

I. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board President Liane Raso.

II. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Vanguard presenting students from Prairieview along with Board President Liane Raso.

III. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included Lauren Mastny, Kelly Eiland, Tara Herndon, Jim Gismondi, Jessica Gismondi, Gia Gismondi, Elizabeth Glowacki, Sarah Glowacki, Brax Ulit, Jasmin Ulit, Jeffrey Ulit, Dash Vo, Tram Vo, Chuan Vo, Mia Getchel, Brandon Getchel, Sireen Saleh, Abuhmud Amaney, Jake Little, Dr. Kim Liles, Katie Johnson, Sean Rhoads, Dr. Mark Orszula, Tom Tiede, Keith Roberts. Online attendees included Kristin Platt, Jessica Rost, Jessica Sage, Adam Sage, Jennifer Shearer, Rusty Novotny, Elizabeth Uribe, James Gresens, Kylo Campbell, and Amy Willer.

IV. Scheduled Time to Address the Board

There were no scheduled speakers.

V. Consent Agenda

V.A. Monthly Meeting Minutes

V.B. District's Monthly Financial Statements

V.C. Monthly Board Bills Payable

V.D. New Items

V.D.1. Approve Resignation of Scott Holakovsky, Technology Assistant

VI. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke and seconded by Tiffany Watson, Passed.

Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Communication

VII.A. Prairieview Vanguard Teachers and Students

Prairieview Vanguard Teachers Tara Herndon, Lauren Mastny, and Kellie Eiland shared how they are taking the lead on competency based reporting and student ownership of learning. 3rd grade students presented how rubrics help them know what they are expected to learn; where they are in the learning process; and how to improve their learning. The students also provided

the Board with a word problem to solve without a rubric, then with a rubric, so the Board could see the difference in the level of learning that takes place when a rubric is provided.

VII.B. FOIA Request

There was one FOIA request received from SmartProcure which the District complied with.

VIII. Principal Reports

VIII.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

Principal Johnson reported that before the winter break, students completed their Winter Benchmarking assessments, revealing insights into their growth and areas to focus on for the second half of the school year. In January, staff will analyze the benchmarking data to refine teaching strategies and support each student's unique needs for continued progress. Last month, our IDE students had the opportunity to learn from the Lakeview Student Leadership Team, which brought together K-2 students and older role models in an interactive learning environment. The leadership team organized engaging games and activities that promoted teamwork, communication, and collaboration, allowing younger students to learn valuable lessons in leadership and responsibility.

VIII.B. Prairieview Elementary

Principal Little described how 3rd graders participated in a STEM challenge inspired by The Great Turkey Race, where they designed transportation devices for their turkeys, fostering problem-solving, teamwork, and engineering skills in a fun, hands-on way. 5th graders showcased their creativity by designing mini floats and coding parade routes using Ozobots, which emphasized engineering, design, and collaboration, made possible by a Team 66 Grant. On December 11th, teachers engaged in training for becoming a CHAMPS school, adopting the STOIC framework to create a consistent and positive learning environment. In January, the focus as part of the "Habit of a Champion" initiative is on being effective communicators, emphasizing the importance of respectful and kind communication in both verbal and non-verbal forms. Our paraprofessionals are participating in a book study on communication to better model these skills for students.

VIII.C. Lakeview Junior High

Dr. Orszula expressed as Winter Break approaches, Lakeview is buzzing with excitement as students and staff engage in creative activities, such as art projects in Mrs. Newman's class and harmonica lessons in Mrs. Rickert's music class. The Principal Advisory Council has been actively meeting to share ideas and implement improvements within the school, while students recently completed their Winter MAP testing, achieving impressive growth. The winter concert season was another highlight, showcasing the talents of the Choir and Band, and PAC members introduced the idea of starting a Lakeview podcast. The end-of-quarter assembly celebrated school spirit with team competitions, and as Quarter 2 wraps up with a focus on respect, the upcoming Quarter 3 will emphasize responsibility, encouraging continued student growth.

IX. Director Reports

IX.A. Director of Student Services

January and February are essential months for teachers to gather student performance data through benchmarking assessments conducted three times a year—fall, winter, and spring. This data helps identify individual student needs and strengths, informs instructional

strategies, and supports the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), facilitating personalized education pathways. During the January 6th Institute Day, staff engaged in professional development with Panorama Education to enhance their skills in conducting effective one-on-one social-emotional learning (SEL) conversations with students and families, which is crucial for creating a positive school climate and fostering student success.

Additionally, January marks the beginning of vertical articulation efforts to ease students' transitions to the next grade level or school, involving collaboration among educators and service providers to tailor educational experiences to individual needs. This process aims to foster continuity and support for every student's educational journey. Finally, through monthly New Teacher mentoring workshops, new staff are introduced to the district's equity journey, focusing on creating inclusive environments by employing the Integrated Comprehensive Systems for Equity (ICS) framework, which encourages recognition of students' diverse strengths and promotes systemic change for equity in education.

IX.B. Director of Learning

Upon returning from Winter Break, students in grades 3-8 will start preparing for the DuPage County Regional Spelling Bee, scheduled for February 20, 2025. Classrooms will hold practice spelling bees during the week of January 13, followed by official classroom competitions where winners and runners-up will advance to grade-level contests on January 21, 22, or 23. Additionally, the District 66 Spelling Bee will take place on the afternoon of January 30, celebrating students' hard work and spelling talents.

The Winter Assessment window has concluded for students in grades K-8, and staff are currently analyzing the data to strategize support for continued learning, reflecting on the exceptional efforts of both students and staff this fall. On January 6, 2025, a full day of professional development welcomed back all staff, fostering a collaborative atmosphere as they embark on their Competency-Based Education (CBE) journey. The event featured presentations from Vanguard Teachers, energizing the district, while K-5 teachers began their first Inspire Science professional development session, and 6-8 educators completed their final IXL training session to enhance their expertise.

IX.C. Director of Technology

In the past month, the Lakeview STEM Lab has undergone significant upgrades to enhance its audio and video capabilities, improving the overall learning experience through advanced technologies that support interactive instruction. New audio equipment has been installed for clearer communication, while state-of-the-art video displays facilitate seamless presentations and access to diverse multimedia resources, creating a more engaging STEM education environment. Additionally, several aging projectors were replaced to address ongoing image quality issues, contributing to a more effective teaching and learning atmosphere.

Maintenance efforts included vital server and network updates, such as software upgrades and hardware replacements, which improved system performance and security, reducing downtime and enhancing connectivity. AI tools have also been deployed to assess vulnerabilities in the district's digital infrastructure, providing real-time analysis and predictive insights to the IT department, thereby strengthening network security and ensuring the resilience of the system against potential threats.

IX.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

During the Holiday break, the bus fleet underwent semi-annual safety certification, receiving necessary repairs and maintenance, while mild weather permitted thorough cleaning and

sanitizing. On January 7, an annual two-hour refresher course for bus drivers was hosted, including those from neighboring districts, helping save costs and ensuring compliance with permit renewal requirements. The break was one of the busiest on record for school buildings, with custodians and extra helpers working collaboratively on various projects. At Lakeview, carpeting and baseboards in the A-wing and Science wing were replaced, and upcoming work will focus on flooring for the IMC and surrounding areas, set to conclude by the summer of 2025. Additionally, several exit doors and related hardware at Lakeview were replaced as part of the final projects funded under the federal SVPP grant.

X. Superintendent Report

X.A. District Dashboard

District dashboard is included in the Boardbook and remains unchanged.

X.B. SY 25-26 School Calendar

Dr. Wise presented the SY 25-26 Center Cass School Calendar. Students will start school on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 and end school on Tuesday, June 2, 2026. Dr. Wise shared that the 2025-2026 Calendar has an additional instructional day, additional institute day, less half days, and more instructional time than calendars of the past.

X.C. Final Reading of Board Policies 2:120, 2:260, 2:265, 4:30, 4:150, 4:170, 4:350, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:125, 5:230, 6:135, 6:60, 6:270, 7:10, 7:20, 7:100, 7:180, 7:185, 7:200, 7:270, and 8:10

Final Reading of Board Policies 2:120, 2:260, 2:265, 4:30, 4:150, 4:170, 4:350, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:125, 5:230, 6:135, 6:60, 6:270, 7:10, 7:20, 7:100, 7:180, 7:185, 7:200, 7:270, and 8:10. Same as last month, with no concerns.

X.D. Approval of Superintendent Contract 2025-2029

Dr. Wise shared a revised Superintendent contract with the Board, that would provide him with retirement benefits and extend him one year beyond his current contract to his retirement eligibility date of June 30, 2029. Dr. Wise shared that he would be honored to finish his career at Center Cass and lead the work of the District inside the Strategic Plan. The Board commended Dr. Wise for his strong leadership and commitment to the students, employees, parents, and community members of Center Cass.

XI. Public Comment

There was no public comment shared at the January 8th Board of Education meeting.

XII. Action items

XII.A. Approve the SY 25-26 Draft School Calendar

Motion to approve the SY25-26 School Calendar. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed.

Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.B. Approve Board Policies 2:120, 2:260, 2:265, 4:30, 4:150, 4:170, 4:350, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:125, 5:230, 6:135, 6:60, 6:270, 7:10, 7:20, 7:100, 7:180, 7:185, 7:200, 7:270, and 8:10

Motion to Approve Board Policies 2:120, 2:260, 2:265, 4:30, 4:150, 4:170, 4:350, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:100, 5:120, 5:125, 5:230, 6:135, 6:60, 6:270, 7:10, 7:20, 7:100, 7:180, 7:185, 7:200, 7:270, and 8:10. This motion, made by Tiffany Watson and seconded by Doug Wiley, Passed. Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.C. Motion to Enter Executive Session

XIII. Executive Session - Enter Executive Session to discuss student discipline, the appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity, and/or litigation 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) or collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning safety schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5ILCS120/2(c)(3)

XIII.A. Motion to Re-Enter Open Session

XIV. Action Items (cont.)

XIV.A. Motion to Approve the Superintendent Contract 2025-2029

Motion to approve the Superintendent Contract 2025-2029. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito and seconded by Donna Sobotka, Passed.

Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed. Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The January 8, 2025 Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 7:12p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Gannon

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education