

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

March 1, 2021

**The video of the March 1, 2021 meeting can be found here:**  
[March 1, 2021, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board Members answered roll call: John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

Donna Smith arrived at 5:02 p.m.

Ms. 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 or employees; review of closed session minutes; and individual student matters.

The motion was made at 5:02 p.m. by Ms. Noland, and seconded by Ms. Owens. 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 was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 5:32 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, 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 Special Work Session began at 5:36 p.m.

Present in-person for the business session were Superintendent Tony Sanders, Board members John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr, Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez, and student Board member Olivia Howell. Board member Eva Porter participated in the meeting virtually via Zoom. The following administrators were also present at the District's central office: 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. Present for the meeting via Zoom were other administrators and members of the public.

1. Special Work Session
  - A. Learning Sciences International

Mr. Toth, Chief Executive Officer of Learning Sciences International, presented to the Board of Education.

Mr. Toth discussed the following:

- How classroom teaching has changed over time;
- Keeping pace with the changes in technology and the world at large to adequately prepare students;
- How the role of the student/teacher has improved over time, but the roles have not fundamentally altered to keep pace with the changing world;
- New skillsets needed for the new age economy - students need to be doing most of the work in problem solving, innovating, creating, working as a team, directing own work (as opposed to the teacher), and how this environment allows all students to flourish in the classroom;
- Benefits of moving from a teacher-centered classroom to a student-centered classroom to a team-centered classroom - all areas of students see growth; and
- Student agency as the key to accelerating learning.

Mr. Sanders asked Mr. Toth to walk the Board through some of the metrics and data surrounding this practice. Mr. Toth stated that the key piece is measuring core instruction, and that there are scientific indicators aligned to measure this, which are apparent just in walking through classrooms. Rigor diagnostics allow principals to see if professional development is working. The Board agreed to send additional questions to Mr. Sanders, to be addressed in a future presentation.

The Regular Business Session resumed at 7:02 p.m.

Ms. Kerr noted that Covid-19 Executive Order 68, which extends modifications to the Open Meetings Act and permits public bodies to meet remotely through electronic means, is still in effect.

Ms. Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A. Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) Update

Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Dr. Gilbert, Coordinator of Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services, provided the Board of Education with an update on Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS).

Objectives of the presentation:

- Understand disproportionality and its impact on School District U-46 African Americans; and
- Identify School District U-46's action steps in addressing disproportionality.

African American students in the District were found to be six times more likely (or greater) to be eligible for special education services under the disability category of emotional disability (across 4 consecutive years).

CEIS: Coordinated Early Intervening Services (Voluntary) Services provided to students K-12 who are not currently identified as needing special education or related services, but who also need additional academic and/or behavioral supports to succeed in a general education environment.

CCEIS: Comprehensive CEIS (Involuntary) Services provided to students 3 years through 12th grade who are not currently identified as needing special education or related services but who also need additional academic and/or behavioral supports to succeed in a general education environment AND includes children currently identified as needing special education or related services within the disproportionate group identified.

U-46 is considered CCEIS.

#### Timeline of Required CCEIS Action Steps

##### 2016 -2017

- ED Eligibility Training Internal Audit of 4 Critical Components of ED Evaluation Process
- Collaboration with MTSS initiated
- Pathway Behavior Interventions Plans are developed and revised with associated professional development
- District-Wide community resource fair to strengthen community partnership.

##### 2017-2018

- Internal Audit Continued
- Initial finding of disproportionate representation by ISBE received
- Plans to transition from an effort only within Specialized Student Services to a District-Wide approach continued.

##### 2018-2019

- CEIS Team Created
- CEIS Meetings initiated
- Pre-Referral Intervention Manual purchased
- Original CEIS plan written and submitted to ISBE
- Internal data review of schools that identify students with an ED eligibility higher rate
- Professional development on equity and SEL supports.

##### 2019-2020

- ISBE Disproportionality Training attended
- Revisions of CEIS plan by CEIS Committee with feedback from superintendent, cabinet and SEC
- Job descriptions created for coordinator and other positions in the plan
- Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluated and selected
- District MTSS Committee Involvement
- SEL resources purchased.

### 2020-2021

- CEIS Committee expanded RFP awarded to Consultant hired to conduct root cause analysis
- Coordinator hired Focus Groups and Surveys completed
- Summer learning opportunity identified with planning and implementation
- Ongoing cross-departmental meetings.

The following resources and supports will include, but are not limited to:

- One-on-one support with our CEIS Coordinator and future CEIS staff
- Family Engagement Liaison to serve as liaison between school and parents
- Potential student summer learning opportunities based on data and selected criteria
- Support with School Improvement Plan integration
- Fall 2021 professional development and additional resources based on root cause analysis outcomes
- Fall 2021 collaboration with district consultant, Virtuoso Education Consulting.

### 3. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

### 4. Other Business – Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

#### A. Additional Information

Ms. Kerr stated that she wanted to thank Sheila Downs, Bruce Phelps, and Jeff Prowell for giving her a tour of Plant Operations, the Warehouse, and Transportation, and that the new transportation facility is impressive.

Ms. Howell gave an update on the Student Summit that took place last week stating that there were 22 breakout rooms, and conversations included the topics of student voice, equity, and instruction. The group is currently working on gathering the data and breaking it down to figure out what next steps are needed. Ms. Howell stated that there will be a presentation to the Board in April with their findings.

Mr. Sanders stated that last week an informational session was held for first time Board candidates, and a session for student advisor candidates was held this evening. Mr. Sanders stated that he also wanted to recognize John Heiderscheidt, as this would be his last Board meeting before his retirement. Mr. Sanders thanked Mr. Heiderscheidt for all of his efforts over the years, and thanked him for his service to the District and for his friendship over the years.

Mrs. Smith stated that she wanted to extend a thank you to Mr. Heiderscheidt, and added that former Board members are also appreciative of his efforts over the years.

Ms. Kerr extended her thanks to Mr. Heiderscheidt for all the work he has done over his years with the District.

5. Consent Agenda – Mr. Sanders

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – February 22, 2021
- C. Bid - Plant Operations - Ellis Middle School Lintel and Window Replacement Project #427
- D. Bid - Plant Operations - Transportation Make Up Air Unit Replacement Project #2061
- E. Bid - Business Services - Chromebook Age and Obsolescence Replacement

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the consent agenda items A-E, 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 7-0.

6. Discussion/Action – Mr. Sanders

A. Itemized Bills – March 1, 2021

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 \$3,360,525.17.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the itemized bills in the amount \$3,360,525.17. 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. 2021-2022 School Calendar

Mr. Sanders provided the Board of Education with an update on the proposed calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar, 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. HR Resolutions

In order to follow state guidelines that allow for staff dismissal up until 45 days before the end of the school year, the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources annually presents personnel categories that are eligible for possible dismissal. Depending on the budget situation and when programs and classes are determined for the next school year, some of these individuals may be rehired providing they have proper licensure. While the Board of Education takes this action very seriously, dismissal consideration is customary at this time of year in order to follow state requirements.

The following Resolution was presented: - (Board Policy 5.206 - Reduction in Certified Staff Work Force) – Resolution Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers (2117)

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Resolution Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers (2117), 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 (Board Policy 2.152 – Advisory Committees to the Board

A. Additional Information

Ms. Kerr stated that the Board Candidate Forum is being held this coming Thursday at 7 p.m.

8. Work Session – Mr. Sanders

A. 2021-2022 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

The 2021-2022 Board of Education Meeting Schedule was presented to the Board. Ms. Owens stated that she would like to highlight the Saturday meeting date on January 22, 2022 so it does not get missed.

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

A. Contract - Equity and Innovation - Equity Audit

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, Dr. Lance, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, and Mr. Lindholm, Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives, presented the contract renewal and were available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Curriculum Management Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$163,250.00 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 - School and Community Relations - Website Consultant

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, Mrs. Fergus, Director of School and Community Relations, presented the contract renewal and were available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Ellen Kamps for one year in the amount of \$65,000.00 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.

C. Contract Renewal - Financial Operations/Human Resources - Workforce Software Annual Support and Licensing Update

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the contract renewal and were available to respond to Board questions. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Workforce Software in the amount of \$49,945.00 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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

10. Work Session – Bids/Proposals (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

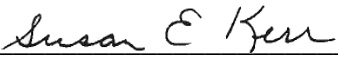
A. Bid - Plant Operations - Lowrie Elementary School - Library Relocation Project-Lead Abatement, Demolition, and Asbestos Abatement, Project #1177

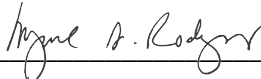
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, will present the attached proposal summary and will respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends award of the low bid meeting specification to High Efficiency Professional Abatement, Inc. in the amount of \$34,500.00, and requests authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of March 1, 2021 at 8:30 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 8th day of March 2021.

  
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President

  
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Secretary