

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 6:30 PM Central

Prairieview Elementary School
699 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

I. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Honorary Student Board Member, Chris Willer.

II. Special Guest Student Helper

Chris Willer, a 5th grader at Prairieview Elementary School, gaveled in the meeting, asked for roll call and led the audience in the Pledge. After the Pledge, Chris delivered a pie to the face of Board member, Brian Liedtke, as a reward for contributing to the Team 66 super raffle. Chris received a round of applause for a job well done on all accounts.

III. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Honorary Student Board Member, Chris Willer.

IV. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included Joan Cullen, Adam Sage, Vicki Stearns, Kim Pace, Jennifer Nawrot, Jamie Liedtke, Autumn Liedtke, Kaelyn Liedtke, Chris Willer, Rusty Novotny, Carrie Fitzgerald, Lisa Smith, Dr. Mark Orszula, Mrs. Katie Johnson, Dr. Kim Liles, Mr. Tom Tiede, and Amy Willer. Online attendees included Tammie Pry, Sheri Sulima, Kristin Platt, Jessica Rost, Mary Testolin, Debbie Gustafson, Annie Diver, Kristy Mixon, Brooke Zygmuntowicz, Magen Newman, Ashley Sanchez, Keith Roberts, K Lori Bryant, Erika Myers, Jake Little, Amy Willer, Karen Roach, Elizabeth Uribe, Jessica Sage, and Meghan Aleo.

V. Scheduled Time to Address the Board

There were no scheduled speakers.

VI. Consent Agenda

VI.A. Monthly Meeting Minutes

VI.B. District's Monthly Financial Statements

VI.C. Monthly Board Bills Payable

VI.D. New Items

VI.D.1. Approve Resignation of Dr. Mark Orszula, Principal, Lakeview

VI.D.2. Approve Resignation of Tania Forsman, EC Teacher, Elizabeth Ide

VI.D.3. Approve Resignation of Michelle Misch, Special Education Teacher, Prairieview

VI.D.4. Approve Employment of Sydney Drum, BACC

VII. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito 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

VIII. Communication

VIII.A. Spartan Showcase Highlights

Mrs. Carrie Fitzgerald from Lakeview Junior High shared highlights from the Spartan Showcase. Student artifacts were shared with Board members, as well as photos of students explaining their projects to parents. Parent feedback was extremely positive. Many thanks go out to the staff and students for a great evening.

IX. Principal Reports

IX.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

Spring conferences in early March offered an essential platform for teachers to discuss student progress with families, encouraging meaningful dialogue to strengthen partnerships in supporting academic and personal growth. Prior to the conferences, families received Panorama surveys that provided insights into their child's engagement and well-being, allowing teachers to review and clarify these results during the meetings. This collaboration aimed to empower families to make informed decisions and foster a supportive environment for their children's development. Throughout the year, our 1st and 2nd graders have enjoyed participating in before-school intramural basketball and floor hockey, which has promoted physical activity, teamwork, sportsmanship, and problem-solving skills in a fun and supportive environment. The recent School Improvement Plan (SIP) day allowed teachers to deepen their understanding of the CBE framework while collaborating on grade-level competencies and creating supporting rubrics for our goals. We value the consistent support from district leadership, which enhances our professional development efforts and helps us improve learning experiences for our students as we work towards our Goal 1 and Goal 2 initiatives.

IX.B. Prairieview Elementary

This month, the staff and students hosted spring parent-teacher conferences that emphasized student ownership of learning through student-led discussions, self-assessments of academic progress, and goal development in line with our Habits of a Champion. Recently, students have started leading presentations about their cultures, sharing insights on Lunar New Year and Ramadan to promote understanding and inclusivity at Prairieview, fostering a supportive environment for all students. A heartfelt thank you to Ms. Smeltzer for dedicating a Friday evening to a lively Team 66 Painting Night, showcasing the generosity and spirit of our staff

while celebrating the creativity of the students she has nurtured since Kindergarten. Additionally, the success of the Team 66 Super Raffle has brought in fun prizes and funding, thanks to the efforts of our staff and the generous support from our community.

IX.C. Lakeview Junior High

The Spartan Showcase was a remarkable event where students showcased their hard work and talents to family and friends, receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees. Highlights included class performances, and sharing of projects, all contributing to a meaningful evening that fostered community engagement and pride. Students warmly welcomed parents and guardians to the Spartan Showcase by creating personalized signs for lockers and designing banners representing each content area. Additionally, the recent Masquerade Ball, organized by the Lakeview PTO, provided a fun evening for 6th through 8th graders, while the Lakeview volleyball team has begun their season strongly, demonstrating impressive dedication and teamwork. School Improvement (SIP) days provide essential opportunities for staff collaboration on enhancing Competency-Based Education, enabling teachers to refine instructional practices and develop meaningful assessments. Simultaneously, Lakeview students excel in extracurricular activities, highlighted by the Jazz Band's impressive performance at the DGS Jazz Fest, where they showcased their talent and dedication under the direction of Mr. Ohlsen.

X. Director Reports

X.A. Director of Student Services

The Student Services Department collaborates across grade levels to enhance students' communication skills, particularly for those requiring augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices due to speech or language impairments. Currently, District 66 supports about seven students in preschool to 2nd grade who use AAC devices, such as iPads with specialized apps, to enable effective expression, participation in classroom activities, and peer interactions, promoting their independence and academic success. The Interventionist Team has completed a review of the MTSS Guidebook to align it with district instructional resources and improve intervention strategies and data collection methods, resulting in a broader use of Panorama Ed for managing student action plans and support documentation. Moving forward, feedback from staff surveys will be analyzed to identify strengths and areas for improvement within the MTSS framework, ensuring it continues to evolve effectively to support students. Most staff from the Student Services Department attended the SASSED Spring Institute 2025, which focused on best practices for supporting diverse learners, and they will share key insights in future meetings to enhance student support and promote a commitment to inclusive, research-based instructional environments.

X.B. Director of Learning

Staff is enthusiastically engaging in the competency-based education journey, focusing on Inspire Science and district-wide competency initiatives on Institute Day, with plans for a

parent meeting on CBE on April 29th and additional follow-up meetings in Fall 2025. Second and fifth-grade students have completed the CogAT Assessment, a key component of the gifted identification process, along with any nominated students in grades 3-7. Parents received results last week, and the identification process will continue into April, as the CogAT measures cognitive abilities in verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning. On March 12, 2025, School Improvement Day (SIP) focused on competency-based work from Institute Day, with K-5 teachers meeting with Principal Johnson or Principal Little to plan class lists for the 2025-2026 school year, and the district also hosted child development expert Ellyn Galinsky, thanks to Dr. Wise's connection with AASA.

X.C. Director of Technology

The Technology department is excited to welcome Sharon Dadepogu as the new helpdesk technician, bringing valuable experience in both technical and classroom settings, along with a strong passion for technology and working with students. Recently, PowerSchool reported a cybersecurity incident impacting numerous school districts globally; while our data was not part of the breach, we were troubled to find that an offline backup containing up to 12 years of student and staff data had been accessed. Despite this breach being unrelated to our practices, it raises significant concerns about the security measures of trusted vendors. In response, we have communicated with parents regarding the incident, reassuring them that we do not store Social Security numbers in our database. To enhance the security and Internet reliability, plans are to install an Illinois Century Network connection this summer, improving the overall infrastructure for educational services.

X.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

As we transition into spring, the bus department is looking forward to improved weather conditions, which means fewer mechanical issues and the opportunity to start training on new bus routing software. With new bus builds arriving in mid to late July and extracurricular activity buses actively supporting various school events, the upcoming months promise to be filled with excitement and numerous field trips. Our school buildings have been bustling with activity, hosting various events like the "Under the Sea" dance and Spartan Showcase, which kept our custodial teams busy, and their extra efforts during this lively season are much appreciated. As Spring Break approaches, significant improvements will be made, including flooring upgrades in the IMC and teachers' lounge, as well as ongoing HVAC enhancements throughout the district. Thank you to everyone involved for their hard work in ensuring these upgrades are completed efficiently during non-attendance days.

XI. Superintendent Report

XI.A. District Dashboard

District dashboard is included in Boardbook and has not changed since last month.

XI.B. Village of Woodridge

Dr. Wise shared that the Village of Woodridge is considering ways to improve their community from a variety of perspectives, one of which is economic development. At a recent meeting with the Mayor, ideas were shared to spark economic development on 75th Street between Woodward Avenue and Lemont Road. Also mentioned were possible developments on Lemont Road close to the distribution warehouse that was recently built. In addition, potential economic incentives for development were mentioned, which included the concept of TIF's (Tax Increment Financing).

XI.C. Parent Policy and Procedure Meeting Update

Dr. Wise thanked Board members DuPass and Watson along with various parents for attending the Parent Advisory Committee meeting. He stated that it was an excellent meeting and that many suggestions were received on Policy and Handbooks. Policy revisions will appear on April's BOE meeting agenda.

XI.D. DuPage West Cook Member School District Resolution

Dr. Wise explained that the DuPage West Cook Member School District Resolution was necessary in order for SASD to carry on operations. As a member District, we were asked to support the resolution.

XI.E. Intergovernmental Agreement - DuPage County Sheriff's Office

The Board was asked to support the Handle with Care Program, offered through the DuPage County Sheriff's Office. An initiative that can make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and help them succeed despite their struggles. A Resolution approving the Intergovernmental Agreement was presented and approved.

XI.F. Lakeview Interim Middle School Principal

This was a topic discussed during the Executive Session.

XI.G. Lakeview Assistant Principal

Topic was discussed during Executive Session.

XII. Public Comment

There was no public comment shared at the March 12 Board of Education meeting.

XIII. Action items

XIII.A. Motion to approve Resolution approving proposed amendments to the DuPage West Cook Intergovernmental Agreement.

Motion to approve the Resolution approving proposed amendments to the DWC Intergovernmental Agreement. 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

XIII.B. Motion to Approve the Resolution for the Intergovernmental Agreement between the DuPage County Sheriff's Office and School District 66.

Motion to Approve the Resolution for the Intergovernmental Agreement between the DuPage County Sheriff's Office and School District 66. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito 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

XIII.C. Motion to Enter Executive Session

Motion to Enter Executive Session. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito 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

XIV. 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.A. Motion to Re-enter Open Session

Motion to Re-enter Open Session. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito 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

XV. Action Items (cont.)

XV.A. Approve Carrie Fitzgerald as Lakeview Assistant Principal

Motion to Approve Carrie Fitzgerald as Lakeview Assistant Principal. 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.B. Approve Kim Liles as Director of Learning and Lakeview Principal effective July 1, 2025

Motion to Approve Dr. Kim Liles as Director of Learning and Lakeview Interim Principal. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito and seconded by Brian Liedtke, Passed.

Megan DuPass: Nay, Tiffany Watson: Nay, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea,

Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 2

Megan DuPass: Nay, Tiffany Watson: Nay

XVI. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn. This motion, made by Brian Liedtke 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

The March 12, 2025 BOE meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education