

LIBERTYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
District No. 70
Libertyville, Illinois

January 26, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Education, District No. 70, Lake County, Illinois, began with student recognition at Butterfield School, 1441 Lake Street, Libertyville, IL 60048, at 6:00 p.m. Students recognized included fall and winter Highland Middle School athletes from teams that placed in the top three slots of the Lakeside Conference. Teams included the following: 7th Grade Girls' Volleyball, 8th Grade Girls' Volleyball, Boys' Varsity Cross Country, 7th Grade Girls' Basketball, and Varsity Soccer.

The meeting of the Board of Education District No. 70, Lake County, Illinois, was called to order at 6:32pm in the boardroom at the ERC, 1381 Lake St., Libertyville on Monday, January 26, 2026.

The following members answered present at roll call: Mrs. Dahlke, Mrs. Khan, Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton Mr. McGhee 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: Dr. Hallmark, Mr. Feldman, and Mrs. Crenshaw and student board members Devlin A. and Sutherland B.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting started with the pledge of allegiance.

STAFF RECOGNITION

The Board of Education honored Rockland Principal Steve Feldman for being named the 2025-26 Elementary Principal of the Year of the Lake Region by the Illinois Principals Association, as part of the National Association of Elementary School Principals. Mr. Feldman, who was named Assistant Principal of the Year in 2020 when he was at Butterfield School, has been a member of IPA for the last 10 years. This marks the first time Mr. Feldman has been named Principal of the Year, with an award where members vote on candidates who are nominated by their peers. In 2015, Highland Middle School Principal Dr. Jon Hallmark was honored with the award and he informed the board of Mr. Feldman's award Monday night.

The Board took a short break at 6:37pm to meet and greet Mr. Feldman. The regular meeting resumed at 6:48pm.

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, December 15, 2025

5.2 - Approval of Finance Reports

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

5.3 - Approval of Personnel

- Change of Assignment
- Resignation/Retirement
- Leave of Absence
- New Hires

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

On roll call vote: ayes – Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, Mrs. Dahlke, and Mrs. Khan. 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)

Mrs. Jenkins introduced Highland Middle School students Devlin A. and Sutherland B. to present as student board members.

Devlin talked about how he is enjoying HMS and that he would like to obtain more sports equipment to use throughout the school day. Sutherland talked about what she likes about HMS and bringing more intramural sports options to sixth-graders. She also added highlights from the fall conference in Chicago.

The council was created by Mrs. 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

The Superintendent Report celebrated school events held during the first month of 2026. The report noted that Mrs. Jenkins hosted a virtual interview that was recorded with an author who wrote about [breaking the cycle of worry and raising resilient children](#), and the recent training D70 administrators received on using AI with staff and students. Other school events highlights included the lock-in at Adler Park School, Cosmic Bowling and square dancing at Butterfield School, and Copeland Manor's No Stress Book Club on Fridays in the Learning Center. Special events at HMS included a Second City Funny Girls Club teaching improv, the first Spelling Bee, and the traditional floor hockey Winter Classics at Rockland School

APPROVAL OF WAIVING THE FIRST READING OF POLICIES

The Board has the ability to waive the first reading for board policies as allowed per 2:240 based on:

1. appropriate for a consent agenda because no Board discussion is required, or
2. necessary or prudent in order to meet emergency or special conditions or to be legally compliant.

There was one policy up for a First Reading at the meeting and administration recommended that the Board waive the 1st reading for and approve it as an action item.

Policy 2:150 needed to be adopted by January 30, 2026 and thus the need for the district to approve it prior to that date. The recommended change to Policy 2:150 added the Policy Committee that currently exists and does not need Board discussion prior to being approved.

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Board Report 8.2 sought formal approval of the following School Board Policies:

- 2:150 **School Board:** Committees

Motion was made by Mrs. Dahlke seconded by Mr. McGhee, that the Board of Education approve the policies as presented in Board Report 8.2..

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

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FOIA REPORT

There were 6 FOIA requests this month.

1. Sheila Norman from Illinois Retired Teachers Association requested contact information for certified staff retiring in 2026.
2. Chris Shlemon requested meeting minutes from 1969-1970.
3. Owen Wang from Lake County Gazette requested copies of vendor contracts for over \$1000 from this school fiscal year.
4. Owen Wang from Lake County Gazette requested copies of all active full-time aide contracts/collective bargaining agreements.
5. Enrique Campos from Painters District Council #14 requested purchase orders or invoices for paint.
6. CT Mills from Public Info Access LLC requested active employee records.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

1. Board Member Mrs. Grove shared an update from the D70 Foundation regarding mini-grants and the upcoming golf event on May 20.
2. Board Member Mr. Lawton shared an ED-RED update and plans to attend the IASB Advocacy Day.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Board of Education correspondence.

OTHER ITEMS

There were no other items.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. McGhee, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session to discuss employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of specific employees and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.

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

The Board adjourned to closed session at 7:26pm. The Board returned to open session at 7:28pm with a roll call.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. McGhee, seconded by Mr. Lawton that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:28p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Khan, Board President

Nanette Dahlke, Board Secretary