Legislative Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 3:45 PM
Downers Grove Civic Center, 850 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

1. **Opening Items**

1.A. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. **Approval of Minutes**

2.A. Minutes of the October 28, 2025 meeting

3. **Legislative Forum**

4. **School Funding**

5. **Legislative Updates**

5.A. Legislative Updates

6. **Public Comment**

7. **Adjournment**

District 58 Legislative Committee

Minutes of October 28, 2026

The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 3:45 p.m. at the Downers Grove Civic Center.

Call to Order

Katie Thomas called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m.

Present

Katie Thomas, Kevin Russell, Julie Relihan, Zac Craft, Chuck Brewster, Julie Byars, Allison Rickard, Bruce Swanson, Emily Teising, Cam Johnson, Brennan Lazzaretto.

Absent

Melissa Ellis, Chuck Brewster, Cindy Mathew, Taylor Skender, Emily Honn, Bill Riban, Sarah Borgetti Ebenezer, Emily Hanlon.

Approval of Minutes

Julie Relihan moved and Emily Teising seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Legislative Forum Discussion

Proposed dates for the Legislative Forum were presented and no conflicts were raised. The committee plans to invite one or two legislators at a time to attend Legislative Committee meetings to share information and make advocacy efforts more effective.

Conversation with Jen Figurelli, LEND

Jen Figurelli of LEND presented an overview of the work of LEND, which includes all school districts in DuPage County. LEND meets with legislators; performs bill analysis, coalition work, testimony and outreach, and collects data from its member districts. Its goal is to build longstanding relationships with legislators. Ms. Figurelli highlighted some of LEND's recent work on behalf of DuPage school districts as examples of advocacy. Some emerging issues affecting schools are cell phones, teacher pensions, FOIA, and AI.

Ms. Figurelli shared suggestions for how District 58 can advocate for its most pressing issues, particularly school funding (e.g., proration of the mandated categoricals) and the costs associated with the Interim

Housing Center. She recommended creating a one-page document outlining the issue that can be handed to legislators.

Legislative Updates

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Cam Johnson moved and Julie Byers seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.