

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 10, 2025 6:30 PM
Central

Lakeview Junior High School
701 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Steve Dlugo: Present
Megan DuPass: Present
Brian Liedtke: Present
Adam Sage: Present
Darren Spiegel: Present
Tiffany Watson: Present
Doug Wiley: Present
Present: 7.

I. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Board President Brian Liedtke.

II. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Brian Liedtke.

III. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included Joy DeFors, Nick DeFors, Wyatt DeFors, Wade DeFors, Stacie Wharton, Bill Wharton, Faaizxa Vaince, Zadie Abadin, Becky Roberts, Max Roberts, Evelyn Harrison, Scarlette Smentek, Charlotte Funk, Mostafa Aly, Austin Sage, Ava Sage, Jessica Sage, Santiago Fong Uvence, Laura Gilmartin, Tara Herndon, Carrie Fitzgerald, Dr. Kim Liles, Dr. Sean Rhoads, Director Tiede, and Rusty Novotny. Online attendees included Kari Gemmell, Sheryl Sulima, Erika Myers, Beth Edwards, Liz Uribe, Cheryl Novotny, Len Clair, Keith Roberts, Mark Pagel, Meghan Aleo, Jessica Stabley, Jessica Rost, Heather Tran, and Kristin Platt.

IV. Scheduled Time to Address the Board

There were no scheduled speakers at the December 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

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 Hire of Sharon Dadepogu, Data and Technology Associate

V.D.2. Approve the Hire of Maria Ginez, Sub Custodian to Full-time Custodian, Prairievew

V.D.3. Approve the Hire of Francisca Beltran, District Bus Driver, effective January 5, 2026

V.D.4. Approve the Resignation of Samantha Henry, Lakeview Teacher, Social Studies

V.D.5. Approve the Resignation of Taylor Lucas, Paraprofessional, Prairievie

V.D.6. Approve the Resignation of Sydney Drum, BACC Aide, Prairievie

V.D.7. Annual Statement of Affairs

V.D.8. Approve the Title Change for Rusty Novotny from Senior Network Manager to Assistant Technology Director.

V.D.9. Contract with TJ Consultants for Student Services Audit in the amount of \$22,000

VI. Approve Consent Agenda

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

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Communication

VII.A. New District Dashboard - Tara Herndon

Tara Herndon presented a revised District Dashboard. The new strategic dashboard is housed on the District's homepage. The dashboard reflects the indicators of the Strategic Plan, while providing other key data from the School report card. Board members commented on the appealing graphics, ease of use, and comparison to state.

VII.B. Panorama Survey Results - Dr. Rhoads

Dr. Rhoads highlighted key findings from recent student, employee, and parent surveys. Students reported strengths in their preparedness, self-management, classroom effort, social awareness, and use of learning strategies, reflecting progress in student ownership of learning, though emotional literacy and perspective-taking need further development. Employee results showed high levels of belonging and collaboration, but indicated a need for more support in instruction through feedback, consultation, and coaching, which is limited by the district's staffing shortages of key instructional support roles. Dr. Wise noted that the lack of Assistant Principals, Instructional Coaches, and Literacy Specialists contributes to these gaps in support and timely feedback for staff. Parent feedback was positive regarding school climate and culture, but highlighted areas for growth in two-way communication and home-school partnerships. The district plans to continue working on these areas to improve overall engagement and support.

VII.C. U.S. News & World Report Recognition - District 66 Students

The Board heard from students excited to share why they believed their schools were recognized by US News and World Report as outstanding learning environments. The proud students were Evelyn Harrison, Wade DeFors, Zadie Abadin, Scarlette Smentek, Austin Sage,

Charlotte Funk, Max Roberts, Mostafa Aly, and Santiago Fong Uvence . After their comments, they posed with a picture of the banner and plaque. Board members commented that the reason our schools received recognition is because of amazing students like the ones who presented.

VIII. Principal Reports

VIII.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

Co-Principals Gilmartin and Pagel expressed how the students at Elizabeth Ide have shown impressive growth and perseverance this fall, supported by dedicated staff and families, leading to significant academic progress. As winter assessments approach, the data will help them celebrate achievements, identify areas for additional support, and tailor instruction to meet each student's needs. They also communicated that Elizabeth Ide hosted a meaningful Veterans Day Assembly to honor 20 veterans, celebrating their service with recognition, songs, and reflections that foster respect and gratitude. Additionally, second graders engaged in a creative STEM activity, designing parade floats inspired by "Balloons Over Broadway," culminating in a fun and collaborative building parade. The students also enjoyed an exciting assembly with BMX rider Matt Wilhelm, who inspired kindness and perseverance through his tricks and messages, celebrating their fundraising efforts through Team 66 ROAR and Run. Upcoming classroom holiday parties on December 19th will provide students with festive activities that foster community, kindness, and gratitude before winter break.

VIII.B. Prairiewood Elementary

Principal Little reported that the Prairiewood BLT is analyzing IAR results and upcoming Winter Benchmark data to ensure instruction aligns with state standards and addresses student learning needs. Additionally, 4th graders engaged in hands-on science at Fermilab, while 3rd graders collaborated on a project to design safety shelters, fostering innovation, teamwork, and real-world problem-solving. Prairiewood's collaboration with SASED classrooms, has fostered meaningful friendships through a buddy program and inclusive activities. Many of the 5th-grade students actively engage with SASED students during lunch and recess, promoting kindness and community. As shared at the November Board meeting, the Sunshine committee organized a food drive that resulted in a great turnout. Thank you to Team 66 for providing the boxes and bringing the items to the People's Resource Center. Additionally, Team 66 helped organize a special assembly to celebrate the tremendous fundraising efforts during the Fun Run! The Veterans' Day assembly was another moment of pride. Prairiewood had a huge turnout with 23 veterans, 4 student speakers, Cub Scout Pack 48 presenting the colors, and several performances by the choir.

VIII.C. Lakeview Junior High

Lakeview is fostering student leadership and reflection as they prepare for winter MAP testing, with teachers providing strategies and setting clear expectations to encourage their best effort. An incentive program for grade levels meeting or exceeding goals further motivates students to take ownership of their learning, and the school is proud of their ongoing growth and dedication. Carols, Cookies, and Cocoa showcased the talented choirs from Lakeview and Prairiewood, highlighting the power of collaboration and community support. The event celebrated student creativity and confidence, with heartfelt community encouragement and appreciation for our fine arts programs. Lakeview will be introducing Rachel's Challenge this January, thanks to the support of Team 66, to promote kindness,

empathy, and positive behaviors among students. The program aims to strengthen peer connections and reinforce a caring, inclusive school culture through impactful storytelling and activities.

IX. Director Reports

IX.A. Director of Student Services

Dr. Rhoads described how Paraprofessionals play a vital role at Elizabeth Ide, Prairiewood, and Lakeview Schools by providing targeted support to students with diverse needs, fostering independence, engagement, and growth. Their dedication and skills significantly enhance both individual student success and the overall positive learning environment, and we sincerely appreciate their impactful contributions. District 66's Multilingual Parent Advisory Council, formed by parents from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds, shared valuable feedback on supporting multicultural students and families, highlighting successes and areas for growth. Their insights are instrumental in guiding district efforts to enhance cultural responsiveness, inclusivity, and communication, fostering a more supportive environment for Multilingual Learners. District 66's Parent University on January 28 at Elizabeth Ide Elementary will provide families with practical tools and resources to support their children's well-being, learning, and development, with sessions on topics like managing anxiety and fostering early learning. The event also features a Community Vendor Fair with over 20 local organizations, enhancing home-school partnerships and community support for families.

IX.B. Director of Learning

Dr. Liles noted that starting in January, the District Literacy Committee will focus on aligning writing practices across K-8 through building-level collaboration and district-wide alignment meetings in April and May. Additionally, the district will begin the K-5 Social Studies Cycle of Review, inviting staff representatives to ensure a rigorous and aligned social studies curriculum. She went on to explain that the Winter Benchmark window is open from December through mid-January, allowing staff to monitor student progress in academics and social-emotional growth. Middle school staff are eager to review MAP goals and share the assessment results with the Board of Education in early 2026. The Breakthrough Years book study at Prairiewood and Lakeview is successfully fostering professional growth through weekly collaborative discussions. Upcoming professional development sessions will focus on learner characteristics, competency-based education, science implementation, AI training, and IXL, reflecting a strong commitment to ongoing growth and improved instruction.

IX.C. Director of Technology

Keith Roberts, Director of Technology, reported steady progress on several initiatives, including refining the Skyward CBE grading model and report cards through staff collaboration and feedback. He highlighted ongoing operational projects such as the E-rate network upgrade planning and the continued buildout of the Lakeview LRC to enhance instructional and community use. The district is also working on hiring a new Data Specialist to support data workflows and analytics. Key upcoming priorities include further developing the CBE model, advancing the E-rate funding process, and preparing technology for upcoming assessments. These efforts demonstrate a strong focus on supporting staff, upgrading infrastructure, and ensuring technological readiness for instructional needs.

IX.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

Director Tiede explained that the school buildings are active with numerous activities before and after school, on weekends, and during holidays, including sports, clubs, and performances, all made possible by custodians who go above and beyond to accommodate these events. During the holiday break, the district will conduct deep cleanings, system upgrades, and repairs to maintain a safe and functional environment. Additionally, the district handles snow removal in-house, with early morning efforts to ensure safe access for staff and students during winter weather, thanks to the dedicated custodial and maintenance staff. Last year's mild weather has been replaced by an early and intense winter, but the transportation team has done an excellent job navigating challenging road conditions, traffic, and cold temperatures to ensure student safety. During the upcoming Holiday Break, buses will undergo safety recertifications and maintenance, with efforts underway to prevent diesel fuel gelling in the cold by working with our fuel supplier on additive blending. The district has successfully transported teams like girls' basketball and will continue supporting events such as boys' basketball, chess, and the annual Prairiewood holiday trip to the Tivoli Theatre.

X. Superintendent Report

X.A. District Dashboard

The revised District Dashboard can be found on the District's homepage. The dashboard reflects the indicators of the Strategic Plan, while providing other key data from the School Report Card.

X.B. Review of Policy on Rates

With each scheduled tax levy, the District reviews Policy 4:350, Limiting Rate Increase Revenue and Expenditure Parameters.

X.C. 2025 Tax Levy

Dr. Wise presented the 2025 Levy which provides funds for the 2026-2027 school year. He noted that the District uses the funds from the levy to improve the educational environment, enhance buildings, assist with transporting students, and build appropriate fund balances for financial stability.

X.D. Bus Driver Pay Rates

Dr. Wise recommended an increase in bus driver pay due to our drivers being paid far less than surrounding districts and bus companies. While the District has been increasing driver pay since the passage of the referendum, the pay was so low that the upward corrections were not closing the gap between our drivers and the field. The Board supported the increase which certainly helps retain current drivers and attract new drivers.

X.E. Lakeview Roofing Retrofit Bid Results

The bids for the Lakeview roof retrofit were very favorable, with the lowest bid totaling \$1,243,975 from Malcor Roofing. Once completed, all roofs at Lakeview will have been upgraded.

X.F. Lakeview Parking Lot Process

Center Cass SD 66 will be receiving single prime sealed bids for the Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement — Phase 1 project, due to begin this summer.

X.G. Steering Committee Update

We want all students to be able to participate in extra curriculars. The Steering Committee met prior to the Levy meeting to discuss a way to set up a system where a coach can apply through their Principal and then through Superintendent (or Steering) to access some additional help.

X.H. Woodridge Joint Annual Review Board Update

The Board has been attending Woodridge Village meetings and keeping up to speed on the 75th Street proposed Tax Increment Finance District. More information on a potential Inter-governmental Agreement will be provided after the New Year.

X.I. Special BOE Meeting, Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Education is calling a special meeting on Tuesday, January 6th to discuss the potential TIF and provide Administration direction as the Village of Woodridge convenes for the Joint Review Board meeting on Wednesday, January 7th.

X.J. Goal 3 Update

A number of items were up for discussion, such as Bus Driver Compensation, the 2025 Tax Levy, Lakeview Roof Bids, Lakeview Parking Lot Bid Materials, Steering Committee discussion, Recommendation for Technology position and promotion, and the Annual Statement of Affairs.

X.K. Goal 4 Update

Several Policies were recommended by PRESS for updates. Dr. Wise expressed gratitude to Board members Tiffany Watson and Steve Dlugo for their valuable insights during the review, as well as Maria Gannon for the revisions.

X.L. First Reading of Board Policies 2:120, 2:240, 2:270, 4:10, 4:30, 5:10, 5:280, 5:90, 6:130, 6:40, 6:60, 7:140, 7:150, 7:180, 7:190, 7:340

First reading for the PRESS recommended Policies 2:120, 2:240, 2:270, 4:10, 4:30, 5:10, 5:280, 5:90, 6:130, 6:40, 6:60, 7:140, 7:150, 7:180, 7:190, 7:340.

X.M. Community Newsletter

X.N. IASB DuPage Division Meeting, Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Dr. Wise informed the Board about the IASB DuPage Division Meeting on Tuesday, February 3rd at Willowbrook high school. State Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders will be presenting.

X.O. Board Conference Recap

Dr. Wise thanked the Board for attending the Board conference. Vice President Watson noted that all 7 board members attended and are committed to the district's success. Dr. Wise followed by noting that there is a direct correlation between Board member development and District success, and thanked this Board, and Boards from the recent past, who were committed to learning and helping grow the District.

XI. Public Comment

There were no public comments received during the December 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

XII. Action items

XII.A. Motion to approve the 2025 Tax Levy in the amounts of:

Educational: \$15,582,504

Operations & Maintenance: \$1,053,988

Transportation: \$334,863

Working Cash: \$330,798

Municipal Retirement: \$143,825

Social Security: \$294,122

Motion to approve the 2025 Tax Levy in the amounts of: Educational-\$15,582,504, Operations & Maintenance-\$1,053,988, Transportation-\$334,863, Working Cash-\$330,798, Municipal Retirement-\$143,825, Social Security-\$294,122. This motion, made by Steve Dlugo and seconded by Adam Sage, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren

Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.B. Motion to approve the Transportation Pay Schedule with starting pay at \$33.00 an hour.

Motion to approve the Transportation Pay Schedule with starting pay at \$33.00 an hour. This motion, made by Megan DuPass and seconded by Steve Dlugo, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren

Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.C. Motion to approve the bid for the Roof Retrofit at Lakeview in the amount of \$1,243,975 to Malcor Roofing.

Motion to approve the bid for the Roof Retrofit at Lakeview in the amount of \$1,243,975 to Malcor Roofing. This motion, made by Doug Wiley and seconded by Darren Spiegel, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren

Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.D. Motion to approve the pre-bid package for the Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement.

Motion to approve the pre-bid package for the Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement. This motion, made by Megan DuPass and seconded by Steve Dlugo, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren

Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XII.E. Motion to approve the Special BOE Meeting on January 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to approve the Special BOE Meeting on January 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. This motion, made by Steve Dlugo and seconded by Brian Liedtke, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren

Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Steve Dlugo and seconded by Adam Sage, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel:

Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The December 10, 2025 Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education