

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

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, April 22, 2025, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Gallinson called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

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

Absent: None

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; Chrissy Yonaite, Recording Secretary and Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech.

District Staff Members: Kerry Edwards, Greenbriar Teacher and Ginny Hiltz, Greenbriar Principal.

Public Attendees: Bobby Agulea and Olivia Agulea

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

A current 5th grade Greenbriar student spoke to the Board about her belief that all of the schools should have Therapy Dogs.

CLOSED SESSION

In

At 6:44 p.m., it was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Member Arms 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).

- Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

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

Out

At 7:04 p.m, it was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Cassidy that the meeting return to Regular Session. All members present voted Aye. Absent: None. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL

When the board returned from closed session, Chrissy Yonaites, recording secretary, called the roll at 7:07 p.m. All Board members were present.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Referendum Update

Dr. Pearson, Superintendent, provided an update on the referendum and next steps.

Terry Ryan, Communications Director, presented a deck providing a summary of the referendum including voter turnout. Ms. Ryan noted that outsourcing Creative Entourage was needed in the process.

Dr. Pearson mentioned more information will be shared in May. The website will be updated with each school having a page with information on upcoming work. The pages will include construction photos and timelapse videos.

On May 20, Dr. Pearson and team will host a meeting for Meadowbrook neighbors to answer questions and listen to feedback.

Board Transition

Dr. Pearson acknowledged the Board member transition. He thanked Matt Cassidy and Jennifer Gallinson for their years of service. He acknowledged the new members, Eve Pfanzerter and Diana Horwitz, who would be sworn in later in the meeting.

Administrator Contracts

Dr. Pearson mentioned that new administrator contracts are under the consent agenda. These contracts range from one to four years. Dr. Pearson also mentioned that there is a contract included for Meghan Dames who will be an Assistant Director of Student Services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board of Education approve the minutes for Regular Meeting on March 11, 2025, Closed Meeting on March 11, 2025 and Policy Committee Meeting on November 14, 2024.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of March 2025, in the amount of \$1,886,377.12 and covered by check numbers 68228 through 68238, 68429 and 68251 and deduction check numbers 68239 through 68248 and 68250, 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 April 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of March 2025, in the amount of \$1,891,245.62 and covered by check numbers 68252 through 68265 and deduction check numbers 68266 through 68283 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 April 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of April 2025, in the amount of \$1,829,353.97 and covered by check numbers 68284 through 68294 and deduction check numbers 68295 through 68304 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 April 22, 2025.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$1,633,156.41 and Warrants listed as Numbers 64460 through 64664, and the following voids: none, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated April 22, 2025.

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

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Laurie Slater	Special Educ Asst	MB	\$22.74/hr	4/7/25
Jazmin Rubi	Custodian	NBJH	\$21.00/hr	4/7/25
Nathan Couty	Long Term Sub	MB	\$298.19/day	4/1/25
Marisa Martin	Special Educ Asst	MB	\$22.85/hr	4/10/25
Grace Sullivan	Classroom Asst	MB	\$19.15/hr	4/14/25
Melissa Newhouse	Classroom Asst	GB	\$19.92/hr	4/14/25
Grace Lombardo	Administrative Asst	NBJH	\$29.50	7/1/25

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Veronica Sanchez	Custodian	NBJH	Resignation	3/17/25
Katherine Chron	Classroom Asst	MB	Resignation	4/4/25
Phoebe Mejia	Special Educ Asst	NBJH	Resignation	4/25/25
Anna Solorio	Speech Lang Pathologist	YE	Resignation	6/3/25
Rina Rosenwasser	Special Educ Asst	WM	Resignation	6/3/25
Randall McClellan	Teacher	NBJH	Resignation	6/3/25
Jailynn Bravo	Special Educ Asst	GB	Resignation	6/3/25

Staff Leave of Absence

Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Sarah Palmer	Spanish Teacher	NBJH	Parent Leave	8/18/25

Staff Lane Changes 2025-26				
Name	Position	Location	Current Salary	New Salary
Brigette Hurst	Instructional Facilitator	MB	M+12-14 \$91,174	M+30-15 \$97,772

Open Closed Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the following closed meeting minutes and approved that they be opened to the public: 05/01/2024, 05/23/2024 and 06/25/2024.

Garden Stipend

The Board approved the Garden Stipend of \$2,587 for the 2025-2026 school year. There are gardens at Westmoor and NBJH.

Administrator Contract Renewals

Multiple Administrators have contract renewals this year. All contracts were provided to the Board ahead of this meeting.

Administrator 2025-26 Compensation

The Board previously reviewed the proposed 2025-26 Administrator Compensation in closed session and was approved in this meeting's consent agenda.

Resolution for Assistant Superintendent Contract

Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent, was approved for a new multi-year contract.

Assistant Director of Student Services Contract

Meghan Dames was approved for the role of Assistant Director of Student Services starting in the 2025-26 school year.

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

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official, reviewed the financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2025 and the list of bills payable since the last meeting. After eight months of the fiscal year, the monthly variance report shows 60% of the 2024-25 budget expended and 62% of budgeted revenues collected.

Food Service Sales

As of March 31, 2025, Northbrook JH cafeteria sales-to-date totaled \$341,771. OrganicLife's operating statement showed a surplus of \$4,519 for the month of March. The year-to-date operating surplus is \$30,077.

Insurance Renewal

Insurance rates for 2025-26 have been finalized. There are changes in the medical and dental plans but there are no increases for life or vision insurance rates.

Optional Student Accident Insurance for 2025-26

The District offers information to families on optional, individual student accident medical insurance, as a convenience to families in need of coverage.

Local, State & Federal Requirements

Since the March Board of Education Meeting, District 28 submitted the following:

- Filed Expenditure Reports for Title I, Title II, Title III, DEA Preschool and IDEA Flow-Through
- Assisted with preparation Medicaid quarterly reports
- Filed Employer's Quarterly Federal & Illinois Withholding Tax Returns (Form 941 & IL-941)
- Filed IL Dept of Employment Security Quarterly Report (UI-3/40) & Multiple Worksite Report
- Filed monthly Bureau of Labor Statistics Report on Current Employment
- Submitted monthly Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Wage Report

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Beeftink seconded that the Board of Education approve the Finance Report for February 2025.

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

FY25 Tentative Amended Budget

Ms. Donato presented the FY25 Tentative Amended Budget for review. There will be a public hearing at the May 27th board meeting, followed by the approval of the amended budget. Ms. Donato said the budget needs to be amended for a variety of reasons including: to align with grant budgets, additional architect costs, increased salary costs

and for compliance with Administrative costs limits.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services stated that he is working on tentative teaching assignments for the 2025-26 school year.

STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services, informed the Board that enrollment for summer programming is trending up and there are more course offerings available this year.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Summer Professional Learning Update

Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning, provided an update on the plans for this year's summer professional learning. There are 36 sessions with many being led by district staff. Staff interest and relevance surveys were used to determine the session topics.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Greenbriar Permeable Paver Repairs

In the previously provided memo, Joel Gallegos, Director of Buildings and Grounds, outlined the proposal to repair the pavers that have settled in the Greenbriar parking lot which is a tripping hazard. The proposed cost is \$20,190.

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board approve the Greenbriar Permeable Paver Repair.

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

Add RPZ Backflow Devices

In the previously provided memo, Mr. Gallegos explained that local plumbing codes require RPZ (Reduced Pressure Zone) backflow devices for all chemical dispensing areas. The total cost for this update is \$16,315.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Bazer that the Board approve the installation of the RPZ backflow devices at each school.

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

Purchase 2025 F-250 Pick-up Trucks

The district is replacing two 2016 pickup trucks this year as they are aging and will require more maintenance repairs in the near future. The current trucks will be sold when new trucks are purchased. The total cost for two new trucks is \$127,088.

It was moved by Member Cassidy and seconded by Member Beeftink that the Board approve the purchase of two new pickup trucks.

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

NBJH Roof Replacement

In the previously provided memo, Mr. Gallegos explained that the roof at Northbrook Junior High is in need of replacement. The roof is over 34 years old. The cost of a new roof is proposed at \$739,929.25 and will come with a 20 year warranty.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board approve the Greenbriar Permeable Paver Repair.

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

LEGISLATION

Member Cassidy mentioned that there is no finalized recent legislation at state or federal level.

POLICY

Mr. Brophy noted that the next PRESS issue is due to drop soon.

COMMUNICATION

Terry Ryan, Communications Director, provided the Board with updates during the Superintendent's report.

There were 17 FOIA's this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Member Beeftink stated that during the last meeting they discussed the upcoming withdrawal of District 34 and the intention of District 225 to also withdraw. Member Beeftink noted the Board needs to monitor this situation as 11 of the 18 member

districts are considering withdrawal.

Dr. Pearson stated the two districts (34 and 225) have very few if any students being provided TrueNorth services. The Superintendents are meeting with Kurt Schneider on April 30. He noted that the district believes in the TrueNorth collaborative however the structure and by-laws need to be reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

President Gallinson spoke to the Board and Administration thanking everyone for their tireless work while expressing her appreciation.

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

There being no further business before the retiring Board of Education, at 7:49 p.m., it was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Members Cassidy that the Board adjourn Sine Die.

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Announcements of the Results

Dr. Jason Pearson read the Cook County Consolidated Election results, which identified the winners of the school board election. The canvas from Cook County Clerk's Office of the April 1, 2025 Consolidated Election for Northbrook School District 28 reported the following have been elected:

DeShawn Arms
Beth Bazer
Diana Horwitz
Eve Pfanzelter

Oath of Office

Led by Member Silver-Schack, all Board members recited the Oath of Office.

NEW BOARD ORGANIZATION

Call to Order

Recording Secretary, Chrissy Yonaite called the organizational meeting to order at 7:55

p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

DeShawn Arms
Beth Bazer
Christine Beeftink
Diana Horwitz
Eve Pfanzer
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

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; Chrissy Yonaite, Recording Secretary and Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech.

District Staff Members: Scott Meek, NBJH Principal

Public Attendees: Kim Yen, Deborah Silver, Neal Silver, Mr. Gallinson and Mr. Schack.

Election of President Pro Tem

It was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Member Weinstock that Member Silver-Schack was appointed to serve as President Pro Tem.

On a voice vote, all members voted Aye. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Election of President

Member Bazer nominated Member Silver-Schack to serve as President for a term of two years. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

There being only one nomination, Member Silver-Schack was elected President by acclamation.

Election of Vice President

President Silver-Schack nominated Member Weinstock to serve as Vice President for a term of two years. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

There being only one nomination, Member Weinstock was elected Vice President by acclamation.

Election of Secretary

President Silver-Schack nominated Member Bazer to serve as Secretary for a term of two years. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

There being only one nomination, Member Bazer was elected Secretary by

acclamation.

Time, Pace and Dates of Regular Meetings

It was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Beeftink that the Board approve the tentative calendar of regular Board meetings for 2025-26. The monthly meeting dates will be the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., with a few standard exceptions. The meeting dates will be posted on the District website.

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

Committee Assignments

President Silver-Schack informed the Board that she will assess committee interest to assist in making committee assignments. Further details will be communicated via email.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m., it was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Member Arms to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted Aye. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Beth Bazer, Secretary

Mara Silver-Schack, President