



*Dedicated to achieving  
Personal, academic and civic  
Potential.*

Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 98**

March 24, 2022 - 6:30 PM.

Berwyn North District Office

6633 West 16th Street; Berwyn, IL 60402

Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 954 0547 6064

Passcode: 838926

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began at 6:38 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mounce, Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown

Members Late: JoAnn Kulis-Kearns Valeriano at 6:39 p.m.

Members Absent: Bruno

III. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Mounce.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

A. STEAM Curriculum Presentation – Gary Evashenk, Director of Technology

Gary Evashenk, Director of Technology presented to the Board and community all the great work that has been done thus far in our new STEAM labs at Jefferson and Havlicek Elementary Schools. Mr. Evashenk expounded on the Woz Ed curriculum that is currently being used by the district. The Woz Ed curriculum helps equip student with innovative and creative ways to problem solve using technology. Level I encompasses grades Kinder - 2nd and Level II encompasses grades 3rd - 5th. Students at both levels learn animation, engineering design, robotics, AR/VR, coding, and drones. Mr. Evashenk presented a video of students interacting at both STEAM labs.

Gary communicated to the Board and community that Berwyn North School District 98 was acknowledged at the West 40 Virtual Summit and will be participating at the 2022 Pathway Conference in Scottsdale, AZ all expenses paid by Woz Ed in November of 2022.

B. SEL Committee Presentation – Margaret Turner, Director of Special Education, Vince Cefali, Prairie Oak Assistant Principal, & Taylor Ruske, School Psychologist Lincoln Middle School. Mrs. Turner, Mr. Cefali, and Mrs. Ruske presented to the Board and community the Social Emotional Behavior Multi-Tiered System of Support that the Committee has implemented. They provided an update of what the committee has been working on this year and an overview of what MTSS SEB Social Emotional Behavioral means, student data, and next steps for the committee.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Community member Arbnore Cara expressed her concern and dismay in regards to a matter she had brought to the attention of the Board via email.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

A. None stated.

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

1. Regular Meeting Minutes - 2/24/2022
2. Executive Meeting Minutes - 2/24/2022

### B. Approval of Personnel

#### 1. New Hires:

- a. Cristina Gonzalez, English Language Arts Teacher at Lincoln Middle School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- b. Esmeralda Armenta, Paraprofessional at Jefferson Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- c. Maria Diaz, Lunchroom Supervisor at Prairie Oak Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.

#### 2. Leaves:

- a. Sherry Hickman, Information Technology Staff at Havlicek Elementary School has requested an FMLA Leave to start on April 26, 2022 and end on July 27, 2022.
- b. Karen Aluise, Speech Language Pathologist at Prairie Oak Elementary School has requested an FMLA Leave to start on April 4, 2022 and end on May 27, 2022.
- c. Roseann Truppa, Reading Interventionist at Lincoln Middle School has requested a One-Year Leave for the 2022-2023 School Year.
- d. Kate Biedron, Special Education Resource Teacher at Lincoln Middle School, has requested a FMLA Leave in August 2022, followed by a one-year leave for the 2022-2023 school Year.

#### 3. Resignations:

- a. Robyn Palermo, Paraprofessional at Jefferson Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective March 1, 2022.
- b. Mitchell Eichert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher at Havlicek Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- c. Ivette Carrillo, Dual Language Pre-Kindergarten Teacher at Havlicek Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- d. Scott Hovorka, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at Havlicek Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- e. Alejandra Cervantes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Dual Language Teacher at Jefferson Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective March 18, 2022.
- f. Michael Jesewitz, Physical Education Teacher at Jefferson Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- g. Amy Boone, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- h. Guadalupe Arroyo, Dual Language Kindergarten Teacher at Jefferson Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- i. Patrick McAndrew, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- j. Valerie Diaz, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.
- k. Shamir Brathwaite, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ESL Support Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 School Year.

#### 4. Retirements:

#### 5. Terminations:

6. Release of Teachers Covering a 1st Year Leave:
  - a. Mary Burke, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher at Lincoln Middle School
  - b. Terra Caskey, Reading Interventionist at Prairie Oak Elementary School
7. Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of Non-Tenured Certified Staff:
  - a. Patricia Biagi, Special Education/English Language Arts Teacher at Lincoln Middle School
  - b. Suzanne Lappe, English Language Arts Teacher at Lincoln Middle School
  - c. Kyra Bestor, Dual Language Teacher at Prairie Oak Elementary School
8. Rehiring of Non-Tenured Certified Staff
  - a. First-Year to Second-Year Teacher

The movement of the following certified staff members from first-year probationary status to the second-year, non-tenured probationary status for the 2022-2023 School Year.

    - 1) Susan Koclanis, Havlicek Elementary School
    - 2) Mariely Munoz, Havlicek Elementary School
    - 3) Christopher Andrews, Lincoln Middle School
    - 4) Jeremy DiMonte, Lincoln Middle School
    - 5) Robert Juritza, Lincoln Middle School
    - 6) Hannah Nolan-Spohn, Lincoln Middle School
    - 7) Alexa Noveron, Lincoln Middle School
    - 8) Susan Pace, Lincoln Middle School
    - 9) Maria Baeza, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 10) Alice Cosajay, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 11) Jessica Garcia, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 12) Sophia Giurini, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 13) Lauren Knox, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 14) Joslyn Ramirez, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 15) Marisol Soto, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 16) Ashley Zuniga, Prairie Oak Elementary School
  - b. From Second-Year to Third-Year

The movement of the following certified staff members from second-year probationary status to the third-year, non-tenured probationary status for the 2022-2023 School Year.

    - 1) Catherine Cardenas, Havlicek Elementary School
    - 2) Danielle Sanchez, Havlicek Elementary School
    - 3) Stephanie Solis, Havlicek Elementary School
    - 4) Christine Eloisa Arcos, Jefferson Elementary School
    - 5) Emily Bauer, Jefferson Elementary School
    - 6) Courtney Ureel, Jefferson Elementary School
    - 7) Selma Jukic, Lincoln Middle School
    - 8) Hilary Guy, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 9) Megan McQuen, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 10) Gabriela Morales, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 11) Gabriel Negrete, Prairie Oak Elementary School
    - 12) Mirtha Raigoza-Ramirez, Prairie Oak Elementary School
  - c. From Third-Year to Fourth-Year

The movement of the following certified staff members from third-year probationary status to the fourth-year, non-tenured probationary status for the 2022-2023 School Year.

- 1) Laura Carbajal-Ramirez, District Office
- 2) Natalie Church, Havlicek Elementary School
- 3) Melissa Arostegui, Jefferson Elementary School
- 4) Jennifer Giemza, Jefferson Elementary School
- 5) Ryan Skvarenina, Jefferson Elementary School
- 6) Season Clauss, Lincoln Middle School
- 7) Jennifer Mattucci, Lincoln Middle School
- 8) Randall Noonan, Lincoln Middle School
- 9) Elizabeth Polachek, Lincoln Middle School
- 10) Abdiel Santiago, Lincoln Middle School
- 11) Danielle Tombolato, Lincoln Middle School
- 12) Lisa Wiese, Lincoln Middle School
- 13) Marsha Orluck, Prairie Oak Elementary School

d. From Fourth-Year to Tenure Status

The movement of the following certified staff members from fourth-year probationary status to the tenure status for the 2022-2023 School Year.

- 1) Maria Alviso, District Office
- 2) Amy Bilow, Havlicek Elementary School
- 3) Haley Meyer, Havlicek Elementary School
- 4) Colleen Wirtz, Havlicek Elementary School
- 5) Danielle Dietz-Harris, Jefferson Elementary School
- 6) Joshua Bomba, Lincoln Middle School
- 7) Roque Hernandez, Lincoln Middle School
- 8) Pamela Podolner, Lincoln Middle School
- 9) Michael Hagedorn, Prairie Oak Elementary School
- 10) Anna Martinez, Prairie Oak Elementary School
- 11) Allison Rogers, Prairie Oak Elementary School

C. Approval of Authorization of next month's payroll

1. Approval of Invoices – 1,360,226.32
2. Approval of Monthly Payroll – 1,915,037.52
3. Approval of Authorization of next month's payroll – April

D. Approval of Building Use Applications

1. Building Use – WSSRA - Jefferson Elementary School – Commons & Gym, Mon. – Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from 6/13/22 – 7/29/22.
2. Building Use – North Berwyn Park District - Jefferson Elementary School – Soccer Field – Tues. and Thur. from 4/5/22 – 9/1/22.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda: Approval of Minutes, Item A 1-2, Personnel, Item B 1-8 (Tabled B 2-3 & 6-7), Finances Item C 1-3, and Building Use Applications, Item D 1 (Tabled D – 2) as submitted.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

## VIII. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Approval to Update the Schedule of Regular Board Meeting Dates

#### APPROVAL TO UPDATE THE SCHEDULE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATES

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the updated schedule of Regular Board Meeting Dates.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

### B. Approval for the Bleacher replacement bid with Carroll Seating Inc.

#### APPROVAL FOR THE BLEACHER REPLACEMENT BID – CARROLL SEATING INC.

Member Cuevas moved and was seconded by Member Paul-Emile that the Board approve the Bleacher Replacement Bid submitted by Carroll Seating Inc. in the amount of \$ 160,450.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

### C. Approval for the roofing project bid with Malcor Roofing

#### APPROVAL FOR THE ROOFING PROJECT BID – MALCOR ROOFING

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Paul-Emile that the Board approve the Roofing Project Bid submitted by Malcor Roofing in the amount of \$ 1,007,800.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

### D. Approval for the Demolition bid of 6508 property with McDonagh Demolition

#### APPROVAL FOR THE DEMOLITION BOD OF 6508 PROPERTY – McDONAGH DEMOLITION

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the bid entered by McDonagh Demotion to demolish the property located at 6508 W 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Berwyn, IL 60402 in the amount of \$33,900.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

### E. Approval for Asbestos Abatement contract with NES

#### APPROVAL FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT CONTRACT WITH NES

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the Asbestos Abatement Contract with NES Environmental in the amount of \$14,050.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

- F. Approval for the contractor awarded for the STEAM project for Prairie Oak & Lincoln School

APPROVAL OF CONTRACTOR FOR THE STEAM PROJECT AT PRAIRIE OAK & LINCOLN

Member Cuevas moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve Wight & Co.'s recommendation for the lowest bidding sub-contractors for the total project amount of \$1,469,358.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

- G. Approval of E-Rate – Howard Technologies – Access Points

APPROVAL OF E-RATE HOWARD TECHNOLOGIES ACCESS POINT

Member Cuevas moved and was seconded by Member Paul-Emile that the Board approve the E-Rate for the lowest bid – Howard Technologies Solutions in the amount of \$22,515.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano and Mounce.

- H. Approval of E-Rate – Howard Technologies – Uninterrupted Power Supply

APPROVAL OF E-RATE HOWARD TECHNOLOGIES UNINTERRUPTED POWER SUPPLY

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the E-Rate for the lowest bid – Howard Technologies Solutions in the amount of \$4,250.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

- I. Approval of E-Rate – Sentinel Technologies – Managed Services

APPROVAL OF E-RATE SENTINEL TECHNOLOGIES MANAGED SERVICES

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the E-Rate for the lowest bid – Sentinel Technologies in the amount of \$3,643.88.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

- J. Approval of E-Rate – Comcast - Dedicated Internet Services

APPROVAL OF E-RATE COMCAST DEDICATED INTERNET SERVICES

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the E-Rate for the lowest bid – Comcast in the amount of \$395.00.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

## IX. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

### A. Monthly Fund Report

Regina Johnson, Business Manager presented the Board and Community the monthly fund report.

### B. FOIA Request

1. A FOIA request was received on February 24, 2022, from Mr. Ted Novak requesting information on debt bonds. The district does not have any debt (bonds). Therefore the request is not applicable. However, the district provided Mr. Novak with the district's General Liability Policies on February 28, 2022.
2. A FOIA request was received on March 1, 2022, from Preston Dedi of Chicagoland Construction requesting the Bid Results/Tabulations or Award for the Bleacher Replacement Services for Prairie Oak and Lincoln Middle School. Mr. Dedi was provided with the requested information on March 2, 2022.
3. A FOIA request was received on February 28, 2022, from Mr. James Naughton requesting the following data for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years for District 98. This request asked us to divide the data into Fall and Spring semesters for the number of IEP parents(s), guardians(s), pupil(s), or other educational rights holder(s) who signed an agreement to transfer a student to an alternative school instead of proceeding to an expulsion hearing. Mr. Naughton was provided with the requested information on March 2, 2022.  
Mr. Naughton made a second request on March 9, 2022, for the same information to include non-IEP and that information was provided on March 10, 2022, as requested.

### C. Upcoming Events

#### **March 29 - April 2**

Spring Break - No School

#### **April 7**

Classes Resume

#### **April 15**

Not in Attendance Day

#### **April 18**

Not in Attendance Day

#### **April 28**

BOE Meeting - District Office - 6:30 p.m.

#### **April 29**

Children's Day Parade

#### **May 26**

BOE Meeting - District Office - 6:30 p.m.

## X. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. None stated.

## XI. BOARD COMMENT

- A. Member Kulis-Kearns Valeriano informed the Board and community about her experience at the IASB West Cook Division meeting.
- B. Member Cuevas thanked the staff for their presentations at this month's board meeting.

## XII. ADJOURNMENT MOTION TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session at 8:39 p.m., Thursday, March 24, 2022 for the purpose of discussing the following items:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2(c) (1).
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The Purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
4. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the minutes of The closed meeting; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

## MOTION TO RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education reconvenes from Executive Session at 10:58 p.m., Thursday, March 24, 2022.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

## MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the Contract between the District 98 Board of Education and the Custodial/Maintenance Personnel.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

## MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPARATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND MS. LAURIE SCHOENLE

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Separation Agreement between the District 98 Board of Education and Ms. Laurie Schoenle.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE TERMINATION OF DISTRICT BUS DRIVER MS. MADONNA HARTMANN EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Paul-Emile that the Board approve the Termination of District Bus Driver Ms. Madonna Hartmann effective immediately.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: PERSONNEL ITEM B – 2 – LEAVES

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Consent Agenda: Personnel Item B – 2 Leaves.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: PERSONNEL ITEM B – 3 - RESIGNATIONS

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Consent Agenda: Personnel Item B – 3 Resignations.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: PERSONNEL ITEM B – 6 - RELEASE OF TEACHERS COVERING A 1ST YEAR LEAVE

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Consent Agenda: Personnel Item B – 6 Release of Teachers Covering a 1<sup>st</sup> Year Leave.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: PERSONNEL ITEM B – 7 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NON-REEMPLOYMENT OF NON-TENURED CERTIFIED STAFF

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Consent Agenda: Personnel Item B – 7 Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of Non-Tenured Certified Staff.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.  
Abstained: Swade

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: BUILDING USE ITEM D – 2

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the Consent Agenda: Building Use Applications Item D – 2.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Open Kitchens is negotiating to exceed over the 2.5% in the next contract.  
The Board opposed to raise the contract rate of 2.5% for Open Kitchens.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None stated.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education adjourn at 11:04 p.m., Thursday, March 24, 2022.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano, and Mounce.

---

Dr. Michelle Smith, Secretary

---

Adam R. Mounce, President

Jessica Ibarra

Visitors:

Gary Evashenk, Holly Striska, Lauren Hinchley, Lia Villagomez, Loriann Volin, Margaret Turner, Sandra Greicius, Taylor Ruske, Jessica Hartless, Anna, Anne Vaccaro, Mike Murguia, Pam Podolner, Monica Deenihan, Vince Cefali, Gabriela Morales, Allison Knight, Angela Riggio, Maria, Arbnore Cara, Barbara Q's, Diana Manzanero, Donna Miller, Eden Barragan, Elizabeth, ER, Erica Trzebny, Francela Lopez, Josephine Lewis, Kayla, Kelly Karns, Kristen Bauer, Kristen Main, Lauren Hinchley, Maggie Scheuneman, Mark, Sandra, Yajira Diaz, Joellen, and 5 unidentified participants.