

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

August 17, 2020

**The video of the August 17, 2020 meeting can be found here:**  
[August 17, 2020, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:35 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, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

Eva Porter joined the meeting after roll call.

Ms. Kerr stated that Governor Pritzker issued Covid-19 Executive Order 45 which extends modifications to the Open Meetings Act through August 22, 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 August 17, 2020. Therefore, the Board meeting scheduled for August 17, 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 45.

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 5:37 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, Mrs. Smith, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 6:45 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Owens, 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.

Present in-person for the business session was Superintendent Tony Sanders. The other Board members listed above and Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez 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, and Bruce Phelps. 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.

A moment of silence was held for U-46 employee Chaz Tischhauser, who passed away on August 7, 2020.

1. Strategic Plan Report - Mr. Sanders (Board Policy 2.020 - School Board Powers and Duties)

A. FY 2021 Tentative Budget

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the FY 2021 Tentative Budget and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

Mr. Burnidge stated that for the past 4 years the budget document has met the requirements of the Association of School Business Officials Meritorious Budget Award (MBA). The FY 2021 Expenditure Outlook Salary expenditures include: Increases for contractual agreements; No new additional positions; Employee benefits – includes a 5% increase for health insurance; \$42.9 million for Bond principal and interest; \$25.0 million for building capital projects; \$2.5 million from the CARES Act (for supplies including hand washing stations and personal protective equipment); and \$5.3 million for Student Activity accounts (GASB 84). Mr. Burnidge stated that next steps include a Public Hearing on the FY 2021 Budget on September 14, 2020; receiving estimated final fund balances for FY 2020; and the final adoption of the budget on September 28, 2020.

B. 2020-2021 School Readiness Report

Superintendent Sanders provided a report regarding school readiness for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Johnson provided an update on instructional models, Dr. King provided an update on operational readiness, and Ms. Chan provided an update on staffing.

Dr. Johnson stated that she would like to thank the community partners and collaborators who have helped in the process of bringing this plan forward including the ETA, DUEA, DUSA, DUTU, and representatives from the Board of Education.

Dr. Johnson stated there is a page on the district website dedicated to back to school updates. Subject areas on this page include: early childhood; elementary; middle school; high school; dual language; specialized student services; elementary specials and secondary fine arts; physical education; parent sessions; safety; childcare; food distribution; student technology; and student field trips (domestic, international). The first three days of school, August 24-26, 2020, will be utilized as days to introduce students to the new school year, and schedules will look different than normal.

The typical elementary instructional schedule will include:

- 8-11 a.m. Synchronous instruction
- 11-12 p.m. Lunch
- 12-2 p.m. Asynchronous activities and/or instruction

The typical middle school/high school instructional schedule will include:

- 8 Period Day
- Day A: synchronous instructional periods 1, 2, 5, 6

- Day B: synchronous instructional periods 3, 4, 7, 8
- 2 hours 40 minutes of direct instruction per day
- Office hours and support provided before, after and during the school day (asynchronous periods)
- SEL focus to begin the year

Distance Learning and Hybrid Learning will include:

- Students will be enrolled in Distance Learning or Hybrid Learning at their site. Curriculum and resources are the same for both models.
- Instructional strategies will vary based on the model to support optimal transference of skills and understanding.
- Families will receive communication from sites to confirm student selection for 2nd quarter. If no selection is submitted, student will continue in Distance Learning.
- Distance Learning schedule will be updated if necessary and communicated by October 12, 2020.
- Hybrid Learning schedule will be communicated by October 12, 2020.

New Expectations for 2020-2021:

- Learning/Communication Platforms
- Delivery of Content
- Grading/Academic Expectations
- Student Support
- Student Device and Access

Technology access will include:

- Distributing iPads, Chromebooks this week to ensure 1:1 for all grade-levels
- Pre-K, K students will receive iPads
- Grades 1-12 will receive Chromebooks
- Partnership with Comcast to offer free internet service to qualified families

Dr. King stated that he wanted to thank the operational directors and their teams for all of their hard work and efforts. Since March, they have served 1.8 million meals, distributed 11,000 devices, and deployed PPE to all sites. Dr. King stated that transportation continues to work with the curriculum group in determining plans to introduce students back to the classroom. Dr. King stated Plant Operations has been instrumental in keeping site environments safe by installing plexiglass, informational signs, and distributing PPE. Information Services continues to work to support remote learning.

Ms. Chan stated that no one person or department can do this work alone, and she wanted to thank administrators for their partnership and hard work. Ms. Chan stated that in person interviews have all been shifted to remote, and that HR has been navigating complex leave issues. As of this Friday, there were 60 openings left to staff, most of those within the SPED program. Ms. Chan stated that over 400 new staff members have been onboarded for the new school year.

Dr. King stated that the District has partnered with numerous organizations for childcare, and at least 15 sites are available at this time for parents and staff to utilize.

Superintendent Sanders stated he wanted to thank his direct team for all of their hard work since March. Ms. Kerr stated that she wanted to emphasize the thank you for all of the work that has been done the past few months, and that the work will continue for this unprecedented school year.

2. Public Comments - Ms. Kerr

There were no public comments

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

A. Additional Information

Ms. Howell stated that she had the opportunity to go to South Elgin High School in person to assist with freshman orientation in small groups. Ms. Howell stated she was able to see firsthand how hard working the entire administration is from all of the changes that have been made to the building. Ms. Howell stated she wanted to say thank you for all of the work that has gone into distance learning and into making school buildings safe environments.

Superintendent Sanders stated he was asked to testify before the Illinois Restore Committee regarding COVID, and that it was a great experience. Illinois Restore Committee is a bipartisan committee.

4. Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases

B. Minutes of Board Meeting – July 27, 2020

C. Minutes of Board Meeting – August 3, 2020

D. Termination of Patrick Walley - Technology Specialist

E. Contract Renewal - Food and Nutrition Services – Heartland School Solutions

F. Contract Renewal - Business Services/Financial Operations – Microsoft Dynamics GP2016

G. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services – Embrace IEP/504

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the consent agenda items A-G 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 – August 17, 2020

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the attached bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$7,331,681.34.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Itemized Bills of August 17, 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. Approval of 2020 High School Graduates

The Board of Education certifies the listings of high school graduates on an annual basis.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the 2020 High School Graduates 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. RSM US, LLP. Arrangement Letters

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the arrangement letters from auditors, RSM US, LLP. and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the RSM US, LLP. Arrangement Letters 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. Notice to Remedy - Teacher A

This matter is before the Board whether to approve the Notice to Remedy for Teacher A (Scott Zalke).

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the Notice to Remedy - Teacher A (Scott Zalke) 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 – Cameras for Classrooms

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to CDW in the amount of \$119,740.00, and Ipevo in the amount of \$100,450.00, for the total amount of \$220,190.00 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 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Bid - Business Services – Cameras for Classrooms 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 - Curriculum and Instruction – The Distance Learning Handbook

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Banks, Coordinator of Literacy K-6, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Corwin, A Sage Publishing Company, in the amount of \$95,309.00 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 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Proposal - Curriculum and Instruction – The Distance Learning Handbook 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

Mr. Bury stated that CAC is gearing up for the coming school year and that the first general membership meeting will be held on September 10, 2020 via Zoom.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Assessment – Assessment of Performance towards Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL)

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Ms. Hill, Director of Assessment and Accountability, 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 proposal from LTI, The ACTFL Language Testing Office, not to exceed the amount of \$36,000.00 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 fiscal year.

B. Contract Renewal - Assessment – Free First Advanced Placement (AP) Exam

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Ms. Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity, and Ms. Hill, Director of Assessment and Accountability, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with College Board in the amount of \$265,197.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve one free AP exam for each student who elects to sit for an exam. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

C. Contract Renewal - Assessment – College Board - PSAT

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Ms. Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity, and Ms. Hill, Director of Assessment and Accountability, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with College Board in the amount of \$76,200.00 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 fiscal year.

D. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – One Hope United

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with One Hope United in the amount of \$357,500.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund (FY21 Preschool for All Grant). The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

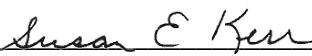
E. Contract Renewal - Informational Services- Footprints

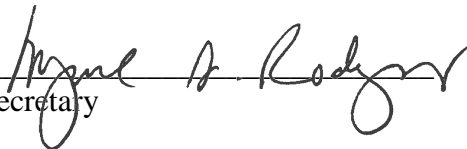
Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Macias, Director of Information Services, will presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with BMC Software, Inc. in the amount of \$28,964.61, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of August 17, 2020 at 8:41 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 14th day of September, 2020.

  
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President

  
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Secretary