

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the HOH Conference room in said district on Tuesday evening, November 19, 2024, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Gallinson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

Beth Bazer
Christine Beeftink
Matt Cassidy
Jennifer Gallinson
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

Absent: DeShawn Arms

Also present were Dr. Jason Pearson, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Maria Stavropoulos, Director of Technology; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Dr. Scott Meek, NBJH Principal; Dr. Ginny Hiltz, Greenbriar Principal; Erica Garza, Meadowbrook Principal; Maria Eck, Westmoor Principal; Chrissy Yonaites, Recording Secretary; Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech; Betsy Decker, Greenbriar Teacher; Claire Greene, NBJH Library Specialist and Mindy Rench, Greenbriar Teacher.

Public Attendees: None.

TAX LEVY HEARING

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Tax Levy Hearing be opened at 7:04 p.m.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato presented to the board. Ms. Donato started with an overview of the process of property taxes before explaining how tax levy calculations are made.

The district must adopt a tax levy to receive local property tax revenues. Property taxes

account for 82% of district revenues. Tax cap laws limit the amount that can be collected by 5% or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is less, over the prior year, plus new growth.

Ms. Donato noted overestimating new property growth to ensure the district captures all revenues that will be available. The \$48.6 million levy for 2024 is a 9.97% increase from the 2023 levy. This levy funds the 2025-26 school year. The actual amount the district will receive is called an extension and is set by Cook County. The extension is expected to be about \$2.4 million or 5.43% more than in 2024. Ms. Donato expects the district will receive approximately \$46.6 million.

Board members asked questions at that time to further their understanding.

There were no public questions.

At 7:16 p.m., after a review and there being no further questions, it was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the hearing on the 2024 Tax Levy close.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2025-26 School Calendar

A calendar was presented for the 2025-26 School Year. The first day of school will be August 20 and the last day will be June 2 unless emergency days are used. In the past, the district aligned its calendar with District 225. This year, the high schools are starting a week earlier but the district is continuing with the same starting week. Winter and spring breaks align with the high school calendar.

Illinois School Report Card

Dr. Pearson noted that the Illinois School Report Card was shared in the board packet. Later in the meeting, there was a presentation highlighting student achievement.

Building Tomorrow Together Update

Dr. Pearson updated the Board on the work already completed for Building Tomorrow Together and the timeline for upcoming milestones. At the time of the meeting, the community survey had 880 responses. Two hundred responses were from non-current school families. Dr. Pearson noted that there is a Special Meeting on December 18 where the Facilitating Team will present recommendations to the Board.

Enrollment Report

The enrollment report was included in the board packet. October's enrollment totaled 1,824 students.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2024.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: Member Bazer. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Cassidy and seconded by Member Bazer that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of October 2024, in the amount of \$1,879,830.99 and covered by check numbers 67973 through 67985 and deduction check numbers 67986 through 68006 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated November 19, 2024;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of November 2024, in the amount of \$1,853,856.21 and covered by check number 68007 through 68017 and deduction check numbers 68018 through 68027 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated November 19, 2024.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$1,596,205.55 and Warrants listed as Numbers 63766 through 63887, and the following voids: 63608, 63726 and 202400203, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated November 19, 2024.

Personnel Report: Contract Changes, Employment of Staff, Leaves, Resignations and Dismissals

Staff Resignations, Retirements and/or Terminations

Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Georgia Hawkins	Classroom Asst.	WM	Resignation	11/8/24

Staff Leave of Absence				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Collin Sylvano	4th Gr Teacher	WM	Parent Leave	1/9/25

2025-26 School Calendar

The 2025-26 School Calendar was approved. The first Teacher Institute day is Monday, August 18 and the first day of school for students is Wednesday, August 20. The last day of school is tentatively scheduled for June 2.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Financial Packet

The new financial software (Qmlativ) was implemented last week. The financial reports included in the packet are from the new system. Ms. Donato, Chief School Business Official, provided the finance report for the month ending October 31, 2024 and the list of bills paid in October was included in the board packet. After four months of the new fiscal year, the monthly variance report shows 16.3% of the 2024-25 budget expended and 44.1% of budgeted revenues collected.

Food Service Sales

NBJH food services for the month of October totaled \$54,414. Organic Life's operating statement has a surplus of \$8,879 for the month. The year-to-date operating surplus is \$9,327.

Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit

The District's auditing firm, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP, will present the financial statements for Fiscal Year 2024 at the January 2025 board meeting. A digital copy of the audit report will be shared as soon as it is available.

Member Silver-Schack moved, and Member Bazer seconded, that the Board of Education approve the Finance Report for October 2024.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

2024 Tax Levy Adoption

The Tax Levy Hearing was held at the beginning of the meeting.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Bazer that the 2024 Certificate of Tax Levy be adopted. The levy is attached to and made part of these minutes.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

2024 Tax Levy Extension Resolution

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Beeftink that the Board approve the 2024 Tax Levy Extension Resolution, as presented.

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Northbrook School District No. 28, County of Cook,

State of Illinois the following:

1. The Cook County Clerk is hereby directed to extend from the 2024 Levy no less than the amounts indicated as follows:

Education \$41,565,000

Building (Operations & Maintenance) \$3,850,000

Transportation \$1,642,000

IMRF \$710,000

Social Security \$835,000

Working Cash Funds \$ 0

2. Should any further reduction be necessary under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act, such reductions should be taken from the Education Fund.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services, stated the district is hiring for one classroom assistant and an interim kidcare director.

STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services, informed the Board about summer programming. It will start two days after school ends and run through the month of June. Programming will include Academic Boost, Extended School Year and Summer Enrichment.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Annual Student Achievement Update

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kris Raitzer and Director of Learning Michelle Jackson presented the 2024 Student Achievement update to the Board.

District 28 student proficiency in English language arts and math are among the highest in the state according to recently released data from the 2024 Illinois Assessment of Readiness. The IAR is one of the assessments the district uses to monitor student success. The IAR is a standardized assessment that measures student knowledge and skills by grade level in grades 3-8. Dr. Raitzer noted it is a challenging assessment; the benchmark for proficiency is the fourth highest in the nation.

District-wide, the percentage of students who meet or exceed state standards in English language arts grew three percentage points to 81% in 2024. These results place the district scores in the top 1% in the state. In math, the percentage of students who meet or exceed state standards has been fairly stable for the past three years with a score of 74% in 2024, which also is in the top 1% in the state.

The Illinois Science Assessment, which is administered to 5th and 8th grade students around the same time, shows a 4.3 percent gain, resulting in 86.4% meeting or exceeding state standards. Ms. Jackson explained there were multiple factors that impacted the results. Elementary grades began using a new curriculum last year, Smithsonian Science For The Classroom, which is more hands-on, scientific research-based learning. At Northbrook Junior High, science teachers have also refined assessments to measure how well students apply learned information to new situations.

The principals joined the meeting, each sharing how their teachers analyze student performance, adjust instructional strategies and design student supports based on assessment data.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ms. Donato stated that they are currently looking at summer needs and plans are underway.

LEGISLATION

Member Cassidy stated there were no updates related to education.

POLICY

Previously, the Policy Committee reviewed the recommended changes in PRESS 116 and 117. PRESS 116 included 2:260, 2:265, 5:100, 7:20, 7:185 and PRESS 117 included 2:105, 2:120, 4:30, 4:60, 4:150, 4:170, 5:10, 5:20, 5:90, 5:125, 5:230, 6:60, 6:135, 6:270, 7:10, 7:100, 7:160, 7:180, 7:200, 8:10. All policies were recommended for approval.

PRESS 116 Final Reading and Approval

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board approve the Policies from PRESS 116, as presented.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

PRESS 117 Final Reading and Approval

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board approve the Policies from PRESS 117, as presented.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION

Terry Ryan, Communications Director, discussed the community engagement work and how the district has reached out to the community with postcards, social media posts and texts. The survey closes on Monday, November 25. Ms. Ryan is also working on posting a virtual tour of the buildings to allow more community members to understand the needs of the schools.

There were no FOIA's this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Member Beeftink missed the last meeting but the topics included a clean financial report and an update on District 34 withdrawal plans.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

In

At 8:21 p.m., it was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board of Education go into a Closed Session to discuss the following:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity as authorized by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
- The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

Out

At 9:25 p.m, it was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Member Weinstock that the meeting return to Regular Session.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:25 p.m., Member Silver-Schack moved, and Member Weinstock seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted Aye to adjourn the meeting. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Member Arms. Motion carried.

Beth Bazer, Secretary

Jennifer Gallinson, President

Original: ☒
Amended: ☐

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Business and Support Services Division
(217) 785-8779

CERTIFICATE OF TAX LEVY

A copy of this Certificate of Tax Levy shall be filed with the County Clerk of each county in which the school district is located on or before the last Tuesday of December.

District Name	Northbrook	District Number	28	County	Cook
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Amount of Levy

Educational	\$ 41,565,000	Fire Prevention & Safety *	\$ 0
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 3,850,000	Tort Immunity	\$ 0
Transportation	\$ 1,642,000	Special Education	\$ 0
Working Cash	\$ 0	Leasing	\$ 0
Municipal Retirement	\$ 710,000		\$ 0
Social Security	\$ 835,000	Other	\$ 0
		Total Levy	\$ 48,602,000

* Includes Fire Prevention, Safety, Energy Conservation, Disabled Accessibility, School Security, and Specified Repair Purposes.

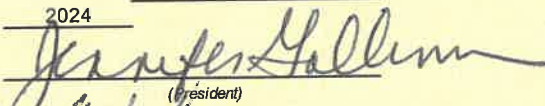
See explanation on reverse side.

Note: Any district proposing to adopt a levy must comply with the provisions set forth in the Truth in Taxation Law.

We hereby certify that we require:

the sum of 41,565,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for educational purposes; and
the sum of 3,850,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for operations and maintenance purposes; and
the sum of 1,642,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for transportation purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for a working cash fund; and
the sum of 710,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for municipal retirement purposes; and
the sum of 835,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for social security purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for fire prevention, safety, energy conservation, disabled accessibility, school security and specified repair purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for tort immunity purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for special education purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for leasing of educational facilities or computer technology or both, and temporary relocation expense purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____
on the taxable property of our school district for the year 2024

Signed this 19 day of November 2024


(President)

(Clerk or Secretary of the School Board of Said School District)

When any school is authorized to issue bonds, the school board shall file a certified copy of the resolution in the office of the county clerk of each county in which the district is situated to provide for the issuance of the bonds and to levy a tax to pay for them. The county clerk shall extend the tax for bonds and interest as set forth in the certified copy of the resolution, each year during the life of the bond issue. Therefore to avoid a possible duplication of tax levies, the school board should not include a levy for bonds and interest in the district's annual tax levy.

Number of bond issues of said school district that have not been paid in full 0

(Detach and Return to School District)

This is to certify that the Certificate of Tax Levy for School District No. 28, Cook County, Illinois, on the equalized assessed value of all taxable property of said school district for the year 2024 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of this County on 2024

In addition to an extension of taxes authorized by levies made by the Board of Education (Directors), an additional extension(s) will be made, as authorized by resolution(s) on file in this office, to provide funds to retire bonds and pay interest thereon.

The total levy, as provided in the original resolution(s), for said purposes for the year 2024, is \$

(Signature of County Clerk)

(Date)

(County)

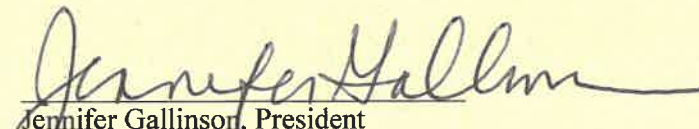
NORTHBROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT 28

TRUTH IN TAXATION

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I, Jennifer Gallinson, hereby certify that I am the presiding officer of Northbrook School District #28, and as such presiding officer I certify that the levy ordinance, a copy of which is attached, was adopted pursuant to, and in all respects in compliance with the provisions of the Illinois Property Tax Code – Truth in Taxation Law, 35 ILCS 200/18-60 through 18-85 (2002).

This certificate applies to the 2024 levy.



Jennifer Gallinson, President
Board of Education

Northbrook School District #28
Cook County, Illinois

Dated this 19 day of November 2024.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING COUNTY CLERK REGARDING TAX LEVY EXTENSION
SUBJECT TO THE PROPERTY TAX EXTENSION LIMITATION ACT

Moved by Silver-Scheck, seconded by Beetink, that the following resolution be adopted:

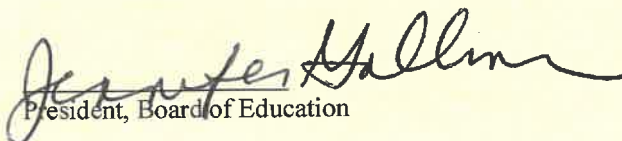
Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Northbrook School District No. 28, County of Cook, State of Illinois the following:

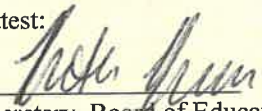
1. The Cook County Clerk is hereby directed to extend from the 2024 Levy no less than the amounts indicated as follows:

Education	41,565,000
Building (Operations & Maintenance)	3,850,000
Transportation	1,642,000
IMRF	710,000
Social Security	835,000
Working Cash Funds	0
2. Should any further reduction be necessary under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act, such reductions should be taken from the Education Fund.

VOTE: Ayes: Members Gallinson, Cassidy, Bazer, Beetink, Winstock + Silver-Scheck
Nays: —
Absent: Member Arms

Northbrook School District 28
County of Cook
State of Illinois


President, Board of Education

Attest: 
Secretary, Board of Education

Signed this 19 day of November 2024