

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

October 7, 2019

**The video of the October 7, 2019 meeting can be found here:**  
[October 7, 2019, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:45 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

President Kerr requested a motion to allow Board member Noland to participate in the meeting via telephone. The motion was made at 5:46 p.m. by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

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; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; 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 5:47 p.m. by Mrs. Porter, second by Ms. Owens. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Board member Devereux arrived at 5:50 p.m.

A motion was made at 6:48 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, second by Mrs. Porter, 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 business session began at 7:00 p.m. Present for the business session of the meeting were the same Board members listed above, Student Board Member Hallie Furtak, Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders and Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez. The following administrators were also present: Steve Burger, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Ann Chan, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Lela Majstorovic, Dale Burnidge, Kinasha Brown, Sheila Downs, Mary Fergus, Yvette Gonzalez-Collins, John Heiderscheidt, Bruce Phelps, Doreen Roberts, Tracy Stewart, and Dr. Jennifer VanDeusen. Also present were: media representatives Rafael Guerrero of the Courier and Seth Hancock of the Examiner, as well as other administrators, guests, and visitors. Ms. Furtak led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement

A. National School Lunch Week

In recognition of National School Lunch Week, October 14-18, 2019, a Proclamation of Appreciation was presented to Ms. Hildreth, Director of Food and Nutrition Services. The U-46 Food & Nutrition Services Department serves more than 10,400 breakfast meals and 20,500 lunches every day. They continue to encourage our students to eat healthy and live healthy lifestyles.

2. Strategic Plan Report

A. Educational Pathways Update

Ms. Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity, Ms. Brown, Director of Career Pathways, Ms. Stewart, Coordinator for Career and Technical Education, Ms. Roberts, Teacher Leader for Educational Pathways Design and Implementation, and Ms. Gonzalez-Collins, Principal of Ellis Middle School presented to the Board of Education an update on the planning and implementation of Educational Pathways in U-46.

Educational Pathways align with the U-46 strategic goal of increasing the percentage of students who are college and career ready. The approach of reorganizing the five high schools using the academy model framework will ensure the District is on track to meet the following goals: increasing high school students' enrollment in AP courses by 2% annually or attaining 30% enrollment overall; increasing the graduation rate within five years by 3% annually or 99% overall; and increasing the rate of high school students receiving industry recognized credentials by 5% annually or 25% overall.

The five current academies will become magnet schools – South Elgin High School will be the first academy to be approved for magnet school status in 2020, followed by Streamwood High School in 2021, Larkin High School in 2021-2022, Elgin High School in 2022, and Bartlett High School in 2022. The following designations for magnet schools have been determined: EHS – Magnet Academy of International Baccalaureate Studies, LHS – Magnet Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, and SEHS – BEACON Academy of Media and Digital Arts. BHS and SHS's magnet designations are to be determined.

The College and Career Ready academies of STEM, Business, Humanities, Fine Arts, and Liberal Arts will be offered at all five high schools. There will be multiple pathways in each college and career academy. The program design will consist of an existing pathway with a coherent sequence of 2 or more courses that leads to all students' attainment of early college credentials and meets college and career readiness as defined by state and federal law, including students with IEPs, students who are Emergent Bilinguals, and students enrolled in the Dual Language Program.

Pathway course offerings will include the following:

- Business Academy: Finance & Accounting, Management & Leadership, Office Assistant;
- Fine Arts Academy: 2D Art, 3D Art, Artes Folkloricas de Mexico, Commercial & Digital Art, Music Recording & Production, Photography, Theater Arts;

- Human Services Academy: Early Childhood Education, Hospitality & Culinary Arts, Law, Medical Assistant, Patient Care Technician, Social Advocacy;
- Liberal Arts Academy: General Graduation Requirements, Early College; and
- Stem Academy: Automotive, Engineering, Environmental Science, Information Technology, Precision Manufacturing, Welding.

Walkthroughs were completed at all sites in the Spring of 2019, and financial resources have been allocated to support the renovation of facilities aligned to the roll-out of Educational Pathways. The facilities committee will be creating a timeline for additional renovations to occur in alignment with the Pathways curriculum roll-out.

Next steps include Fall Town Hall Sessions, implementation of the National Career Academy Coalition Framework, developing a multi-year action plan for implementing academy models in all high schools, curriculum revision cycle engagement, and implementation of the counseling framework.

Ms. Furtak asked what would occur when a student wants to drop out of or switch to a different pathway. Ms. Majstorovic stated that students are more than welcome to change pathways, but that they may not achieve industry credentials if changing pathways after their sophomore year.

Ms. Owens asked if all pathways would be available at every high school. Ms. Majstorovic stated that some pathways would only be offered at certain high schools based on the facilities at that site, but that students would be allowed to attend a different site offering that particular pathway.

Ms. Thommes asked how the Fine Arts Academy would be different than the LHS Magnet Academy. Ms. Brown stated that the Magnet Academy would have a more specialized curriculum based in theory.

Ms. Thommes asked why some of the Magnet Academies were labeled as “to be determined.” Ms. Majstorovic stated that a survey was done regarding those sites and some of the curriculum would need to be revised with the assistance of the Magnet Academy task force based on results of the survey

Ms. Owens asked if there would be a cap on the number of students in each pathway. Ms. Majstorovic stated there would be a cap. Ms. Owens asked how students would be guided to another placement. Ms. Majstorovic stated that this would depend on the selection criteria, which has not been determined yet, but one option could be allowing students to travel to another school site that has not met the cap for that pathway.

Ms. Owens asked for clarification that certain general curriculum courses such as English would not be changed for each program. Ms. Roberts stated that the curriculum itself would not change, but teachers have the autonomy to teach to the student population in his or her classroom.

Ms. Kerr asked if all pathways provide the opportunity to end up with a certificate. Ms. Majstorovic stated that each pathway has an opportunity for one of five certificates/credit options: 1. nationally recognized industry credential; 2. AP credit; 3. IB credit; 4. dual credit course in conjunction with ECC or another education partner; or 5. seal of bi-literacy.

3. Comments from the Audience

Patricia Harken stated that the Board of Education should vote “no” on Resolution #1 – Student Safety, which would grant local school boards the option of developing Student Safety and Protection Plans that would allow District employees the ability to carry a concealed firearm on District property with a valid FOID card. Ms. Harken stated there is no evidence supporting the position that arming school employees would be beneficial in the event of a school shooting.

Jack Wheatley, President of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin, stated that the Coalition wants to offer the District their health resources for underage drinking and substance abuse issues. Mr. Wheatley stated the Coalition hosts many events for teens that are open to the entire community.

Jessica Reed and Tina Link of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin stated that they want to encourage U-46 schools to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey which is a valuable source of data for health and social indicators.

Keith Goins, former president of the Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Elgin, stated that he also wants to encourage U-46 schools to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey as it is a valuable tool.

Jeffery Ligon stated that he wanted to thank the Board of Education for listening to his concerns and taking action. Mr. Ligon stated that he feels the situation at Larkin High School has improved for his son, and he was appreciative of the Board.

4. Other Business – Board Member and CEO Update

A. Additional Information

Mrs. Porter stated that she attended the Franczek School Law Conference on October 4, 2019 and it was very informative. Mrs. Porter stated that she also attended the STEM Expo at Poplar Creek Library and a ceremony honoring organizations for Hispanic Heritage Month and the Mariachi Joya Dorada de U-46 at the Hanover Park Police Headquarters.

Ms. Kerr stated that the Franczek School Law Conference was a worthwhile event, and was very informative.

Ms. Owens asked for clarification on the Illinois Youth Survey. Mr. Sanders stated that schools are informed about the survey, but it is left up to each individual school on whether or not they participate in the survey.

Ms. Noland stated that the District should encourage schools to participate in the Illinois Youth Survey as it is a valuable source of data.

B. Report to Membership - 2019 IASB Delegate Assembly

The Board of Education discussed the November 23, 2019 Delegate Assembly and how to advise the School District U-46 Board Delegate who will be representing the Board of Education at the 87th Annual Conference. Ms. Kerr stated administration makes recommendations on the resolutions for the Board's consideration. Ms. Kerr stated the Board will come to a consensus on the resolutions at the next meeting.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – September 23, 2019
- C. Termination of Lorena Arroyo – Bus Driver
- D. Termination of Tiffany J. Mellinger – Food Service Technician
- E. Termination of Belinda Walker - Monitor
- F. Building Permit - 1

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Consent Agenda of October 7, 2019, items A through F, 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. Discussion/Action

A. Itemized Bills – October 7, 2019

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 \$9,803,120.63

Motion by Mrs. Porter, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the list of itemized bills of October 7, 2019, in the amount of \$9,803,120.63 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. RSM US, LLP. Arrangement and Planning Letters

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

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the RSM US, LLP Arrangement and Planning 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.

C. Minutes of Board Committee Meeting

Administration recommended the Board of Education accept the minutes from the Board of Education Legislation Committee Meeting on September 9, 2019.

Motion by Mrs. Porter, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Board of Education Legislation Committee Meeting minutes 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.

7. Other Business – CAC Update

Mr. Sanders stated that the CAC General Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at Elgin High School and a presentation on Pathways would be given.

8. Other Business

A. 2020 Capital Projects Summary.

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations reviewed the 2020 Capital Projects List and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

B. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

A Motion is requested and the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of closed session minutes and, therefore, "all Closed Session Minutes, with the exception of the minutes already released including audio recordings, remain confidential. In addition, all audio recordings more than 18 months old having been put into writing and approved, may be destroyed." Board Policy #2.201 - Closed Session

The following Closed Session Minutes have been reviewed for approval:

Minutes for Approval – October 2019

January 26, 2019

April 30, 2019

May 6, 13, & 20, 2019

June 3 & 17, 2019

July 15, 2019

August 12 & 26, 2019

September 9, 2019

Audio to be Destroyed – October 2019

November 20, 2017

December 4 & 18, 2017

January 22, 2018

February 3, 5, & 26, 2018

March 5, 12, & 19, 2018

April 9, 2018

Motion by Mr. Devereux, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the closed session minutes with the need for confidentiality still existing as to all or part of closed session minutes

and, therefore, all Closed Session Minutes, with the exception of the minutes already released including audio recordings, remain confidential. In addition, all audio recordings more than 18 months old having been put into writing and approved, may be destroyed. 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.

9. Other Business – Student Disciplinary Cases (Board Policy #7.190 – Student Conduct)

A. Student B

This matter was before the Board on whether to expel Student B for the term of one semester - the remainder of the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year. While serving the expulsion, Student B will have the opportunity to enroll in an alternative education program.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the expulsion for Student B for the term of one semester – the remainder of the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year. 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.

10. Work Session – Contracts over \$25,000

A. Contract Renewal - Financial Operations – Support and Licensing for Workforce Time Clocks

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the attached proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Workforce Software in the amount of \$93,959.75 and requests 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 2019-2020 School Year.

11. Work Session – Change Orders (Board Policy 4.164 – Construction Contract, Bidding, Awards, and Payments).

A. Change Order - Plant Operations - Elgin High School Electrical Service Main - Project #235

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the attached change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order with Associated Electrical Contractors in the amount of minus \$38,005.90. This credit will be applied to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Mrs. Porter, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of October 7, 2019, at 8:07 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 21st day of October, 2019.

Susan E. Kern

President

Myra B. Rodger

Secretary