

## Highlights from the May 1, 2023 U-46 Board of Education meeting

The Board of Education meeting was held at 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin.

During Accent on Achievement, the Board presented Ms. Barbara Bettis, president of the Elgin Teachers Association, a Proclamation of Appreciation in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week. The Board also presented a Proclamation of Appreciation on behalf of all U-46 nurses in recognition of National School Nurse Day on May 10, 2023.

There was a [Strategic Plan presentation](#) from the High School Network. Mr. Tennison, Executive Director of the High School Network, gave an overview of Continuous Improvement Plan goals and Rigor Walk data. Ms. Bush, Larkin High School Principal, Ms. Means, Larkin High School Instructional Coach, Ms. Smith, Larkin High School English Language Arts Teacher/Instructional Coach, Mr. Demovsky, Bartlett High School Principal, and Mrs. Allanson, Bartlett High School Social Science Teacher, reviewed the work going on at their schools.

There was one public comment by a speaker concerned about school safety.

The Board approved in the Consent Agenda and during Discussion/Action:

- Personnel report of 5/1/23 and Board meeting minutes of 4/24/23.
- Bills in the amount of \$5,938,425.
- The final 2022-23 School Calendar.
- Minor updates to three board policies
- Bids, contracts, building permits, proposals, and change orders discussed at the previous Board meeting.

The Board of Education recognized Angelica Harris, the outgoing Student Board of Education member. The fifteenth Student Board of Education Member, Asraar Ahmed Siddiqui, was sworn in by the Board of Education Secretary.

Ms. Olson, Chief Legal Officer, presented the [Canvass of Votes](#) from the April 4, 2023 election and announced the winners.

Board members John Devereaux and Eva Porter were recognized by the Board for their years of service.

Newly elected board members Kate Thommes, Sue Kerr, Chanda Schwartz, and Samreen Khan were sworn in. The Board then elected officers. Sue Kerr was elected president, Melissa Owens vice-president, and Kate Thommes secretary pro-tempore.

During the Work Session the Board reviewed

- Updates to eleven board policies

- A resolution authorizing attorneys from Franczek P.C., outside counsel for the District, to intervene on the District's behalf relating to property tax appeals.
- The purchase of elementary school supply kits.
- A bid to move Tefft Middle School furniture to accommodate summer construction projects.
- A contract for asbestos abatement related to the renovation project for Dream Academy and the Central Schools Program.
- LitCamp resources from Scholastic for summer school.
- The purchase of science curriculum resources from National Geographic, Houghton Mifflin, and Savvas.
- The purchase of social studies curriculum resources from National Geographic and Savvas.
- A contract renewal with TurnItIn.
- A three-year contract renewal with IStation, a literacy intervention tool.
- Contracts with EBSCO and Journal Storage for expanded database resources for high school students.
- A three-year contract renewal for Follett Destiny Library System.

A link to the video of the Board meeting can be found [here](#). A link to the complete Board meeting packet can be found [here](#).

There will be a special board meeting recognizing the top 2% of high school graduates on Monday, May 8, at 6:00 p.m., at South Elgin High School. There will be a special board meeting discussing the superintendent search on Wednesday, May 10, at 5:00 p.m., at 355 E. Chicago St., Elgin. The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m., at 355 E. Chicago St., Elgin.