

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (1st Thursday)
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33, DUPAGE COUNTY, WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
October 2, 2025

President Rita Balgeman called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m. at Lemay Middle School, 238 E. Hazel St., West Chicago, Illinois. On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Rita Balgeman, Mrs. Morgan Banasiak, Mr. Tom Doyle, Mr. Chad McLean, Mrs. Sandra Garcia, Mrs. Janette Hernandez, and Mrs. Molly Denton. Absent: none.

ALSO PRESENT

Kristina Davis, Superintendent; Lea DeLuca, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations; Sarah Burnett, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Cathy Park, Director of Assessment and Accountability; Krissy Goebbert, Director of Student Services; Fred Cadena, Director of Building and Grounds; Tiffany Posey, Interim Director of Partnerships; Janet Ayala, Director of Multilingual Learners; Nicole Eimer, Director of Marketing, Communications & Public Relations; and Jenny Brunke, Assistant Director of Teaching & Learning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Rita Balgeman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Action item B was moved to the October 16, 2025, board meeting.

SHARED AGREEMENTS

Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.

1. *Respect staff and other board members and their opinions.*
2. *Be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1).*
3. *Allow everyone to complete their thoughts.*
4. *Commit to shared leadership.*
5. *Respect confidentiality.*
6. *Adhere to our belief in our students' full potential and successful future.*

Strategic Plan Goals

Goal #1 – Student Growth and Achievement

Goal #2 – Learning Culture of Equity, Engagement & Agency

Goal #3 – Professional Culture of Teamwork & Continuous Improvement

Goal #4 – Family Engagement & Community Partnerships

Goal #5 - Effective and Innovative Use of Resources

SHARED AGREEMENTS

REFLECTION

At the July 18, 2013, meeting, the Board of Education finalized their “shared agreements” and agreed to begin each regular board meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The agreement's purpose is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work.

Board Vice President Morgan Banasiak shared her statement: “I have had many people ask me over the years why I ran for school board. Many have said it’s a position with little appreciation given in return. And in some ways, I agree. I have been yelled at, told I’m a bad parent, and my sincerity have been questioned many times.

I thought it was time to share my story. I am a mom first and foremost. And I am sure the parents of this district understand that when your child is struggling, you want to help them – protect them. Many years ago, my son was struggling. He came home every day crying, and I received calls from the teacher weekly, if not multiple times a week, about something he had done wrong. He didn’t want to go to school anymore. I was at a loss and angry. My son wasn’t struggling because he was failing. He was struggling because he was gifted. I had to be my son's advocate. I decided the best way to do that was not to yell but to start a dialogue. I chose to play an active role – I went to parent-teacher conferences, curriculum nights, volunteered in the classroom, sat on the district's committee for gifted education, and yes, even had multiple conversations with Superintendent Davis. She can attest to that. My goal started to just get my son the services and education he needed and deserved.

But after a while, it became so much more. I wanted to make sure all children got the education they needed and deserved. I wanted to advocate for all children like my son. So I ran for the school board. Every individual on this school board is here because they felt a calling, a need to improve something. But we work together to do what is best for all children and to be an advocate for our community. Many parents will not run for the school board, and that’s ok. But I encourage you to be an advocate for your child. Go to parent-teacher conferences and ask the hard questions. Talk to teachers about what you can do to help your child succeed. Go to family nights at the school. Volunteer for PTO, classroom helper, and any other chance you get. I encourage everyone to be an active participant in your child’s education. In the end, they will be more successful and confident because you were at their side. And who knows, maybe you will feel the calling to run for the school board. I may not always receive appreciation for what I am doing, but I do get something in return. I get a chance to help other children succeed and to help make changes where they are needed.”

RECOGNITION/SHOWCASE PRESENTATION

Board Salute

The Board Salutes will be a standing item on the agenda starting with the February 3, 2022, board meeting. The Board of Education would like to recognize individuals from the District 33 community, which includes all staff members, students, bus drivers, parents, and guardians, for their actions that contribute to a positive culture and climate in District 33. This “shout-out” will become part of the official Board minutes under Board Salutes on the bi-weekly agendas.

Salute to: Bria Baldwin - Wegner School

Submitted by: Jennifer Bernal, Parent

Mrs. Baldwin is a great, dedicated teacher who goes above and beyond to help her students and bring out the best in them while communicating effectively and keeping parents up to date with their daily progress and activities. We appreciate her hard work.

Salute to: Nick Kobriger - Turner Elementary School

Submitted by: Morgan Efrom, Principal

I would like to recognize Nick Kobriger, our Head Custodian at Turner, for his exceptional dedication and positive impact on our school community. Nick consistently goes above and beyond in his role, approaching every task with a genuine smile and unwavering positivity. His attitude sets the tone for a welcoming and supportive environment throughout our school.

Presentation

Academic Leadership Council & Subject Area Committees Update

Lea DeLuca, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, provided the Board with an update on the Academic Leadership Council, and Jenny Brunke, Assistant Director for Teaching & Learning, provided an update on the Subject Area Committee. Board Policy 6:10 Educational Philosophy and Objectives states, “To further the educational philosophy and goals of the District, the Board of Education has established an Academic Leadership Council (ALC) and grants it the authority to reach professional decisions and make recommendations to the Administrative Council and to the Board of Education, about curriculum, instruction, and student learning.” The Academic Leadership Council (ALC) is a representative group of stakeholders that advises and makes recommendations to the Board of Education on matters concerning curriculum and instruction through the approved decision-making processes. Members of the ALC include teachers, building administrators, district administrators, board members, and a parent with a two-year commitment. Mrs. DeLuca also provided information on the long-range elementary and middle school plan.

The Subject Area Committee (SAC) will carry out the work designated by the ALC in alignment with the long-range plan, gather implementation feedback from staff, validate the effectiveness of the curriculum, units, assessments, and resources, and make the necessary adjustments.

E.T.A.W.C. STATEMENT

No E.T.A.W.C. statement at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

No follow-up comment at this time.

**APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA**

Approve Current Expenditures

Motion by Banasiak, seconded by Garcia, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

...approved the list of bills dated September 22, 2025, through October 3, 2025, in the amount of \$1,231,706.85;

Approve Imprest

...approved Imprest account from September 4, 2025, to September 18, 2025, in the amount of \$150;

Approve Contracts

...approve the contract renewals with the following vendors: Literacy DuPage, Quaver Ed, Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education (CAPE), and Planning, Implementation, Evaluation (PIE) Org;

Approve Personnel Items

...Approved the following personnel report:

0 Administration:

0 Certified:

2 Classified: Celma Carreira, Lunch Supervisor at Wegner, effective October 1, 2025; Guadalupe Herrera, Lunch Supervisor at Wegner, effective October 1, 2025;

3 Resignations: Casey Bevier, Paraprofessional at Turner, effective September 25, 2025; Courtney Lamkey, Learning Behavior Specialist at Currier, effective September 26, 2025; Nina Koehler, BCBA at ESC, effective October 13, 2025;

0 Leaves:

0 Retirements:

On roll call, the following members voted aye: Banasiak, Garcia, Hernandez, Denton, Balgeman, Doyle, and McLean. Nays: None. Motion carried: 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**DISCUSSION OF NEW / ONGOING
BUSINESS WITH POSSIBLE ACTION**

Agency Contract

Motioned by McLean, seconded by Garcia, to approve the agency contract with Insight Global Staffing Agency for a System Analyst. On roll call, the following members voted aye: McLean, Garcia, Hernandez, Balgeman, Banasiak, Denton, and Doyle. Nays: None. Motion carried: 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Art Donation	Motioned by Banasiak, seconded by Garcia, to approve the acceptance of an Art Donation in the amount of \$2,500 (\$500 for each of the five elementary schools) from St. Andrew's Golf & Country Club. On roll call, the following members voted aye: Banasiak, Hernandez, Doyle, McLean, Balgeman, Garcia, and Denton. Nays: None. Motion carried: 7 ayes, 0 nays.
Copier Lease	The Board received information on the renewal of the copier lease with Gordon Flesch Co. The Board will review the information and vote at the October 16, 2025, board meeting.
Equipment Disposal	The Board received the following equipment disposal items: Leman Middle School: 4 teacher desks, 15 student desks, 1 microwave, 8 cabinets, 2 tables, 2 standing desks, 7 chairs, 8 stools, and 1 whiteboard. Currier School: 2 file cabinets, 1 paper cutter, 1 wheelchair, 2 bookshelves, 2 student desks, 1 art stand, 1 area rug, 4 student chairs, 1 metal stool, 2 book racks, 1 stand table, and 1 divider. Gary School: 4 carpets, 3 file cabinets, 3 buckets of table legs, 1 black tarp. Preschool: 4 large rolling garbage containers, 4 smaller garbage containers, 1 sensory table, 3 kitchen furniture play pieces, 1 practice steps, 1 light table, 2 small chairs, 1 easel, and 2 file cabinets. The board will review the information and vote at the October 16, 2025, board meeting.
Finance/Facilities	The Board of Education received a financial report from Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, stating that the district received \$1,209,173 in Evidence-Based Funding since the last meeting.
McAuley Bid Recommendation	Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, provided the Board with ARCON's bid recommendations. The Board will review and vote at the October 16, 2025, board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

403b

Motioned by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to approve the 403b recommendation of the TCG/HUB consultants. On roll call, the following members voted aye: McLean, Banasiak, Balgeman, Doyle, Garcia, Hernandez, and Denton. Nays: None. Motion carried: 7 ayes, 0 nays.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Bullying Prevention Month

The Board was provided with activities that will take place throughout the schools for October's National Bullying Prevention Month.

Curriculum Night Recap

The Board was provided with curriculum night information.

Current Job Listing	The Board received the most recent posting of available job positions in School District 33.
Suggested Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting	26/27 school calendar
Board Outreach	Morgan and Molly attended the master schedule committee.
Parking Lot	Tiffany Posey provided an update on the parent Spanish classes.

REPORT OF DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LEND	Kristina provided an update on LEND.
Open Comments	No open comments at this time.

REVIEW OF UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Banasiak, second by Hernandez, to go into closed session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss **(1)** the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee(s), specific independent contractors, specific volunteers, or District legal counsel: however, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2c) (1), amended by P.A. 101-459. **(2)** Student disciplinary cases. Any matter involving an individual student. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(10). Minutes of meetings held for this reason shall never be released to protect the individual student's privacy. On roll call, the following members voted aye: Banasiak, Hernandez, Denton, Balgeman, Doyle, McLean, and Garcia. Nays: None.

ROLL CALL	On roll call at 8:16 p.m., the following members were present: Balgeman, Banasiak, Doyle, McLean, Garcia, Hernandez, and Denton. Absentees: none.
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ALSO PRESENT	Kristina Davis, Superintendent, and Sarah Burnett, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.
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Out of Closed Session	Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to reconvene to open session at 9:16 p.m. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.
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**ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING
CLOSED SESSION**

Approve Closed Session Minutes

Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to approve closed session minutes as read. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by McLean, seconded by Banasiak, to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m. The President took a voice vote and declared the motion passed.

President, Rita Balgeman

Secretary, Tom Doyle