

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 26, 2022

The video of the September 26, 2022 meeting can be found here:
[September 26, 2022, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: John Devereux, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr. Board member John Devereux participated remotely via Zoom. Board member Eva Porter was absent.

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 6:31 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made at 7:04 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to move to open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Present for the business session were Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders, Chief Legal Officer Trisha Olson, Board members Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr, and Student Board member Angelica Harris. Board member John Devereux participated remotely via Zoom. The following administrators were also present at the District's central office: Dr. Josh Carpenter, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Teresa Lance, Lela Majstorovic, Mark Moore, Dr. Ann Williams, and Brian Lindholm. 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 on Achievement - Dr. Sanders

A. Office of State Representative Anna Moeller Board of Education Recognition

State Representative Anna Moeller presented the Board of Education members certificates of recognition recognizing the hard work the Board of Education members have provided

especially considering the unforeseen hardships school districts have endured during the pandemic.

2. Strategic Plan Report - Dr. Sanders (Board Policy 2:20 - Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification)

A. Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Ms. Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, presented the Strategic Plan Updates to the Board of Education and were available to answer any Board questions.

3. Public Comments.

Kori Duncan commented on the proposed budget, taxes, and spending increases. Ms. Duncan noted that District enrollment continues to decline, but the budget continues to increase. Ms. Duncan stated that she has concerns that proficiency rates are below 50%.

Linda Sabo, commenting on behalf of a U-46 teacher, noted concerns with the budget increase as the District's enrollment continues to decline. Ms. Sabo stated that proficiency concerns are being blamed on the pandemic. Ms. Sabo stated that the Board works for the community, and needs to take into account families' concerns.

Agnieszka Bajorek stated that she has concerns with budget increase, enrollment decrease, and low proficiency scores.

Jackie Gustafson stated that she has concerns with the list of schools that have opted out of the sex education curriculum required by the State, as U-46 was not included on that list. Ms. Gustafson stated that she would like to know what information U-46 is using to inform their decision, as she was not made aware that District families had been consulted regarding this topic.

Rick Newton commented on the District's low proficiency scores, and stated that the District's focus should be on accountability. Mr. Newton stated that the Board needs to be aware of their true clients – the constituents.

Tracy Smodilla commented on the increase in the tax levy, and the economic pressure being placed on all members of the community. Ms. Smodilla stated that there is an absence of fiduciary duty, and lack of accountability to the U-46 community.

Corina Gomez commented on low proficiency scores, U-46 Rising, and student learning loss.

Crystal Cristescu commented on U-46 Rising, rigor walks, and rigor and equity concerns.

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

A. Additional Information

Ms. Harris stated that she attended the Superintendent's Advisory Council's first meeting last week, and there has been a positive response to the school year.

Dr. Sanders thanked everyone who attended the open houses for Unite U-46, and noted that open houses will be occurring again on September 29th. Dr. Sanders stated that the U-46 Educational Foundation's 5K will take place on October 8th, and that there is still time to register for the event. Details on all events can be found on the District's website.

B. FOIA Requests

Dr. Sanders stated there were five (5) 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. Other Business – ACE and CAC Update (Board Policy 2.152 - Advisory Committees to the Board)

A. Community Advisory Council (CAC) Update

Chanda Schwartz stated that the next CAC General meeting will take place on October 6th at the U-46 Welcome Center and via Zoom. Information will be available on the District's website.

B. Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) Update

Ms. Coleman, Executive Director of ACE, and Mr. Wright, Governing Board Member of ACE, provided the Board of Education with an update on Alignment Collaborative for Education. Mrs. Coleman and Mr. Wright were joined by the following students who were a part of the summer internship program: Troy Cai and Deeya Patel of Bartlett High School, Andrew Callas Cortez of Larkin High School, and Joel Jamie of Streamwood High School.

6. Consent Agenda – Dr. Sanders

A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases

B. Minutes of Board Meeting – September 12, 2022

C. Resolution Supporting the Teacher Retirement System Supplemental Savings Plan

D. Bid - Plant Operations - Tefft Middle School Second Floor Hallways, Stairwells, and Bathroom Ceilings Painting Project

E. Proposal - Plant Operations - Equipment Purchase - Playsets

F. Proposal - Plant Operations - Snow Removal Equipment Purchase

G. Proposal - Plant Operations – Judson University Mutual Use Agreement

H. Proposal - Plant Operations – South Elgin Parks and Recreation Intergovernmental Agreement

I. Contract - Office of Schools – Graduation Ceremonies at the NOW Arena

- J. Contract - Office of Schools – Illinois Principals Association Coaching and Mentoring
- K. Contract - Office of Schools – Northern Illinois University Principal Preparation
- L. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of Ms. Beverly Britton and School District U-46
- M. Approval of Mediation Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of Ms. Linda Snyder and School District U-46
- N. Occupancy Permits - 35

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the consent agenda items A-M, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 6-0.

7. Discussion/Action – Dr. Sanders

A. Itemized Bills – September 26, 2022

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Services, 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 \$13,986,596.20.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the list of bills, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 6-0.

B. Resolution Adopting School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the resolution and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution Adopting the School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023.

Ms. Thommes clarified that the District has been saving for future capital projects for a number of years. Mr. Burnidge stated that the District has had surplus fund balances, and those balances will be used to fund future projects.

Ms. Kerr commented on District spending, and noted that Evidence Based Funding has helped to address some inequity budgetary concerns – particularly reduction in class size, full day kindergarten, addition of support staff and counselors, 1:1 technology, and building and transportation maintenance. Ms. Kerr noted that from 2014-onward, the District has received the highest financial recognition score. Ms. Kerr noted that the District has taken on the cost of \$48 million in expenditures to ease the burden on tax payers.

Ms. Owens noted that the budget's executive summary does a great job defining key concepts and explaining points of interest.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the resolution, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 6-0.

C. Minutes of Board Committee Meetings

The Board reviewed the August 22, 2022 Board Finance Committee meeting minutes.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the minutes, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 6-0.


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

A. Subject Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - One Hope United

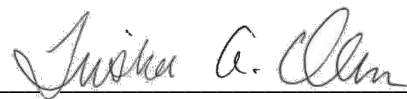
Dr. Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with One Hope United in the amount of \$357,500.00, and requested authorization for district administration to executive related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the FY23 Preschool for All Grant. The cost is included in the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2022 at 9:03 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 3rd day of October, 2022



President



Secretary