

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

July 20, 2020

**The video of the July 20, 2020 meeting can be found here:**  
[July 20, 2020, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:16 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Donna Smith, and Sue Kerr.

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; 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 5:18 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Mr. Devereux. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Board member Thommes joined the meeting after entering closed session.

A motion was made at 6:27 p.m. by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The Board recessed until the start of the public business session at 7:00 p.m.

Present in-person for the business session were Superintendent Tony Sanders, Board President Sue Kerr, and Assistant Attorney Luis Rodriguez. The other Board members listed above were present for the meeting virtually via Zoom. The following administrators were also present virtually via Zoom: Steve Burger, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Ann Chan, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Dr. Teresa Lance, Lela Majstorovic, Dr. Ushma Shah, Sheila Downs, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Brian Lindholm, Bruce Phelps, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, and Dr. Trisha Shrode. Also present for the meeting via Zoom were student Board member Olivia Howell, other administrators, and members of the public.

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

Ms. Kerr stated that Governor Pritzker issued Covid-19 Executive Order 37 (Executive Order 2020-39) which extends modifications to the Open Meetings Act through July 27, 2020 and permits public bodies to meet remotely through electronic means. Based on the current health

concerns, Ms. Kerr determined that it was neither practical nor prudent to hold an in-person meeting of the Board of Education on July 20, 2020. Therefore, the Board meeting scheduled for July 20, 2020 was held remotely using a Zoom Webinar in compliance with the procedures set forth in Public Act 101-640 and Covid-19 Executive Order 37.

1. Strategic Plan Report - Mr. Sanders (Board Policy 2.020 - School Board Powers and Duties)  
A. Updated Plan for Reopening for School Year 2020-2021

Mr. Sanders, Superintendent, and other members of the Superintendent's staff discussed the Updated Plan for Reopening for School Year 2020-2021 with the Board of Education. Mr. Sanders stated that the agenda for the tonight's presentation would include discussion of the following: survey results, instructional models by grade-level, distance learning academy option, impact on calendar, distance learning enhancements including Canvas, operational considerations, and next steps

Mr. Lindholm discussed the results of the staff/family survey. Overall preference was fairly split, with a slight preference for a hybrid model. Staff results were similar, with a slight preference for a hybrid learning model, although the Elgin Teachers Association (ETA) had a slightly higher preference for distance learning and a hybrid model and a lower preference for a return to in-person instruction. The survey also asked families their intent to have their student return under the different scenarios: 40% reported they were prepared to have their students return for in-person instruction under whatever model and safeguards the district has in place; 31% were prepared to have their student return for in-person instruction, but only if social distancing is strictly enforced; 17% only felt comfortable bringing their student back for in-person instruction once the state of Illinois enters Phase 5 in the Restore Illinois plan; 12.6% were not likely to allow their student to return for any amount of in-person instruction. Staff was asked a similar question and answered as follows: 44% indicated they were prepared to return to support whatever level of in-person instruction is called for in our reopening plan; 34% indicated they were prepared to return if we strictly enforced 6-foot social distancing; 16% indicated they were only comfortable returning for in-person instruction once the state of Illinois entered Phase 5; and 5.5% indicated they were not willing to return for any in-person instruction in August.

Mr. Sanders stated that the District continues to rely on guidance from federal, state, and local authorities, and the District must operate in concert with these agencies to best protect our students and our communities. Mr. Sanders noted that the Centers for Disease Control will be sending additional guidance this week, and the State Board of Education will be sending additional guidance shortly thereafter. This guidance may impact the District's plan. On June 23, 2020 the District received guidance detailing Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan. For Schools to reopen in Phase 4 (at the beginning of next year), the District must ensure the following: Everyone within any school wears a mask; Prohibiting more than 50 individuals within any gathering space; Requiring social distancing of six feet to the extent possible; Noting that students and staff who are within 6 feet for a period of 15 minutes or more with anyone who tests positive for COVID would be ordered to quarantine for 14 days; Having a process for symptom screening; and Cleaning and disinfecting. The District proposes the following for reopening in Fall of 2020: Distance learning for all students through the first quarter (October 9); Access to buildings for specific purposes

such as labs, IEP minutes, etc.; Small groups of students brought in to acclimate them to what school looks like in the era of COVID-19; Priority access for EL, SPED, Early Childhood, Kindergarten in small groups; and Working with Right at School and community partners to provide child care from our high schools.

Dr. Johnson stated that in the second quarter, the District would plan to begin returning students in elementary and middle schools for some in-person instruction in smaller groups to ensure maintaining of social distancing. High school would remain in distance learning with continued access for special purposes, but the majority of students would continue full time distance learning. Elementary and Middle school parents will have the option to have their students enroll in a Distance Learning Academy that will continue to operate fully online for the entire school year. Students would not necessarily attend classes with other students from their home school and may be assigned to a teacher from another part of the District as well. Hybrid learning schedules are still being developed at this time.

The school calendar will also be revised to reflect the following: Teachers Return - August 17, 2020; Professional Development 8/17 to 8/21; Students Remote Instruction Begins - August 24, 2020; Consideration of swapping PPD/DCD days for embedded weekly hours throughout the year; and Change of election day to a holiday.

Next steps for this process will include: Week of July 20 - Household and staff verification of enrollment and assignment; July 27: Board of Education approval for: Return to Learning plan, Calendar Adjustments, Immunization / Health Records Waiver, Ongoing Communication, and Staff Committee Work.

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

A. Additional Information

The Board did not have any updates.

B. FOIA Request - 15

Mr. Sanders stated there were fifteen (15) 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.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Kerr

A. Public Comments

Erin Coughlin stated that she is an elementary teacher in U-46 and has concerns with returning to in-person learning during the pandemic, especially as the numbers are rising. Ms. Coughlin stated she would like to do what's best to ensure the safety of both students and staff.

Andrea Grigorie-Gal stated that she is a special education teacher at Central Schools, and wanted to know what precautions will be put in place for SPED interventionist teachers.

Jerry Krzywicki stated that as parent of U-46 elementary students, he has concerns with the reopening plan for fall. Mr. Krzywicki stated that the effects of COVID-19 on kids are

not yet known, and schools should not be open for in-person learning until widespread testing is available or a treatment or vaccine is available. Mr. Krzywicki stated that he hopes the district will make decisions based on scientific evidence and not be swayed by politics.

Tanya Newton stated that she is a parent of U-46 student who is in the transition program, and that her son struggled with distance learning this past spring. Ms. Newton stated that the young adults in the transition program only have a limited time before they are no longer eligible for the program, and she wanted to know if students would be able to make up for the lost time as the skills learned in the program are valuable life skills.

Sanjay Jayaram stated that he had a few questions regarding district testing, specifically, is the district planning to host placement exams in October 2020 for the gifted/Magnet academy program for 8th grade students and if MAP testing will be conducted in September 2020.

Additional public comments were also submitted to [board@u-46.org](mailto:board@u-46.org), and those comments can be found under “Enclosures” Agenda Item 19b on the July 20, 2020 Board Agenda.

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – June 15, 2020
- C. Minutes of Board Meeting – June 29, 2020
- D. Resolution for the Display and Public Hearing on School District U-46 Budget for 2020-2021 School Year Access Public
- E. Resolution Declaring the Need to Continue Usage of Temporary Classrooms
- F. Contract - Career and Technical Education - Solid Professor Online Student Training Modules
- G. Contract Renewal - Human Resources/Business Services - Risk Management Policies
- H. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Istation
- I. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services and Curriculum and Instruction – Read 180/System 44 Resource
- J. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services – News-2-You
- K. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services – Hearing Services
- L. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Hearing/Vision Supervision
- M. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Van Acker Behavior Consultant
- N. Occupancy Permit – 1

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

5. Discussion/Action

- A. Itemized Bills – July 20, 2020

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial 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 \$32,687,212.65.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Itemized Bills of July 20, 2020 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Dual Language Social Studies Electives Resource

Mr. VandeMoortel, Coordinator of K-12 Social Studies and World Languages, was available for questions relating to the Dual Language Social Studies Resource.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Dual Language Social Studies Electives Resource as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

C. English Language Learners Supplemental Spanish Literacy Resource - Arriba La Lectura

Dr. Acevedo, Director for English Language Learners, Ms. Rodriguez, Coordinator for English Language Learners, and Ms. Chamorro, English Language Learners Instructional Coach, were available for questions relating to the Supplemental Spanish Literacy Resource Arriba La Lectura Proposal.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the English Language Learners Supplemental Spanish Literacy Resource - Arriba La Lectura as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

D. Bid - Business Services - Face Masks and Thermometers

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, presented the proposal and was available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to CFJ Manufacturing, Gnomedia LLC., and Maybe Mars, LLC. in the total amount of \$263,920.01 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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Bid - Business Services - Face Masks and Thermometers as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

E. Bid - Business Services - Hand Washing Stations

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, presented the proposal and was available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Central Restaurant Products and School Nurse Supply, Inc. in

the total amount of \$325,351.44 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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Bid - Business Services - Hand Washing Stations as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

F. Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Glenbrook Elementary School Classroom Partitions

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Partition Pros, Inc. in the amount of \$36,400.00 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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Proposal Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Glenbrook Elementary School Classroom Partitions as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

G. Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Larkin High School Sump Pump Installation

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from T & J Plumbing, Inc. in the amount of \$40,784.30 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 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Larkin High School Sump Pump Installation as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

H. Notice to Remedy - Teacher D

This matter was before the Board whether to approve the Notice to Remedy for Teacher D (Placido Paez).

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Notice to Remedy for Teacher D (Placido Paez) as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Other Business - CAC Update (Board Policy 2.152 - Advisory Committees to the Board \$  
There were no CAC updates.
7. Other Business – Mr. Sanders
  - A. Investment Report for the Fourth Quarter

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Investment Report for the fourth quarter and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Mr. Burnidge stated that the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter total portfolio total for the end of June was \$362,405,657.62, the current yield 0.99%, and the accrued interest for end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter was \$8,134.81.
8. Work Session – Resolutions
  - A. COVID-19 Re-Opening Plan Approval Resolution

Mr. Rodriguez, Assistant Attorney, presented the Resolution and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the COVID-19 Re-Opening Plan Approval Resolution.
9. Work Session - Contracts Over \$25,000.00 (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)
  - A. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - HVAC Service Plan

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Automatic Building Controls, LLC. in the amount of \$1,297,714.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 through 2022-2023 fiscal years.
  - B. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – Newsela

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Shrode, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mr. VandeMoortel, Coordinator of K-12 Social Studies and World Languages, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the three-year contract renewal with Newsela in the amount of \$1,164,000.00 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 2020-2021 through 2022-2023 fiscal years.
  - C. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – Gale/Cengage Databases and eBook Collection for Grades K-12

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Shrode, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Ms. Ryan, Coordinator of Secondary Literacy and Libraries, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Gale, a Cengage company, for four years in the amount of \$397,158.06 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 2020-2021 through 2023-2024 fiscal years.

D. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – TurnItIn

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Mr. VandeMoortel, Coordinator of Social Studies and World Languages, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Turnitin in the amount of \$168,762.00 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 2020-2021 through 2022-2023 fiscal years.

E. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Gorbold Behavioral Consulting

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Gorbold Behavioral Consulting, Inc. (GBC) not to exceed the amount of \$85,000.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. This cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

F. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services – Occupational Therapy Services

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contracts totaling the amount of \$579,188.75 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

G. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services – Reading Mastery and Corrective Reading

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Mrs. Fabianczyk, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with McGraw Hill the amount of \$34,747.06 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

H. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - School Psychology Services

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Center for Psychological Services in the amount of \$203,500.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This



expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. This cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

I. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - School Social Worker Services

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contracts with Maxim Health and Mediscan Staffing in the total amount of \$192,862.50, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. This cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

J. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Speech Language Therapists

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contracts with the listed vendors on the attached proposal in the total amount of \$2,471,904.14, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. This cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of July 20, 2020 at 9:17 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 3rd day of August, 2020.

Susan E Kerr  
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President

Myquel A. Rodriguez  
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Secretary