

Streator Elementary School District 44

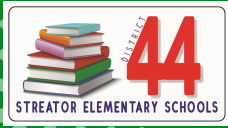
Regular Board of Education Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM

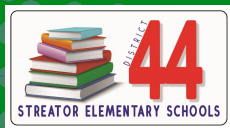
Location: Northlawn Junior High School Library





Closed Session

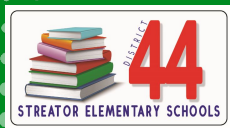
Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline,
Performance or Dismissal of Personnel, Litigation, School
Security and Safety, and Review of Closed Session Minutes



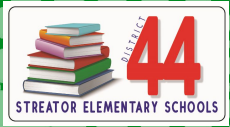
Board Salutes

Summer Band Program

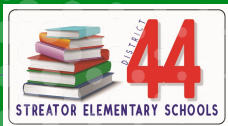




Open Forum



Action Items



Approval of Agenda

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 5:00 PM

Northlawn Junior High School Library, 202 E. First St., Streator, Illinois
61364

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

**II. CLOSED SESSION - As stated in the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of:
Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or
Dismissal of Personnel, Litigation, School Security and Safety, and
Review of Closed Session Minutes**

III. 6:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

IV. BOARD SALUTES

V. OPEN FORUM

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Agenda

**B. Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for an Independent
Forensic Audit**

**C. Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for Routine HVAC/R
Preventive Maintenance**

D. Approval of Superintendent Contract Amendment

**E. Approval of Salary Adjustment and Transition Stipend for Business
Office Personnel**

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

**A. Approval of Open and Closed Session Minutes of the June 23, 2026
Regular Board Meeting and the Special Meeting on July 16, 2026**

B. Approval of Payment of Bills, District Travel and Financial Statements

C. Approval of Human Resources Consent Agenda

VIII. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Strategic Plan Revitalization – Vision 2030

B. Use of Artificial Intelligence at SES 44

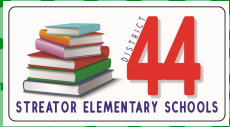
C. Safety Update

D. Building and Grounds Update

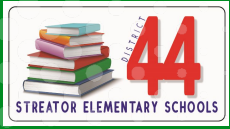
E. Walk-In Preschool Special Education Service Model

**IX. CLOSED SESSION - As stated in the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of:
Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or
Dismissal of Personnel, Negotiations, Student Discipline, Litigation,
School Security and Safety, Sale of Property, and Review of Closed
Session Minutes**

X. ADJOURNMENT



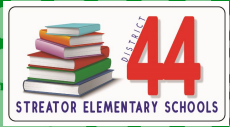
Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for an Independent Forensic Audit



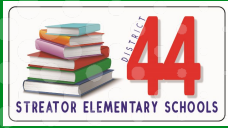
Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for an Independent Forensic Audit

- The administration recommends contracting with Wipfli Advisory LLC to conduct Phase I of an independent forensic audit.
- The Phase I evaluation will focus on process walkthroughs and internal control environments for an amount not to exceed 16,000 dollars.
- Wipfli Advisory LLC brings over twenty years of school district consulting experience and has agreed to waive their standard six percent administrative fee.
- Any expansion into a more intensive Phase II review is completely contingent on Phase I findings and separate board authorization.

Recommend to approve the Independent Forensic Audit to Wipfli Advisory LLC as presented.



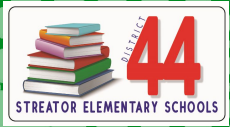
Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for Routine HVAC/R Preventive Maintenance



Approval of Firm Recommendation and Contract for Routine HVAC/R Preventive Maintenance

- The proposal establishes a proactive commercial maintenance framework with Merit Mechanical Service LLC to service the climate and ventilation systems at Northlawn, Centennial, and Kimes schools.
- The contract guarantees four comprehensive technical inspections per year to prepare our school facilities for peak seasonal heating and cooling demands.
- Shifting to this proactive maintenance model prevents costly mechanical breakdowns, maximizes fiscal efficiency, and ensures zero disruption to the daily learning environment.
- By utilizing the upfront annual payment option, the administration secured an immediate five percent cost reduction, lowering the net expenditure from \$24,160 to \$22,952.

Recommend to approve the contractual agreement with Merit Mechanical Service LLC as presented.



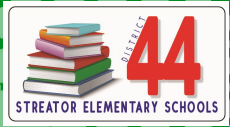
Approval of Superintendent Contract Amendment



Approval of Superintendent Contract Amendment

- The original three-year employment agreement was established effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, and permits ongoing modifications through a written amendment.
- The proposed amendment sets the annual base salary for the 2026–2027 contract year at \$151,000.
- The amendment removes the district residency requirement entirely, eliminating the boundary restriction as a condition of continued employment.

Recommend a motion to approve the First Amendment to the Superintendent's Employment Contract as presented.



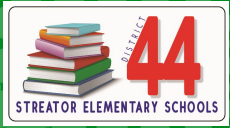
Approval of Salary Adjustment and Transition Stipend for Business Office Personnel



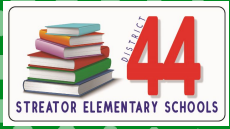
Approval of Salary Adjustment and Transition Stipend for Business Office Personnel

- The administration recommends approving compensation adjustments to maintain strict financial continuity following a sudden resignation in the business office.
- The remaining business office team has immediately assumed expanded responsibilities to ensure daily operations run without interruption.
- District Business Coordinator Laurie Skromme will receive a six percent salary increase, adjusting her base annual salary to \$77,910.00.
- Part-time Accounts Payable clerk Kim Zavada will receive a transition stipend of \$100 per payroll for the 2026-2027 school year to cover additional processing duties.

Recommend a motion to approve the compensation adjustments as presented.



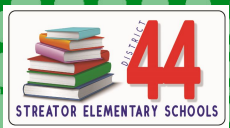
Approval of Consent Agenda



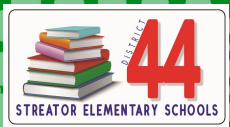
Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of Open and Closed Session Minutes of the June 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting and the Special Meeting on July 16, 2026
- Approval of Payment of Bills, District Travel and Financial Statements
- Approval of Human Resources Consent Agenda

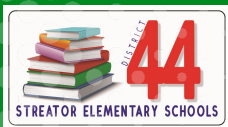
Recommend to approve the consent agenda as presented.



Informational Items



Strategic Plan Revitalization Vision 2030



Strategic Plan Revitalization Vision 2030



Streator Elementary School District #44



Vision 2030 Development and Approval Timeline

Diagnostic Assessment and Resource Auditing (August through October 2026)

During this opening period, the district will launch the comprehensive staff utilization and workload analysis across all three buildings and district office to track instructional schedules, daily operational duties, and student/staff support assignments.

- Simultaneously, the district administration will work with the district architect to complete a new ten-year life safety structural audit to identify immediate facility repairs and prioritize long term enhancements. Alongside operational data collection, the district will launch a targeted narrative-building audit.
- SES 44 is home to exceptional students and dedicated staff, it is our core responsibility to actively shape and share our own story. This phase will focus on capturing existing success stories and defining the positive cultural pillars that truly represent our schools.
- This phase focuses entirely on data collection to ensure our human resources, physical spaces, and community narratives are properly mapped before any strategic adjustments are drafted.

Framework Alignment and Draft Formulation (November 2026 through January 2027)

Using the collected data, the district will synthesize the workload and facility findings to draft the initial five-year rolling facilities plan and outline the resource management strategies for our cash reserves.

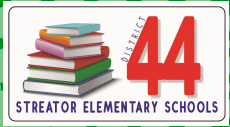
- During this time, the district will also construct the preliminary rules for the systemic culture of de-escalation, bringing counselors and social workers together to align on restorative practices.
- Additionally, the district will outline a dedicated communication framework designed to celebrate our people and consistently amplify the achievements of our students and staff.
- This period transforms our operational diagnostics into concrete programmatic goals designed to boost student academic outcomes.

Stakeholder Consultation and Policy Integration (February through March 2027)

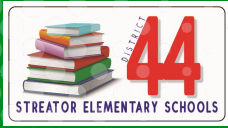
The district will present the initial Vision 2030 draft to staff, parents, and community groups to gather vital feedback on our accountability structures, the emerging technology integration protocols, and our cultural perception goals.

- Based on these consultation sessions, the administration will refine the project text to ensure that evaluation tools match daily roles, that student data remains fully protected under state and federal privacy laws, and that our strategic storytelling aligns with the reality of our classrooms.

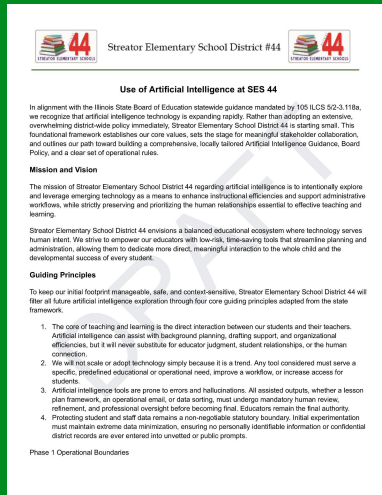
- The district will launch an operational diagnostic phase from August through October 2026, combining staff workload analysis, a ten-year life safety facility audit, and a targeted narrative-building audit to capture school success stories.
- From November 2026 through January 2027, the administration will transform the collected data into concrete goals, drafting a five-year facilities plan, resource management strategies, a de-escalation framework, and a communication strategy.
- The strategic plan will undergo stakeholder consultation and policy refinement from February through March 2027, followed by a formal review in April 2027 to ensure strict compliance with the Illinois School Code and state fiscal guidelines.
- The final Vision 2030 plan will be presented to the Board of Education for a first reading in May 2027, with final adoption and implementation preparation scheduled for June 2027 ahead of the new school year.



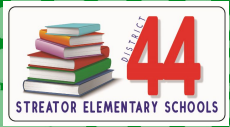
Use of Artificial Intelligence at SES 44



Use of Artificial Intelligence at SES 44



- In alignment with state guidance, the district is introducing a small-scale foundational framework to establish core values and operational boundaries for artificial intelligence use.
- The guiding principles mandate that technology will never substitute for human relationships, all AI outputs require human verification, and student and staff data privacy remains a non-negotiable boundary.
- Under Phase 1 boundaries, staff may use approved tools for administrative templates and instructional planning assistance, but are strictly prohibited from inputting student records or using tools for automatic grading.
- The policy development timeline includes internal cabinet alignment this fall, broad stakeholder consultation, and a policy drafting phase, culminating in legal review and board adoption by April 2027.



Safety Update



Safety Update

SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Centennial Elementary School
614 Oakley Avenue
Streator IL 61364



Rev. 2026 - 2027 School Year

District Crisis Plans Updates

Procedures updated to provide better communication and provide more opportunities for effective responses for Staff and Student:

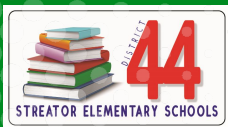
Hold and Teach

- Will replace the previous term “Soft Lockdown” to provide clearer communication.

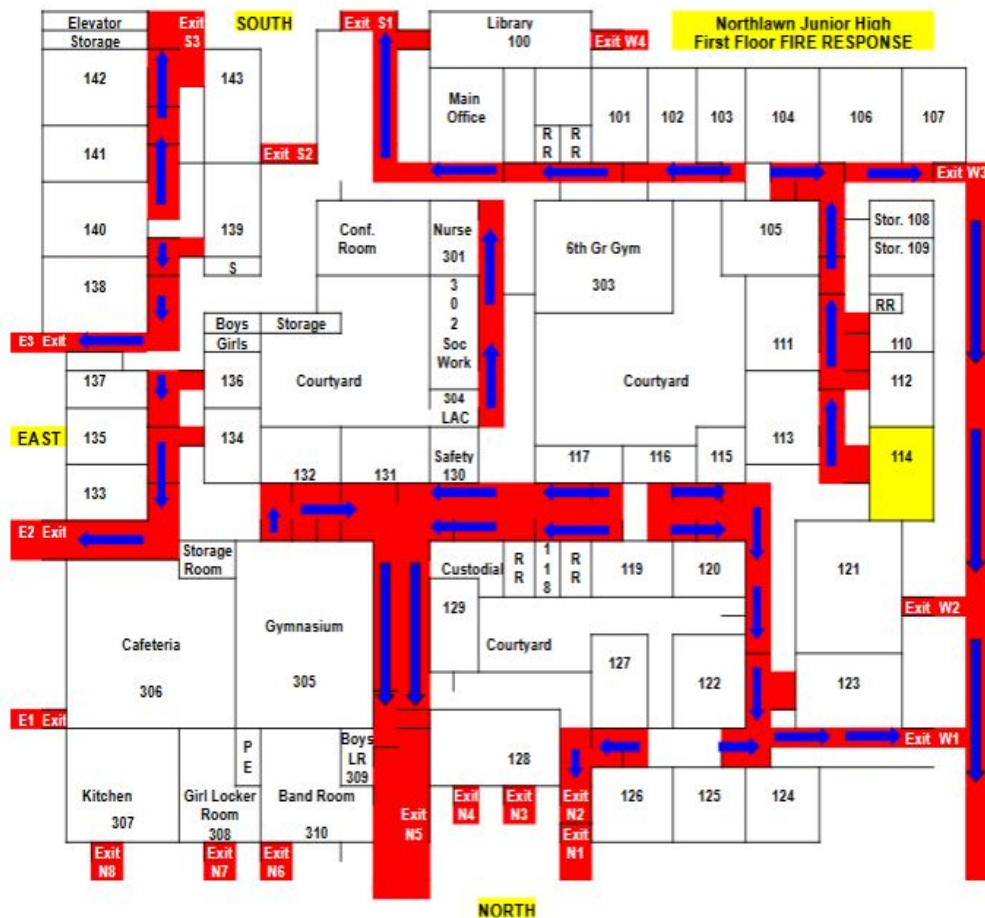
Updated Mapping

- All District Classrooms received upgraded emergency response maps that specify the room each map is posted in.
- This prevents any delayed response for a Staff Member or Student needing to identify their location in a building.

The development of an Administrator Emergency Response Guide

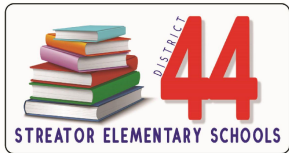


Safety Update





Safety Update

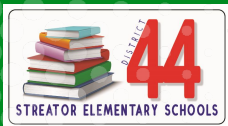


ADMINISTRATION REUNIFICATION PROCESS GUIDE

Rev. 26 - 27 School Year

Development of District Reunification Plans

- This summer Administrators directed attention to enhancing the District Reunification Plans
- Framework of the Reunification Process
- Developed partnerships with the Streator YMCA as a Reunification Site.
- Developing partnerships with Streator Emergency Services and local School Districts to formalize a community-wide Emergency Response and Reunification Process.
- SES 44 joining the newly developed ROE 35 and LaSalle County EMA - School Emergency and Reunification Team



Safety Update

Memorandum of Understanding with the Streator YMCA

As part of the Reunification framework, the District developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Streator YMCA for use of their facility for a Reunification Process or Emergency Response.

The District will meet annually with YMCA Directors to review procedures and implement any improvements developed.

Memorandum of Understanding For Use of Shelters and Mass Care Facilities Between the Streator Elementary School District 44 and Streator YMCA

This agreement is made and entered into between the Streator Elementary School District ("the School District") and the Streator YMCA to establish shelter site locations and terms of use in the event of an evacuation of the students and staff of the School District.

The School District will make every effort to notify the Streator YMCA of evacuation possibilities with as much notice as possible. Confidential information between the two parties shall be maintained annually and is considered confidential information and is not subject to public disclosure.

The Streator YMCA and the School District will work jointly to utilize the facility located at 710 Oakley Avenue, Streator IL 61364, to provide shelter and assistance to students and staff evacuated during emergency situations.

The Streator YMCA and the School District agree that procedures will be developed to make the building accessible, including restrooms and areas with phone and internet connection for the School District. The School District agrees to provide supervision for all students and staff during the time that the facility is used as an emergency shelter site.

The School District agrees that it shall exercise reasonable care in the conduct of its activities in said facilities and further agrees to replace or reimburse the Streator YMCA for any supplies or equipment that may be used by the district in the conduct of its sheltering activities in said facilities. The School District agrees to be responsible for replacing or repairing damage caused by the use of any building, facilities or equipment belonging to the Streator YMCA.

The School District will reimburse the Streator YMCA for any bona fide expenditure of personnel required to maintain the facility, including overtime costs, upon production of receipts or time sheets. The School District and Streator YMCA agree there will not be any operational or administrative fees for the use of the Streator YMCA when the facility is being used as an emergency shelter site.

The School District will oversee any and all releases of information to the press and media, when the Streator YMCA is being utilized as an emergency shelter site. Any press and media requests for interviews or information shall be directed to the Superintendent of the School District. The Superintendent of the School District will make every effort to recognize the hospitality of the Streator YMCA in any press or media releases pertaining to the re-location and sheltering of students and staff.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to conflict with current laws or regulations of the United States of America, the State of Illinois or local government. If a term of this agreement is inconsistent with such authority, then that term shall be invalid, but the remaining terms and conditions of this MOU shall remain in full force and effect.

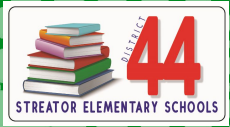
This agreement shall become effective on _____ and may be modified upon mutual consent of the parties. The terms of this agreement, as modified with the consent of both parties, shall be self-renewable annually unless written termination is given by either party. Either party, upon sixty (60) days written notice to the other party, may terminate this agreement. The terms of this agreement, as modified with the consent of both parties, AND NOW, this day of _____, 2028, the parties hereby acknowledge the foregoing as the terms and conditions of their understanding.

Superintendent, Streator Elem. School District

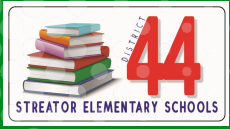
Authorized Signature, Streator YMCA

Date _____

Date _____



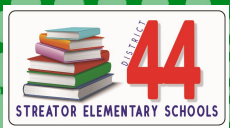
Building and Grounds Update



Building & Grounds Update



- Resolves all remaining items on the current ten-year life safety plan for all three schools in partnership with BCA architects.
- Establishes a partnership with Matt Lamps and his engineering team to construct the next ten-year life safety framework, which will serve as the baseline for the upcoming five-year rolling facility plan.
- Advances a comprehensive commercial HVAC/R preventive maintenance agreement with Merit Mechanical Service LLC to tonight's action agenda for formal consideration.
- Finalizes plans to modernize the Centennial Conference Room to better support administrative workflows, collaborative planning, and professional committee work.



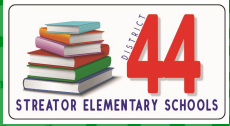
Walk-In Preschool Special Education Service Model



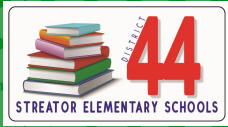
Walk-In Preschool Special Education Service Model



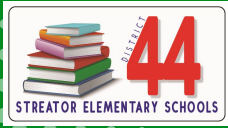
- Establishes a walk-in service delivery model to ensure immediate developmental, speech-language, and occupational therapy services for eligible preschool students regardless of physical classroom space availability.
- Responds to an increasing enrollment trajectory driven by strong parent participation in LEASE preschool screenings and students transitioning out of Early Intervention programs.
- Guarantees strict compliance with Individualized Education Program (IEP) timelines and bridges immediate service gaps under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- Serves as an operational bridge to prevent delays in childhood support while the administration evaluates long-term options to sustainably expand preschool infrastructure.
- Presented for initial review, discussion, and informational purposes tonight, with formal operational parameters returning for potential board action in August.



FOIA Requests

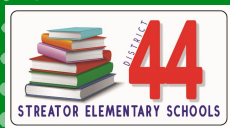


Information for Future Agenda Items



Closed Session

Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline,
Performance or Dismissal of Personnel, Litigation, School
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Adjournment