

School District U-46

Elgin, Illinois

April 11, 2022

The video of the April 11, 2022 meeting can be found here:

[April 11, 2022, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: John Devereux, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr. Board member Eva Porter participated remotely via Zoom.

President Kerr 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; 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 6:01 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 6:57 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to move to open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders, Chief Legal Officer Trisha Olson, Board members John Devereux, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr. Board member Eva Porter participated remotely via Zoom. The following administrators were also present at the District's central office: Dr. Josh Carpenter, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Teresa Lance, Lela Majstorovic, Dr. Ann Williams, Brian Lindholm, and Bruce Phelps. Present for the meeting via Zoom were other administrators and members of the public.

Ms. Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Strategic Plan Report - Dr. Sanders (Board Policy 2.020 - School Board Powers and Duties)
 - A. U-46 Rising Rigor Diagnostics and Rigor Walk Update
Dr. Thompson, Executive Director of the South Elgin Network, Mr. Covarrubias, Principal of Willard Elementary School, Ms. Henry, Willard Elementary School Instructional Coach,

and Ms. Lenart, Willard Elementary School 3rd Grade Teacher, provided the Board of Education an update on U-46 Rigor Diagnostics and the Willard Elementary School Rigor Walk.

During the second Rigor Diagnostic: 538 classrooms were observed across 57 schools in 7 Networks; PreK – 12th grades were observed, along with “Other”; More than half of the subjects observed were English Language Arts (ELA) and Math.

During the second Rigor Diagnostic: The overall mean score increased since the first diagnostic; Conditions for Learning Rigorous Standards had the highest average pillar score (5.9); Verify Learning to Take Action Within a Lesson had the lowest average pillar score (3.0).

- The average Rigor Diagnostic 2 score across all networks was 4.12;
- All networks have shown growth since the first Diagnostic;
- Standards-Based Student Evidence and Activating Student Teams have shown the most growth in the overall mean score (+.7);
- Conditions for Learning has shown the least growth in overall mean score (+.4).

Willard’s Vision

● We will provide all students with a safe, team-centered environment that fosters well rounded, lifelong learners. ● We will utilize grade-level standards that promote cognitive complexity and student autonomy facilitated by staff. ● We will set ambitious student goals and achieve them through teamwork and reflection.

- Students are engaged in teaming tasks in all classrooms;
- LSI resources are utilized in all classrooms;
- Teachers are embedding teaming tasks in all areas of the students’ day;
- Students are more engaged in their learning;
- Students are demonstrating academic gains that were not seen in years prior;
- Rich conversation among students;
- Academic vocabulary, learning targets, success criteria are being used by students.

Ms. Martin thanked the team for the amount of work that has gone into the implementation of LSI.

Ms. Thommes stated that she has been enjoying the update presentations, and thanked the team for their hard work.

Mrs. Porter stated that she knows academic teaming works, and it is exciting to see the results.

Ms. Noland asked how teachers have been handling reluctant students who may not be naturally drawn to working in teams. Mr. Covarrubias stated the first step would be identifying students who are reluctant, and making them feel comfortable with the process, in small steps. Ms. Lenart stated that starting small with agree/disagree cards, focusing on

language, and letting students feel comfortable sharing with one person before sharing with a small group has helped tremendously. Ms. Lenart noted that assigning roles also helps with reluctance, as students are holding each other accountable.

Ms. Owens stated that the District is setting students up for success by doing this kind of work.

Ms. Kerr asked if the team could explain the role of an instructional coach for the general public. Ms. Henry stated that instructional coaches work with teachers to strengthen their practice, and use a tool within LSI called “Look and Learn” where they look for certain areas in a lesson. Ms. Henry stated that teachers may not hear all classroom conversations, and coaches are another set of eyes to help teachers perfect their practice.

Ms. Kerr asked if other schools have observed at Willard. Mr. Covarrubias stated teachers and staff have observed at Willard, and he is always open to staff seeing what is happening in the building.

2. Public Comments.

Marie Schnaitman commented on the conference in Orlando and the conference’s connection to social emotional learning. Ms. Schnaitman stated it is not the role of U-46 administrators and teachers to intervene with the parents’ role, and that she would prefer that tax dollars be put towards increasing proficiency scores.

Linda Sabo commented on the conference in Orlando, and her concerns that the program is divisive, and social emotional learning is being used as a tool to separate kids.

Amanda Clark stated that she had concerns with District affinity groups being broken down into 6 categories with a focus on minority groups. Ms. Clark noted other groups that she believes could be considered minorities.

3. Other Business – Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Ms. Thommes stated that she attended a rigor walk at Canton Middle School, and it was great to see the work of LSI in action. Ms. Thommes stated she also attended a choral festival at Canton Middle School, and there were a lot of great performances. Ms. Thommes stated she attended the last CAC meeting that provided the equity update, and wanted to thank to Dr. Lance and Ms. Jackson for all of their hard work.

Ms. Owens stated that her and Mr. Devereux have been invited to the facilities planning work, and there have been two meetings so far, and the planning team is getting ready for the first community engagement session.

Dr. Sanders stated that several Board members joined him at the IASB Kishwaukee dinner.

B. FOIA Requests

Dr. Sanders stated there were nine (9) FOIA requests that the District has responded to since the previous Board meeting, and the responses are available on the Board book and would be made available on the District's website.

4. Consent Agenda – Dr. Sanders

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – March 21, 2022
- C. Termination of Brendan Gallagher - Monitor
- D. Termination of Hallie Purcell - Paraeducator
- E. Separation Agreement between Rosalinda Amparan and School District U-46
- F. Contract - Deputy Superintendent of Instruction - Learning Sciences International (LSI) Summer Conference 2022, Orlando, Florida
- G. Bid - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Pathways Phase One: Early Childhood, Healthcare Science, Business Incubator, and Science Lab Renovation - Project #319
- H. Building Permits - 3

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the consent agenda items A-H, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

5. Discussion/Action – Dr. Sanders

A. Itemized Bills – April 11, 2022

Dr. Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, 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 \$10,879,747.63.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the list of bills, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

B. Proposal - Plant Operations - Ontarioville Elementary School Emergency Fire Alarm Replacement

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Fox Valley Fire and Safety in the amount of \$67,389.62 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure

will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the proposal, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

6. Other Business – CAC Update (Board Policy 2.152 – Advisory Committees to the Board)

A. Additional Information

Chanda Schwartz stated that the CAC General Committee meeting was held on April 7th via Zoom and included a presentation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Ms. Schwartz stated that the upcoming CAC Specialized Services Committee meeting on April 12th will be held via Zoom and will include an update on programming. Ms. Schwartz stated that the April 21st CAC Executive meeting will be held via Zoom. Ms. Schwartz noted that any previous presentation recordings and presentations are available on the CAC portion of the District website.

7. Other Business – Dr. Sanders

A. February Financial Report

Dr. Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, reviewed the February Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

8. Work Session – Dr. Sanders

A. LEAD Launch Curriculum Proposal

B. Business for Innovators Curriculum Proposal

Mr. Briesemeister, Director of Educational Pathways, Ms. Stewart, Streamwood High School Assistant Principal of Innovation, Ms. Roberts, Educational Pathways Teacher Leader, and Ms. Balzer, Streamwood High School Teacher, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the LEAD Launch Curriculum Proposal and Business for Innovators Curriculum Proposal.

This Academy is in the process of transitioning from the World Languages and International Studies Academy to the LEAD Academy. LEAD is an acronym for the key elements of the Academy: Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Action, and Design.

LEAD Academy is a Redesign of the Magnet Academy Program: ● Work began before the COVID Pandemic. ● Meeting dates included: ○ Program Visioning ○ 4-Year Draft Course Layout ○ Program Alignment to Streamwood High School Portrait of a Graduate ○ Professional Development ○ Research on College and Career Readiness ○ Research and Learning on Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Design Cycles ○ Illinois State Board of Education Business and Finance/Entrepreneurial Pathway ● Curriculum Writing, Rewriting, and Revising: ○ LEAD Launch ○ Business for Innovators ○ Academy Integrated Math.

Implementation and Curriculum Assessment From Curriculum Cycle: ● Monitor Curriculum Implementation: ○ Review Data with LEAD Team and Course Instructors
● Monitor Common Assessments: ○ Collaboration/Analyzation of Data ○ Revisions
● Feedback to Inform Implementation/Revision: ○ Staff ○ Students ○ Community
● Continued Professional Development ● Report Assessment of Program, as Requested.

Business for Innovators is an introductory business course that will serve as an overview of the major areas of business. This course will be part of the proposed LEAD Academy located at Streamwood High School. This introduction is intentionally planned around authentic learning activities that engage students in open ended challenges and problem solving. Business for Innovators also reinforces math, communication, and social/emotional skills that are essential for student success.

Recommendations: The Streamwood High School Magnet Academy Curriculum Committee recommended approval and adoption of the Business for Innovators course and LEAD Launch course. Both courses are to be offered in the fall of 2022 for the LEAD Magnet Academy Freshman class.

Ms. Martin thanked administration for answering her questions and providing information on how courses fit together with post-secondary careers.

Ms. Pearce suggested offering certain courses to freshman to make it less stressful for students to get the courses they need and also be able to participate in electives.

Ms. Kerr asked if there has been interest in the program. Mr. Briesemeister stated that 60 students have applied, and the hope is the number of students will increase after the first year.

Ms. Owens stated that she thinks this is a great program, but also has concerns about electives.

9. Work Session – Contracts Over \$25,000.00 (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Contract - Teaching and Learning/English Language Learners (ELL) Department - Northern Illinois University Bilingual/ESL Teacher Cohort

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Pirtle, Director of English Language Learners, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Northern Illinois University (NIU) not to exceed \$144,000.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the

Title III (LIEP) Grant. The cost is included in the budgets for the 2021-2022 through 2023-2024 fiscal years.

B. Contract - Office of Schools - Summer College Tour - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Focus

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, Ms. Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Tennison, Executive Director of High Schools, Mr. Crosen, Elgin High School Principal, Ms. Bush, Larkin High School Principal, and Dr. VanDeusen, Streamwood High School Principal, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Group Travel Planners in the total amount of \$30,500.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

10. Work Session - Bids/Proposals (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Bid - Business Services - Age and Obsolescence Plan for Lunchroom/Cafeteria Tables

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$74,514.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

B. Proposal - Business Services - Financial Operations Workspace Relocation

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$101,271.47, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

C. Proposal - Business Services - Teacher Effectiveness Initiatives and Teacher Mentor Program Workspace Relocation

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, presented the proposal and was respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$67,155.66, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

D. Proposal - Plant Operations - Playground Equipment Purchase

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the attached proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Game Time c/o Cunningham Recreation in the amount of \$210,911.24, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

11. Work Session - Change Orders (Board Policy 4.164 - Construction Contracts, Bidding, Awards, and Payments)

A. Change Order - Plant Operations - Hillcrest Elementary School Boiler Replacement - Project #926

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order from Independent Mechanical Industries, Inc. in the amount of minus \$40,000.00.

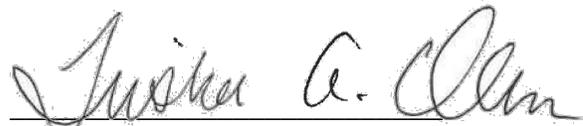
B. Change Order - Plant Operations - Hillcrest Elementary School Domestic Water Piping Replacement - Project #927

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the change order from Northwest Contractors, Inc. in the amount of minus \$72,126.29.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of April 11, 2022 at 8:43 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 25th day of April, 2022


President


Secretary