

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:30 PM
Central

Prairieview Elementary School
699 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Megan DuPass: Present
Christopher Esposito: Present
Brian Liedtke: Present
Liane Raso: Present
Donna Sobotka: 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 6:30 p.m. by Board President Liane Raso.

II. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Liane Raso.

III. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included Steve Dlugo and Tom Tiede. Online attendees included Kristin Platt, Tammie Pry, Meghan Aleo, Sheri Sulima, Lori Bryant, Mary Testolin, Amy Willer, Jessica Sage, Adam Sage, Jonathon Bittle, Elizabeth Uribe, Joe Testolin, Director, Dr. Kim Liles, Director, Mr. Sean Rhoads, Director Mr. Keith Roberts, Dr. Mark Orszula, Mr. Jake Little, Mrs. Katie Johnson.

IV. Scheduled Time to Address the Board

There were no scheduled speakers.

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 Employment of Sharon Dadepogu, Help Desk Technician

V.D.2. Approve Employment of Maria Alicia Ginez, Substitute Custodian

V.D.3. Resignation of Abby Schaafsma, Kindergarten Teacher, Elizabeth Ide

V.D.4. Approve BACC Summer Camp for 2025

VI. Approve Consent Agenda

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

Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Communication

VII.A. Winter Benchmark Data - Dr. Kim Liles

The Board heard a Winter Benchmarking update from Dr. Liles. Results from HMH, Aims Web, and MAP showed that the majority of students are on track academically. Some students in District showed some stagnation in their Winter MAP scores due to the test covering more material than was covered in class during that time. This is a common phenomenon as the MAP assessment "levels up" students' math and language arts skills, causing students to struggle with concepts they haven't yet learned.

VII.B. Learner Characteristics and Adult Survey Data - Mr. Sean Rhoads

The Board heard a presentation by Director Rhoads on survey data from students, employees, and parents. While every grade level had slightly different results, data revealed that student ownership of learning is growing throughout the District, with a foundation being built in the primary grades that will prove beneficial in the years to come. As D66 students get older, and curriculum and social situations get more difficult, on average students are self-reporting that they are not as confident in their ability to succeed compared to students throughout the nation. Overall, students, employees, and parents reported very strong scores related to the Climate and Culture of the District. Employees' scores were lower than national averages in the area of "coaching and feedback", signaling more development, conversations, and assistance is needed by them to ensure our students have the skills needed for success in school and life. Parents' scores were lower than national averages in "family support", signaling more outreach is needed by the District to provide parents with strategies for improving student academic and social learning.

VII.C. FOIA Request DuPage Policy Institute

VII.D. FOIA Request Lake County Gazette

VIII. Principal Reports

VIII.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

Principal Johnson shared that the 100th Day of School at IDE was a memorable and engaging celebration filled with fun, creative, and hands-on activities that reinforced learning through counting and grouping exercises. She went on to explain how grade-level teams collaboratively analyzed Panorama data and observed improvements in students' social-emotional learning skills across all areas. This progress is attributed to the staff's commitment to nurturing the whole child and providing comprehensive social work support, including co-teaching and targeted interventions. The use of Panorama data allows for more effective identification of student needs and fine-tuning of interventions. The district supports teacher development, exemplified by a recent SIP day where teachers collaborated on grade-level competencies and rubrics, with Dr. Liles providing support. Observing these dynamic

discussions and collaborative efforts was rewarding, as it showed the staff's dedication to enhancing student learning experiences.

VIII.B. Prairieview Elementary

Principal Little explained how the district's shift to Competency-Based Education (CBE) is gaining momentum, with Vanguard teachers leading the organization of an assessment and feedback framework that was shared with staff. Teachers have begun implementing CBE-aligned work, empowering students to own their learning. Our Student Experience Coordinator has successfully launched 5 new student-created clubs, which have engaged over 80 students and promoted social connections, motivation, and self-efficacy. These extracurricular activities align with research by John Hattie, which supports the positive impact of such experiences on student engagement and academic success. During winter, indoor recess presents challenges for students, but supervisors are fostering positive interactions by enhancing engagement in the lunchroom and indoor play areas. Additionally, students are stepping into leadership roles by designing CHAMPS posters to extend school expectations to the bus environment, promoting responsibility and shared guidelines among their peers.

VIII.C. Lakeview Junior High

Dr. Orszula stated that Lakeview students had transitioned smoothly into new exploratory and PE/Health classes after winter break, utilizing flexible learning spaces to enhance their educational experiences. Furthermore, the ACE program has empowered students to design anti-bullying posters, which are now prominently displayed throughout the school, fostering a culture of kindness and respect. He went on to explain how Lakeview is celebrating student achievements with events like the Celebration Breakfast and eighth-grade picture day, fostering a sense of pride and community. Additionally, the school is focused on student growth through activities like the Chess Team competitions and goal-setting based on winter data analysis, empowering students to improve their skills. Also he explained how SIP (School Improvement) days are instrumental for Lakeview's staff, providing vital collaboration time for teachers to enhance support for students, particularly in areas like ELL and CBE initiatives. Additionally, hosting the DGS Choir showcased a strong connection between current and former students, reinforcing community ties and inspiring younger students to appreciate the arts.

IX. Director Reports

IX.A. Director of Student Services

Director Rhoads reported that EL Interventionists have been assessing English Learners' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills using the ACCESS assessment. This assessment informs instructional planning and supports EL students' academic success by identifying strengths and areas for growth. He also explained how Lakeview students reflected and set goals using Panorama Ed data during ACE hour to reflect on SEL competencies. This

process promotes self-awareness and personal growth, aligning with the District's Strategic Plan to develop the whole child. District 66 paraprofessionals are participating in a book study on effective communication to improve student learning and behavior, supported by a TEAM 66 Education Foundation grant. This initiative aims to build a common language and strengthen positive interactions, creating a more supportive learning environment for all students.

IX.B. Director of Learning

District 66 held its annual Spelling Bee on January 30th, with finalists from grades 3-8 showcasing their spelling skills. The district thanks the Master of Ceremonies, judges, and participating students for their hard work and dedication. Dr. Liles also reported that winter data would be presented at the Board of Education meeting, providing valuable insights into student performance and guiding instructional decisions. While considered a preliminary measure, the data reflects the hard work of students and staff throughout the district. She also reported that on January 31, the school held a School Improvement Day focused on advancing Competency-Based Education (CBE) work through team-based collaboration and departmental discussions. The effort was productive, with staff exhibiting a clear understanding of the path forward and a strong commitment to the CBE journey.

IX.C. Director of Technology

Director Roberts reported that the technology team is preparing for upcoming state and local testing by ensuring all student devices are updated, configured, and supported, with network stability as a top priority. Improved device repairs and proactive maintenance have enhanced technology reliability and accessibility. Additionally, the district secured free internet access through a state consortium, and is hiring a help desk technician to enhance technical support for staff and students.

IX.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

Director Tiede shared that the transportation department has been preparing for and managing challenging winter weather conditions, including ensuring buses run efficiently and provide adequate heat for students. This involves fuel blending, preheating, and early morning preparations to mitigate the impact of extreme cold temperatures. He went on to explain how District #66's in-house crews handle snow removal and de-icing, saving costs and ensuring timely preparation of buildings for occupancy during winter weather. Spring break projects include flooring replacements and infrastructure upgrades for new building automation systems.

X. Superintendent Report

X.A. District Dashboard

District dashboard is included in the Boardbook and has not changed since last month.

X.B. Life Safety Bond Resolution

Dr. Wise shared the final documents and motion needed to complete the approximate \$6.9 million dollar Health Life Safety bond issue. The bond issue will fund the work communicated with the public over the last few years.

X.C. Goal 2 Admin Sub Committee Meeting Update

Board Members Watson and Sobotka shared a Strategic Plan update regarding Goal 2, covering areas such as Parent Advisory Council, Parent Multilingual Committee, Panorama survey results, current SEL interventions/needs, Spring Newsletter, increased police services from County SRO, current student participation in extracurriculars, and other topics. Board members on the committee were pleased with the growth in this area.

X.D. Goal 1 Admin Sub Committee Meeting Update

Board Members Liedtke and Esposito shared a Strategic Plan update regarding Goal 1, covering areas such as Competency Based Reporting, benchmark data, development provided/needed, new Skyward capabilities, personnel needs for next year, and other topics. Board members on the committee were pleased with the effort by staff and admin to build classroom practice that informs instruction and provides better information to parents.

X.E. Projected PK-8 Class Size for 25-26

Dr. Wise shared the projected PK-8 Class Size for SY 25-26. Based on these numbers, he is recommending adding a section to next year's 4th grade class.

X.F. Additional Section Needed for 25-26

In planning for next year, Dr. Wise recommended adding a 4th grade teacher to reduce class size, which is currently at 26 students per 3rd grade class.

X.G. Additional Bus Route Needed for 25-26

Dr. Wise explained that in order to lengthen the school day, the District had planned on adding back a bus route. He is hoping that does not need to happen until next year, as it would be best to incorporate the additional route into the entire bus system to accommodate the schedule change next year.

X.H. Educational Space Concerns

Dr. Wise shared that the District will be continuing to investigate ways to add space to buildings that are at capacity.

X.I. Gym Rentals

The Board discussed gym rentals and asked Dr. Wise to bring forth new recommendations to policy and procedures based on area pricing, usage, and costs.

X.J. Board Candidate Night - February 27

Dr. Wise confirmed the District would host a Board Candidate Night on February 27, 2025 @ 7:00 pm. The five candidates running for the four board seats will be in attendance. Each candidate will share information about themselves and answer a few questions related to being a Board member. The event is open to the public. More information would be posted on the District website.

X.K. Community Newsletter

The Board was given a draft version of the soon-to-be mailed Community Newsletter to review.

XI. Public Comment

There was no public comment shared at the February 12th Board of Education meeting.

XII. Action items

XII.A. Motion to approve the issue of not to exceed \$6,945,000 of Life Safety Bonds of the District, providing for the levy of taxes to pay the bonds and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Motion to approve the issue of not to exceed \$6,945,000 of Life Safety Bonds of the District, providing for the levy of taxes to pay the bonds and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof. This motion, made by Doug Wiley and seconded by Brian Liedtke, Passed. Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn. This motion, made by Christopher Esposito and seconded by Tiffany Watson, Passed.

Megan DuPass: Yea, Christopher Esposito: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Liane Raso: Yea, Donna Sobotka: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The February 12, 2025 BOE meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education