date set for August 20. This will not affect the first day of school.
- Roof replacement at Hollywood School
 - This project is 99% complete. A walk-through is scheduled for tomorrow, July 17. This contract is complete three weeks ahead of schedule.
- Additional items were shared. A minor project is being addressed at Ames. Also, opening the recreational field at Central/Hauser is 95% complete. The basketball court is being replaced. The fence on the recreational field will be taken down in the first week of August.

2. Summer School Update.

- The 2025 summer school is underway (July 14-24, with no school on Fridays).
- Erin Dwyer, the new Principal of Hollywood School, is the summer school principal.
- All summer school courses were moved to Ames School due to the Hauser tuckpointing project.
- The district offers two sessions, which include students in Skillbuilding and enrichment courses.
- Skill-building is a 4-week session in which students are invited to participate. Reading and Math are available for Incoming 1st through 8th-grade students.
- Enrichment courses are offered for Session 1, which include, to name a few, Transition to Kindergarten (Incoming K), STEM Explorers (Incoming 1st-3rd), and Introduction to Coding (Incoming 5th-8th). Session 2 offerings include, to name a few, Ready, Set, Grow! (Incoming 3rd-6th), STEM Explorers (Incoming 1st-3rd), Fun with Math (Incoming 4th-6th), Intro to Coding (Incoming 5th-8th), and Robotics (Incoming 6th-8th). The Transition to Hauser program is offered for incoming 6th-grade students. This year, the course was relocated to Ames, which resulted in some students dropping the course. The administration at Hauser plans to extend the incoming sixth-grade orientation event to give students more time at the school. This will be an evening event.
- If the board would like, a summer school presentation can be provided in a future meeting.

3. Teacher Institute Days - August 18 and 19.

- Riverside School District 96 will begin the new school year with a professional learning collaboration and gathering of all staff on August 18 and 19. D96 will again meet at the Brookfield Zoo Discovery Center on Monday, August 18. This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Rachael Mahmood, Illinois Teacher of the Year.
- All board members are invited to attend.
- Institute day agendas were shared with the Board.

20-540 G. 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 the following roll call vote:

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

20-541 H. Approval of the Interim part-time Chief Financial Officer Contract.

A motion was made by Mr. Hunt and supported by Ms. Kachlic to approve the interim part-time Chief Financial Officer as presented.

It was shared that this contract is being brought to the board to assist with the transition of the interim Director of Finance position.

The motion carried the following roll call vote:

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

I. Riverside Education Council.

There were no comments from the Riverside Education Council.

J. Board member Comments.

There were no comments from board members.

20-542 K. Old Business.

1. Approval of Security Bid - Action Item.

A motion was made by Ms. Kachlic and supported by Ms. Gunn to accept Vistara's recommendation to award a contract of \$1,275,445.98 to Imperial Surveillance for the Security Infrastructure Upgrade Project.

The topic was the subject of considerable discussion.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

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

L. New Business/Discussion.

1. Riverside Junior Woman's Charity Gift to D96.
 - The Riverside Junior Woman's Charity was acknowledged for their recent donation to cover the remaining food balances of all students in need in Riverside School District 96. District 96 greatly appreciates the support and assistance from Riverside Junior Woman's Charity.

M. Public Comment/Response.

There was no public comment.

N. Future Meeting Dates.

- August 6, 2025 - Committee of the Whole, 7:00 p.m. in the library at Blythe Park School.
- August 20, 2025—Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. If necessary, the Board will enter into a Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. and return to an Open Session at 7:00 p.m.
- September 3, 2025 - Board Self-Assessment, 6:00 p.m., in the library at Ames School.
- September 17, 2025—Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. If necessary, the Board will enter into a Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. and return to an Open Session at 7:00 p.m.
- October 1, 2025 - Committee of the Whole, 7:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Hollywood School.
- October 15, 2025—Regular Business Meeting, 7:00 p.m. in the Hauser Learning Resource Center. If necessary, the Board will enter into a Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. and return to an Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

O. Information Items.

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

1. District 96 Student Enrollment Report.
2. FOIA Requests.
3. Budget Progress Statement.
4. Financial Statements.
5. Legal Bills.

P. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

July 16, 2025

Date Recorded

Date Approved

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education