

LIBERTYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
District No. 70
Libertyville, Illinois

February 23, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Education, District No. 70, Lake County, Illinois, was called to order at 5:00pm in the boardroom at the ERC, 1381 Lake St., Libertyville on Monday, February 23, 2026.

The following members answered present at roll call: Mrs. Dahlke, Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee and Mrs. Schilling. Absent - Mrs. Khan.

A motion was made by Mrs. Schilling, seconded by Mrs. Dahlke, to move to closed session. On a roll call votes: Ayes - Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee, Mrs. Schilling, Mr. Sticklen, and Mrs. Dahlke. Nays - None. Absent - Mrs. Khan. All in favor. Motion carried. The closed session started at 5:03pm in the workroom and ended at 5:53pm.

The regular meeting began at 6:00pm in the boardroom at the ERC, 1381 Lake Street, Libertyville, IL 60048.

The following members answered present at roll call: Mrs. Dahlke, Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, Mr. McGhee and Mrs. Schilling. Absent - Mrs. Khan.

Also present: Superintendent Rebecca Jenkins, Dr. Bongle, Mr. Theis, Mr. Vipond, Ms. Donev, Ms. Bachar, Mrs. Kollman and Mrs. Coyle. District guests included: Mr. Feldman and Rockland Staff, Mr. Cieciva, Mrs. Crenshaw, Mrs. Langlie, Mrs. Grant, and student board members Lochie W. and Henry D.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting started with the pledge of allegiance.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

HMS eighth-grader Mason G. was honored Monday night for his leadership on the middle school's Varsity Cross Country Team, which placed third in the Lakeside Conference. HMS Athletic Director Mrs. Michelle Langlie talked about Mason's input on the team during the meeting.

Four Rockland students, Charlie G., Ben K., Charlotte K., and Natham K., were honored by Principal Mr. Steve Feldman for their involvement in a new program at Rockland that is like a big brother/sister mentoring program. These fifth-graders are matched up with younger students in kindergarten through second grade who either are new to the school or need a bit of extra help.

Rockland fifth grader Nashoba C., who won the first Rockland Spelling Bee Championship, was honored by Mr. Feldman during the meeting. Nashoba was one of five Rockland fourth and fifth grade finalists in the school's first spelling bee. The spelling bee was a student-suggested event that Principal Feldman endorsed immediately. He went on to the next round to win 7th place out of 38 students who completed.

STAFF RECOGNITION

As a surprise, Rockland math interventionist Mrs. Laura Williams was honored Monday night after being named in the Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year program sponsored by the ISBE for the 2026 Award of Meritorious Service. She was honored by Mr. Feldman, who had her attend as part of the Rockland mentoring program.

Educators presented with the Award of Meritorious Service have gone above and beyond in service to their school communities. They are experienced educators who take on leadership opportunities and whose accomplishments uplift the culture of learning in their school. They stand as exemplars of their profession and have become integral members of their schools and districts.

Winners of Those Who Excel will be honored on April 18 in Normal, IL, at the 52nd Awards Banquet.

The Board took a short break at 6:12pm to meet and greet with students and staff. The regular meeting resumed at 6:23pm.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Mrs Schilling, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented in Board Report 6. The following items were contained in the consent agenda:

6.1 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, January 26, 2026

6.2 - Approval of Finance Reports

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

6.4 - Approval of Board Estimated Expenses for COSSBA 2026 National Conference

- Jennifer Khan, Board President
- Brian Lawton, Board Member
- Wendy Schilling, Board Member

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, and Mrs. Dahlke. Absent – Mrs. Khan. Nays - None. All in favor. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT

**Removed from Consent Agenda and amended based on closed session discussion.

Motion was made by Mrs. Schilling, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report as discussed in the closed session earlier in the evening on February 23, 2026.

6.3 - 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 – Mrs. Dahlke, Mr. Sticklen, Mrs. Schilling, Mrs. Grove, Mr. Lawton, and Mr. McGhee,. Absent – Mrs. Khan. 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 Henry D. and Lochie W. to present as student board members.

Highland Middle School students, sixth graders Henry and Lochie, who are members of SSLAC, were introduced by Mrs. Jenkins as they sat at the board table and offered the following report.

- Henry said he is enjoying sixth grade and has already started an aviation club at the middle school, adding that the process to create clubs is easier in middle school. He also would like to see more sports activities for sixth graders.
- Lockie is also enjoying middle school and likes changing classrooms and the varying teaching styles of the educators. He also wants to see more sports options for sixth graders. Lochie also took time to talk about his experience posting on D70’s social media pages (actually done by an adult after content is reviewed) for a new series called A Day in the Life of a Student.
- Mrs. Jenkins said she will look into creating more sports opportunities for sixth graders, which could include intramural after-school events.

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 from Mrs. Jenkins celebrated school events held in February, including a band concert by elementary students, classroom parties for Valentine's Day, and Shrek Jr., the musical, at Copeland Manor School. Schools also celebrated the 100th day of school, dressing as if they were 100 years old, dressing as 101 Dalmatians, and participating in activities involving 100. Focusing on student voice, Mrs. Jenkins talked about Mr. Feldman interviewing Rockland fifth graders from time to time, designing snowflakes in art, and how creative teachers brought the Winter Olympic Games to several schools in a variety of ways during the recent Olympics in Italy. Students are also learning about designing games and roller coasters at HMS for tech, and slides showed a peek into a science classroom where students are learning about the jigsaw strategy in the middle school. Meanwhile, Adler students raised money for the D70 Care Closet, which serves families in need throughout the district, and there was also time to honor students for their perseverance.

APPROVAL TO HOLD SPECIFIC CLOSED MEETING MINUTES

The Open Meetings Act requires public bodies to review closed meeting minutes. At such meetings, a determination must be made and reported in an open session that:

1. The need for confidentiality still exists as to all or parts of those minutes, or
2. The minutes or portions thereof no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.

District 70 Superintendent, Mrs. Jenkins, reviewed all recent closed session minutes. The minutes to be held included: January 26, 2026.

Motion was made by Mr. Lawton seconded by Mr. Sticklen, that the Board of Education approve the hold as presented in Board Report 9.1.

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

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

APPROVAL OF K-8 MATH CURRICULUM

Members of the K-5 math committee and Highland Math Department presented a proposal for the K–8 mathematics curriculum adoption in Board Report 9.2.

The committee recommended the adoption of Bridges for grades K–5. This is a re-adoption for grades K–4 and a new adoption for grade 5. Extending Bridges to fifth grade will ensure a cohesive and comprehensive elementary mathematics experience for our students.

At Highland Middle School, the adoption of a 3-year contract with Amplify Desmos was proposed. This included a blended package of paper and online resources for staff and students and professional development for the team. With Board approval, we intend to begin professional development to ensure our teachers are well prepared for implementation in the fall.

Motion was made by Mrs. Dahlke, seconded by Mr. Lawton, that the Board of Education approve the adoption as presented in Board Report 9.2.

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

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

APPROVAL OF AMENDED 2025-2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATES

Board Report 9.3 sought approval for amended 2025-2026 Board of Education Meeting dates. The proposed change moved the June meeting date to June 15, 2026.

Motion was made by Mr. Lawton, seconded by Mrs. Dahlke, that the Board of Education approve the meeting dates as presented in Board Report 9.3.

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

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

FOIA REPORT

There were 4 FOIA requests this month.

1. Oshea Smith with Sunlight Access requested vendor contracts from January 2020 - January 2026.
2. Michael F. Henry requested attorney and background check information.
3. Yvonne Tovar with Illinois Education Association requested current food service employee information.
4. Chris Miller with Public Info Access requested purchasing information.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

1. Board Members Mrs. Grove, Mrs. Dahlke, and Mr. McGhee shared an update from the D70 Foundation Mini-Grant Luncheon.
2. Board Member Mr. Lawton shared an ED-RED update from the recent Feeder District Meeting.
3. Board Member Mr. Sticklen provided information about an upcoming SEDOL Foundation fundraising event.

BOARD OF EDUCATION CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Board of Education correspondence.

OTHER ITEMS

There were no other items.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Lawton, seconded by Mrs. Dahlke, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:21p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis McGhee, Board Vice President

Nanette Dahlke, Board Secretary