

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 23, 2024

The video of the September 23, 2024 meeting can be found here:
[September 23, 2024 BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:03 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois.

A motion was made by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to allow Ms. Thommes to participate in the September 23, 2024 meeting via Zoom. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, Melissa Owens. Samreen Khan joined the meeting at 5:22 p.m. and Ms. Thommes left the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

President Owens requested a motion to move into Closed Session to discuss individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public, or legal counsel for the public body; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; an internal audit, control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews; collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; review of Closed Session Minutes; and individual student matters.

The motion was made at 5:04 p.m. by Ms. Schwartz, second by Ms. Martin. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Khan arrived at 5:22 p.m.

A motion was made at 7:04 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, Melissa Owens, Superintendent, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, and Chief Legal Officer, Trisha Olson. Also present was Student Board member Mahitha Ratakonda. The following were also present at the District's central office: Celia Banks, Michele Chapman, Alexa Charsha, Jaimie Giraldo, Jackie Johnson, Myka Kennedy, Brian Lindholm, Elizabeth Ma, Beth McKinney, Milena Nedeljkovic, Natalie Poli, Monica Ruzicka-Stout, Brian Tennison, Dr. Ann Williams, Dr. Frank Williams, and Dominique Zewde.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement - Dr. Johnson

A. Illinois Design Educators Association Competition Winner

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education honored John Rogers of Bartlett High School for earning first place in the Introductory Board Drawing Competition at the Illinois Design Educators Association Competition.

B. Illinois Volleyball Coaches Association Volleyball Coach of the Year

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education honored Michele Mueller, Streamwood High School boys' volleyball coach, for being named the Illinois Volleyball Coach of the Year by the Illinois Volleyball Coaches Association.

C. Illinois Special Olympics Summer Games Winner

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education honored Vincent Leal, transition student at South Elgin High School, for earning gold in the 100M walk competing for the School District U-46 Blue Stars.

2. Strategic Plan Report - Dr. Johnson (Board Policy 2:20 - Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification)

A. Post-Secondary Success Update

Michelle Chapman, Director of Post-Secondary Success, Myka Kennedy, Assistant Director of Early College and Career Pathways, Milena Nedeljkovic, Assistant Director of Gifted, Accelerated, and Magnet Academies, Beth McKinney, Coordinator of AVID, APEX, and Summer Connections, as well as Alexa Charsha and Dominique Zewde, School District U-46 Lead Counselors, presented to the Board of Education with a Post-Secondary Success update. The update included information on Counseling and Post-Secondary Teams, SchoolLinks, AVID, Magnet Academies, Pathways and Dual Credit, and Summer Connections.

B. Facility Planning Update

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented to the Board of Education an update on facility planning. The update included updates on the Pre-K classrooms at Larkin High School, construction updates on Middle School projects, the Middle School transition, Elementary recommendations, and a Capital Projects financial summary.

Ms. Thommes exited the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Paul Halverson, spoke of the April 2023 referendum and the August 8, 2024 community meeting. He shared concerns and questioned the Board.

4. Other Business - Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Dr. Suzanne Johnson reported that Strategic Planning work has begun. She thanked everyone for participating and stated it was very exciting and rewarding.

B. Community Advisory Council (CAC) Update

President Owens, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, the Board of Education, and members of CAC discussed the future vision of the CAC.

5. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting May 20, 2024
- C. Termination of Dorothy Space - Noon Hour Supervisor
- D. Termination of Kalyssa Gotter - PARA-EN1 SESS 1:1
- E. Bid - Information Services - 2024 Staff Laptops
- F. Bid - Information Services - Desktop Computers
- G. Proposal - Information Services – Monitors
- H. Bid - Procurement - 355 East Chicago Street and 1555 Larkin Avenue Office Furniture
- I. Bid - Procurement - 2024-2025 New Classroom and Office Furniture
- J. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - School Climate and Culture Training
- K. Contract - Literacy - Secondary Consultant
- L. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Career and Technical Education Electude
- M. Contract Renewal - Literacy and Professional Learning – Consultant

- N. Contract Renewal - Teaching and Learning: Early Learner Initiatives - Learning Genie
- O. Change Order - Plant Operations - Educational Services Center Cooling Tower Replacement, Project #333

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-O as presented. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

6. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills - September 23, 2024

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the itemized bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$14,945,795.38.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$14,945,795.38. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

7. Other Business - Student Disciplinary Cases (Board Policy 7:190 - Student Conduct)

A. Student B

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the expulsion of Student B for the term of two years through the 2025 - 2026 school year with the opportunity for Student B to attend alternative education in the second year of expulsion during the 2025 – 2026 school year.

Ms. Noland stated that she is in complete support for Administration’s recommendation to expel Student B but she will be voting no because alternative education is not being offered during the first year.

Ms. Khan stated that she would also be voting no for the same reason as Ms. Noland.

Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes: Ms. Khan and Ms. Noland. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-2.

8. Other Business - Employee Matters (Board Policy 5.290 - Suspension and Dismissal of Support Staff Members)

A. DUTU Grievance #07-08-24 Step III

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, to uphold the DUTU Grievance #07-08-24 and grant DUTU relief as follows: the administration will honor before the first day for second semester and honor before pick day for each semester thereafter have a set schedule for all CBI trips for that semester. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes: 0 The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

9. Work Session - Bids/Proposals (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)

A. Proposal - Operations - Century Oaks Elementary School Architect Recommendation

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal submitted by Studio GC Architects for renovations and construction of an addition to Century Oaks Elementary School, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Proposal - Operations - Glenbrook Elementary School Architect Recommendation

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal submitted by Studio GC Architects for renovations and construction of an addition to Glenbrook Elementary School, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

C. Proposal - Operations - Illinois Park Architect Recommendation

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for site improvements and construction of an addition at Illinois Park Early Childhood Center, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

D. Proposal - Operations - New Elementary School in Elgin Architect Recommendation

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for the design of a new elementary school in Elgin, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

10. Work Session - Contracts Over \$35,000.00 (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)

A. Contract Renewal - Fine Arts - MusicFirst Secondary Music Curriculum Resource

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jaimie Giraldo, Fine Arts Coordinator, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the three-year contract renewal with Music Sales Digital Services, LLC (dba Music First) in the amount of \$143,447.17, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Contract - Professional Learning – Consultant

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Elizabeth Ma, Ontarioville Elementary School Principal, and Natalie Poli, Lowrie Elementary School Principal, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Transformative Educational Practices, LLC. in the amount of \$56,700.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

C. Contract - Teaching and Learning - Amira Learning

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Jackie Johnson, Coordinator of Literacy and Libraries, and Monica Ruzicka-Stout, Coordinator of Student Success, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Amira Learning in the amount of \$270,840.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Stand for Children Grant. This cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

11. Move to Closed Session - Ms. Owens

President Owens requested a motion to move into closed session to discuss individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public, or legal counsel for the public body; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; an internal audit, control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews; collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; review of Closed Session Minutes; and individual student matters.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to move to closed session at 9:24 pm. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

12. Move to Open Session - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to move to open session at 10:22 pm. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

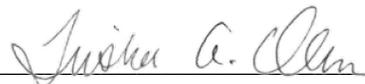
13. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to adjourn the Board meeting of September 23, 2024, at 10:24 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 16th day of December, 2024.



President



Secretary