

	<p>LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74 BOARD OF EDUCATION Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p>BOARD OF EDUCATION Kevin Daly, President Peter D. Theodore, Vice President John P. Vranas, Secretary Myra A. Foutris Ted Kwon Jay Oleniczak Rupal Shah Mandal</p> <p>ADMINISTRATION Dr. David L. Russo, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dominick M. Lupo, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Courtney Whited, Business Manager/CSBO</p>
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*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Lincolnwood School District 74,
Cook County, Illinois, was held in the Lincoln Hall Auditorium
6855 North Crawford, Lincolnwood, IL 60712, on Thursday, April 3, 2025.*

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Daly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Daly
Myra A. Foutris
Jay Oleniczak
Rupal Shah Mandal (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)
Peter D. Theodore
John P. Vranas

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ted Kwon

ADMINISTRATORS/STAFF PRESENT

Dr. David L. Russo
Dr. Dominick M. Lupo
Courtney Whited
Mark Atkinson
Erin Curry

Chris Harmon
Aliaa Ibrahim
Jackie McGoey
Jennifer Ruttkay

Jordan Stephen
Joseph Segreti
Renee Tolnai

2. DISTRICT RECOGNITION

- a. *Curricular Highlight* - Todd Hall Principal Chris Harmon will share highlights from the recent Wellness Day celebration, where students participated in activities such as Pickleball, soccer, golf, and t-ball, while promoting teamwork, fitness, and an overall healthy lifestyle. The students also enjoyed a special cooking demonstration from Director of Food Services, Chef Peter Lembessis, who shared healthy eating habits.

3. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- I. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - **MARCH 6, 2025**
II. Regular Board Meeting - Closed Session Minutes - **MARCH 6, 2025**
III. Committee of the Whole Meeting - **MARCH 18, 2025**

b. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

- I. Personnel Report

II. New Employment

1. **Mary Pellicano**, Paraprofessional, Rutledge Hall, effective March 13, 2025, \$17.40/hr
2. **Robert Gillespie**, Paraprofessional, Rutledge Hall, effective March 11, 2025, \$17.40/hr
3. **Evan Kleeberg**, Paraprofessional, Lincoln Hall, effective March 31, 2025, \$17.40/hr
4. **Hayley Reynolds**, EL Teacher, Lincoln Hall, effective August 25, 2025, Class 4, Level 7, TBD by the new LTA/CBA

III. Resignation

1. **Jessica Mamola**, 4th Grade Teacher, Rutledge Hall, effective June 12, 2025
2. **Kristen Karr**, Pre-K Teacher, Todd Hall, effective June 12, 2025

IV. Maternity Leave Request

1. **Jenna George**, Full Time Substitute, District Wide, effective on or about April 20, 2025
2. **Rebecca Smoot**, Instructional Coach, Rutledge Hall, effective on or about April 24, 2025 with an expected return of June 6, 2025

V. FMLA Leave Request

1. **Beeta Azarnoosh**, Physical Education Teacher, Rutledge Hall, effective March 12, 2025

c. Third Grade through Fifth Grade Literacy Program Adoption | American Reading Company

The Finance Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this Contract from American Reading Company for the adoption of the grades 3-5 literacy curriculum in the amount not to exceed \$327,520 from the 2025-2026 school year to the 2027-2028 school year with the intent that it may be extended based on Administrative and staff review.

d. 3-year | Kindergarten through Second Grade Literacy Program Adoption | HMH Education Company

The Finance Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this Contract from HMH Education Company for the adoption of the K-2 literacy curriculum in the amount of \$124,246.26 from the 2025-2026 school year to the 2027-2028 school year with the intent that it may be extended based on Administrative and staff review.

e. Annual Renewal of Administrator's Contracts

- I. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction - Dr. Dominick Lupo
- II. Principal, Lincoln Hall - Mark Atkinson
- III. Assistant Principal, Lincoln Hall - Joseph Segreti

f. Annual Renewal of Director's Contracts

- I. Director of Special Education - Jennifer Ruttkay
- II. Director of Student Services, Erin Curry

g. Annual Renewal of Employment Contract

- I. Part-Time Substitute Cooperative Coordinator - Kathryn Parrish

h. Final Fiscal Year 2024 Single Audit by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP

This summary is for informational purposes. The final Fiscal Year 2024 Single Audit Report prepared by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will be presented to the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education for review at the April 3, 2025 Board of Education meeting, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

i. LBSA Waiver Request- FY26 Facilities Rental Fees

The Finance Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to waive facility rental fees during fiscal year 2025-26 for Lincolnwood Baseball and Softball Association.

j. FY 2026-2030 Transportation Services Amendment with First Student, Inc.

The Finance Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to accept this

Amendment from First Student, Inc. for transportation services with consecutive 3.75% annual rate increases each of the five (5) fiscal years in effect from August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2030.

k. Todd Hall's First Grade Classroom Furniture Replacement

The Facilities Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this quote from Interiors for Business, Inc. for First Grade's Classroom Furniture in the amount of \$97,095.49 to be installed during Summer 2025.

l. GSF USA, Inc. Custodial Cleaning Services for 2025-26

The Facilities Committee concurred with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this Agreement from GSF USA, Inc. for custodial cleaning services in the amount of \$521,132.90 from August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026.

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Theodore that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approves those items on the Consent Agenda as appear above.

President Daly submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Theodore, Shah Mandal, Oleniczak, Daly

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Ratification of the 2025 - 2029 Lincolnwood Teachers' Association (LTA) Agreement

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Theodore that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve the Ratified 2025 - 2029 Lincolnwood Teachers' Association (LTA) Agreement, as presented.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Secretary Vranas thanked the LTA negotiating team for their collaboration. The whole process was a team effort that went smoothly.

President Daly submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Theodore, Shah Mandal, Oleniczak, Daly

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

a. NTDS/District 807: **John P. Vranas/Kevin Daly**

The NTDS Governing Board last met on March 19 2025. Besides regular business, the following items would be of interest to our Board:

- The Special education Coordinator gave a presentation on Paraprofessional Onboarding.
- We received a grant from UIC to send 20 Paraprofessionals that have a Bachelor's degree for their Learning Behavior Specialist certification.
- The Extended School Year Program will be held at Molloy and Rutledge Hall with appreciation to Lincolnwood SD74.
- Northwestern University students again partnered this year with NTDS for their problem-solving initiative.

- The Executive Director reported on the lengthy negotiations for the lease at the All-Saints property and recommended that we not move forward with that lease.

We were thrilled to hear that Natalie DiMaria, a Satellite Teacher at East Prairie, received the Illinois State Board of Education – “Those Who Excel” Award and that our “Raptors” basketball team competed in the State tournament. The next meeting is on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the NTDSE Administrative Center

b. IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards): **Jay Oleniczak/Myra A. Foutris**

Member Oleniczak mentioned a finance webinar scheduled for May 6, 2025 - School Finance for Board Members: Basics of the Tax Levy.

c. Finance Committee: **Peter D. Theodore/Jay Oleniczak**

The Finance Committee last met on March 20, 2025. The Committee sent four items to the Consent Agenda:

1. FY 2026-2030 Transportation Services Amendment with First Student, Inc.
 2. 3-year Kindergarten through Second Grade Literacy Program Adoption with HMH Education Company
 3. Third Grade through Fifth Grade Literacy Program Adoption with American Reading Company
 4. LBSA Waiver Request - FY26 Facilities Rental Fees
- The final Fiscal Year 2024 Single Audit Report prepared by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will be presented to the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education for review tonight
 - District Finance Updates:
 - a. The District will not send a reservation of rights letter and intends to renew with IPRF for FY26 workers' compensation coverage.
 - b. The Facilities Committee was presented with a 2.9% increase for 2025-26 custodial cleaning services from GSF USA, Inc.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

d. Facilities Committee: **John P. Vranas/Rupal Shah Mandal**

The Facilities Committee last met on March 18, 2025. StudioGC provided the following:

- The updated designs for the Rutledge Hall parking lot alterations were presented. The alterations described will generate eight (8) additional parking spaces in the parking lot to the south of Rutledge Hall and the north of Lincoln Hall. The Committee recommended labeling the parking in the area behind Lincoln Hall so that those spots are reserved for staff. Additionally, the Committee directed the Administration to bring a formal recommendation for a storage shed to be installed north of the Lincoln Hall Gym.
- A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Facilities Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve the quote from Interiors for Business, Inc. for First Grade's Classroom Furniture.
- A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Facilities Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve the Agreement from GSF USA, Inc. for custodial cleaning services.
- District Facilities Updates:
 - Lincolnwood Public Library will host their annual Summer Reading Kick-Off Party on Friday, June 13, 2025 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Visitors will be able to use the School District parking lots for overflow.
 - Courtney shared that there is a request for Field Number one from a youth soccer organization.

The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

e. Policy Committee: **Rupal Shah Mandal/Myra A. Foutris**

- The Policy Committee last met on Friday, November 15, 2024.
- The March and April Policy Committee meetings were cancelled due to a light agenda.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2025 at 8:30am in the Administration Building. The public is welcome.

f. President's Report: **Kevin Daly**

President Daly shared important District upcoming dates. Please see the District website for information: sd74.org.

8. COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

a. LTA (Lincolnwood Teacher Association): **Travis DuPriest/Kevin Conley (Co-Presidents)**

Co-President Travis DuPriest thanked the Board of Education and Administration for their efforts to create a forum that allowed for open dialogue and discussion to reach an Agreement that both sides can be proud of.

b. LSSU (Lincolnwood Support Staff Union): **Tommy Bujnowski (President)**

No report.

c. PALS (People Active with Lincolnwood Schools): **Stacey Johnson (President)**

PALS President Stacey Johnson provided an overview of past PALS efforts and upcoming events. PALS Board elections are in May 2025. Please see [PALS](#).

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Superintendent's Report: **Dr. David L. Russo**

I. District Updates

- Superintendent Russo hopes that everyone enjoyed fun and restful activities during Spring Break. The District has a great deal yet to accomplish this year and will continue to maximize student academic growth in the remaining weeks of this school year.
- Thank you to Mr. Harmon and all those who collaborated at Todd Hall to create such a purposeful day of activities during their recent Wellness Day event. Wellness Day is such a wonderful feature of the annual slate of activities in each building. There is always such a fun variety of sessions to introduce students to new activities and information regarding health and wellness.
- Spring is going to be an extremely busy time in the District. Please continue to consult Tuesday Newsday on a weekly basis to gather details on upcoming events.
- **District families are encouraged to register for the 2025-2026 School Year**
Registration for the upcoming school year is open. Families who are re-registering received an email with a Snapcode and a link to the re-registration portal. Families who are registering for the first time should visit the District website to begin the registration process.

Important information to note:

- Registration is not complete until the online registration form is submitted for each student, residency documents are submitted, and school fees are paid.
- Families who complete the registration process by May 9th will receive a \$20 lunch credit for each registered student for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Complete registration by August 1st to avoid a \$25 late fee, per student.
- Finally, all District families are invited to join us for Family Bingo Night tomorrow, April 4, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., in the Rutledge Hall gym! Enjoy pizza, popcorn, a raffle (win lunch with a principal!), and BINGO, of course! Consult this *week's Tuesday Newsday* for the link to RSVP. *While an RSVP is not required, it is recommended to ensure the District orders enough food and prizes for the event.*

II. Adoption of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Cardiac Emergency Response Plan

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Theodore that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education adopt the Lincolnwood School District 74 Cardiac Emergency Response Plan, as presented.

President Daly submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

b. Curriculum and Instruction, Assistant Superintendent's Report: **Dr. Dominick M. Lupo**

Assistant Superintendent Lupo thanked the Curriculum Committee for their time and efforts to present two new curricular adoptions for the Board of Education's approval tonight. The Board's support is instrumental in providing high quality and engaging learning for all District students.

I. Set the Last Day of School for Each School Year

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Oleniczak that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve the last day of school for the 2024-25 District calendar to show a closing date of June 12, 2025 as recommended by the Administration.

President Daly submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

c. Business and Operations, Business Manager/CSBO: **Courtney Whited**

I. Finance Report - **JANUARY 2025**

Courtney Whited, Business Manager/CSBO presented the January 2025 Finance Report.

II. Bills Payable in the Amount of \$926,375.18

Bills reviewed this month by: Myra A. Foutris and Peter D. Theodore

It was moved by Member Foutris and seconded by Vice President Theodore that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve invoices and bills in the amount of \$926,375.18.

President Daly submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Theodore, Shah Mandal, Oleniczak, Daly

Nays: None

Absent: Kwon

Motion passed.

10. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

11. **RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by President Daly and seconded by Secretary Vranas that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education recess into Closed Session for the purposes of: **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459 - Personnel and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) - Collective Negotiating.**

President Daly submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

12. Dr. Russo reported to the Board that he and Courtney Whited met with Susan from CCDC to discuss their lease renewal and the renovation/expansion plans for Todd Hall. Additionally, we need to solicit volunteers from the community to serve on the three standing committees.

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Vice President Theodore and seconded by Secretary Vranas to adjourn the Regular meeting of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education at 8:12 p.m.

Kevin Daly, President

John P. Vranas, Secretary