

Press Clippings 09/22/2021

---The Examiner of Bartlett---09/22/2021

District U-46 Board set for vote on latest budget

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** is expected to vote on the Fiscal Year 2022 budget, which continues the trend of budget increases with enrollment declines for a seventh straight year, at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Sept. 27.

The budget was presented, although there was no board discussion, at the Sept. 13 meeting.

Spending is set to rise \$61.3 million (10.2 percent) to \$660.8 million and revenue by \$59.9 million (9.9 percent) to \$662.3 million. The district projects to be at 64 percent capacity after a loss of 451 students for a total enrollment of 36,049; U-46 projected to lose 483 students last year but actually lost 1,391 when official numbers were presented in November.

Under this budget, spending will have risen 53.7 percent but enrollment will have declined 11.4 percent since 2012. The district expects to keep hemorrhaging students at an average of 791 a year for the foreseeable future, eventually falling to an enrollment level of 33,676 by the 2024-2025 school year.

Salary and benefits are the largest spending item at \$446 million, a \$26 million increase (6.2 percent) from \$420 million last year. As is its custom, the district will ask for the largest property tax increase, the largest revenue item, allowed under the law taking an additional \$5.5 million from local taxpayers for a \$324.6 million total, up from \$319.1 million.

Also set for a Sept. 27 vote is a \$37,872 contract, to be paid for by the nation's taxpayers through grant funds, with Don Johnston.

The contract will "provide districtwide site licenses to Co:Writer, an accessibility software, to support students who have more significant difficulty with grammar and spelling," the proposal states.

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Vote deferred by U-46 regarding SRO contracts

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** tabled a vote on contracts for School Resource Officers (SRO) at secondary schools as the district apparently wants to micromanage the police departments.

The contracts, totaling \$1 million with four municipalities (Bartlett, Elgin, South Elgin, Streamwood), were set for approval at the Sept. 13 meeting but will now be voted on at the Monday, Sept. 27 meeting.

“I’m asking the board to table this item from tonight’s discussion and bring it forward to the next meeting.... We continue to be engaged in work to comply with the governor’s executive order around vaccination,” said Superintendent Tony Sanders who said he wants the police departments to say “they will abide by the governor’s order” to either take a COVID-19 shot or test weekly.

In late August, Gov. JB Pritzker claimed authority, without any legal backing, to mandate all school staff to take the jab or follow testing protocols by Sept. 19. No law was passed by the General Assembly.

“If we don’t have it, then by the executive order we cannot allow them into the building,” Sanders claimed. He said the district is having “conversations” with the municipalities about having backup SROs in place if the currently assigned SRO is not in compliance by Sept. 19 under the so-called requirement.

Sanders could not explain why the contracts could not be approved that evening but said: “I’d much rather hold off until we know they’ve complied.”

---The Examiner of South Elgin---09/22/2021

Consent agenda payments approved via board vote

By Seth Hancock

Various items were unanimously approved under the consent agenda by the Village Board of Trustees on Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Included was a request of \$606,745 by **School District U-46**.

Megan Golden, director of administrative services, wrote in a memo that the funds are “from per-capita funds previously generated from developer cash contributions required by the Village Code of Ordinances.” The funds will go towards projects at South Elgin High School and Kenyon Woods Middle School, the combined totaling nearly \$3 million.

An ordinance was also amended increasing the allowable fees for police towing services.

A memo from Chief of Police Jerry Krawczyk stated the “2022 towing rates reflect a 4.9 [percent] increase plus cumulative carryover from 2021.” The increase is tied to the Consumer Price Index.

A partial payment to Montemayor Construction was approved totaling \$946,0778 “for work completed through August 20, 2021” on the Clintonville/Collins water main replacement project, according to a memo from Michael Millette, director of public works. It is part of a \$1.7 million contract with \$751,059 remaining.

A partial payment of \$84,058 to Innovative Landscape was also approved “for work completed as of August 20, 2021” on improvements at Lions Park, according to a memo from Kim Wascher, director of parks and recreation. The original contract totaled \$313,453 with \$229,395 remaining.

Also approved was a consolidated listing, that included a \$2.3 million warrant list and \$343,914 payroll list.

---The Examiner of Streamwood---09/22/2021

Sabres soccer tie Rockets after loss to Lake Park

By Seth Hancock

The **Streamwood soccer team** struggled to contain Lake Park as the Sabres fell 5-1 on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Millennium Field.

Lake Park took a 2-0 lead by halftime as Streamwood was unable to effectively stop the visitor's long game.

“I told them before the game that Lake Park will play long ball most of the game and how to stop it,” said Streamwood coach Matt Polovin. “Four of their five goals were from long balls and our defenders were chasing from behind.”

Polovin added: “It's a young group and they're still getting used to the speed of play and how they must play faster with the ball, and especially without. They need to be more disciplined in the backline and remember they don't have Jose Ibarra anymore to save the day.”

Despite the loss, the Sabres had their scoring chances but struggled to find the net. Their goal of the game came on an own-goal.

“I thought the guys possessed the ball very well throughout the game, but like I told them, you don't win games by possessing the ball,” Polovin said. “You win games by scoring goals. We had so many great chances to score and we just didn't.”

Streamwood went on to finish with a 1-1 tie against Burlington Central on Thursday, Sept. 16 at Millennium Field. Both scores came in the second half, sophomore Trey Yi finding the net for the Sabres off an assist from freshman Jairo Sanchez.

The Sabres, now 3-3-2 overall, will begin Upstate Eight Conference play this week. Streamwood has not had a streak this year with no consecutive wins, losses or ties, but Polovin said his squad is ready for conference play.

“Next week, we finally have conference games so the guys will be ready for them,” Polovin said.

---The Examiner of Bartlett---09/22/2021
Hawks JV golfers third at Streamwood tournament
From a report by The Examiner of Bartlett

The **Bartlett High School** boys golf team finished in third place at the Streamwood Junior Varsity Golf Invitational at Streamwood Oaks Golf Course on Saturday, Sept. 11. Bartlett finished with a combined score of 386.

South Elgin finished first with a 354, and St. Charles North was second with a 385. In addition to the three top finishing teams, seven other schools competed including Glenbard South, East Aurora, Dundee Crown, Geneva, Glenbard East, **Streamwood** and Jacobs. The Hawks team is made up of: Mitch Davis, Robby Coyne, Jimmy Chiarito, Sammy Patel and Daniel Ryniek.