



Winfield School District 34
Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting

Thursday, January 29, 2026 7:00 PM
Winfield School Central Cafeteria, 0S150 Park St, Winfield, IL 60190

- I. **CALL TO ORDER 7:00PM**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
Board of Education Members in attendance: Lynn Kammes, Carrie Linden, Dave Hempe, Dan Krasinski, Heather Armstrong, Matt Tibble, Alisa Wolfe (Arrived at 7:02PM),
Also, Present: Matt Rich, Superintendent; Melissa Doucet, Building Leader; Dave Baum, Tech Support; Lisa Honaker, CSBO; Jennifer Gendel, Coordinator of Student Services; Amanda Melsa, Board Secretary;
Staff: Megan McDermott, Susan Gavin,
Visitor(s): Rasey Family,
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA - ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
Action(s): I move to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.
Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**,
Absent: Alisa Wolfe,
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** [Distinguished Alumni](#)
- VI. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**
 - A. **Student of the Month - Alexann Rasey & Sam Kouri**
 - B. **Registration Fees for 2026 - 2027 School Year**
 - C. **Sports and Activities Fees**
 - D. **Building Usage Fees**
Discussion for B. C. and D.: Administration is recommending CPI-based, rounded dollar increases to registration fees, sports and activities fees, and building usage fees, consistent with past practice. These items are being brought forward earlier to allow registration to open in early March, supporting earlier planning and enrollment projections. Building usage fees remain set by the Board and will be reviewed alongside actual custodial and maintenance costs. Final recommendations will be presented for action at the February meeting.
 - E. **Staffing Recruitment for the 2026-27 school year**
Administration reviewed staffing needs and recruitment efforts for the upcoming school year, including openings for a social worker, first-grade teacher, and middle school science teacher, as well as additional hard-to-fill positions. The district is participating in multiple regional job fairs and university partnerships to broaden the applicant pool. Positions are typically posted in late February through March to align with recruitment timelines and maximize candidate quality. Applicant screening is expected to begin in March, with staff and administrators involved in the process. The administration expressed confidence in current recruitment strategies.
 - F. **Executive Function Professional Development - 2026-27**
The district is planning professional learning focused on executive function to support both general education and neurodivergent students. Building on previous work in math instruction, staff will engage in a phased, sustainable learning process with external experts

to deepen understanding of how students organize, process, and structure their work. The approach emphasizes observing student needs, developing flexible strategies, and gradually incorporating family engagement. The goal is to create practical, individualized support rather than a one-size-fits-all system, with teacher-led implementation in classrooms and ongoing reflection to ensure long-term effectiveness.

G. Winter Data Presentation

Winter assessment data shows positive trends in reading and math K–8, with students generally meeting or exceeding growth targets and several cohorts performing above national norms. Early indicators show accelerated progress, though full conclusions will require three assessment points. Teachers use ongoing formative assessments and targeted professional development to support student growth, while leadership closely monitors individual and subgroup performance to provide targeted support. Attendance is carefully tracked, with about 10% of students considered at-risk; proactive interventions, including parent communication and tailored preschool letters, help prevent chronic absenteeism. Behavior remains largely positive, with minor incidents handled through restorative practices, keeping office-level interventions minimal. Students report feeling safe, respected, and supported, with strong peer relationships, trusted adults, and involvement in extracurricular activities reinforcing school connectedness. Parents consistently indicate high satisfaction with communication, teacher accessibility, and the overall school environment. Overall, the district's proactive strategies, consistent monitoring, and collaborative approach continue to drive positive outcomes and a strong, supportive school climate.

H. TIF 2

• Legal Challenges Against TIF 2:

o Failure to Meet Statutory Requirements:

- The school districts argue that TIF 2 enacted by the Village of Winfield does not meet legal criteria, including the requirement to demonstrate blight and other mandated factors.

o Non-Contiguous Properties Issue:

- The village improperly combined several disconnected properties to create the TIF.
- A key issue involves a parking garage included in the TIF, which will remain on the tax rolls for only 20 years, shorter than the TIF's duration, leaving the school districts without long-term revenue benefits.

o Municipal vs. Economic Development Purpose:

- The districts argue that TIF 2 is intended primarily for municipal development, with most funds directed towards a municipal center, which will not expand the tax base for other taxing bodies.

o Failure to Meet the "But-For" Test:

- The districts assert that development is already occurring without TIF funds, primarily due to a \$65-70 million investment by Central DuPage Hospital, making the TIF unnecessary for further economic growth.

• Legal Proceedings Update:

The case is on appeal with the Third District Appellate Court, and a decision is pending. Settlement discussions have occurred but no agreement has been reached, and ongoing development projects continue.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action(s): I move to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

A. December 18, 2025

B. January 14, 2026

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA (Routine matters that do not require discussion)

Action(s): I move to approve the Consent Agenda action items A and B (read every listed item) as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Matt Tibble and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

A. Approval of Finance Reports

1. Bill List - Payable List and List of Other Payments
2. Treasurer/Fund Balance/Bank Reconciliation Report

B. Other Approvals

IX. COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Legislative Update:

A multitude of bills are being filed right now in Springfield. Some of these include legislative mandates for things to be taught or operated by schools. Over the next few weeks we will be seeing which bills gather steam. One set of actions rapidly being worked on is a new proposed accountability reporting system for schools. There has been significant dialogue regarding how schools are measured, what is measured, and how it is reported. We continue to advocate looking at subgroup sizes that are meaningful in reporting. One of the local area concerns in regard to Springfield is the funding of Mandated Categorical funds. For us, this is essentially reimbursement for special education transportation. Typically, this is about 80%. The budget was held flat, and we anticipate about 70%ish this year. With a tight budget year in Springfield, this may get lower. There is a local senator who is proposing our counties look at district consolidation again. Since we have relatively little transportation, the most likely outcome of consolidation for our district would be an increase in cost for transportation, an increase in overall property tax costs for our residents, a little under 30% increase as we are significantly lower property taxes than 25 and 33, as well as increased class sizes and diminished local control. The proposed legislation would require "Provides that the regional superintendent of schools for Regional Office of Education 19 (DuPage County), the regional superintendent of schools for Regional Office of Education 31 (Kane County), and the regional superintendent of schools for Regional Office of Education 56 (Will County) shall jointly conduct a comprehensive study evaluating the feasibility of reorganizing school districts within their educational service regions into unit school districts. Sets forth the components and requirements of the study." As some members of the board know, we have participated in several such studies and the results have been that we use shared resources well and there would not be significant benefits from consolidation. This is an issue we will be actively working with our legislators and advocacy groups on.

2. Facility Updates:

Next month we will be presenting the Capital Plan. We are nearing the end of our first cycle of the plan and will be sharing our data gathering methodology as we plan for upcoming capital cycles. Winter is here and that means our HVAC systems are being put to the test. We have had some issues with the boilers at Central and have had Artlip out here to replace some ignitors and there are some additional components we need to take care of. This has had an impact on our Steam room and Music rooms. At Primary we have had challenges with the kindergarten, first grade and Mrs. Schreiber's classrooms. There are questions as to whether there is enough refrigerant in the system and what pressure the system is maintaining. Trane has pointed towards potential leaks in the system. FE Moran has found no such leaks so far. Jeff Oke from IMEG has actively been pushing the teams regarding how to address this issue. We are currently working with Net56 on the replacement of our network switches, firewall, access points, and wireless controller. We have truly used these to the end of life, as Lisa and I have stressed to Net 56 the need to maximize use and value. Currently, we

are in the process of sending this hardware replacement through the E-Rate process as the anticipated \$190,000 expenditure can be subsidized in part by potentially using \$83,000 in Federal E-rate funds available to us. Some board members will remember that we used these funds the last time we replaced access points in 2018. We are working with our E-rate consultant through this process and will keep the Board informed. We have also begun working with Net 56 on a new service agreement that will include providing Firewall services for the district. It's hard to believe the last agreement was 3 years ago. Each time we go through the process, cybersecurity and digital infrastructure maintenance continues to be a challenge. Finally, in the arena of digital infrastructure, we will need to look at the condition of our dark fiberlines connecting the building and determine if these need to be upgraded to handle the data load with the new switches. We have not addressed this connection in the past 9 years.

3. **WEF Update:**

WEF/PTO — Thanks to everyone who came to Trivia Night. It was lots of fun, and we were able to raise close to \$5000 (~\$4700). The Tiger Online Auction ends tomorrow night (Friday, 1/30) at 9pm (with extended bidding for any items that receive bids in the last 3 minutes of the auction). Thanks to the teachers and staff for donating items and experiences, and thanks to local businesses, fire and police departments for their donations.

No PTO/WEF meeting in February. The Tiger Run committee meeting will be in its place (Wednesday, 2/4 at 7pm in the central school commons).

Check out Tiger Prints for upcoming events.

B. **Principal's Report:** [Principal's Report Presentation](#)

C. **Finance Report from Director of Business Services:**

1. [FY26 Mid-Year Budget Review Slides](#)

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Approval of Second Reading of Policy 7:250**

Action(s): I move to approve the Second Reading/Adoption of Policies as Presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Lynn Kammes and seconded by Heather Armstrong, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

1. Draft Update Policies:

7:250 Student Support Services

B. **Approve 2026 - 2027 School Calendar**

Action(s): I move to approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

C. **Approve Preschool Fees 2026 - 2027**

Action(s): I move to approve the 2026-2027 Preschool Fees as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

D. **Approve Winfield SD 34 Superkids**

Action(s): I move to approve the purchase of Superkids resources at a cost of \$11,166.60 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

E. **Approve Summer At-Risk Summer School Intervention**

- Action(s):** I move to approve the At-Risk Summer School Intervention as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- F. Approve Extracurricular Athletic /Activity Bus Procedures**
- Action(s):** I move to approve the use of extracurricular Athletic/Activity Buses as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- XI. NEW BUSINESS**
- A. Personnel**
- 1. Resignation - Paraprofessional**
- Action(s):** I move to accept the resignation of Robyn Palermo from the paraprofessional position as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Lynn Kammes, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- B. Winfield Central Fire Alarm Control Panel Replacement - State Maintenance Grant**
- Action(s):** I move to approve the purchase and installation of a new fire alarm control panel from Thompson Electronics Company at a cost of \$9,388. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- C. LED Light Transition - State Maintenance Grant**
- Action(s):** I move to approve the purchase of 1000 LED lightbulbs from Sunco.com at a cost of \$2,783.83. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- D. Phone Service for Elevator Emergency Call Subscription**
- Action(s):** I move to subscribe to Kings III for Elevator Phone Service in both elevators for a total monthly cost of \$99.82 as presented. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Heather Armstrong and seconded by Alisa Wolfe, **Passed**.
- Voting Detail:** Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**
- E. Board Procedures and Exhibit Updates**
- For information only, no Board approval needed.
- F. Freedom of Information Act Requests**
1. CT Mills
 2. Sheila Norman - Illinois Retired Teachers Association
 3. Bill Meyer
- XII. Items for Future Agendas**
- A. Social Studies - February
 - B. Crisis - School Safety update
 - C. Math/EL - Dual/transfer of credit
 - D. Electives Update
- XIII. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – Reason 1.** The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent

contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). **Reason 12.** Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

Action(s): I move to adjourn to closed session. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Lynn Kammes and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

XIV. **ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION TO REGULAR SESSION**

Action(s): I move to adjourn from closed session to open session. A roll call vote was taken. This motion, made by Lynn Kammes and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

XV. **ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION**

A. None

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Action(s): I move that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. A voice vote was taken at 10:05PM. This motion, made by Dave Hempe and seconded by Matt Tibble, **Passed**.

Voting Detail: Heather Armstrong: **Yea**, Dave Hempe: **Yea**, Lynn Kammes: **Yea**, Dan Krasinski: **Yea**, Carrie Linden: **Yea**, Matt Tibble: **Yea**, Alisa Wolfe: **Yea**

Regular Board of Education Meetings:

***Unless otherwise noted, all Board of Education Meetings are on Thursdays and begin at 7:00 PM. They are located in the Winfield Central School Cafeteria.**

Regular Thursday, January 29, 2026

Approved:



Dan Krasinski, President
Board of Education



Lynn Kammes, Secretary
Board of Education