

ITASCA SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
ITASCA, ILLINOIS 60143-1722

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

LOCATION: ITASCA VILLAGE HALL
550 WEST IRVING PARK
ITASCA, ILLINOIS 60143

6:15 PM Closed Session

7:00 PM Regular Meeting

A G E N D A

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call - President Barthel
- II. Closed Session - 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, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
- III. Call to Order, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance – President Barthel
- IV. Communications - Secretary Amayun
- V. Additional Agenda Items
- VI. Superintendents Reports - Dr. Weeks
 - A. Superintendent Report - Dr. Weeks 3
 - B. Monthly Enrollment & Attendance Report - Dr. Weeks 4
 - C. Teaching & Learning Report - Mrs. Buske 5
- VII. Board Reports
 - A. Capital & Operations - Members Amayun & Diestel
 - B. Civics Excellence Committee - Members Shannon & Patel
 - C. Finance Committee - Members Barthel & Patel
 - D. Friends of Spring Brook Nature Center - Member Amayun
 - E. Intergovernmental - Member Diestel (Alternate Shannon)
 - F. Itasca School Advisory - Members Shannon & Amayun
 - G. NDSEC - Member O'Neill (Alternate Giambrone)
 - H. Policy Committee - Members Giambrone & Patel
 - I. Staff Recognition Board Salute - Members Diestel & O'Neill
 - J. Student Wellness & Behavior - Members Shannon & Diestel
 - K. Transition Committee - Members Giambrone & O'Neill
 - L. Transportation Committee - Members Barthel & O'Neill
 - M. Business Manager Report - Dr. Bein 6
 - N. Technology Report - Mr. Schmidt 14
 - O. School Reports - Benson, Franzen and Peacock 15
- VIII. Discussions / Presentations
 - A. Scripps Spelling Bee - Ms. Wit
 - B. Capital Updates - Dr. Bein & Dr. Weeks 17
 - C. 2026-2027 Registration and Transportation Fees - Dr. Bein
 - D. Freedom of Information - 2 received and replied
 - E. Opportunity for community input.
- IX. Action Items
 - A. FY26-#35; Consent Items – ROLL CALL VOTE 23
 - 1. Minutes,
 - 2. Expenditures,

3.	Personnel	24
B.	FY26-#36; Approval of the Amended 2025-2026 School Calendar - ROLL CALL VOTE	29
	1. Questions/commends from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
C.	FY26-#37: Adoption of National Teacher Day Proclamation - ROLL CALL VOTE	30
	1. Questions/comments from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
D.	FY26-#38: Approval of 2026-2027 Registration & Transportation Fees - ROLL CALL VOTE	31
	1. Questions/comments from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
E.	FY26-#39; Authorization to Enter into a Contract for Auditing Services with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for Fiscal Years 2026, 2027, and 2028 - ROLL CALL VOTE	32
	1. Questions/comments from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
F.	FY26-#40; Authorization to Purchase Technology Devices in an Amount not to Exceed \$215,000 - ROLL CALL VOTE	33
	1. Questions/comments from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
G.	FY26-#41; Resolution for Abatement and Demolition of 733 Catalpa Ave Property - ROLL CALL VOTE	34
	1. Questions/comments from the Board of Education.	
	2. Opportunity for community input.	
X.	Board Requested Reports	
XI.	Adjournment	

Casey Amayun, Secretary
Board of Education

James, Barthel, Board President
Board of Education

SUPERINTENDENT'S BOARD REPORT
April 2026
Dr. Heidi Weeks, Deputy Superintendent

- A. Student Safety and Citizenship - To ensure a safe learning environment that promotes the development of responsibility, ethics, discipline and citizenship**
- Planning continues for the Randy Okrzesik Civics Excellence Award, which will debut in May with CPR certification and civic engagement opportunities for students, and Randy's family in attendance.
 - The Safety Plan revision, including the development of the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP) and required staff training, is currently in its final stages, and the finalized plan will be presented at a future Board of Education meeting for adoption.
 - We are actively collaborating with FGM on safety entrance upgrades, with finalized plans to be presented to the Board of Education for approval.
- B. Academic Excellence - To reach the highest level of academic excellence by promoting an environment for the growth and learning of all students and the district**
- i-Ready and AIMSweb winter testing is complete. Staff will begin analyzing fall-to-winter growth using our new ECRA data platform to celebrate student progress and make any necessary instructional adjustments to support continued learning.
 - Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing for Franzen and Benson students is currently taking place and will conclude on April 17th, and students also completed the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) for our 5th and 8th grade students from March 23rd–25th.
- C. Fiscal Responsibility - To efficiently and responsibly manage the district's fiscal resources for short term needs and long term stability**
- Educational Design will remain similar to last year with no RIFs while maintaining a balanced budget. Class sizes remain well within District 10 guidelines.
 - Our partnership with NDSEC will continue for the upcoming school year, with a focus on implementing one instructional program consistently throughout the district.
- D. Community Relationships - To nurture and advance relationships through collaboration and communication with the whole community**
- Itasca District 10 Seniors Club will enjoy a Lunch and a Show on April 27th; last year, the event welcomed over 90 attendees.
 - The annual End-of-Year Celebration will be held in May, with a special emphasis on recognizing our retirees, while also honoring staff milestones across the district.
- E. Professional Learning - To support a culture that enhances professional learning and growth**
- Planning is underway for summer learning opportunities for staff, which will be offered in both June and August.
 - School Improvement Teams continue to meet regularly to analyze data and advance their work within the High Reliability Schools Framework, focusing on Levels 1 and 2, with a continued deeper dive into our instructional focuses.
- F. Capital Development - To support safety and learning for all**
- Summer 2026: Improve the Benson outdoor learning space near the library
 - Summer 2027: Complete improvements to safety entrances



TEACHING & LEARNING BOARD REPORT

April 2026

Mrs. Heather Buske

Professional Development: In the next three early release SMART days of the school year, staff will engage in targeted professional development and collaborative planning to support student success and instructional growth. These sessions will focus on enhancing teaching practices, integrating technology effectively, and preparing for the upcoming academic year.

- **April 16:** Staff will participate in professional development aligned to district priorities. All staff will engage in an ECRA Overview led by SIP Teams, focusing on the use of data to support instruction and school improvement. Paraprofessionals will attend an ELL Overview to strengthen support for English Language Learners.
- **April 17:** Staff will focus on strengthening support for English Language Learners (ELLs) across all buildings, beginning with a unified, staff-wide session led by Sam Mileto. Following this, each building will engage in site-based collaboration to align practices and priorities. The afternoon will shift to planning and application, with teams and departments working to implement strategies in their classrooms, while paraprofessionals participate in targeted, self-guided ELL application.
- **May 6:** Staff will engage in grade-level articulation across the district to promote consistency in programming and student placement while supporting collaboration and planning for the upcoming school year.

Educational Design Planning: The District continues to advance the educational design planning process for the 2026–2027 school year, using class size targets and current enrollment data to project classroom sections across schools. Enrollment trends and student needs are being analyzed to ensure staffing aligns with fiscal responsibility. Prior to spring break, a teacher survey gathered input on preferred teaching assignments and interest in district and school committees, which is helping inform staffing decisions.

Summer Learning: Plans are underway for staff to participate in both a Summer Learning Camp and a Back-to-School Camp, which will provide professional development focused on instructional strategies. These opportunities are optional for staff to attend. Each year, we see strong participation from staff across the district, and we are excited to once again offer these valuable learning experiences.

Student Assessment Data and Timelines: This month, students began taking the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, the state's assessment and accountability measures for Illinois. Preliminary scores for these assessments are sent to districts later in May with final reports ready for families in the Fall. Spring iReady assessments will follow IAR assessments. Data from the Spring iReady assessments will be made available to parents prior to the end of the school year.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendent Benes Members of the Board of Education

RE: **Business Office Monthly Report - April 2026**

FROM: Dr. Bein

1. Fund Balance Report for the month of February 2026

The detailed fund balances of all funds for the months of February 2026 can be seen on **page 2**.

This report shows what current fund balances are in each fund and where our funds are invested as of the end of February 2026.

2. Revenue and Expenditure Variance Report for Operating Funds as of February 2026

The 2025-2026 Revenue and Expenditure Report for all funds for the **month of February 2026** can be seen on **page 3**.

3. Cash and Investment Report

The detailed cash and investment reports are on **pages 4-6**. They itemize out each investment, maturity date, interest rate and anticipated interest income.

4. Audit Proposal

Fiscal 2024-25 was the last year covered by the audit agreement with Lauterbach & Amen. As was shared last month, I am recommending that the Board approve entering a contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP to extend audit services for three years. With changes in leadership in the business office and superintendent roles, it will be beneficial to have an auditor that is familiar with the District to provide continuity. To support quality audit oversight, Lauterbach & Amen will rotate its principal (partner) and manager on the account. The first year renewal cost is \$16,000, with an \$800 increase in each of the subsequent renewal years.

5. Graduation Fees

In reviewing current costs associated with fees, there is a large gap related to graduation items. We currently charge \$18 for a graduation gown. The cost for the gown (\$20.50), zipper pull (\$5.19), and diploma cover (\$5.83) totals \$31.52. Prices are also expected to rise year over year. If the intent is to cover the cost of these items, consideration should be given to raising the graduation fee to at least \$32 for the 2026-27 school year.

6. Employee Health Insurance Renewal Update

Itasca District 10 is a member of the Educational Benefit Cooperative (EBC), a group of 135 school districts that are affiliated together for the purpose of purchasing health

and related insurance products in the commercial insurance market and thereby obtaining economies of scale and risk pooling that allows members greater long-term financial stability.

The 2026/2027 renewal has been challenging, and in speaking with some colleagues it sounds like that has been true regardless of how health insurance is being procured. High utilization and correspondingly high loss ratios (over 100% for health insurance, meaning that paid claims have exceeded premiums) along with increasing prescription drug costs (in part due to the increase in GLP-1 prescriptions) are key drivers of renewal increases. The cooperative average increases are as follows: PPO-16.2%, HMO-16.4%, and Dental PPO-3.9%. Life and AD&D rates are locked in and will not change for the next year. The EBC uses a banding formula to adjust its members renewal increases to incorporate the member's own paid claim loss ratio; a higher than average district loss ratio corresponds to a higher than average district renewal, while a lower than average district loss ratio corresponds to a lower than average district renewal. The Itasca District 10 renewal increases are as follows: PPO-14.2%, HMO-13.4%, and Dental PPO-1.4%. These are below the EBC average reflecting our lower claims history. While much larger than desired, the health insurance renewal increases are lower than preliminary numbers incorporated into early long-range forecasting models.

7. Over \$35,000 Items

I have been asked to include a recap of non-recurring purchases that exceed \$35,000 and that are not Capital Projects related in the Treasurer's Report. For the month of February there were no applicable items.

ITASCA SCHOOL DISTRICT 10

MONTHLY FINANCIALS

UNAUDITED

3/31/26

FUND BALANCE REPORT

VARIANCE REPORT

CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT

TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT

March 31, 2026

Board Funds

FUND	DESCRIPTION	2/27/26	REVENUES	EXPENDITURES	REV OVER EXPENSE	2/27/26
10	Education	\$ 12,980,860	\$ 110,294	\$ 1,343,130	\$ (1,232,836)	\$ 11,748,024
20	Operations & Mai	\$ 1,249,947	54,139	101,236	\$ (47,097)	\$ 1,202,850
40	Transportation	\$ 449,124	3,666	82,124	\$ (78,458)	\$ 370,666
50	Municipal Retirem	\$ 548,728	768	36,674	\$ (35,905)	\$ 512,823
70	Working Cash	\$ 1,603,566	2,796	-	\$ 2,796	\$ 1,606,362
OPERATING TOTAL		\$ 16,832,225	\$ 171,664	\$ 1,563,165	\$ (1,391,501)	\$ 15,440,724
30	Debt Service	130,760	362	-	362	131,122
60	Capital Projects	8,147,906	63,843	11,218	52,626	8,200,532
NON OPERATING TOTAL		\$ 8,278,666	\$ 64,205	\$ 11,218	\$ 52,987	\$ 8,331,653
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 25,110,891	\$ 235,869	\$ 1,574,382	\$ (1,338,513)	\$ 23,772,378

VARIANCE REPORT
March 31, 2026

OPERATING REVENUES	TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUES			YTD REVENUES			YTD % OF TOTAL REVENUES		
	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 BUDGET	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 ACTUAL	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 ACTUAL/BUDGET
Property Taxes	\$ 13,398,669	\$ 14,262,290	\$ 14,721,266	\$ 13,398,669	\$ 14,262,290	\$ 14,572,050	100.0%	100.0%	99.0%
CPPRT	268,160	178,477	170,000	268,160	178,477	114,558	100.0%	100.0%	67.4%
Interest	708,957	490,648	481,500	708,957	490,648	279,797	100.0%	100.0%	58.1%
Other Local	636,035	726,851	626,660	636,035	732,807	346,785	100.0%	100.8%	55.3%
State	4,764,427	985,312	4,845,794	4,764,427	985,312	581,701	100.0%	100.0%	12.0%
Federal	415,583	532,639	428,827	415,583	532,639	506,362	100.0%	100.0%	118.1%
TOTAL	\$ 20,191,831	\$ 17,176,217	\$ 21,274,047	\$ 20,191,831	\$ 17,182,173	\$ 16,401,252	100.0%	100.0%	77.1%

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURES			YTD EXPENDITURES			YTD % OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES		
	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 BUDGET	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 ACTUAL	FY24 ACTUAL	FY25 ACTUAL	FY26 ACTUAL/BUDGET
Salaries	\$ 8,705,295	\$ 8,941,736	\$ 10,204,655	\$ 8,705,295	\$ 8,941,736	\$ 6,231,688	100.0%	100.0%	61.1%
Benefits	1,923,917	2,155,335	2,103,239	1,923,927	2,155,335	1,523,043	100.0%	100.0%	72.4%
Purchased Services	1,667,428	1,930,348	1,922,860	1,667,428	1,930,348	1,382,087	100.0%	100.0%	71.9%
Supplies and Materials	871,392	1,012,349	972,600	871,392	1,012,349	677,394	100.0%	100.0%	69.6%
Capital Outlay	8,340	335,186	278,300	8,340	335,186	121,052	100.0%	100.0%	43.5%
Other Objects	6,768,058	1,776,927	5,728,345	6,768,059	1,776,927	1,632,575	100.0%	100.0%	28.5%
Non-capitalized Equipment	1,306,895	27,684	97,005	1,306,895	27,684	5,928	100.0%	100.0%	6.1%
Termination Benefits	6,000	6,775	10,365	6,000	6,775	-	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%
TOTAL	\$ 21,257,325	\$ 16,186,340	\$ 21,317,369	\$ 21,257,335	\$ 16,186,340	\$ 11,573,768	100.0%	100.0%	54.3%

CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORT

March 31, 2026

Board Funds

INSTITUTION	DESCRIPTION	GENERAL LEDGER
Itasca Bank	Imprest	\$ 2,250.66
Itasca Bank	NOW account	\$ 40,462.87
Itasca Bank	Investments	
	CD 105671910	\$ 696,219.27
	CD 105671912	\$ 835,768.20
	CD 148992506	\$ 460,639.64
	CD 148992508	\$ 434,511.88
	CD 148992509	\$ 438,382.13
		\$ 2,865,521.12
ISDLAF	Bond Account 2021	
	LIQ	-
ISDLAF	Bond Account 2021	
	Max	\$ -
ISDLAF	Bond Account 2023	
	LIQ	\$ 149.50
ISDLAF	Bond Account 2023	
	Max	\$ 3,446,081.72
ISDLAF	General	
	LIQ	\$ 4,051,844.85
ISDLAF	General	
	MAX	\$ 2,499,397.89
ISDLAF	General	
	Fixed Income	\$ 8,590,426.52
Outstanding Checks Not Cleared		1,881,095.82
Non Cash Liability Accruals		-
TOTAL		\$ 23,377,231

11

TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT

March 31, 2026

INSTITUTION	TYPE	SECURED BY	PURCHASE	MATURITY	PURCHASE	RATE
Customers Bank	CD	Letter of Credit	7/9/2025	4/9/2026	\$ 1,700,000.00	3.97%
Baxter Credit Union	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 240,700.00	4.08%
Hinsdale Bank & Trust Company, National Association	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 100,000.00	4.01%
First Federal Savings and Loan Association	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 240,700.00	4.07%
Cornerstone Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 240,600.00	4.12%
The First State Bank of Healy	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 240,800.00	4.04%
NorthEast Community Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/14/2026	\$ 237,200.00	4.02%
Solera National Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/28/2026	\$ 240,200.00	4.13%
First State Bank of DeQueen	CD	FDIC Insured	6/6/2025	5/28/2026	\$ 240,200.00	4.13%
ISDLAF TERM SERIES	Term Series	Term Series	10/3/2025	5/29/2026	\$ 500,000.00	3.65%
Regent Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,900.00	3.73%
Third Coast Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,800.00	3.85%
California International Bank, N.A.	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,800.00	3.79%
BOM Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,400.00	4.01%
American Pride Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,800.00	3.75%
Priority Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	6/11/2026	\$ 242,900.00	3.75%
GBank	CD	FDIC Insured	10/1/2025	6/29/2026	\$ 243,000.00	3.80%
ServisFirst Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	10/1/2025	6/29/2026	\$ 243,100.00	3.75%
First Capital Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	10/1/2025	6/29/2026	\$ 243,400.00	3.60%
Transportation Alliance Bank, Inc. d/b/a TAB Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	10/1/2025	6/29/2026	\$ 243,200.00	3.65%
US TREASURY N/B	Treasury Note	FDIC Insured	6/15/2021	6/30/2026	\$ 991,426.52	0.70%
Consumers Credit Union	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	9/4/2026	\$ 240,100.00	4.08%
State Bank of Texas	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	9/4/2026	\$ 240,300.00	3.94%
FirstBank Puerto Rico	CD	FDIC Insured	7/9/2025	12/30/2026	\$ 236,500.00	3.85%
NexBank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	2/26/2027	\$ 236,600.00	3.79%
Farmers and Merchants Union Bank	CD	FDIC Insured	9/5/2025	2/26/2027	\$ 235,800.00	3.99%
					\$ 8,590,426.52	

TOTAL	<u>\$ 8,590,427</u>
--------------	---------------------



TECHNOLOGY REPORT Steve Schmidt April 2026

IAR Assessment Testing - The Information Technology Department (IT) finalized our setup for the upcoming state student assessment that will be administered after spring break. This finalization included the printing of all the test protector and student information cards and assisting with a mass upload of student accommodations in the testing platform.

Spring Break Work - The Information Technology Department (IT) completed the planned technology projects for over spring break. Those projects included routine server maintenance and updating the alert notifications in all three schools' communication systems. We also “project planned” for this upcoming summer and will have a summary on a later technology report.

Help Desk - There are currently no open tickets in our system.



April School Board Reports

Benson Principal - Mrs. Melissa Stafford

Franzen Principal - Ms. Linda Wit

Peacock Principal - Mr. Jason Taylor

A. Student Safety and Citizenship - To ensure a safe learning environment that promotes the development of responsibility, ethics, discipline, and citizenship.

B. Academic Excellence – To reach the highest level of academic excellence by promoting an environment for growth and learning for all students and the district.

IAR Testing - The Illinois Assessment of Readiness was administered to all grades 3-8 students during the week of April 6th. A total of five assessments will be given, two will cover English/Language Arts and three will cover Mathematical concepts.

Illinois Science Assessment - The ISA was administered to students in grades 5 and 8 at the end of March prior to spring break. The assessment was administered in an online format and is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards for Science incorporating the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Franzen Field Trips - 5th Grade will be visiting the Shedd Aquarium on Thursday, April 23. During their visit students will be participating in activities that correspond with what they have been learning in their science classes.

C. Fiscal Responsibility - To efficiently and responsibly manage the district's fiscal resources for short-term needs and long-term stability.

D. Community Relationships - To nurture and advance relationships through collaboration and communication with the whole community.

Peacock Community Service Hours - All students continue to complete their required community service hours. We are very proud of their hard work! 8th grade students are required to complete 18 total hours of community service to fulfill their graduation requirements. Additionally, Randy O. Spirit award recipients would serve an additional 6 hours of community service.

Randy O. Award Update - Continue to meet with the Okrezsik family with information that will be sent to D10 families. Students have been presented with opportunities to earn service hours through email communications. Mr. Taylor & Mrs. Mileto will visit 5th grade students to kick off this new opportunity.

Benson Celebration of Learning - The annual celebration of learning will take place at Benson Primary School Thursday, April 23rd, from 6:30-8:00 pm. Our learners invite their families to visit Benson and explore artifacts that highlight their learning. We look forward to seeing you there.

Franzen Education Fair - The annual Education Fair will be held at Franzen on Friday, April 10th from 1:00-3:00 pm. This Education Fair gives students the opportunity to complete independent research projects on a topic of their choice and to present the research to their classmates. Thank you to Mr. Meyers and Mrs. Poulakidas for coordinating this event.

Peacock Fine & Applied Arts Festival - On Thursday, April 16th, we invite all Peacock families to attend the Fine & Applied Arts Festival from 6:00-8:00 pm. Student art work will be displayed throughout the building, Peacock Jazz Band will perform, and guests will be treated to a preview performance of Peacock Musical, Frozen. Many thanks to the Encore



April School Board Reports

Benson Principal - Mrs. Melissa Stafford

Franzen Principal - Ms. Linda Wit

Peacock Principal - Mr. Jason Taylor

Team and Itasca Music Boosters for organizing this fun event for students and their families.

Frozen the Musical - The Peacock Middle School Choral Department will perform Frozen on Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd, in the Peacock Gymnasium.

Kids Heart Challenge - Kids Heart Challenge (formerly known as Jump Rope for Heart) is a national education and fundraising event sponsored by the American Heart Association and the Society of Health and Physical Educators. Our students are taught about controlling as many risk factors as possible. This year students at Benson & Franzen participated under the direction of Mrs. Engel & Mr. Imes.

Monthly Communication - Newsletters are emailed home at the beginning of each month highlighting upcoming events and important information. School specific newsletters can be accessed through the following links:

- [Benson Bulletin](#)
- [Franzen Falcon](#)
- [Peacock Charger](#)

E. Professional Learning - To support a culture that enhances professional learning and growth.

F. Capital Development - To support safety and learning for all.



Facilities and Funding Recap

April 8, 2026

Purpose

- ◆ Recap the Facilities and Funding Review presentation from March
- ◆ Highlight some additional information not in the March presentation
- ◆ Recap short term next steps

Referendum Recap

- ◆ The referendum provided for \$27M in funding for a variety of projects
- ◆ Most projects have been completed
- ◆ The secure entryway projects are targeted for Summer 2027; design work is currently underway, very preliminary estimates at \$1.6M
- ◆ Other remaining referendum funded projects include:
 - Benson outdoor classroom (~\$315K, Summer 2026)
 - Peacock gym HVAC (~\$500K, targeted for Summer 2027)
 - Benson drop-off (payment only, costs recently received from Village and estimated at \$335K)
 - Approximately \$2.9M remains after accounting for outstanding commitments, must be used for purposes consistent with the referendum

Future Projects Recap

- ◆ A number of future projects of interest have been identified
- ◆ Benson outdoor classroom future Phases II & III
- ◆ Outdoor classroom—Franzen
- ◆ Furniture refresh (could be referendum funded if funds are available)
- ◆ District office replacement, targeted toward 733 Catalpa location and including demo of existing structure

Funding Recap

- ◆ Referendum funds will cover outstanding obligations and remaining projects with little to no residual funds.
- ◆ The District's additional borrowing capacity is ~\$19M
- ◆ Non-referendum debt can yield ~\$7-\$10M
- ◆ Working Cash Fund balance is ~\$1.6M
- ◆ Capital Projects Fund balance is ~\$8M, inclusive of referendum bond funds
- ◆ The current District office has an estimated value approaching ~\$1M

Short Term Next Steps

- ◆ Benson Outdoor Classroom project
- ◆ Design work for secured entryways
- ◆ Design/engineering for Peacock gym HVAC
- ◆ Demolition of 733 Catalpa structure

BOE Action Memorandum FY26 - #35
Consent Agenda
April 8, 2026

Included in the Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. March 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - b. March 11, 2026 Closed Meeting Minutes

2. Approval of Expenditures

3. Approval of Hiring
 - a. Angelina Kosmas, Peacock Teacher 2026-27 school year

4. Approval of Resignation
 - a. Hasun Lee, Franzen Teacher, effective June 5, 2026
 - b. Samantha Mileto, Asst. Principal, effective June 2026

5. Approval of FMLA
 - a. Heather Laraia, anticipated May 2026
 - b. Kenzie Zaagman anticipated August 2026
 - c. Emma Rosales, anticipated August 2026

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda

Dr. Weeks
Itasca School District 10
200 North Maple Street
Itasca, IL 60143

March 19th, 2026

Dr. Weeks,

I am writing to formally request a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) beginning at the start of the 2026–2027 school year. This leave will be for maternity purposes. My current due date is August 22, and I plan to take up to 12 weeks of leave following the birth, barring any unforeseen complications. Depending on the timing of the birth, a portion of this leave may occur during the summer prior to the start of the school year.

I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition for my students and colleagues and will gladly assist in any way I can to prepare for my absence.

Please let me know if there are any additional steps I need to take to formalize this request or if you require further information. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,



Kenzie Zaagman

cc: Jason Taylor

Karen Capone

Handwritten note in blue ink:
Approved
3/19/2026



Craig Benes <cbenes@itasca10.org>

FMLA

1 message

Heather Laraia <hlaraia@itasca10.org>

Tue, Mar 10, 2026 at 2:04 PM

To: Craig Benes <cbenes@itasca10.org>

Cc: Melissa Stafford <mstafford@itasca10.org>, Sandi Schingoethe <:sschingoethe@itasca10.org>, Donna Suptela <dsuptela@itasca10.org>

Hi Mr. Benes,

I am writing to formally notify you that I will be requesting leave in connection with the birth of my child. My expected due date is May 13, 2026.

I plan to begin my maternity leave before or at that time and anticipate remaining on leave for the remainder of the 2025–2026 school year. I intend to return to work at the beginning of the 2026–2027 school year in August.

Over the coming weeks, I will work with building administration and the district to complete any necessary FMLA paperwork and ensure a smooth transition for my class and responsibilities during my absence.

Please let me know if there are any additional forms or procedures I should complete to initiate the FMLA request.

Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,
Heather Laraia

3/13/2026

24th March 2026

Craig Benes

Superintendent, Itasca School District 10
200 N Maple St, Itasca, IL 60143
Itasca, IL 60143

Dear Mr. Craig Benes and Itasca School Board,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I will not be returning for the 2026-2027 school year, effective date 6/5/2026.

I really have enjoyed my time as a 4th grade teacher at Elmer H. Franzen Intermediate School. I appreciate the opportunity that Itasca has provided me, as well as the guidance and support that has helped me grow as a teacher.

Sincerely,

Hasun Lee

3-25-26
Craig Benes

March 27, 2026

Mr. Craig Benes
Superintendent, Itasca District 10
200 N Maple
Itasca, IL 60143

Dear Mr. Benes,

I am writing to notify you of my intention to take maternity leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). I anticipate beginning my eight week leave on August 17, 2026, barring any unforeseen circumstances. I am committed to helping in any way that I can to make this as smooth a transition as possible.

I appreciate your understanding and support during this important time in my life. Please let me know if there are any additional forms or procedures that I need to complete before my leave begins.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Emma Rosales
6th Grade Teacher



3/30/22

March 26, 2026

Dear Superintendent Benes and Members of the Itasca Board of Education,

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from my position as Assistant Principal of Peacock Middle School, effective at the end of my current contract.

This decision was not made lightly. After much consideration, I have chosen to step away from my role in order to be closer to my young kids. While this is a personal decision, it comes with deep appreciation for the professional experiences and relationships I have built during my time in Itasca.

I am truly grateful for the support and trust the Board of Education and the district administration has extended to me. It has been an honor to serve this community, and I sincerely appreciate the many opportunities I have been given to grow as a leader and contribute to the success of our students, staff, and families.

Thank you again for your guidance and support. I will always value my time in Itasca and the meaningful work we have accomplished together.

Sincerely,



Samantha Mileto



3/30/26

BOE Action Memorandum FY26-#36

Amended 2025-2026 School Calendar
April 8, 2026

The original 2025-2026 school year has been amended to add the school emergency closing day January 23, 2026, and to also update the last day of school to June 5, 2026.

Itasca Elementary School District #10																																									
2025-2026																																									
BOE Vote 12/11/24 FINAL AMENDED APRIL BOE MEETING																																									
August, 2025							September, 2025							October, 2025							November, 2025																				
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT										
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	5	6	7	ER	9	10	11	5	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5	Trimester 1									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	0	14	15	16	ER	18	19	20	5	12	H	14	15	16	17	18	4	9	10	11	12	ER	14	15	5	Ends Nov. 7									
17	PD	TI	B				3	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	5	19	20	21	22	23	TI	25	4	18	17	18	ER	20	21	22	5										
24	25	26	27	28	ER	30	5	28	29	30					2	26	27	28	ER	30	31		5	23	FPT	X	X	X	X	29	0										
31							8								21													30							15						
December, 2025							January, 2026							February, 2026							March, 2026																				
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT										
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	1	H	3	4	5	6	7	4	Trimester 2									
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	5	11	12	13	14	15	ER	17	5	8	9	10	11	ER	TI	14	4	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	Ends Feb. 26									
21	X	X	X	X	X	27	0	18	H	20	21	22	ED	24	3	15	H	17	18	19	20	21	4	15	16	17	ER	19	20	21	5										
28	X	X	X				0	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	5	22	23	24	25	26	TI	28	4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	5										
							15								18													29	X	X					0						
							15								18																				19						
April, 2026							May, 2026							June, 2026							IMPORTANT DATES																				
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	TOT																		
5	X	7	8	9	10	11	4	3	4	5	ER	7	8	9	5	7	ED	ED	ED	ED	E	8	5																		
12	13	14	15	ER	PD	18	4	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	5	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	0																		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	5	17	18	19	ER	21	22	23	5	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	0																		
26	27	28	29	30			4	24	H	26	27	28	29	30	4	28	29	30					0																		
							17								20																										
																					<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">ELL Access: TBA</td> <td>Trimester 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Aimsweb: TBA</td> <td>Ends June 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">IAR: TBA</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">8th Grade Graduation: TBD</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>							ELL Access: TBA		Trimester 3	Aimsweb: TBA		Ends June 4	IAR: TBA			8th Grade Graduation: TBD				
ELL Access: TBA		Trimester 3																																							
Aimsweb: TBA		Ends June 4																																							
IAR: TBA																																									
8th Grade Graduation: TBD																																									
CALENDAR LEGEND							LEGAL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS							OTHER																											
B School Begins E School Ends H Legal Holiday PD Professional Development-No School TI Institute - No School X Not in Attendance FPT Parent-Teacher Conferences ER Early Release Day ED Emergency Day (if needed)							Labor Day 9/1 Columbus Day 10/13 M. L. King Jr. Day 1/19 President's Day 2/16 Casimir Pulaski Day 3/2 Memorial Day 5/25							Student Attendance Days 176																											
							NOTE: June 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 are possible school attendance days if Emergency days are used prior to the last day of school.							SPECIAL NOTE: If emergency school closing days are used, the school district may decide to use April 17 and/or June 5 to make-up regular school day(s).																											

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the amended school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.

BOE Action Memorandum FY26 - #37

ADOPTION OF NATIONAL TEACHER DAY PROCLAMATION

April 8, 2026

Proclamation

WHEREAS, teachers make public schools great; and

WHEREAS, teachers open children's minds to ideas, knowledge and dreams; and

WHEREAS, teachers keep American democracy alive by laying the foundation for good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, teachers fill many roles, as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators and mentors; and

WHEREAS, teachers continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories;

NOW THEREFORE WE, serving as members of the Board of Education of Itasca School District 10,

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026 AS NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

We urge everyone to observe this day by taking time to recognize and acknowledge the impact of teachers on our lives.

The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the National Teacher Day Proclamation.

**BOE Action Memorandum FY26 - #38
Approval of 2026-2027 Registration & Transportation Fees**

April 8, 2026

The 2026-2027 school fees were reviewed by the Board Finance Committee and have no increase . The \$50.00 discount will be given to each student if registered and paid before May 31, 2026. Regular listed school fees are applied if registered and paid on or before June 14, 2026 and a registration late fee of \$60.00 per student if registered and paid on or after June 15, 2026. The purpose of incentivizing early return of registration is to help both student classroom assignments and bus route design be completed in a timely manner. Families may still apply for financial hardship to mitigate fee costs. Graduation Gown fee TBD and will be due October 1, 2026

2026-2027 School Fees

ITASCA SCHOOL DISTRICT #10 STUDENT FEES 2026-2027			
Registration fees are due at the time of enrollment. Checks can be made out to: Itasca School District #10			
Fee waivers and payment plans may be requested after July 1st by emailing ckuta@itasca10.org			
If a fee waiver has been granted, all fees will be waived. Optional transportation is not waived.			
Students assigned with a District 10 student identification number have the option to pay school fees online			
Parent's Full Name			

Student Name & Grade			

Student Name & Grade			

Student Name & Grade			

Student Name & Grade			

Kindergarten HALF Day	\$75.00	Registration & Technology	\$
Grade K, 1 & 2	\$175.00	Registration & Technology	\$
Grades 3, 4 & 5	\$175.00	Registration & Technology	\$
Grades Pre-K - 5 optional	\$15.00	Yearbook (Grades Pre-K - 5)	\$
Grade 6, 7 & 8	\$195.00	Registration & Technology	\$
Grade 4 & 5 Outdoor Ed Fee	\$50.00	Outdoor Ed Fee (4th & 5th)	\$
Grade 5 (new students only)	\$6.00	Instrument Recorder 5th Grade new students only	\$
Grades 6 - 8	\$16.00	Gym Suit (Grades 6-8)	\$
Grades 6 - 8	\$9.00	Gym Shorts (Grades 6-8)	\$
Grades 6 - 8	\$7.00	Gym Shirt (Grades 6-8)	\$
Grades 6 - 8 optional	\$17.00	Yearbook (Grades 6-8)	\$
Grade 8 mandatory	TBD due Oct 1, 2026	Grade 8 Graduation Gown	\$
Optional - Milk	\$50.00	Milk	\$
<small>If you live within 1.5 miles of the school, bussing is available for a fee. Fees are due with registration</small>			
	\$225.00	Transportation	\$
Sub Total			\$
Fee Reduction if registered & paid by May 31, 2026			-\$50.00 per student
No fee reduction if paid between June 1, 2026 - June 14, 2026			-- -- -- -- --
*Registration Late Fee registered & paid on or after June 15, 2026			+\$60.00 per student
Total			\$
*Late fee does not apply to New Student(s) to District 10			

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 registration fees with the tiered incentive for early completion and additional fee for late completion.

BOE Action Memorandum FY26-#39

Authorization to Enter into a Contract for Auditing Services with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for Fiscal Years 2026, 2027, and 2028

April 8, 2026

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP has provided financial auditing services for the school district. The administration requests Board authorization to enter into a new contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for financial auditing services. The term of the contract is for fiscal years 2026 through 2028 and fees are \$16,000, \$16,800 and \$17,600, respectively. The scope of work includes the independent audit as well as other associated work, reports, opinions, letters and other services necessary to comply with agency required mandates. The engagement letter is presented under separate cover for Board review.

Lauterbach & Amen plans to rotate staff in the Principal and Manager roles. By doing so, the District will benefit from the continuity of financial oversight, and Lauterbach & Amen's institutional knowledge and familiarity with the District's financial history, while still providing a fresh perspective and objectivity for the audit process.

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education authorize administration to enter into a three-year contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for continued financial auditing services.

BOE Action Memorandum FY26 - #40

Authorization to Purchase Technology Devices in an Amount not to Exceed \$215,000

April 8, 2026

The administration requests the Board of Education authorize entering into a contract with J4 Tech Solutions for the acquisition of student Google Chromebooks for three grades. Costs are approximately \$50,000 for Kindergarten devices and \$165,000 for 3rd and 6th grade devices combined. Approximate costs include new equipment, protective cases, and Google Management Licenses. This is for the annual student 1:1 technology program. Devices will stay with students over the next two grades within each school.

The Deputy Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education Authorize the Purchase of Technology Devices in an Amount not to exceed \$215,000.

BOE Action Memorandum FY26-#41
Resolution for Abatement and Demolition of 733 Catalpa Ave Property

April 8, 2026

When the District purchased the property at 733 Catalpa Ave. approximately two years ago, it was with an interest in potentially using the site for a new District Administrative Office. There was never an intent to be a long-term landlord, and the timeline for continued use by the current tenants of the property was approximately two years. The administration has been in contact with the current tenants about their plans to vacate the property by the end of May. The Board of Education has also affirmed its interest in using the property as the site for a new District office, and has informed the tenant about the current building conditions and plans to demolish the current structure. Bear Construction has successfully performed projects at the District, most notably overseeing work at Peacock last summer, and can complete the demolition of the current structure (leaving the parking lot intact) through a cooperative purchasing contract. The current structure requires asbestos abatement. Asbestos abatement includes the professional identification and removal of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) to prevent hazardous fiber release. It involves specialized, certified contractors who follow strict safety protocols to protect air quality and public health. Testing results that will identify the extent of ACMs and the scope of abatement are not completed, so the final cost for the demolition is not yet finalized (the fewer the ACMs the lower the cost). As abatement takes place inside the building, it can begin as soon as the tenant has vacated the premises and permits are secured. Ideally that would be during May, allowing the demolition to begin after the last day of school attendance. Capital Projects Fund balance would be used for the costs associated with abatement and demolition.

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution authorizing the demolition of the property at a not to exceed price of \$450,000.00.

WHEREAS, on or about April 29, 2024 the Board of Education (the "Board") of Itasca School District No. 10, DuPage County, Illinois (the "School District") acquired by purchase the real estate located at 733 Catalpa Ave. in Itasca, DuPage County, Illinois with the permanent index number 03-06-404-041 (the "Real Estate"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is now in the best interests of the School District to demolish the existing improvements at the Real Estate and prepare the site for a future District Administrative Center; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to contract with Bear Construction Company for demolition services through a cooperative procurement contract administered through Choice Partners or TIPS and as provided for through the Illinois State Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Itasca School District No. 10, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

1. That the above recitals are hereby determined to be true and correct and are incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein.
2. The Board approves a contract with Bear Construction Company in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 for the demolition of the improvements on the Real Estate.
3. The Superintendent or designee are authorized to sign and enter into the contract on behalf of the School District.
4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 8th day of April 2026, by a roll call vote as follows:

YES: _____

NO: _____

ABSENT: _____

President, Board of Education

Attest: _____
Secretary, Board of Education