

LIBERTYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
District No. 70
Libertyville, Illinois

May 18, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Education, District No. 70, Lake County, Illinois, was called to order at 6:30pm in the boardroom at the ERC, 1381 Lake St., Libertyville on Monday, May 18, 2026. Prior to the meeting being called to order, a student recognition took place at Butterfield School, 1441 Lake St., Libertyville at 6pm. Board members honored accomplishments from wrestling and track and field.

The following members answered present at roll call: Mrs. Dahlke, Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, Mr. Sticklen and Mrs. Schilling. Absent - None.

Also present: Superintendent Rebecca Jenkins, Dr. Bongle, Mr. Theis, Mr. Vipond, Ms. Donev, Ms. Bachar, Mrs. Kollman and Mrs. Coyle. District guests included: Mr. Ciewiwa, Mrs. Crenshaw, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Hallmark, Mrs. McBride, Dr. Kehoe, and Mr. Feldman and student board members Sutherland B. and Camilo C.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting started with the pledge of allegiance.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

The Board of Education was honored to celebrate the students recently selected to receive the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) Student Recognition Award. This prestigious honor is reserved for students who go beyond academic excellence, demonstrating the character, integrity, and leadership that help our schools thrive

District 70 proudly celebrated the following honorees:

- Adler Park School: Gabriella D. and Brady W.
- Butterfield School: Hattie T. and Viola H.
- Copeland Manor School: Mackenzie W. and Wynn M.
- Rockland Elementary School: Ben K. and Petra P.
- Highland Middle School: Saathvik S. and Emmie W.

The Board commended these students for representing the core values of the D70 learning community and for their dedication to making a positive impact on their school environments.

STAFF RECOGNITION

The Board of Education took a moment to celebrate the exceptional talent and dedication within our district by recognizing the D70 staff members nominated for the 2026 Lake County Educator of the Year award.

Nominees Included:

- Elementary/Early Childhood Teacher: Ali Steinhauser
- Middle School Teacher: Carla Bollinger
- School Administrator: Austin Johnson
- Educational Service Personnel: Kelly Rusk
- Early Career Educator: Annika McKnight
- Classroom Diverse Learner Teacher (ELL, SPED): Jessica Gehr
- Librarian: Erin Wyatt (Guest of Honor)

The Board extended its deepest gratitude to these staff members for their unwavering commitment to our students' success and for their leadership within the Lake County educational landscape.

The Board of Education also expressed its deepest gratitude and offered a heartfelt farewell to seven distinguished staff members who are embarking on their next chapter: retirement. These individuals have dedicated years of service to the students and families of District 70, leaving an indelible mark on our schools and our community.

- Robin Smith-Kollman
- Teresa Crandell
- Susi Hardiman
- Val Crusey
- Mary Tyree
- Caren Kimbarovsky
- Linda Snader

Mrs. Khan read the Retirement Recognition Resolution and motion was made by Mrs. Dahlke, seconded by Mr. McGhee to adopt the resolution and honor the retirements of the distinguished staff.

On roll call vote: ayes – Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, and Mrs. Dahlke. Absent – None. Nays - None. All in favor. Motion carried

The Board took a short break at 6:45pm to meet and greet with students and staff. The regular meeting resumed at 6:58pm.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Mr. McGhee, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented in Board Report 5. The following items were contained in the consent agenda:

5.1 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, April 27, 2026

5.2 - Approval of Finance Reports

- Agenda of Bills
- Payroll
- Budgetary
- Treasurer's Report

5.3 - Approval of Personnel

- New Hires
- Resignation
- Leave of Absence
- Change in Assignment

A link to this report may be found on the website under Board section.

On roll call vote: ayes – Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Khan, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, and Mrs. Dahlke. Absent – None. Nays - None. All in favor. Motion carried

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no presentations from the floor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSLAC)

Highland Middle School students, sixth grader Sutherland and eighth grader Camilo, who are members of SSLAC, were introduced by the Supt. Rebecca Jenkins, as they sat at the board table, offered the following report.

- Sutherland enjoyed serving on the SSLAC and has been a dedicated advocate for her school and peers while gaining a deeper understanding of the school system to help innovate for the future. Her enthusiasm for leadership was sparked by her participation in the Middle School Summit, where she collaborated with 85 students from across six districts and learned the value of "doing, not just saying" from facilitator Tom Burton. This experience, which focused on building authentic connections and leadership skills, has motivated her to work alongside Mrs. Jenkins to translate the insights she gained at the summit into meaningful action for the district in the coming year.
- Camilo reflected on his experience serving on the SSLAC. He liked the opportunity to give back to the community and act as a strong representative for his peers. After transitioning from a small private school to a larger public environment, he credited the "awesome" teachers and staff for making his experience memorable and successful. His passion for leadership was further developed during the Middle School Summit, where he valued interacting with students from other schools to hear their diverse perspectives. Reflecting on a year filled with highlights like band, volleyball, and SSLAC, Camilo advises incoming students to stay responsible with their schoolwork and remain actively engaged in clubs and sports as a way to build meaningful connections.

The council was created by Supt. Jenkins to bring student voice forward into decision-making. Members of the council will help Highland and District administration identify areas of celebration and areas of growth at Highland Middle School and in D70 overall.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

District 70 had a busy and celebratory spring across all of our schools. Superintendent Rebecca Jenkins highlighted the successful Middle School Leadership Summit, the final meeting of the Family Associations of District 70 (FAD70), and expressed gratitude to all parents and guardians for another year of collaboration and support. The district also celebrated the Lake County Educators of the Year and recognized staff members across the district during Staff Appreciation Week.

At Highland Middle School, students enjoyed several memorable experiences, including the eight grade Six Flags trip, Bike to School activities, and outstanding performances in the HMS musical.

At Adler Park School, students participated in “Recess with a Purpose” activities for Earth Day, while the district proudly recognized Adler librarian Erin Carr for her dedication and impact on students.

Rockland School celebrated Superintendent Jenkins stepping into the classroom to substitute in Mrs. Crenshaw’s first grade class during Staff Appreciation Week. Students also showcased their learning through the 5th Grade Biome Project and a joyful 1st Grade Reading Celebration.

At Copeland Manor School, students demonstrated leadership and kindness through a special reading reward and a schoolwide Pro-Kids Assembly sponsored by the Student Council.

Butterfield School students participated in engaging hands-on learning experiences, including a science activity on plant and animal dependence and a fifth grade “Mission to Mars” simulation at the Challenger Learning Center.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES

Board Report 8.1 sought formal approval of the following School Board Policies, subsequent to their first reading on April 27, 2026:

- 2:200 Types of School Board Meetings
- 2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure
- 2:250 Access to District Public Records
- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition
- 5:250 Leaves of Absence
- 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- 6.50 School Wellness
- 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development

- 6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program
- 6:145 Migrant Students
- 6:170 Title I Programs
- 6:180 Extended Instructional Programs
- 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
- 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
- 7:220 Bus Conduct
- 7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
- 7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities
- 7:260 Exemption from Physical Education
- 7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
- 7:300 Extracurricular Athletics
- 8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Motion was made by Mr. Lawton, seconded by Mr. McGhee, that the Board of Education approve the policies as presented in Board Report 8.1.

On roll call vote: ayes – Mr. Khan, Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, and Mrs. Schilling. Absent – Mrs. Dahlke. Nays - None. All in favor. Motion carried.

A link to this report may be found on the website under Board section

Mrs. Dahlke departed the meeting at 7:16pm.

AI UPDATES PRESENTATION

Mrs. Sundh and Mr. Vipond presented information in AI that has been shared with staff during meetings this month.

A link to this presentation may be found on the website under Board section

TENTATIVE BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Tentative Budget is a collaborative process across the whole District. Administration, Department and Building Leaders work together to develop a budget that aligns with the District’s Vision, Strategic Plan and Learning Together metrics.

A link to this presentation may be found on the website under Board section

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

1. Board Member Mrs. Grove provided a SEDOL update.
2. Board Member Mr. Lawton shared an ED-RED update and described a potential AI bill providing parents with an opt-out option.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

OTHER ITEMS

There were no other items.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. McGhee, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:46p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Khan, Board President

Nanette Dahlke, Board Secretary