



WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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Board of Education

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Executive Director of Business & Operations, Karen Apostoli
DATE: September 4, 2025
RE: Community Solar Project

This memo is:

- ☐ Information only.
☒ Information with a recommendation, and a request for Board consent.
☐ Information with a recommendation, and a request for Board approval by vote.

Date by which a Board decision is needed: 09/18/2025

Previous memos on this topic can be found:

- ☐ in previous Board packet(s) dated. _____
☐ or attached to this memo

Basic information:
The administration is asking the Board to approve an agreement with Community Solar.
Background or historical information:
<p>A community solar project is a shared, large-scale solar energy system in which multiple customers, such as individuals, businesses, and nonprofits, can subscribe to receive credits on their electricity bills for the power generated by the shared solar array. Unlike traditional solar that requires installation on one's own property, community solar makes clean energy accessible to everyone, including renters and low-to-moderate income households for whom rooftop solar is not an option. Participants receive bill credits for their share of the solar energy produced, providing financial and environmental benefits without installing panels on their homes.</p> <p>How it Works</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Shared Solar Array: A central solar farm is built to serve multiple customers in a geographic area.2. Subscription: Participants subscribe to a "share" of the solar system's output over a specific period.3. Bill Credits: The electricity generated by the shared array provides credits on the subscribers' monthly electricity bills, reducing their overall costs.4. Billing: The community solar farm then bills the district for 90% of what was credited, resulting in a savings of 10%. For District 33, this is estimated to be about \$38,000 per year.
Previous decisions, actions or parameters that relate to this topic or issue: (Options) 3 options
Recommendations: (Recommendations) and (Evaluate)

The administration recommends approving the agreement with Community Solar.
Other questions? What else does the Board wish to know?: