

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 6:00 p.m. – 8:31 p.m. September 17, 2025

Members Present:

Tarryne Marchione (Presiding Officer)

Bill Brockob

Charles Zona

Mary Lenzen

Becky Walters

Sean Mason

Members Absent:

Jason Nash

ROLL CALL AND

VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were district staff, Jennifer Ban, Griffin Sonntag, Sara Poplawski, James Mukite, Kathleen Tomei, Jeanine Arundel, Maura Raleigh, Mary Kate Merna, Jane Bailey, Amanda Laky, Cheryl Allemand, Ellen Smith, and Board Recording Secretary Jenni Weiler. The district architect, Mike Henderson, was also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by teachers new to the District.

BUDGET HEARING

FY26

Board President Marchione declared the budget hearing open at 6:09 p.m.

The budget for FY26 meets the Board policy financial guidelines of the district. Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Griffin Sonntag presented an outline of the major components of the budget. The FY26 proposed final budget projects revenues at \$19,724,483 and expenses at \$22,208,371. Mr. Sonntag explained that the district takes a very conservative approach to budgeting and looks to spend tax dollars wisely. He let the Board know that the majority of the district's budget goes directly to students through the education fund. The district continues to be in good financial standing due to the excellent stewardship and vision of the Board of Education. This vision includes being mindful of maintaining quality programs, reasonable class sizes, and sufficient fund balances as a safeguard in case of decreased government funding, economic downturns, and/or urgent facility repairs. There were no public comments.

Board President Marchione declared the budget hearing closed at 6:17 p.m.

ACTION NO. 04

Budget Approval

Motioned by Lenzen, second by Brockob, that the Board adopt the 2025-26 school district budget as presented. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Walters, Mason, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Brockob; Absent - Nash).

OPEN FORUM

No public comment was made at this time.

ACTION NO. 05
Consent Agenda

Motion by Lenzen, second by Walters, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented consisting of: meeting minutes of the August 13, 2025 regular meeting; meeting minutes of the closed session meeting minutes of August 13, 2025; payment of August payroll/September warrants; declassify closed session minutes; September 2025 Personnel Report; approve section 5 (Personnel) Board Policies; and Approve Overnight Field Trips per Board Policy 6.240. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Walters, Mason, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Brockob; Absent - Nash).

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review Superintendent Goals 2025-26

Each year, the Board approves the superintendent's goals, which become part of the superintendent's contract. Dr. Palzet presented this year's goals to the Board of Education. The District follows a philosophy of cascading goals, which means that the Strategic Plan goals become the Superintendent's goals, which become the building goals, and so on. The superintendent's goals are pulled directly from the Strategic Roadmap. The Superintendent's goals will be on the October agenda for approval.

Facilities Development

Dr. Palzet, along with the district architect, walked the Board through two additional options to address the priorities created through the outcomes from the Community Engagement Group- those being space, programming offerings, and safety issues at our schools. Dr. Palzet presented the option to build an additional school building on approximately five acres that sit adjacent to the middle school at 75th Street and Wolf Road. The purpose of this potential project would be to meet the following goals: address safety concerns, address current and future space issues, allow the fifth grade to remain at the elementary school, and expand our half-day and full-day preschool options.

Curriculum Review Cycle Update

Each year Dr. Ban and the Curriculum Council implement our curriculum review cycle. The purpose of the review cycle is to ensure curriculum and resources used in classrooms meet the needs of our students and state requirements. Dr. Ban provided the Board with an update on our progress and areas of focus for the year. She also shared the outcome of the most recent administration of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness and Illinois Science Assessment.

Class Size Update

Ms. Tomei and Dr. Arundel updated the Board on class sizes at both schools. The goal is to ensure that class sizes remain at or near the guidelines that are established in Board policy 7:65. As stated in Board policy, if any class goes over the Board guideline, support will be put in place for the teacher and students within that class.

Review Board Policy Section 6 (Curriculum and Instruction)

The Board reviewed selected policies from Section 6 (Curriculum and Instruction). The changes made to policies reflect suggested and required changes from the PRESS policy service.

Items for Next Agenda

Facilities Update, Approve Superintendent 2025-26 Goals, Approve Curriculum and Instruction (sec. 6) Board Policies, Elementary/Middle School Improvement Plans, Adopt Proposed Tax Levy, Review Superintendent Evaluation Tool, E-Learning Hearing, Review Finance (sec. 4) Board Policies.

OPEN FORUM

No public comment was made at this time.

WRITTEN
REPORTS

FOIA: The District received 8 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests from the following requesters.

- Karyn Lisowski requested email records from 2022
- Karyn Lisowski requested information about an anonymous tip line
- Megan McMillin requested information regarding the status of an employee
- Megan McMillan requested information regarding an incident involving a student
- Laura Kitaeff requested documents regarding an incident involving a student
- Rebecca Zeman requested disciplinary records pertaining to a staff member
- David Giuliani requested information about the leave status of an employee
- Karen Garcia with SmartProcedure requested current staff contact information

ACTION NO. 06

Closed Session

Motioned by Brockob, second by Lenzen that the Board move into closed session at 7:17 p.m. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Walters, Mason, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Brockob; Absent - Nash).

ACTION NO .07

Open Session

Motioned by Lenzen second by Brockob that the Board move out of closed session and back into open session at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Walters, Mason, Marchione, Zona, Lenzen, and Brockob; Absent - Nash).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lenzen, second by Brockob, that the regular meeting adjourns at 8:31 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. __ President _____ Secretary _____