



Administrative Center · 800 Game Farm Road · Yorkville, Illinois 60560 · 630-553-4382 · y115.org

Yorkville CUSD 115 Board of Education Meeting Summary Monday, June 23, 2025 | Yorkville High School Library

Executive Session:

- *After the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., a motion was made to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity" 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), and "The purchase of 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." 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5).*

Meeting Highlights:

Student Recognition:

- The following students were recognized for their outstanding athletic performance during the June 23, 2025, Board of Education Meeting:
 - **Girls Track & Field:** Courtney Clabough, 2nd Place in Shot Put and 7th Place in Discus in the 3A IHSA State Championship.
 - **Boys Track & Field:** Owen Horeni, 2nd Place in the 800 Meter Run in the 3A IHSA State Championship.
 - **Softball:** Kayla Kersting, 1st Team All-State, Class 4A Softball.

Public Comments:

- No Public Comments.

Board Comments:

- No Board Comments.

Consent Agenda:

- The Consent Agenda included the following:
 - Approved minutes from the May 19, 2025, Board of Education Meeting
 - June 9, 2025, Executive Session

- June 9, 2025, Committee Meeting
- Activities Fund Report for May 2025
- Bills and Claims for May 2025 for \$2,325,521.77
- Bills and Claims for June 2025 for \$3,412,500.70
- 11 FOIA requests
- Destroy the August 21, 2023, Executive Session minutes.
The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Consent/Action Personnel:

- Personnel Committee Report
 - Increase of 2.0 FTE LBS 1 Certified Staff - (1.0 FTE at YMS and 1.0 FTE at YIS)
 - Increase of a 1.0 FTE Certified Staff Member at Grande Reserve Elementary School
- Increase of 2.0 FTE LBS 1 Certified Staff - (1.0 FTE at YMS and 1.0 FTE at YIS)
 - The Student Service Department recommended an additional 2.0 Full Time Certified Employees for the 2025-2026 school year to support an increase at Yorkville Intermediate School and Yorkville Middle School for students with IEP's and required instructional service minutes.

Student Services is requesting an additional 1.0 FTE to support Yorkville Intermediate School in the area of service delivery minutes in both the co-taught and direct, specialized instruction environments.

Student Services is requesting an additional 1.0 FTE to support Yorkville Middle School based on the increase in overall student enrollment. There is a need to increase sections of co-taught courses in order to maintain the 70/30 requirements. The motion was approved as presented.

- Increase of a 1.0 FTE Certified Staff Member at Grande Reserve Elementary School
 - The District Administration recommended the addition of a 1.0 FTE Kindergarten teacher at Grande Reserve Elementary School to support increasing enrollment.

There are currently 4 sections of kindergarten at Grande Reserve Elementary School, and there are 101 students enrolled for the 2025-2026 school year. The addition section would lower current class sizes to approximately 20 students per section. The motion was approved as presented.

- Personnel Report
 - The co-curricular hires, overloads, transfers, resignations, co-curricular resignations, retirements, and leaves of absence were approved as presented.
- Summer School Request to Hire
 - Summer School hires were approved as presented.

Consent/Action Teaching and Learning:

- Teaching and Learning Committee Report
 - Multilingual Assessment Recommendation
 - Yorkville 115 2025-26 Consolidated District Plan & School-wide Plans
 - Elementary Art Curriculum Updates
 - Yorkville High School Course Proposals
 - Yorkville High School Social Science Division Curriculum Updates

- Yorkville High School Instructional Resource: Foods
 - The Yorkville High School team brought forth an additional instructional resource proposal as part of their annual content area work. The current resource for the Foods curriculum is Food for Today ©2010 McGraw Hill (Glencoe). The team reviewed multiple resources for alignment with the district curriculum and the National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS) standards, as well as ease of use and authentic, real-world elements.

The recommended resource is as follows: On Cooking: A Textbook of Culinary Foundations. Author(s): Sarah R. Labensky; Alan M. Hause; Priscilla A. Martel; Seventh Edition ©2025. The motion was approved as presented.

- Multilingual Assessment Recommendation
 - A Spanish Language Proficiency (SLP) assessment is administered once per year annually to students in Grades 1 through 8 who are enrolled in the Dual Language program. This assessment measures a student's Spanish language proficiency in the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Paige De la Cruz, Coordinator of Multilingual Services, brought forth a proposal to transition the SLP from LAS Links Español to Avant STAMP. This recommendation addresses the cost, lengthy administration, and technical difficulties of the current assessment. Avant STAMP is preferred due to its research-based, adaptive nature that provides actionable data for instruction and placement, and its alignment with high school biliteracy pathways.

Licenses are estimated to cost \$22.90 per test. Based on approximately 270 students in the Dual Language Program in grades 2-8 the total cost would be \$6,183. There is no additional cost for scoring the exam. The tests are valid for two years from the date of purchase. This category of assessment is locally funded. The motion was approved as presented.

- Elementary Art Curriculum Updates
 - The current elementary art curriculum, last revised in 2013, has been updated to align with current state and national art standards, which emphasize creating, responding, presenting, and reflecting. With a nearly entirely new elementary art staff since 2013, the department proactively requested a 2024-25 Elementary Art SAC committee to revise the curriculum.

The committee aimed to address several issues: outcomes tied to specific projects rather than broader concepts, developmentally inappropriate content, inadequate scaffolding, and outcomes that inadvertently limited student choice. Key updates include categorizing learning outcomes to directly align with elementary report cards, ensuring developmentally appropriate content, and rephrasing existing outcomes for clarity and understanding. The motion was approved as presented.

- Yorkville High School Social Science Division Curriculum Updates
 - Members of the Yorkville High School Social Science Division engaged in curricular revisions to Civics and Introduction to Business courses. Civics was most recently updated in 2022 in response to state standards, and Business was most recently updated in 2017.

Civics

The Illinois School Code (Public Acts 99-434 and 99-485) mandates one semester of Civics instruction in high schools to help students develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to become competent and responsible citizens. Civics course content must include:

- A focus on government institutions
- Discussion of current and controversial issues
- Service learning
- Simulations of democratic processes

Some of the outcomes in the current YHS course were still aligned with a traditional government curriculum and did not fully meet some of the Civics standards in the state curriculum. Students will practice the core principles of civic engagement, including public speaking, advocacy, and respectful dialogue.

Introduction to Business

The Introduction to Business curriculum has been thoroughly revised to better align with current business practices, essential skills, and industry expectations, serving as the foundational course for the YHS Business pathway. This update ensures students gain a comprehensive introduction to various business fields and related YHS courses, with a new emphasis on Employability Skills. By establishing this course as an introductory prerequisite, other advanced business classes can delve deeper into specialized content, as students will arrive with a foundational understanding of key concepts. This revision addresses the evolving demands of business careers and a greater focus on career pathways in Illinois, streamlining the curriculum sequence by eliminating redundant content and enhancing rigor to better prepare students for future academic and professional success. The motion was approved as presented.

- Yorkville High School Course Proposals

- The Yorkville High School team brought forth the following course update proposals for 2026-27 implementation as part of their annual content area work. Proposed changes go through a review process, including the YHS Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), made up of division chairs, the YHS Building Operations Team (BOT), made up of building administration, and Teaching and Learning Leadership.

Proposed updates include the following:

- New courses: American Law and Criminal Justice, Virtual Enterprise International, and Botany
- Course name changes: Interrelated Cooperative Education (ICE) to Workplace Experience
- Archive: Project Management, Computer Formatting & Apps, and Body Sculpt
- Change in blended status: A portion of English IV sections to parallel English III

Operational costs include a textbook for Botany, along with licensing for Virtual Enterprise International. Potential supplemental costs related to the VE International classroom environment and Botany greenhouse considerations may be incorporated into grant planning. Course name changes, archiving courses, and changes in blended status have no financial impact. The motion was approved as presented.

Consent/Action Finance and Infrastructure:

- Finance and Infrastructure Committee Report
 - Mike Houston, Board of Education Secretary, reviewed the agenda items discussed at the June Committee Meeting for Finance and Infrastructure:
 - Facility Master Plan Update - Studio GC
 - FY26 Preliminary Budget
 - Purchase of Dump Truck
- Treasurer Report
 - Kreg Wesley, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented the Treasurer Report for May 2025: Investment summary for the month end of May 2025, Insurance Fund Statement, May 2025, Treasurer Report, May 2025, Taxes Received, Outstanding State Payments, May 2025 Transition Fees, May 2025, GRES Transition fees for May 2025, and Revenue Expended in May 2025. Mr. Wesley discussed the following highlights:
 - Local revenues are at \$45.5M of the \$79.4M budgeted (57.36%)
 - Investment income is \$2.9M of the \$3.1M budgeted (92.7%)
 - State funds are at \$29.8M of the \$35.5M budgeted (84%)
 - Federal Funds are at \$3.9M of the \$3.8M budgeted (101%)
 - FY25 Net Position for Fund 12: -\$886,322.00

- The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.
- FY25 Budget Amendment
 - In September 2024, Kreg Wesley, Assistant Superintendent of Business, submitted a balanced budget to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). As part of regular fiscal oversight, amendments are sometimes necessary to ensure continued alignment with ISBE requirements and evolving district needs. The Y115 administration recommends initiating a budget amendment process beginning May 19, 2025.

The proposed amendment would allow the district to utilize final audited financial data to ensure compliance with ISBE guidance on administrative cost thresholds and to pre-fund capital expenses associated with the district's temporary structures.

Both the Operations and Maintenance Fund and the Working Cash Fund are projected to close the fiscal year with surpluses.

To support the planned capital expenditures, the administration proposes a series of interfund transfers totaling at least \$5 million:

- \$4 million from the Working Cash Fund (Fund 70) to the Operations and Maintenance Fund (Fund 20)
- \$1 million from the Operations and Maintenance Fund (Fund 20) to the Capital Projects Fund (Fund 60)

These transfers will reduce the Working Cash Fund balance from \$5 million to \$1 million. The Board of Education may consider replenishing this fund through the 2025 Tax Levy, depending on final Evidence-Based Funding allocations. The financial strategy has been reviewed and is supported by Moody's Financial Services. Despite these movements, all funds are expected to remain in good standing as of the fiscal year-end on June 30. The net surplus in Fund 20 will be reduced by approximately \$1 million. The motion was approved as presented.

- Purchase of a Dump Truck
 - The tentative budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year includes the purchase of a dump truck. This dump truck will be a vital part of the Maintenance department, allowing them to complete more tasks in-house. Currently, the District has a landscape dump trailer that is used on a daily basis from working on ball fields to mulching district floor beds to mulching playgrounds, to trimming bushes/trees around the district. The dump truck will not only be used for landscaping purposes but will also be used in remodels or demolitions, hauling off the garbage from sites. The dump truck will be used in snow removal as well to help move snow and salt parking lots quickly.

The proposal was prepared by Haggerty GMC in Villa Park, IL. We have researched multiple other dealerships and Haggerty has the best price in the

area, is able to accommodate the District's type of dump truck needed, and can meet our purchase timeline. The cost for the maintenance dump truck is \$68,000.00, which came in under budget. The motion was approved as presented.

- Facility Master Planning
 - Yorkville Community Unit School District 115 has initiated a comprehensive Facility Audit and Space Needs Study to assess the current condition, utilization, and long-term capacity of district buildings. This proactive effort addresses population growth, evolving educational programs, and community expectations to ensure facilities align with the district's mission and future needs.

The master planning process incorporates data on current facilities, enrollment projections, and space utilization, and is guided by three core priorities: supporting high-quality teaching and learning environments; ensuring fiscal responsibility and operational efficiency; and strategically investing in infrastructure to meet future demands.

The district proposed changes including expanding early childhood education and transitioning all elementary schools to a K-5 model instead of the current K-3. The shift to a true middle school model for grades 6-8 was discussed, with a focus on creating smaller teams to enhance student engagement. Enhancing educational pathways through initiatives like Project Lead the Way, career and technical education (CTE) and dual credit programs were highlighted as ways to better prepare students for future opportunities.

Steering Committee Leadership

A Steering Committee—including community members, district staff, students, and board members—has led the initiative with administrative support and Board guidance. Since October 21, 2024, the committee has convened seven times to review 18 potential options, ultimately narrowing them to four conceptual facility improvement scenarios. Their responsibilities have included: reviewing facility audits and capacity analyses; and evaluating the financial implications of each scenario

Community Engagement

Robust community engagement has been integral to the planning process. Key activities have included: listening sessions at all school sites; districtwide community forums; and two “Feedback in Motion” events.

This engagement was designed to:

- Gather input on facility needs and community priorities
- Promote transparent discussion of educational and financial trade-offs
- Inform the development of the final proposal to be presented to voters

Ongoing community feedback will be critical to identifying a solution that balances educational excellence, equity, and fiscal stewardship.

Timeline

- July 2025 – Community Engagement led by EO Sullivan
- September 8, 2025 – Presentation of financing options
- November 17, 2025 – Board approval of ballot language
- March 17, 2026 – Community Referendum Vote

Financial

The Steering Committee has developed four preliminary facility options:

- Two options maintain the current bond-interest tax rate
- Two options require a tax increase

EOSullivan, the district's public engagement consultant, will lead further outreach to collect stakeholder feedback. This input will help identify the option that best aligns with educational needs, fiscal responsibility, and community expectations.

The board agreed to move forward with the four options and to allow EOSullivan to engage with the community and collect stakeholder feedback. The board will vote on the final language for the referendum in November or December.

Superintendent Communication:

- Dr. Zediker reviewed the board accomplishments for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - Approved the purchase of new property in preparation for a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan
 - The board engaged in several meetings and attended many different listening sessions in support of the Facilities Master Plan
 - Gave the approval for the district to work with a new demographer to get the most up-to-date demographic information for our FMP work
 - Supported administration in short-term solutions for our overcrowding
 - Temporary Structures and Board Policy 7.30
 - Gave approval for the district to work with EOSullivan for PR and messaging for the FMP
 - Gave approval and support for new tennis courts at the high school
 - Continued support for existing facilities with approval for updated hardware and software HVAC system at YHS
 - Middle school Auditorium enhancements
 - Supported the first-year implementation of the Learning and Grading Plan updates, including supporting assessment literacy training and giving feedback to the Teaching and Learning Department.
 - Continued to show support for students and staff across the district by attending athletic, fine arts, and other extracurricular activities and supporting opportunities beyond our district, such as VEX robotics.

- Board approved the move to Diligent and updated transparent processes for our board documents and meetings
- Board engaged in continual self-assessment, working with LUDA and Dr. John Burkey
- Continued to partner with the city of Yorkville. Great example of shared resources working together for the betterment of all Yorkville citizens (Intergovernmental Agreements; SRO's; Park District; Camera IGA, planning for continued growth within the city and district boundaries)
- Supported recruitment and retention efforts to ensure that high-quality personnel are attracted to Y115 and our exemplary staff stay in Y115.
- Hiring Incentives, paid student teaching, and AU partnership

The regular Board of Education meeting adjourned.

Upcoming meetings:

- There will be no Committee meeting in July.
- The Regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Yorkville High School Library.