

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 9, 2024 6:30 PM Central

Prairieview Elementary School
699 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Megan DuPass: Present
Christopher Esposito: Present
Brian Liedtke: Present
Liane Raso: Present
Donna Sobotka: Absent
Tiffany Watson: Present
Doug Wiley: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

I. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Board President Liane Raso.

II. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Liane Raso.

III. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included

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 the Increase in Hours for Diane Novak, Prairieview P/T Nurse

VI. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VII. Communication

VII.A. SY 23-24 Audit - Gorenz and Associates

The District's Auditor, Kyle Hendrickson from Gorenz and Associates presented the SY 23-24 audit and gave the District a clean opinion. He noted that the District was able to use the

proceeds from the referendum to begin to build the educational program and district fund balance.

VII.B. Lakeview Fall Activity Update

Lakeview's Fall Sport Teams presented experiences from their seasons. Students from Softball, Baseball and Cross Country shared their growth as a result of their sport. Students thanked their coaches, including Beth Nyhlen, Logan Bryant, Joyce Wilson and Kelly Eiland for supporting them and dedicating so much time to making their Fall season positive.

VIII. Principal Reports

VIII.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

During Common Plan Time, grade-level teams collaborated with various educators to analyze beginning-of-year student assessment data, allowing for targeted instruction tailored to individual student needs. Additionally, teachers engaged in ongoing professional development on Aimsweb+ for monitoring student progress, with a strong emphasis on reading instruction this year. This approach, combined with aligned Tier 1 instruction using Structured Literacy, aims to foster growth and achievement in students, particularly in phonological awareness for younger grades.

VIII.B. Prairieview Elementary

In response to the evolving needs of students, Principal Little explained that GLTs have engaged in reflective discussions on enhancing collaboration, as prompted by the article "When Nice Won't Suffice." This has led to more focused efforts to close achievement gaps, as seen in various classrooms in applying innovative teaching strategies. The ongoing reevaluation of WIN time aims to improve data analysis, student grouping, and interventions, ultimately fostering student growth and goal achievement.

VIII.C. Lakeview Junior High

Dr. Orszula reported that Lakeview is a vibrant learning environment where students excel, highlighted by recent Parent/Teacher conferences that fostered collaboration and celebrated student achievements. Assemblies offer a valuable opportunity to recognize students' hard work, creativity, and dedication, contributing to a strong sense of community and pride among students, staff, and families. Lakeview held a vibrant Homecoming Parade and assembly, showcasing students from various clubs, activities, sports teams, and the band. Students came together in the bus lanes to celebrate these events, which highlight our students' achievements both academically and in extracurricular activities.

IX. Director Reports

IX.A. Director of Student Services

Director Rhoads reported that the "Blended Preschool for All" program offers optional family engagement opportunities on monthly School Improvement Days (SIP). These engagements are designed as collaborative and strength-based experiences, allowing our preschool staff, families, and children to develop positive, goal-oriented relationships. On September 18th, the program hosted its first family engagement day at McCollum Park, and on October 2nd, families were invited to the Darien-Woodridge Fire Department. These activities extend the teaching and learning that takes place in the classroom, enriching the preschool experience

for both children and families, while also building a supportive and collaborative relationship between parents.

IX.B. Director of Learning

Following the closure of the fall assessment window, teams and buildings are now focused on analyzing the data to enhance daily instruction, a notable improvement in district-wide practices. Director Liles stated that she has seen teams effectively using their common planning time for this analysis, while principals are working with their Building Leadership Teams to establish data-driven goals.

IX.C. Director of Technology

Director Roberts has been exploring cloud-based VoIP phone systems to enhance communication and security in our district, focusing on key integrations such as intercom systems, crisis management systems, and a soft client. He has conducted meetings with GLT team members and four grade-level teams to assess their specific needs and gather feedback, which will inform his staff development plans for the year. Additionally, he is developing a staff development site to provide just-in-time resources for teachers using Skyward Teacher Access, including tutorials and troubleshooting guides, aimed at reducing the learning curve and facilitating efficient classroom management.

IX.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

Director Tiede reported that building activities at the schools have become smoothly integrated into daily routines, with a vibrant array of sports, building rentals, and after-school programs taking place regularly. This flourishing environment is a direct result of the community's support for the recent referendum, allowing for enhanced positive engagement and active participation within the community. This month, he will collaborate with Dr. Wise to evaluate the fleet size and age for the upcoming school year, focusing on the replacement of three large buses scheduled to come off lease in July 2025, as outlined in the district's four-year transportation plan.

X. Superintendent Report

X.A. District Dashboard

The District Dashboard is included in the boardbook.

X.B. SY 23-24 Audit

Dr. Wise highlighted the successful use of referendum proceeds to enhance the educational program and improve the district's fund balance. Dr. Wise praised the improved accounting methods that offer an accurate representation of the district's financial status across revenues, expenses, and fund balances. He also commended the Board for implementing policies and procedures that have positively impacted the District's financial health.

X.C. Financial Profile

Dr. Wise informed the community that the Illinois School District Financial Profile is over a year in the rears, indicating that the District's current financial health has significantly improved, yet it is projected to receive a Financial Warning score of 2. This score reflects the District's previous financial condition over a year ago. He emphasized that the Financial Profile will improve annually if the District continues to increase its Fund Balances.

X.D. Debt Certificates

Dr. Wise provided a District Update during the recent School Improvement Day, indicating that the District has borrowed approximately \$18 million to facilitate projects outlined in the referendum and address unforeseen needs related to Health Life Safety from 2021. He emphasized that remaining funds would allow the District to tackle space concerns. Furthermore, Dr. Wise noted that referendum dollars have been allocated for personnel, fund balances, and facilities, with future facility improvements planned to be financed through debt certificates and health life safety bonds, utilizing referendum proceeds for annual payments.

X.E. Summer Work 2025-27

The District schedule for the Summer 2025 to Summer 2027 projects is included in the boardbook.

X.F. School Board Resolutions

Dr. Wise explained that one Board member would represent the District at the Board Conference to place a vote at the Congressional meeting. The Board and Dr. Wise gathered consensus on each of the resolutions up for appeal and adoption.

X.G. School Board Candidate Night

Dr. Wise briefly discussed the School Board Candidate Night on October 16th at 7:00p.m. He explained the meeting would be informational and there would be a couple of current Board members present to answer questions.

X.H. Policy 5:250 - Revised

Policy 5:250 pertains to Leaves of Absence without pay. The updated policy changes the duration from 30 days to 45 days of unpaid leave.

X.I. Annual Superintendent Goals Aligned to the Strategic Plan

Superintendent contracts require that goals be presented every October, and for the past five years, these goals have aligned with the Strategic Plan. Dr. Wise reiterated this connection and highlighted that progress toward these goals is shared monthly through activities and the Dashboard. Additionally, more detailed updates are provided each Spring-Summer through a presentation.

X.J. Lakeview Flooring

Dr. Wise reported that the majority of the Lakeview flooring would be replaced. Classroom replacements are planned to start over the Winter break, then possibly replace the Learning Center over Spring break and hallways and tile after the HVAC is replaced in the summer. A proposal is included in the boardbook.

X.K. Recognition Month - Bus Drivers, Custodians, Technology and Principals

Dr. Wise acknowledged the efforts of the Technology, Transportation, Maintenance, Custodial teams, and the Principals, stating that their contributions are essential for the smooth operation of the school.

XI. Public Comment

There was no public comment at the October 9th Board of Education meeting.

XII. Action items

XII.A. Motion to approve the SY 23-24 Audit

Motion to approve the SY23-24 Audit. This motion, made by Doug Wiley and seconded by Brian Liedtke, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII.B. Motion to approve the Revision to Policy 5:250

Motion to approve the revision to Policy 5:250. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke and seconded by Liane Raso, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII.C. Motion to approve the bid for carpet and vinyl replacement at Lakeview in the amount of \$356,730.52 to Consolidated Flooring

Motion to approve the bid for carpet and vinyl replacement at Lakeview in the amount of \$356,730.52 to Consolidated Flooring. This motion, made by Tiffany Watson and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII.D. Motion to Enter Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

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)

XIV. Action Items (cont.)

XIV.A. Motion to Re-Enter Open Session

Motion to re-enter Open session. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke and seconded by Christopher Esposito, Passed.

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

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Tiffany Watson and seconded by Christopher Esposito, Passed.

Donna Sobotka: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea,

Liane Raso: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education