

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

February 22, 2021

**The video of the February 22, 2021 meeting can be found here:**  
[February 22, 2021, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 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, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

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 6:01 p.m. by Ms. Noland, and seconded by Mrs. Porter. 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 6:49 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, 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 public business session began at 7:00 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.

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 stated that in-person Board members were following safety protocols of being spaced six feet apart, wearing masks, and limiting the number of people in the Board room. Ms. Kerr stated that an overflow room was available for additional seating.

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

1. Accent of Achievement - Mr. Sanders

A. Subject Illinois Music Educators Association's (ILMEA) All-State Musicians

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognizes students who were named All-State and All-State Honors Musicians by the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA). These students include: Jackson Baker, Band Trumpet - Larkin High School; Mark Berg, Chorus Bass II (3rd Place Composition, Vocal Ensemble) - South Elgin High School; Sandro Calero, Chorus Tenor II- South Elgin High School; Ben Dobbeck, Jazz Band Trombone - Larkin High School; Caden Grogan, Band Tenor Saxophone - South Elgin High School; Aria King, Future Music Educator - Bartlett High School; Ariana Mattos, Orchestra Violin - Larkin High School; Jacob Pangilinan, Chorus Bass I - South Elgin High School; Miguel Rodriguez, Band Flute - Larkin High School; Kyle Saengdara, Orchestra Harp - Larkin High School; Ziona Tharakan, Chorus Alto I - Bartlett High School; and Gauri Yadav, Honors Chorus Alto II - Bartlett High School.

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

A. Elementary Math Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Ms. Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Ms. Ingente, Math Coordinator, provided the Board of Education with an update on elementary math.

K-6 Mathematics Goal: • Analyze the effectiveness of elementary math curriculum, resources, and instruction. • Implement one or more solutions identified to increase math achievement. • Present the plan and report to the Board of Education on progress.

2019 Hanover Research Survey: • Eureka Math Staff Survey • Understand perceptions about Eureka Math • Learn about staff experiences • Determine where to target professional development efforts • Eureka Math Focus Groups • Understand experiences with the use of Eureka Math • Determine beliefs regarding the impact of Eureka Math.

2019 Hanover Survey Results: • Action Item 1: Provide training and resources for differentiation • Reteaching strategies • Supporting English Language Learners • Supporting struggling students • Supporting high achieving students • Action Item 2: Provide time and support with planning and pacing • Action Item 3: Provide mandatory professional development opportunities for staff who have not received specific sessions.

Research From Other Districts Districts similar in size and demographics: • Successful implementation of Eureka Math • Seeing significant gains in student achievement. What they attribute their success to: • Eureka Math resource is their curriculum • Teachers do not supplement • Implement as written • Site-based coaching model • Base level of

professional development for teachers • Extensive professional development for coaches and administration.

Next Steps Toward Improvement 2020-2021: • Provide professional development about pedagogy and differentiation for teachers • Using Exit Tickets to guide instruction • Hone the Concept Development • Lesson Customization

Next Steps Toward Improvement 2021-2022: • Continued planning and research for a site-based support model including Professional Learning Communities and an Instructional Coaching Model • Support and professional development for monitoring common assessment data to drive instructional design and improve student outcomes • Support and professional development for administrators and teachers related to identified priority standards.

B. Professional Development Update

Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Ms. Fellows, Teacher Leader for Professional Development, provided the Board of Education with an update on Professional Development.

Big Changes since 2019-2020 School Year: - Change in Professional Development (PD) Hosting - Wisdomwhere to Canvas Catalog - In-person PD to Combination of Synchronous sessions via Zoom and Asynchronous Learning.

Spring 2020: Run Online PD via Zoom and Wisdomwhere; Begin to explore Catalog as a possible tool.

May/June 2020: Catalog functioning but not yet in use; Teaching and Learning team's goal was to use Catalog for New Teacher Orientation (NTO) but use Wisdomwhere for August and September PD to reduce change for existing staff members.

July/August 2020: NTO hosted online. The decision to start in distance learning moves all PD for 2020-2021 to Canvas Catalog.

August 2020: - Now All PD posted in Canvas Catalog, Evaluation forms completed in courses, Asynchronous training on multiple subjects available.

What drives PD offerings?: - Staff input - Whole Staff Surveys in March, April, and September of 2020 - Secondary Staff Surveyed after December Hybrid PD - Feedback from Individual PD Sessions - PD Committee - Instructional Priorities and Needs - Culturally Responsive Teaching - Distance Learning Playbook - Curriculum and Curricular Resources - Purchase of New Technology Tools or Major Technology Shifts (Canvas).

Our Next Steps: Revising/Replacing the Four Square Exit Ticket Rationale: With a more targeted form, future PD planning will be more directly informed by educator feedback.

The New Form Should be: • Outcome oriented (Did the PD cause growth?) • Action steps (What plan does the teacher have for bringing this learning into the classroom?) • A mix of qualitative and quantitative feedback • Possible questions about what outcomes teachers would like to see addressed in their next PD session  
Timeline for this work: Trials during the Spring 2021 and new International Organization for Standardization (ISO) form to be used during 2021 NTO and 2021-2022 school year.

3. Public Comments

Darlene Castelvechi, a teacher in the district, raised concerns about a crematorium being built in the vicinity of Lowrie Elementary School. Ms. Castelvechi stated that she attended the zoning meeting, and their report misrepresented the effects crematorium toxins have on the surrounding environment. Ms. Castelvechi urged the district to speak on this issue on behalf of its teachers and students at Lowrie.

Lauren Francois, a parent in the district, stated that the district needs to increase its in-person instruction time, as other area schools have done so successfully. Ms. Francois stated that the hybrid model is creating a gap in learning, and this is increasing among the most vulnerable populations. Ms. Francois stated the district needs to let the public know if it intends to start next school year in hybrid so families can plan accordingly.

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

A. Additional Information

Ms. Howell stated that the Student Summit would be taking place virtually this Wednesday. Some topics will include student safety, equity, and instruction. Ms. Howell stated that over 200 students from all of the district's high schools would be in attendance.

Mrs. Porter stated that she had the opportunity to read to a classroom over Zoom at Century Oaks Elementary in recognition of Black History Month. Mrs. Porter stated that this Thursday she would be attending Wende Kelly's class at Hilltop Elementary to do a Q&A session which will then be turned into a biographical piece to share with younger students. Mrs. Porter stated that she also attended the DLR group this past Wednesday, and the discussion was informative.

Mr. Sanders stated that IASB is actively seeking sponsors for new legislation. One item going forward in Spring Session is the possibility of allowing Board meetings to meet in an electronic format long-term, as long as certain criteria is met. Mr. Sanders also thanked Advocate Sherman, VNA, Jewel-Osco, and the Greater Elgin Family Care Center for their efforts in vaccinating U-46 staff. Mr. Sanders also thanked Jeff Judge and health services for their vaccine coordination efforts.

Ms. Kerr stated that she attended an IASB webinar with IHSA, and the emphasis of the meeting was making spring sports a priority this year, as these sports were dropped last spring. Ms. Kerr stated that the situation is evolving with the COVID metrics.

Ms. Owens stated that she visited Streamwood High School and Canton Middle School a few weeks ago, and it was great to be visiting in person.

**B. FOIA Requests**

Mr. Sanders stated there were nine (9) FOIA requests that the District has responded to since the previous Board meeting, and the responses are available on the Board book and would be made available on the District's website.

**C. Overview of Strategic Plan Update**

Mr. Sanders stated that Learning Sciences International was available for a work session with the Board next Monday. This session would give the Board additional insight into how things can be measured differently in terms of the strategic plan, and could help with the process of reworking metrics.

Ms. Owens asked when committee meetings will begin being scheduled.

Ms. Kerr stated that the Board could get through next week's session for more insight, and then begin the process of reaching out to administration to begin scheduling.

Mr. Devereux noted that it is important to understand the scope of this exercise, which is to work within the existing strategic plan to make modifications, not to completely overhaul it.

**5. Consent Agenda – Mr. Sanders**

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – February 8, 2021
- C. RESOLUTION abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for 2020 to pay debt service on the \$66,000,000.00 School Bonds, Series 2003B, of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois
- D. Contract Renewal - Financial Operations/Human Resources - MUNIS Software Annual Support and Update Licensing
- E. Bid - Plant Operations - Business Services HVAC Replacement Project #2060
- F. Change Order - Plant Operations - Bartlett High School Dectron Pool Unit Replacement Project #205
- G. Change Order - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Auxiliary Gym Flooring Replacement Project #313

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the consent agenda items A, B, D, E, F, & G, 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.

Ms. Kerr read Item C - Resolution abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for 2020 to pay debt service on the \$66,000,000.00 School Bonds, Series 2003B, of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, into the record.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the consent agenda item C, Resolution abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for 2020 to pay debt service on the \$66,000,000.00 School Bonds, Series 2003B, of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, 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 – February 22, 2021

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the attached bills. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$7,282,133.32.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the itemized bills in the amount \$7,282,133.32. 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 Fees

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the 2021-2022 School Fees, 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. Board Agreements

The Board of Education discussed the Board Agreements.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Board Agreements, 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.

D. Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Ellis Middle School Fire Alarm Control Panel Replacement

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions

from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Johnson Controls in the amount of \$37,415.00, and requested 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.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Ellis Middle School Fire Alarm Control Panel Replacement, 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

Larry Bury stated that a Board Candidate Forum would be hosted during CAC's regular membership meeting on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be hosted via Zoom and also live streamed. An overview of the responsibilities of the Board of Education would be given, and an hour of the meeting would be spent on questions to the Board candidates. Mr. Bury also stated that CAC is running a logo design contest for CAC's new name – Community Advisory Council. The contest is open to everyone, and CAC will be accepting submittals through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Entries can be submitted to the FACE committee at [face.u46@gmail.com](mailto:face.u46@gmail.com). The FACE Committee will select the finalists, and members of the CAC committees will vote to choose a design winner.

8. Other Business – Mr. Sanders

A. January Financial Report

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

8. Work Session – Mr. Sanders

A. 2021-2022 School Calendar

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

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

A. Bid - Plant Operations - Ellis Middle School Lintel and Window Replacement Project #427

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to FH Paschen, SN Nielsen and Associates, LLC. in the amount of \$722,500.00, and requested 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.

B. Bid - Plant Operations - Transportation Make Up Air Unit Replacement Project #2061

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Trico Mechanical Services, Inc. in the amount of \$126,890.00, and requested 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.

C. Bid - Business Services - Chromebook Age and Obsolescence Replacement

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Bhatia, Assistant Buyer/Asset Management Manager, presented the attached proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to CDW Government LLC. in the amount of \$2,266,008.20, 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.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of February 22, 2021 at 8:45 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 1st day of March 2021.

Susan E Kerr  
President

Myra D. Rodgers  
Secretary