



September 18, 2023

Public Hearing on 2023-2024 Budget

Review of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

The Board of Education held a Public Hearing on the school budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The tentative budget has been on display and available for public inspection at the District Administration office as required by law. Notice of said public hearing was published in the Journal & Topics newspaper.

Presentations/Recognitions

Des Plaines Youth Commission Recognition of District Participation in the Pay It Forward Initiative

The Des Plaines Youth Commission recognized all District 62 schools for participating in the Youth Commission's Pay it Forward initiative this spring. During that time, students participated in acts of goodwill and kindness.



District 62 Board of Education

Ronald Burton
President

Beth Morley
Vice President

Stephanie Duckmann
Member

Tina Garrett
Member

Gene Haring
Member

Elizabeth Massa
Member

Jeanette Weller
Member

Margaret Goodchild
Secretary to the Board of Education

Student Learning and Support Services Update

Strategic Plan Update

Superintendent Dr. Michael Amadei provided the Board of Education with an update regarding the formation of the district's new strategic plan which will involve District 62 students, District 207 students, staff, families and community as they help define the future of the district.

Strategic Plan Goal Monitoring: Iroquois Community School

Principal Kelly Krueger and Assistant Principal John Rey shared an update from Iroquois Community School centering on how the school is focused on all five goals of the District 62 Strategic Plan. A copy of the presentation can be accessed [here](#).

Adoption of Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

The Board of Education formally approved the 2023-2024 budget. As required by state law, the Board adopted a resolution in January that directed administration to begin the budget development process and prepare the budget in tentative form. In August, the administration presented the tentative budget and indicated that the final budget would be presented to the Board of Education for adoption at the September Board meeting. The district projects approximately \$115 million in revenues over the next year. This includes revenues from local taxes, state funding and federal funding. A copy of the budget can be accessed [here](#).

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education and the Des Plaines Educational Support Personnel Association

The Board of Education approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) extending the Des Plaines Educational Support Personnel (DPESPA) contract through June 30, 2028. This contract extension will provide stability for the district through a longer agreement and increased wages and opportunity that is expected to contribute to employee satisfaction and retention. The contract extension also places D62 in a better position to hire new staff by increasing starting salaries over the next several years.

District 62 Administration

Dr. Michael Amadei
Superintendent of Schools

Mark Bertolozzi, Assistant
Superintendent of Business Services

Kathleen Kelly Colgan, Assistant
Superintendent for Human Resources

Dr. Lea Anne Frost, Interim
Assistant Superintendent for
Student Services

Dr. Laura Sangroula, Assistant
Superintendent for Instructional
Services

Adam Denenberg,
Chief Technology Officer

Elizabeth Juskiewicz, Director for
Second Language Learners' Programs

Jennifer Tempest Bova, Director
of Community Relations

Margarite Beniaris, Director of
Student Services

Colin Baer, Director of Social
Emotional Learning

Dr. Julie Fogarty,
Director of Curriculum

Michael Vilendrer, Director
of Operations, Maintenance and
Transportation

Christina Bowman,
Curriculum Coordinator and Data
Specialist

Anel Escamilla, ELL Coordinator

Carlos Rojas, ELL Coordinator

Erica Tae, ELL Coordinator

Jill Dzik, Student Services
Coordinator

Benjamin Keele, Student Services
Coordinator

Kristan Krupinski, Student
Services Coordinator

Margaret Sarti, Student Services
Coordinator

Brandon Schaefer, Student
Services Coordinator

Katerina Vaselopoulos, Student
Services Coordinator

Consent Agenda

Approval of Modification to 2023-2024 10-Month School Calendar

The Board of Education approved a modification to the FY24 10-month calendar due to March 19 being a Presidential Primary Election Day. Several 10-month schools serve as polling places which led to the determination to modify the calendar. No change was approved to the Iroquois Community School calendar as March 19 is an intersession date and therefore, school will not be in session. This will be an emergency day/professional learning day for staff. On May 9, students will now be in session.

Communications

Board of Education

Board President Ronald Burton acknowledged discussions on social media centering around concerns related to the district's Arbor food program. President Burton encouraged the community to send issues of concern directly to the Board of Education at boe@d62.org rather than via social media. Vice President Morley announced a few upcoming Foundation events that include "Pizza Wars" this fall. Member Haring acknowledged the Des Plaines Youth Commission for all the work they do. He also recognized Des Plaines Fall Fest took place this weekend and would like to see District 62 be part of Fall Fest.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Dr. Michael Amadei echoed the importance of the Youth Commission's work. Dr. Amadei also updated the Board on the work that's happening surrounding inclusivity of playgrounds. In addition, Dr. Amadei asked Assistant Superintendent Mark Bertolozzi to address concerns regarding food service. The district offers fruit three times a week as well as a no sugar added apple juice two days a week. This is a practice most school districts follow however the district is working with Arbor to provide fruit five days a week. Arbor does keep an eye on quality in terms of the food served to children and has rejected produce shipments for poor quality. Mr. Bertolozzi also addressed the pretzel option that was being offered as a meatless option to students that would also be served with a vegetable. Due to concerns raised, the pretzel option will be removed from the menu. Finally, Mr. Bertolozzi reminded the Board that on occasion, menu items may be changed for a variety of reasons.

Dashboard - Enrollment for 2023-2024 School Year

The data demonstrate that we have an enrollment increase for the 2023-2024 school year, with the biggest impacts seen at North, the ELC and Chippewa. This is the third year in a row for a significant increase at the ELC. North has seen a dramatic increase due to new families immigrating to Des Plaines. Chippewa established a program replication for newcomer students for this school year and the new families immigrating to Des Plaines are reflected in their increase. The Kasarda Report projections references in previous years are no longer in alignment with district trends due to a variety of external factors. We are working with Dr. Kasarda this year for new projections. A copy of the Dashboard Report can be accessed [here](#).