

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 9, 2019

The video of the September 9, 2019 meeting can be found here:
[September 9, 2019, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:32 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. Board member Porter was not present for this meeting.

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 6:34 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made at 6:50 p.m. by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

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 Assistant Attorney Luis Rodriguez. The following administrators were also present: Steve Burger, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Lela Majstorovic, Dr. Ushma Shah, Dr. Robin Barraza, Kinasha Brown, Dale Burnidge, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Amanda Giacalone, Bruce Phelps, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, and Lauren Stewart. 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. Best High School

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognized Bartlett High School for being named to U.S. News & World Report's Best High Schools list for 2019. U.S. News & World Report awards high schools with gold, silver and bronze medals, using gold medals to reflect the greatest level of college readiness. Bartlett High School earned a silver medal, ranking 86th in Illinois and 2,303 in the nation. The Best High Schools list was developed using a college readiness index

that considers data points such as performance on state-required exams, the percentage of students passing at least one Advanced Placement exam and graduation rates. Bartlett High School has a graduation rate of 94 percent, well above the 68 percent to be eligible for a medal.

B. Summer Reading Challenge Winners

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognized Sycamore Trails Elementary School for winning the 2019 U-46 Summer Reading Challenge. This year Sycamore Trails Elementary School won for having the largest percentage of students who completed the summer reading program, with approximately 29.34 percent of the elementary school's students participating in the program. Wayne Elementary School won for having the largest increase in summer reading finishers from last year.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – 2019-2020 School District U-46 Budget

A. Opening of Public Hearing

B. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

C. Close of Public Hearing

3. Strategic Plan Report

A. Alternative Placement Programming

Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, Dr. Barraza, Coordinator of Student Discipline, Ms. Giacalone, Assistant Director of Compliance, and Ms. Stewart, Assistant Principal of Specialized Student Services provided a report regarding Alternative Placement Programming.

School District U-46's Alternative Placement Programming includes DREAM Academy, DREAM Co-op, Regional Safe Schools Program (New Beginnings: High School), and RSSP/New Beginnings Co-op. The objectives of these programs include returning students to their home school, to a postsecondary program, or an adult education program; providing a Student Success Plan and transition plan for each student; and follow-up monitoring of each student for at least two semesters.

New to the District this school year is the Phoenix program which is a credit recovery program which aims to help students who have deficient credits to complete graduation requirements, transition to a post-secondary program, or transition directly to employment. The Phoenix program also provides a Student Success Plan and transition plan for each student.

Central Schools currently serves students in the District with IEPs and is an alternative education site that provides students with a smaller environment to succeed academically and to learn and practice appropriate social skills in a safe, therapeutic setting. Central

Schools' programming includes the Student Work Experience Program (SWEP), Center House and Transition Programming.

School District U-46 also utilizes private placement in private therapeutic day schools as part of the continuum of special education services. The objectives of private placement include providing access to more intensive interventions to meet academic, functional, and social emotion needs of students; developing appropriate skills to increase access to post-secondary education opportunities; developing appropriate skills to increase access to employment; and developing skills to increase access to housing opportunities.

The District is currently working to implement an Interim Alternative Educational Setting which would include 3 academic model classrooms (K-2, 3-5, 6-8) and would be supported by a program director, social workers, behavioral specialists, and additional U-46 staff. The objectives of this programming include behavior maintenance for a set interval, decreased aggression in the school environment, increased completion of classwork and homework, greater compliance with school rules, use of coping skills, and progressing toward goals. The next steps to implement this programming will be discussed in the presentation of the Catapult Learning Proposal.

B. Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) Update

Mrs. Coleman, Executive Director of ACE, Mr. Sikorski, Chair of ACE, Mr. Craig, Mayor of Hanover Park, and Ms. Valdez, Assistant City Manager for the City of Elgin, provided the Board of Education with an update on Alignment Collaborative for Education.

ACE's work to date has included early education preparation; elementary, middle and high school trauma informed care; and educational pathways to post-secondary careers. To date, ACE has recruited 135 business and community partners to support this work. Total resources contributed for FY2018-2019 (excluding operations) totaled \$211,500 including volunteer hours valued at \$105,000; \$96,000 in grant program resources invested in the community; and an EXPLORE and A-Team financial investment of \$10,500.

4. Comments from the Audience

Demitrius Smith stated that he was concerned with school police officers' behavior at Larkin High School and feels that certain kids are being unfairly targeted, including his nephew.

Jeffery Ligon stated that he had similar concerns to Mr. Smith regarding police officers and principals at Larkin High School unfairly targeting students. He stated that his son was suspended for two days for use of "gang signs," and that he believes the assistant principal at Larkin targets certain kids. Mr. Ligon wanted to know what programs or policies are currently in place for students to avoid placement in alternative school.

Ron Milner stated that his daughter was a former student in the early intervention program in the District. Mr. Milner stated that he wanted to praise the District for all of their great work in this area as it has made a difference in his daughter's life and has strengthened her independence and confidence as an adult.

5. Other Business – Board Member and CEO Update

A. Additional Information

Ms. Thommes stated that she and Ms. Kerr were docents for the Elgin Historic House Tour this past Sunday, and it was a great experience.

Ms. Furtek stated that it is Streamwood High School's homecoming week this week, and the powder puff game was kicking off the week.

Ms. Kerr stated that the house that she and Ms. Thommes were docents for on the Elgin Historic House Tour was owned by a former CAC chair.

Mr. Devereux stated that he is scheduled to be the honorary drum major on September 25, 2019 at Bartlett High School and that on September 20, 2019, Mr. Sanders will be the honorary drum major at Bartlett High School.

B. FOIA Request – 5

Mr. Sanders, Chief Executive Officer, reported on the requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

6. Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting - August 12, 2019
- C. Termination of Danielle V. Chavez - Noon Hour Supervisor
- D. Termination of Yadana Arroyo Contreras – Paraeducator
- E. Termination of Paul Le - Bus Driver
- F. Termination of Patrick D. Risper – Paraeducator
- G. Termination of Leslie Vega – Secretary
- H. Resolution Authorizing Individuals to Act on Behalf of Plan
- I. Contract Renewal - School and Community Relations – Blackboard
- J. Proposal - Specialized Student Services/Information Services - Technology Purchase
- K. Proposal - Curriculum and Instruction - Title I Technology Phase I Purchase
- L. Occupancy Permits - 25

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Consent Agenda of September 9, 2019, items A through L, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

7. Discussion/Action

A. Itemized Bills – September 9, 2019

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the list of itemized bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$6,429,974.37.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the list of itemized bills of September 9, 2019, in the amount of \$6,429,974.37 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

B. Minutes of Board Committee Meeting – 8/12/2019 Board of Education Finance Committee Minutes

Administration recommended the Board of Education accept the minutes of the August 12, 2019 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Devereux, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Minutes of the Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting of August 12, 2019 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

8. Other Business – CAC Update

Mr. Sanders stated that the CAC General Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elgin High School Library.

9. Other Business

A. School District U-46 2018-2019 Business Bid Update

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, provided an update regarding the business bid process.

Board Policy 4.060 Purchasing/Purchasing Authority states that all purchases for supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$25,000 shall be published as a bid per the school code. Any repair, maintenance remodeling, renovation, or single project that exceeds \$50,000 will also apply to the bidding requirements. The business bid process includes creation of the specifications (including prevailing wage requirements), creating a legal ad, a “go live date” for the bid, question and answer dates, a pre-meeting date (if required), evaluation criteria, and identifying an evaluation team. The Senior Business Official sends out public notice to all participating vendors of the District’s decision of the bid award. If there is a contract to be executed with the vendor, the Senior Business Official will work with the appropriate department to finalize the contract. If there is prevailing wage requirement, the vendor will be required to submit a detailed certified payroll for each invoice for payment of services. The certified payroll is verified that it is meeting the state’s published amount for that type of work.

10. Work Session – Resolutions

A. Resolution Adopting School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Resolution Adopting School District U-46’s Budget, July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Adoption of the budget resolution will be requested at the September 23, 2019 Board of Education Meeting.

11. Work Session - Contracts Over \$25,000.00

A. Contract Renewal - Early Learner Initiatives: One Hope United Elgin Child and Family Resource Center

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, and Ms. Ondera, Director of Early Learner Initiatives presented the proposal summary. 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 FY20 Preschool For All Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2019-2020 School Year.

B. Contract - Deputy Superintendent of Instruction - Catapult Learning

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, presented the summary proposal. Administration recommended approval of the three-year contract with Catapult Learning not to exceed the amount of \$1,004,400.00 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, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 fiscal years.

Catapult Learning is an interim alternative educational setting which will provide students with core academic instruction for elementary and middle school students aligned with U-46 curriculum and Illinois standards. The majority of funds allocated for this program will go toward the personnel needed for implementation.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of September 9, 2019, at 9:02 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 23 day of September, 2019.

/s/ Susan E. Kerr //

President

/s/ Miguel A. Rodriguez //

Secretary