

Press Clippings 7/20/2022

Daily Herald

Larkin High graduate awarded P.E.O. Chapter DY Foundation Scholarship --- 7/19/2022

Submitted by Ruth Ann Dunton



Larkin High graduate Ximena Bermudez, the P.E.O. Chapter DY Elgin Foundation Scholarship recipient, and her mother are joined by the scholarship selection committee. Pictured from left are Gudrun Dorgan, Nancy Tonge, Laura Bermudez, Ximena Bermudez, Lamar Blum, and Ruth Ann Dunton. *Courtesy of Jeanne Tolzmann*

This year, the P.E.O. Chapter DY of Elgin awarded its second local scholarship as part of the P.E.O. Foundation.

Larkin High School graduate Ximena Bermudez was awarded the 2022 Foundation Scholarship.

Ximena will continue her education at Aurora University, where she will major in political science and then pursue her goal to attend law school.

P.E.O. is a philanthropic and educational women's organization founded in 1869.

P.E.O. supports education for women who are seniors in high school, college students, doctoral students, and women of all ages pursuing continuing education.

Chapter DY Elgin was chartered in 1933 and is one of 6,000 chapters with 205,000 members.

The Examiner of Bartlett

Curriculum proposals approved by U-46 board ---

7/20/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note – This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and in The Examiner of Streamwood

The **Board of Education in School District U-46** unanimously approved, three curriculum items at its June 20 meeting.

Included was the creation of an African American studies course for Elgin, South Elgin and Streamwood high schools for the 2022-2023 school year. There was not enough interest for the course at Bartlett or Larkin high schools, according to a June 6 memo when the item was presented to the board.

The proposal includes resources from Follett which will be funded through federal Title II funds (\$16,867) with an additional \$13,048 from the education fund.

The proposal states the course was created in response to a resolution for a so-called “Call to Action for Equity” approved by the board in 2020 which stated “providing every student with equitable access to high quality and culturally relevant instruction, curriculum, educational resources, and supports needed to be successful.”

An Advanced Placement Spanish literature resource was approved costing \$77,270 (education fund) with resources from Wayside Publishing. The proposal stated the previously approved resources are being discontinued while this approval provides “new physical and digital resources.”

Also approved was an integrated math curriculum proposal for Bartlett High School. There is no cost with resources already in the district.

This curriculum approves two new academy honors courses for Bartlett’s Magnet Academy, integrated math 2 and 3. It also will “twilight the existing courses at the Bartlett Magnet Academy, including Academy Honors Integrated Math 1, Academy Honors Integrated Math 2, and Academy Honors Trigonometry,” the proposal states.

This is part of the transition to educational pathways at the district’s high schools.

“Part of the revision process included implementing changes in the districtwide Magnet Academy application process,” the proposal states. “The updated application process implemented a lottery system and eliminated prerequisite courses for Magnet Academies. Without a prerequisite course, the students entering Bartlett’s Magnet Academy may not have completed an accelerated math sequence.”

The proposal added: “The current entry-level mathematics course at Bartlett’s Academy assumes that students are accelerated in mathematics and have already completed Algebra 1. With the change in the admission requirements, students only need to have completed 8th-grade mathematics. The Academy curriculum and course sequence needed to be revised to incorporate those Algebra 1 standards and align with students’ math trajectory.”

The Examiner of Bartlett

Village Board approves annual U-46 SRO pact --- 7/20/2022

By Seth Hancock

During its meeting on Tuesday, July 5, the Village Board of Trustees unanimously approved of a resolution to approve an agreement with **School District U-46**.

The pact is an annual agreement to provide school resource officers, or SROs, at Eastview Middle School and Bartlett High School for the upcoming school year.

The annual salary and hourly overtime rates will not change from last year’s agreement, according to a memo from Sgt. Greg Milos. This is due to ongoing contract negotiations with the police union.

The annual salary will remain \$71,842 with an overtime hourly rate of \$73.39.

“School District U-46 would be responsible for reimbursing the Village of Bartlett for the annual cost of a nonprobationary police officer’s salary in exchange for assigning school resource officers at Eastview Middle School and Bartlett High School,” Milos wrote.

Milos added: “(U-46) has also requested some minor changes to the language contained in last year’s agreement to better reflect its current practices. The agreement went through a complete overhaul to be easier to read and reflect law updates pertaining to juveniles and bodyworn cameras.... Major changes in this agreement reflect training mandates, SRO training, and professional development.”

There has been consolidation, removal and reformatting of most sections of the previous agreement, according to Milos, with “a near complete reorganization and several additions.”

All references to state statutes in the previous agreement remain including updates as required by law.

“Village Attorney Bryan Mraz reviewed the agreement and did not have any concerns about the proposed language changes,” Milos wrote. “If approved, the services under this agreement shall commence on [Aug. 15, and continue in full force and effect until June 7, 2023].”

The Examiner of Bartlett

U-46 approves changes to student conduct code ---

7/20/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note – This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and in The Examiner of Streamwood

The **Board of Education in School District U-46** unanimously approved of changes to the Student Code of Conduct at its June 20 meeting.

The changes to the code are largely grammatical and updated language based on changes in state law, according to **Lela Majstorovic**, assistant superintendent of schools.

However, Majstorovic said there's clarification to "some of the infraction events" like "attendance referral for tardy and truancy, we clarified so it's says 'tardy' only."

Majstorovic added: "One of the larger areas is around the suspension appeal process. So, as opposed to the superintendent's designee hearing these suspension appeals, the suspension appeals will go straight to the Board of Education to hear and then make a determination."

Robin Barraza, coordinator of culture and climate, detailed some of those changes in a June 6 memo when the changes were presented.

Removed from the suspension appeal-requesting a review section of the code was: "Coordinator of Culture and Climate will request and review evidence used by school administrators to determine student discipline. Evidence may include witness statements and video footage if available."

That section replaces the administration's review of such evidence described above during the appeal/review process replacing it with "will submit a written report to the Board of Education."

The code will now say the board "will review the evidence and render a decision," which replaces the district "will ensure that the appeal decision is impartial. The Superintendent will appoint impartial persons to make the appeal decision."

Barraza detailed the process for changing the code: "The current proposed changes to the Student of Conduct were reviewed by the Coordinator of Culture and Climate, the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, the Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and the Chief Legal Officer. The changes were reviewed and approved by the U-46 Safety Council, which is jointly chaired by U-46 district administration and ETA leadership. Membership on this committee

also includes teachers, building administrators, and parents. Additionally, feedback on proposed changes were discussed with site level administrators and students.”

The Examiner of Bartlett

Village ratifies agreement with School Dist. U-46 ---

7/20/2022

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees unanimously approved, via a 6-0 vote, of an agreement with **School District U-46** at its meeting on Tuesday, July 5.

The resolution approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) related to reciprocal reporting between the village and U-46. It pertains largely to potential police interactions with students.

“School District U-46 is requesting the Village of Bartlett to approve the proposed annual agreement regarding reciprocal reporting guidelines between the School District and the Village,” wrote Sgt. Greg Milos in a memo. “This reciprocal agreement has been revised in its entirety since the last board approval in 2008. Many of the updates are in regards to new laws, changes in communication methods, and the promotion of effective communication between the district and the village.”

Milos stated that Bryan Mraz, village attorney, has reviewed the agreement and had no concerns with language changes proposed. It will be effective from Aug. 1, and will automatically renew each year for no longer than three years, unless either party terminates the agreement.

The MOU references several state statutes and laws including the Illinois School Code, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Illinois School Student Records Act and Juvenile Court Act.

One of the changes is in language pertaining to police body-worn cameras, which was also included with regards to a school resource officer agreement also approved that evening.

“If law enforcement officers utilize body cameras in accordance with the Law Enforcement Officer - Worn Body Camera Act..., the Municipality will promptly provide the District with a copy of the Municipality’s written policy regarding the use of body cameras,” the MOU states. “The District and Municipality will communicate appropriate procedures for flagging recordings related to incidents occurring on District property for retention by the Municipality and for access by the District as otherwise allowed by law. The school resource

officer agreement will address the implementation of the body camera policy with regard to the school resource officer (s) serving in District schools pursuant to that MOU.”

The Examiner of South Elgin

SRO pact with Dist. U-46 approved by board vote ---

7/20/2022

By Seth Hancock

The Village Board of Trustees unanimously approved of an agreement with **School District U-46** at its meeting on Tuesday, July 5.

The approval included an annual intergovernmental agreement to provide school resource officers, or SROs, as well as a reciprocal memorandum of understanding. The terms of the SRO agreement are between Aug. 15, and June 7, 2023, according to a memo from Police Chief Jerry Krawczyk.

The previous agreement expired on June 10. The South Elgin Police Department will provide two SROs, one at South Elgin High School and one at Kenyon Woods Middle School.

The total cost for two SROs is \$182,464, which the school district will reimburse the district.

“The SRO enforces laws and municipal ordinances, applicable school district policies and procedures, and works closely with school personnel,” Krawczyk wrote. “SROs are proactive in providing information and presentations to students, staff and parents on various crime prevention topics. The reciprocal Memorandum of Understanding authorizes a reciprocal reporting system between the School District and local law enforcement agencies regarding criminal offenses committed by students. The Village Attorney reviewed and approved all changes to the contract as presented.”

Krawczyk added: “The District’s payment of [\$91,232 per officer is based on year 5 officers’ salaries for Fiscal Year 2023]. The school district reimburses the Village for any overtime, which varies according to the time of year and school activities, at a rate of \$68.51 per hour.”

The SRO agreement has 12 sections including incorporation of recitals, terms, purpose, obligations and responsibilities of the village through the police department, compensation, accommodations, staffing, absence of employees, termination, indemnification, student records and general provisions.

The police department has had some issues with U-46, according to Trustee Scott Richmond who asked: “Have the issues with the school district been worked out? I know there were some issues with them not communicating with you guys.”

“For the moment yes,” Krawczyk said. “I think it’s kind of just depending on the situations, but we work really well with the principals at those schools. We’re really happy with that.”