

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

February 28, 2022

The video of the February 28, 2022 meeting can be found here:
[February 28, 2022, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:04 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: John Devereux, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

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, 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; 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 5:05 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to move to open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Dr. Tony Sanders, Chief Legal Officer Trisha Olson, Board members Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr. Board member John Devereux participated remotely via Zoom. The following administrators were also present at the District's central office: Dr. Josh Carpenter, Dr. Kerry Foderaro, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Teresa Lance, Lela Majstorovic, Dr. Ann Williams, Brian Lindholm, and Bruce Phelps. Present for the meeting via Zoom were other administrators and members of the public.

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

1. Accent of Achievement - Dr. Sanders

A. 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: Nicole Kamarat,

Chorus Soprano I - Bartlett High School; Philip Vu, Chorus Bass I - Bartlett High School; Abby Juson, Chorus Alto II - Bartlett High School; Eric Fox, Chorus Tenor II - Bartlett High School; Dinah Garner, Chorus Soprano I - Bartlett High School; Nathan Lopez, Chorus Tenor I - Elgin High School; Shaun Tupaz, Chorus Bass II - Elgin High School; Madeline Conter, Chorus Alto I - Elgin High School; Ariana Mattos Cruz, Orchestra Violin - Larkin High School; Jackson Baker, Orchestra Trumpet - Larkin High School; Katherine Wynn, Composition - Larkin High School; Jacob Pangilinan, Chorus Bass I - South Elgin High School; Kiera Moore, Chorus Alto II - South Elgin High School; Nathan Shue, Chorus Bass I - South Elgin High School; Mark Berg, Chorus Bass II - South Elgin High School; Alejandro Diaz, Chorus Tenor II - South Elgin High School; Elijah Clarke, Chorus Bass II - South Elgin High School, and Saul Castaneda of Sunnydale Elementary School for first place in state for his age group for his composition.

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

A. Update on COVID Mitigation Strategies

Dr. Sanders, Superintendent, Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Mr. Judge, Supervisor of Health Services, provided the Board of Education with an update on the COVID Mitigation Strategies.

Mr. Lindholm stated the District has moved to a mask recommended environment as of February 23, 2022, and the Appellate Court ruling affirmed the ability of local school districts to implement mitigation strategies. Mr. Lindholm stated mask requirements will be contingent on local metrics, and the District will recommend but not require masks as long as the community spread is not substantial. Mr. Lindholm stated that on February 25, 2022, the CDC issued new guidance regarding requiring masks on school buses and other vehicles. Mr. Lindholm stated the District is working to implement a mask recommended environment for school buses, athletic vans, driver education vehicles, and taxis.

Mr. Judge stated that symptomatic positive cases will require a negative non-home test to return to the building, as well as being fever free for 24 hours. If the testing option is not taken, the individual may return after a 10-day quarantine. Mr. Judge noted that the District's plans have been submitted to county health departments and were met with positive feedback.

Mr. Lindholm stated an updated FAQ for visitors would be available on the District's website in the coming weeks.

3. Public Comments

Joey D'Alessio stated that it has been proven that cloth masks do not work and N95 masks need to be fitted properly in order to be effective. Mr. D'Alessio stated that students need to see a teacher's mouth for speech annunciation and to learn properly. Mr. D'Alessio questioned the District's use of COVID relief funds.

Rebecca Englese stated that her 6-year old was suspended for improperly masking, and this suspension needs to be repealed. Ms. Englese stated the decision making by the District has been reckless, disregards the law, and is a liability.

Christine Baumert stated that her child's school has not been following the "Right to Play" law which requires 30 minutes of recess per day. Ms. Baumert stated taking away recess to punish children is illegal, and lunch staff are threatening children regularly.

Melissa Varner stated that the District did not properly implement her child's 504 plan during the pandemic, and that she would be filing a complaint with the Illinois State Board of Education, and that the Board continues to disregard children's due process rights.

Agnieszka Bajorek stated she cannot support the mask terrorism in U-46, as there are threats that masks can be brought back. Ms. Bajorek stated the District has turned a deaf ear to the wishes of parents and students.

Brooke Kafka asked for a response from the Board on their official position on the Appellate Court order. Ms. Kafka stated it is important to understand where the Board sits on these issues, and they should be leading and not following.

Amanda Clark stated that she was displeased by the "inappropriate" picture that was posted on Dr. Sanders' Twitter, and that her son was put in a detention room by himself for violation of the mask policy.

Kerene Tilton stated that her 5-year old was suspended from school for improperly wearing his mask, and that the suspension has since then been rescinded and his forced absence has been labeled as excused. Ms. Tilton stated the District denied her child's doctor recommended exemption for masking.

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

A. Additional Information

Ms. Pearce stated that the annual Student Summit would be held on March 3rd, and over 200 students throughout the District would be participating. Ms. Pearce stated that interviews for the next student advisor have begun and there are some really strong candidates. Ms. Pearce also thanked administration for all of their support to students this year.

Ms. Kerr congratulated Dr. Sanders for completing his doctorate.

B. FOIA Responses

Dr. Sanders stated there were nineteen (19) 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.

5. Consent Agenda – Dr. Sanders

- A. Personnel Report and Workers’ Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – February 7, 2022
- C. Termination of Ayesha Razi – Paraeducator
- D. Bid - Plant Operations - Asbestos Three-Year Reinspection and Management Plan Update
- E. Bid - Plant Operations - Boiler Replacement - Coleman Elementary School Project #684, Heritage Elementary School Project #877, Independence Center for Early Learning Project #1052, Ron O'Neal Elementary School Project #1402, and Wayne Elementary School Project #1552
- F. Building Permits - 6

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the consent agenda items A-F, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

6. Discussion/Action – Dr. Sanders

A. Itemized Bills – February 28, 2022

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the list of bills. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$11,917,117.48.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the list of bills, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

B. 2022-2023 School Fees

Dr. Sanders, Superintendent, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. The Optional Student Insurance costs are listed as "TBA" because the insurance company does not publish new rates until April or May. Administration recommended approval of the School Fees for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the 2022-2023 School Fees, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

C. Approval of the ETA Tentative Agreement

Ms. Olson, Chief Legal Officer, presented a proposed 2022-2023 One-Year Extension Tentative Agreement with the Elgin Teachers Association (ETA). Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Agreement.

Motion by Mrs. Porter, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the ETA Tentative Agreement, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

Ms. Bettis, ETA President, thanked the Board of Education for their approval of the Tentative Agreement, and recognized the collaborative efforts of the bargaining teams.

D. Bid - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Elgin High School Emergency Fire Water Main and 8" Sewer Repair

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended payment to Diemer Plumbing and Excavating, Ltd. in the amount of \$57,697.73 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Bid - Plant Operations - Emergency Repair - Elgin High School Emergency Fire Water Main and 8" Sewer Repair, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

E. Resolution Relative to the Appointment of School District U-46 Treasurer

Administration reviewed the Resolution and were available to answer any Board questions. Administration recommended the Board approve the Resolution Relative to the Appointment of School District U-46 Treasurer, effective February 28, 2022.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Resolution Relative to the Appointment of School District U-46 Treasurer, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

F. Notice to Remedy - Teacher E

This matter was before the Board whether to approve the Notice to Remedy for Tenured Teacher E (Steven Burke).

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Notice to Remedy for Tenured Teacher E (Steven Burke), as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

G. 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. Administration recommended approval of the following Resolution: Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers (2221).

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the Resolution Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

7. Other Business – CAC Update (Board Policy 2.152 – Advisory Committees to the Board

A. Additional Information

Chanda Schwartz stated that the March 3, 2022 General CAC meeting will include a presentation from ACE, and that Specialized Student Services is hosting a virtual presentation on March 8, 2022 titled “Identifying, Supporting and Advocating for your Twice-Exceptional Child.” Ms. Schwartz stated that information for CAC meetings is on the District’s website.

8. Other Business – Dr. Sanders.

A. January Financial Report

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

9. Work Session – Dr. Sanders

A. 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 School Calendars

An update was provided to the Board of Education on the proposed calendars for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years.

B. U-46 Educational Facility Master Plan Charge Statement from the Board of the Education

Dr. Sanders, Superintendent, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, reviewed the U-46 Educational Facility Master Plan Charge Statement from the Board of Education and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

Ms. Martin asked how the District plans to move forward in this work in engaging with community.

Mr. Lindholm stated administration will be facilitating a committee with the community, and there will be open sessions to learn more about process and to offer feedback.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Teaching and Learning/ELL Department - Roosevelt University Dual Language Teacher Leadership Program and Bilingual/ESL Endorsement Teacher Cohort

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Pirtle, Director of English Language Learners, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Roosevelt University in the amount of \$217,005.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to Title III Funds. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 fiscal years.

B. Contract - Plant Operations - Consultant

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Dr. Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Sheila Downs of Vegetation, LLC. in the amount not to exceed \$65,000.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

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

A. Bid - Business Services - Elementary Supply Kits

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, 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 EduKit, Inc. in the amount of \$1,041,784.12 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

B. Bid - Business Services - Fiber Build

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, 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 Metronet for five years with additional one-year renewals for years six through ten at the district's discretion in the amount of \$2,341,800.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be

charged to the Educational Fund. This expenditure will be reimbursed by E-rate at 80% for a five-year total of \$1,873,440.00 with the total cost to the school district of \$468,360.00. The cost will be included in the budgets for the 2023-2024 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

- C. Bid - Plant Operations - Plant Operations Parking Lot Reconstruction Project #2064
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc. in the amount of \$628,777.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

- D. Bid - Plant Operations - Kimball Middle School Site Paving Project #481
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc. in the amount of \$979,777.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

- E. Bid - Plant Operations - Larkin High School Partial Roof Replacement Project #270
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Preservation Services, Inc. in the amount of \$577,000.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

- F. Bid - Plant Operations - Centennial Elementary School Playground Asphalt Replacement
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Accu-Paving Company in the amount of \$54,770.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

- G. Bid - Plant Operations - Otter Creek Parking Lot Resurfacing Project #1300

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc. in the amount of \$819,777.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

H. Bid - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Gym Floor Refinish and Bleacher Replacement Project #318

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim 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 Northwest Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$912,400.00 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 2021-2022 fiscal year.

I. Bid - School Safety and Culture - Safety Mirrors

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, Mr. Bosh, Coordinator of School Safety, and Mr. McKenzie, Security Operations Manager, 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 Global Equipment Company, Inc. in the amount of \$50,917.58 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

J. Proposal - Educational Pathways - Computerized Numerical Control (CNC) Lathe Purchase

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Briesemeister, Director of Educational Pathways, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Haas Factory Outlet in the amount of \$88,313.50 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Perkins Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

K. Proposal - Specialized Student Services – Boardmaker

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Dr. Satterwhite, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Tobii Dynavox, LLC. in the amount of \$32,319.00 for Boardmaker 7 standard

group licenses and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Federal IDEA Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

12. Work Session - Change Orders (Board Policy 4.164 - Construction Contracts, Bidding, Awards, and Payments)

A. Change Order - Plant Operations - 1019 East Chicago Street Interior Buildout and Conference Room Furniture Purchase Project #2058

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order from Happ Builders, Inc. in the amount of minus \$188.80.

B. Change Order - Plant Operations - Ridge Circle Elementary School Domestic Water Piping Replacement Project #1375

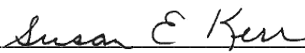
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order from Northwest Contractors, Inc. in the amount of minus \$63,352.47.

C. Change Order - Plant Operations - South Elgin High School Beacon Academy TV Production Studio and Mobile Classroom Renovation/Update Project #277

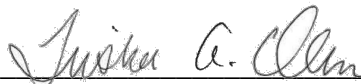
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Waldau, Interim Director of Plant Operations, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order from Hargrave Builders, Inc. in the amount of minus \$104,430.82.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of February 28, 2022 at 8:27 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 28th day of February, 2022



President



Secretary