

**School District U-46**  
Elgin, Illinois

February 22, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:04 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: Traci O'Neal Ellis, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland, Jeanette Ward, and Donna Smith.

President Smith requested a motion to move into Closed Session to discuss information regarding individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; 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 by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. O'Neal Ellis. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Cody Holt arrived to the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr to reconvene into Open Session at 6:42 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Noland, seconded by Mrs. Ward to recess until 7:00 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The Business Session began at 7:05 p.m. Present for the Business Session of the Meeting were the same Board members listed above, Student Board Member Allison Holloway, Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders and Interim Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Arndt. The following Administrators were also present: Jeff King, Miguel Rodriguez, Steve Burger, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Terri Lozier, Ron Raglin, Dr. Ushma Shah, Christopher Allen, Kinasha Brown, Dale Burnidge, Mary Fergus, Bruce Phelps, Claudie Phillips, Rickey Sparks, April Wells, and Craig Williams. Media representatives Seth Hancock of the Examiner, Madhu Krishnamurthy of the Daily Herald, and Geoff Ziezulewicz of the Chicago Tribune as well as other administrators, guests, and visitors. Student Board Member Holloway led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Phil Costello arrived to the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

1. Accent on Achievement

A. National Board Certified Teachers

As part of Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognized School District U-46 teachers who have recently achieved National Board Certification. This is the highest credential in the teaching profession and may be the most powerful professional development experience available to teachers. New National Board Certified Teachers at U-46 include: Alicia Cabrera, Elgin High School; Tanya Casey, Fox Meadow Elementary School; Coleen Lackowski, Hawk Hollow Elementary School; Laura Rivera, Heritage Elementary School.

2. District Improvement Plan Report

A. Overview of the School District U-46 Strategic Plan

CEO Tony Sanders presented an overview of the School District U-46 Strategic Plan. This presentation was identical to the presentation in April and approved by the previous Board. This presentation was to solicit input from this Board before bringing forward the metrics. Mrs. Ward suggested that the wording of Aspiration number one be slightly changed. The Board decided not to change the wording because the suggested change would not change the metrics or the work being done day to day and the wording had been chosen very carefully.

3. Comments from the Audience

Pete Dubin spoke about his concerns with the Kane County property tax hike. He is very concerned with the effect these tax hikes will have on retirees living on a fixed income.

Marina Filipek spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that students were not provided with adequate information regarding changes to the process of applying for a PE waiver.

Kayla Filipek spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that her application clearly met the criteria required and she was still denied the waiver.

Swati Shah spoke about her disappointment with Bartlett High School denying so many physical education waivers. She is concerned that most of these students will be seniors and will have to drop critical courses, which may affect their chances of getting into their chosen schools.

Aishwarya Jois spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that without a PE waiver she will have to drop a critical course needed to get into the school of her choice.

Jasmine Snipe spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that the denial of her PE waiver will adversely affect her high school education.

Purau Shah spoke about his disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education next year. He feels that he met all the requirements needed to waive the PE requirement and was still denied.

Miriam Filipek spoke about her disappointment with her daughters not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She requested more information about how the decisions were made.

Gloria Chaves spoke about her disappointment with Bartlett High School denying so many physical education waivers. She feels that the students were not given sufficient notice that the requirements had changed.

Priya Shah spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that the academy students have rigorous schedules and would take honors and AP courses in place of PE.

Margeret Lesniak spoke about her concerns with the gifted program expanding to all the middle schools. She feels that the changes to the gifted program are unreasonable, rushed, and not in the best interest of the students.

Martin Lesniak also spoke about his concerns with the gifted program expanding to all the middle schools. He feels that his daughter will be in an overcrowded, split level class without a developed specialized curriculum and resources.

Jessia Davalos spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that by denying these waivers the District is denying students the opportunity to learn and grow as a student.

Dhruti Desai spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She is on course to be valedictorian of her class and by not receiving this waiver she may not receive the 45 honors credits needed to achieve valedictorian.

Amritha Kumar spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that being required to take PE instead of an AP course will negatively affect her getting into top colleges.

William Blount spoke about his disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. He feels that the issue isn't necessarily with the law requiring PE but with Bartlett High School's interpretation of that law.

Velma Sept spoke about the African American Advisory Council. Meetings are the third Tuesday of every month at the Educational Services Center in room 339 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. The mission of the group is to help students become more competitive in the global society.

Milan Shah spoke about his disappointment with Bartlett High School denying so many physical education waivers. His concern is that the law hasn't changed and the requirements haven't changed but the school's interpretation of the law has.

Jeff Horler spoke about the positive learning experiences offered at Bartlett High School which reflect the positive learning experiences available throughout the District. He invited the Board to follow their model in the upcoming weeks and to focus their conversations around what is best for the students.

Richard Johnson spoke about the importance of field trips. He encouraged the Board to ensure that field trips remain available to students without placing insurmountable obstacles in the way.

Janese Pappas spoke about her concerns with the amount of red tape required to take a field trip. She feels that there is an overwhelming amount of work required to take a field trip.

Michelle Zappia-Eickmeier spoke about the amazing art department at Bartlett High School. She was disheartened to learn that the painting and ceramics courses would be shuttered at Bartlett High School. She is concerned that this decision was made after students were allowed to register.

Mirage Modi spoke about his disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. He feels that he met all the requirements and was still denied.

Ivana Bozic spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels there was a clear lack of communication as to how the PE waiver law was interpreted by Bartlett High School administrators.

Cory Bray and Judith Garcia, along with several members of the Youth Leadership Academy gave a presentation on the "School to Prison Pipeline."

Slavica Bozic spoke about her disappointment with Bartlett High School denying so many physical education waivers. She also feels that the requirements for PE waivers haven't changed only the interpretation of the law has changed at Bartlett High School.

Jayam Shah spoke about his disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. He feels that it was not communicated effectively as to what information was needed to qualify for the waiver.

Rick Newton spoke about his concerns with an email sent out by a Board member orchestrating the public comments at the February 8, 2016 Special Board Meeting and does not want this to distract the Board from its mission.

Cari Miller spoke about her concerns that students would not be taking comprehensive exams. She feels that it is the responsibility of the District to prepare students for final comprehensive exams.

Hannan Raj spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that the academy students are limited to a minimal amount of electives so in order to meet the needed requirements for college they need to waiver out of PE.

Ritu Paric spoke about her disappointment with not receiving a waiver to opt out of physical education. She feels that her GPA will suffer by not receiving a PE waiver.

4. Other Business – Board Member and CEO Update, If Necessary

A. Board Member Update

Mr. Sanders said that he will follow up with the Bartlett High School administration regarding the physical education waivers to ensure that everyone's voices are heard and will review the expectations of State law and Board Policies. Mr. Sanders also said he would review the ConnectEd that went home regarding final exams. He will also follow up with Bartlett High School regarding the art department.

Mrs. Ward said that the agenda was changed to allow Board members to address the public comments when appropriate. Mrs. Ward also stated that she appreciated all the student comments and she encouraged students and parents to also contact their State Legislators regarding physical education waivers. On another matter, she stated that she attended the creativity presentation given by Jonathan Plucker and it was great.

Ms. Kerr asked Mr. Sanders to discuss the physical education waiver law with the Illinois State Board of Education. Mr. Sanders said he would. Ms. Kerr also asked that parents be given more information about the requirements. She also reminded everyone that this is the season of high school musicals.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis asked that if there is room for interpretation of the physical education waiver law at the District level she would be in favor of interpreting the law liberally.

Mr. Costello said that the Board can't always address the public comments. Sometimes they need to discuss topics amongst each other before reporting a Board statement. Mr. Costello also commented that it was inspirational to hear the students speak tonight. He also encouraged students to contact the Board via email.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis said she loved the Youth Leadership Academy's presentation and asked the Executive Director, Dianha Ortega-Ehreth, to thank the presenters.

Mr. Holt reported that he enjoyed being a judge at the STEM Expo at South Elgin High School.

Ms. Noland participated in the round table discussion with the African American and Hispanic Leadership Institutes and enjoyed it.

Ms. Holloway updated the Board on the application process for the next Student School Board Member.

B. FOIA Requests - 6

Mr. Sanders, Chief Executive Officer, reported on the six requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of Board Meeting - January 25, 2016
  - B. Minutes of Board Meeting - February 1, 2016
  - C. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
  - D. Termination of Employees - Valerie M. Frantz, Hilltop Elementary School, Noon Hour Supervisor
  - E. Building Permits
- Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the applications for submission to the Kane County Regional Office of Education for issuance of building permits for the following projects:
- 1. Coleman Elementary School - 10-Room Addition
  - 2. Highland Elementary School - 10-Room Addition
  - 3. Laurel Hill Elementary School - 6-Room Addition

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D, and E as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Discussion/Action

A. Itemized Bills – February 22, 2016

Motion by Mr. Costello, second by Mr. Holt, to approve the List of Itemized Bills of February 22, 2016. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Request to Listen to Audio Recording of the following Board of Education Closed Sessions: February 8, 2016 and February 22, 2016

Pursuant to Board Policy #2.201, Board of Education Member Costello is requesting to listen to the audio recordings of the following Closed Sessions: February 8, 2016 and February 22, 2016.

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Mr. Holt, to allow Mr. Costello to listen to the audio recordings of the closed sessions of the February 8, 2016 and the February 22, 2016 meetings. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

7. Other Business - CAC Update

Melissa Owens reported that last week the Special Education Committee had a presentation from a Eureka Math specialist and a great discussion. The Family and Community Engagement Committee held the Realtor Breakfast. The breakfast was very successful. Ms. Owens attended an event Saturday and was happy to report a couple new CAC members.

8. Other Business - Mr. Sanders

A. January Financial Report

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Financial Report. At the end of January the total fund balances were \$194,339,521.00, which is a decrease of \$55.1 million from December. January is the worst month of the year for cash flow. The District received \$298,000.00 in property taxes. The District continues to receive its general state aid payments on time which was \$11.1 million. During January the District also received \$555,000.00 in categoricals. The State owed the District \$12.5 million as of the end of January. The District received \$4.6 million in Federal grant revenue. Total revenue is 11% higher than last year at this time. Total expenditures are 2.9% higher but in line with the budget.

9. Work Session – Mr. Sanders

A. Breakfast and Lunch Price Increase for 2016-2017

Mr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, and Mrs. Phillips, Director of Food & Nutrition Services, provided rationale with regard to increasing prices for the 2016-2017 school year. Administration recommended approval of the breakfast and lunch price increase for the 2016-2017 school year.

10. Work Session – Resolutions

A. RESOLUTION Directing the Superintendent to Prepare the FY 2017 Budget

Mr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, presented the Resolution. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

11. Work Session - Bids/Proposals

A. Proposal - Secondary Education - Free First Advanced Placement (AP) Exam

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Dr. Lozier, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Instruction and Equity, presented the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal in the amount of \$149,868.00 as submitted by College Board, and requested authorization for

District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

B. Bid - Business Services - Staff & Student Planners

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Dr. Lozier, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Instruction & Equity, presented the bid. Administration recommended approval of the low bid meeting specifications to Global Datebooks in the amount of \$133,020.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

C. Bid - Career & Technical Education - Gear Head Engine Lathe

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Brown, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the bid. Administration recommended approval of the low bid meeting specifications as submitted by Iverson and Company in the amount of \$52,995.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Carl T. Perkins Grant.

D. Bid - Career & Technical Education - Laser Cutter/Engraver

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Brown, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the bid. Administration recommended approval of the purchase from JBH Technologies in the amount of \$72,150.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Carl T. Perkins Grant.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, second by Ms. Kerr, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of February 22, 2016 at 9:37 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016



President



Secretary