

	<p>LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74 BOARD OF EDUCATION Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 7, 2025 at <u>7:30 PM</u></p>	<p>BOARD OF EDUCATION Peter D. Theodore, <i>President</i> Myra A. Foutris, <i>Vice President</i> John P. Vranas, <i>Secretary</i> Ted Kwon Jay Oleniczak Elissa B. Rosenberg Mihra Seta</p> <p>ADMINISTRATION Dr. David L. Russo, <i>Superintendent of Schools</i> Dr. Dominick M. Lupo, <i>Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction</i> Courtney L. Whited, <i>Business Manager/CSBO</i></p>
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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Lincolnwood School District 74, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the Lincolnwood Village Hall - Gerald C. Turry Village Board Room 6900 North Lincoln Avenue, Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712, on Thursday, August 7, 2025.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Theodore called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Myra A. Foutris Ted Kwon Jay Oleniczak Elissa B. Rosenberg Peter D. Theodore John P. Vranas	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> Mihra Seta	
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<u>ADMINISTRATORS/STAFF PRESENT</u> Dr. David L. Russo Dr. Dominick M. Lupo Courtney L. Whited Mark Atkinson Dr. Chris Harmon	Aliaa Ibrahim Jackie McGoey Jennifer Ruttkay Jim Caldwell	Jordan Stephen Joseph Segreti Renee Tolnai Erin Curry
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2. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

A number of community members commented in support of Children’s Care & Development Center, Inc. (CCDC) remaining a tenant of the District.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- I. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - **JUNE 26, 2025**
- II. Regular Board Meeting - Closed Session Minutes - **JUNE 26, 2025**

b. EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

I. Personnel Report

II. New Employment

1. **Wayne Youkhana**, Full-Time Substitute, District Wide, effective August 25, 2025, Class 1, Level 1, \$56,683
2. **Amanda Hasdoo**, Full-Time Substitute, District Wide, effective August 25, 2025, Class 1, Level 1, \$56,683
3. **Zerina Jusic**, School Nurse, Todd Hall, effective August 25, 2025, \$36.70/hr
4. **Julie Tziolas**, 8th Grade Math, Lincoln Hall, effective August 25, 2025, Class 5, Level 9, \$89,204
5. **Carmel Maloney**, School Nurse, Lincoln Hall, effective August 25, 2025, \$36.70/hr

6. **Karrina Campos**, School Nurse, Rutledge Hall, effective August 25, 2025, \$36.34/hr
7. **Delaney Andolino**, Full-Time Substitute, District Wide, effective August 25, 2025, Class 1, Level 1, \$56,683
8. **Ethan Dasilva**, 6th Grade STEM, Lincoln Hall, effective August 25, 2025, Class 1, Level 2, \$58,060

III. Leave of Absence

1. **Celeste Pahos**, Paraprofessional, Todd Hall, effective August 25, 2025, with an expected return of October 6, 2025

c. Upcoming Staff Development Opportunities

IATD Fall Workshop (Title 1) for Dr. Dominick Lupo, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, in Springfield, IL, September 22-24, 2025 as presented

d. Amendment of the Education Services Staffing Agreement between Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc. and Lincolnwood School District 74

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve this Amendment of the Education Services Staffing Agreement between Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc. and Lincolnwood School District 74 in the amount of \$11,535.

e. STEM Teacher Training for Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

It is the Administrative recommendation that the Board of Education approve Project Lead the Way (PLTW) training for Tom Foust and Ethan Dasilva in the amount of \$7,500.

f. Schoolwide, Inc. ELA Consultant | Pat Pollack | Middle School Literacy Review/Adoption and K-5 Implementation/Professional Development

The Finance Committee concurs with the Administration's recommendation to the Board of Education to approve the contract with Schoolwide Inc. to guide the K-5 literacy implementation, deliver professional development throughout the District, and to lead the middle school literacy review and adoption at a cost of \$19,950 for the 2025-2026 school year.

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Vice President Foutris that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approves those items on the Consent Agenda as appear above.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

None

6. COMMUNICATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

a. NTDS/District 807: **John P. Vranas/Elissa B. Rosenberg**

The NTDS Governing Board last met on June 26, 2025. The following are brief highlights:

- Tarin Kendrick, Executive Director, reported that forty staff members will vacate their offices to create additional classroom space. Districts 69, 73, and 74 will accommodate space for these staff members.
- Christine Perry, Principal of Molloy, shared a video of the adapted devices created by engineering students of Northwestern University.

- Kathy Gavin, Director of Fiscal Services reported on the meeting with Nicholas Construction that the mobilization of the renovation of Pod 4 at Molloy is on track.
- Joydeep Singh, Director of Technology, gave a shout out to Jordan Stephen, D74 Technology Director, and his team for their responsiveness during ESY.
- The Board approved the following items:
 - o New Committee assignments
 - o The CLIC (Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative) renewal.
 - o The Executive Director's compensation
 - o The transfer of funds in the amount of \$200,000 from Fund 12 to Fund 10.

The next meeting of the NTDSE Governing Board is scheduled at the NTDSE Administrative Center on August 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

b. IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards): **Ted Kwon/Jay Oleniczak**

Registration is open for the 2025 Joint Annual conference. Board members are asked to RSVP to Renee Tolnai.

c. Finance Committee: **Jay Oleniczak/Mihra Seta**

The Finance Committee last met on July 24, 2025.

- The Committee sent two items to the Consent Agenda:
 1. Amendment of the Education Services Staffing Agreement between Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc. and Lincolnwood School District 74
 2. ELA Consultant | Pat Pollack | Middle School Literacy Review/Adoption and K-5 Implementation/Professional Development
- Dr. David L. Russo provided the Committee with a presentation regarding future renovation/expansion of Todd Hall.
- Courtney L. Whited presented on referendum borrowing based on 10 and 20-year scenarios created by PMA.
- A public hearing and adoption of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Budget for FY26 will be on the agenda for the scheduled September 4, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

d. Facilities Committee: **John P. Vranas/Myra A. Foutris**

The Facilities Committee last met on June 10, 2025. The July 2025 Facilities Committee meeting was canceled due to a light Agenda. The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

e. Policy Committee: **Myra A. Foutris/Ted Kwon**

The Policy Committee last met on Friday, May 23, 2025. The July Policy Committee meeting was canceled due to a light agenda. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 22, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the Administration Building. The public is welcome.

f. President's Report: **Peter D. Theodore**

I. Important District Dates

President Theodore shared important District upcoming dates. Please see the District website for information: sd74.org.

II. Bi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Oleniczak that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education authorize the release of certain closed session minutes, as listed in the attachment between September 1, 2016 to June 5, 2025, which were reviewed by the Board of Education and recommended by the Secretary of the Board of Education, as no longer needing confidential treatment.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

III. Destruction of Closed Meeting Audio Recordings

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Kwon that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education authorize the destruction of certain closed session audio recordings, as listed on the attachment, which were held prior to January 31, 2024, and for which approved minutes already exist, as reviewed by the Board of Education and recommended by the Secretary of the Board of Education.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

7. COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

a. LTA (Lincolnwood Teacher Association): **Travis DuPriest/Kevin Conley (Co-Presidents)**

Co-President DuPriest thanked the Administration for the continued positive working partnership, and shared his excitement for the upcoming school year.

b. LSSU (Lincolnwood Support Staff Union): **Tommy Bujnowski (President)**

No report.

c. PALS (People Active with Lincolnwood Schools): **Abby Jones (President)**

No report.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. Superintendent's Report: **Dr. David L. Russo**

i. District Updates

- Superintendent Russo hopes that everyone continues to enjoy the summer recess. The District just wrapped up another successful edition of our SD74 Summer Adventures program. Thank you to our staff for creating meaningful learning experiences. Students did a great job on a range of activities throughout the five-week program.
- The majority of summer campus improvements remain on schedule. HVAC improvements at Todd Hall are nearly complete, Rutledge Hall corridor flooring and courtyard improvements are also in the final stage, and work on the interior courtyard panels at Lincoln Hall should start next week. An exterior door project for Rutledge Hall is delayed and will be completed on the weekends after the school year has begun.
- As a reminder, staff will return on Monday, August 25, 2025. Our 1st through 8th graders will have their first, full day on Wednesday, August 27, 2025. Families of Pre-K and Kindergarten students should look for additional communications outlining the special schedules for those grades during that first week of school. As President Theodore mentioned, the Kindergarten Playdate event is set for the early evening of August 20, 2025 and Pre-K event during the day on the 21st. Todd Hall will send out more communication on the specifics of those kick-off events.
- The District will host new staff for two days of orientation on August 20-21, 2025. The Board is welcome to attend either day. The sessions begin at 8:00 a.m. for both days in the Lincoln Hall Auditorium. The program

for our Opening Day Institute kicks-off at 8:30 a.m. in the Rutledge Hall Multi-Purpose Room on the 25th, and again, the Board is invited.

- The annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Friday, September 5, 2025 and is hosted by PALS. We hope that everyone will come out to be a part of this annual tradition. There will be ice cream, games, entertainment, and food for sale.
- Registration is ongoing; however, there is now a **\$25.00 Late Registration Fee** applied to the account for **each student**. A completed registration means all required paperwork has been submitted and approved, along with full fee payment. Additionally, information on teacher assignment will only be communicated to those families who have completed the registration process. We anticipate making that communication in the middle of next week. Currently, there are 1148 total registrations in some state of completion. Of the 1011 re-registrations, 821 are approved and finalized. There have been 137 new registrations. Please keep in mind that this figure includes Pre-K, kindergarten, and students new to the District at all other grade levels.

b. Curriculum and Instruction, Assistant Superintendent's Report: **Dr. Dominick M. Lupo**

I. Curriculum Department Update

- Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Lupo thanked everyone that was involved in the 2025 SD74 Summer Adventures program. Fun, exciting, and creative courses spread over the five-week program, and we also wanted to thank the 17 staff members along with the secretaries and administration that made this program as successful as it was!
- The District also has the Annual New Staff Orientation on Wednesday, August 20th and Thursday, August 21st, 2025. The Agenda includes:
 - Introduction of District staff and administration.
 - Meeting their new mentors.
 - Tours of each building.

Overall, this event gives all of our new staff a positive introduction to the District.

- On Monday, August 25th and Tuesday, August 26th, 2025 we will be hosting the all-District Institute Days.
 - The District will Recognize Years of Service.
 - Introduce all of our new staff members.
 - The schedule provides ample opportunities for teachers to gather and collaborate as they plan for a successful start to the new school year.

c. Business and Operations, Business Manager/CSBO: **Courtney Whited**

I. Finance Report - **MAY 2025**

Business Manager/CSBO Whited presented the May 2025 Finance Report.

II. FY26 Tentative Budget

It was moved by Member Oleniczak and seconded by Member Rosenberg that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve publishing the attached legal notice on July 31, 2025, and to present the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget to the Board of Education on August 7, 2025.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

A public hearing and adoption of the Lincolnwood School District 74 FY26 Final Budget will be on the agenda for the scheduled September 4, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

III. Bills Payable in the Amount of \$3,008,460.95

Bill Reviewers for the Month: Mihra Seta and Jay Oleniczak

It was moved by Member Oleniczak and seconded by President Theodore that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve invoices and bills in the amount of \$3,008,460.95.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

9. AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

10. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by President Theodore and seconded by Vice President Foutris that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education recess into Closed Session for the purposes of: **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459 - Personnel and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) - Pending or Imminent Litigation.**

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed.

11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION at 10:15 p.m.

12. Possible approval of the settlement of the Cook County tax rate objections for the 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 tax years.

It was moved by Secretary Vranas and seconded by Member Rosenberg that the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education approve the settlement of the Cook County tax rate objections for the 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 tax years at the rate of 6 mils (0.006%) per \$100 of EAV as presented in the Stipulation and Agreement documents.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a vote and the following vote was recorded:

Ayes: Foutris, Vranas, Kwon, Oleniczak, Rosenberg, Theodore

Nays: None

Absent: Seta

Motion passed.

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by President Theodore and seconded by Member Rosenberg to adjourn the Regular meeting of the Lincolnwood School District 74 Board of Education.

President Theodore submitted the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed at 10:17 p.m.

Peter D. Theodore, President

John P. Vranas, Secretary