

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, JULY 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, July 22, 2025, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Silver-Schack called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

DeShawn Arms
Beth Bazer
Diana Horwitz
Eve Pfanzelter
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

Absent: Christine Beeftink

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; Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications; Chrissy Yonaite, Recording Secretary and Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech.

Public Attendees: Andy Horne and Erin Horne.

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

A resident spoke to the Board regarding their concerns about the Meadowbrook gymnasium.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Construction Updates

Dr. Pearson, the Superintendent, provided the Board with an update on the District's construction projects. Groundbreaking for the Meadowbrook Gymnasium is scheduled for mid-August. Dr. Pearson noted there is a planning meeting with DLA Architects scheduled for this week. There will be a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting soon to discuss the plans for Greenbriar, Northbrook Junior High and Westmoor. Following these meetings, the District will provide updates to the community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Bazer and seconded by Member Arms that the Board of Education approve the minutes for Regular Meeting on June 24, 2025.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Arms 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 June 2025, in the amount of \$1,908,315.61 and covered by check numbers 68426 through 68439 and deduction check numbers 68440 through 684454 and 68466-68477 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 July 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of July 2025, in the amount of \$335,320.34 and covered by check numbers 68478 through 68481 and deduction check numbers 68482 through 68487 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 July 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for Summer School 2025, in the amount of \$238,502.06 and covered by payroll advices 9001601526 and 9001601634 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 July 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for 7/15 Summer Checks 2025 , in the amount of \$1,377,794.66 and covered by check numbers 68446 through 68447, 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 July 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for 7/31 Summer Checks 2025 , in the amount of \$1,369,426.21 and covered by check numbers 68448 through 68449 and deduction check numbers 68452 through 68458 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 July 22, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for 8/15 Summer Checks 2025, in the amount of \$1,355,663.72 and covered by check numbers 68450 through 68451 and deduction check numbers 68459 through 68465 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 July 22, 2025.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$669,517.03 and Warrants listed as Numbers 64961 through 65052 and the following voids: 202400388 and 202400390, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated July 22, 2025.

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

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Jose Gaytan Ocampo	Custodian	NBJH	\$20/hr	7/7/25
Jesus Espinoza	Custodian	MB	\$20/hr	7/14/25
Sofia Brown*	3rd Gr Teacher	WM	BA+00-01 \$55,395	8/18/25
Rachelle McCracken*	7th Gr Science	NBJH	MA+12-14 \$93,064	8/18/25
Ashley Grazutis - LTS*	Spanish Teacher	NBJH	BA+00-01 \$55,395	8/18/25
Kristin Samuels*	2nd Gr Teacher (1-Yr Position)	MB	MA+30-15 \$97,772	8/18/25
Lauren Gleason*	S-L Pathologist	NBJH	MA+30-04 \$70,075	8/18/25
Laura Coan*	S-L Pathologist (part-time)	WM	MA+30-13 \$91,679	8/18/25
Elena Longman*	S-L Pathologist	WM	MA+30-15 \$97,772	8/18/25
Jenifer Hope*	School Psychologist	NBJH	MA+30-06 \$73,952	8/18/25
Linda Vaananen	Classroom Asst.	MB	CA-15 \$22,453	8/18/25

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Amy Capocchi	EC YE Assistant	WM	Resignation	6/13/25
Casey Garcia	Administrative Asst.	DO	Resignation	7/15/25
Claire Greene	Media Specialist	NBJH	Resignation	7/2/25
Frederick Yoon	Science Teacher	NBJH	Resignation	7/8/25

Staff Leave of Absence				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Killeen Nass	5th Grade Teacher	MB	Parent Leave	12/19/25

FY2026 Instructional Assistant Compensation

FY2026 salaries for instructional assistant personnel groups were approved.

FY2026 KidCare Before & After School Program Director Rate Range

The Board approved the recommended increase of the Kidcare Director pay range to \$42.00 - \$45.00 per hour.

Destruction of Closed Session Recordings 18 months or older per Illinois State Law: 9/26/23, 10/24/23 and 11/28/23

The Board approved the destruction of the following closed sessions: 9/26/23, 10/24/23 and 11/28/23.

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

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official, reviewed the financial reports for the month ending June 30, 2025 and the list of bills payable in July.

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

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

Adoption of the Tentative Budget

During the Committee of the Whole meeting, Ms. Donato presented the FY2026 Tentative Budget.

Member Bazer moved, and Member Arms seconded that the Board of Education approve the FY26 Tentative Budget.

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

Phone System Support and Maintenance Contract

Ms. Donato recommended the renewal of the phone system support and maintenance contract with B & B Networks for \$13,078.

Member Pfanzelter moved, and Member Weinstock seconded that the Board of Education approve the phone system support contract with B & B Networks.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services stated there are currently 24 vacancies in the District.

STUDENT SERVICES

No report.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

No report.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ms. Donato gave an overview of the main summer projects. The roof work at the junior high is underway, the bus lane work at Westmoor starts this week and the paver replacement at Greenbriar is scheduled for the week of August 4th.

LEGISLATION

No report.

POLICY

PRESS 118 Final Reading and Approval

Policies in PRESS 118 were recommended for approval by the Policy Committee. These included updates to policies 2:260, 4:15, 4:80, 5:10, 5:20, 5:60, 5:100, 6:150, 6:235, 7:10, 7:20, 7:50, 7:60, 7:70, 7:180, 7:185, 7:190, 7:200, 7:210, 7:250, 7:270, 7:310 and 7:340. It also included a new policy 7:255 and policy 2:265 was rewritten.

Member Horwitz moved, and Member Bazer seconded that the Board of Education approve the policies from Press 118 as presented.

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

COMMUNICATION

Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications mentioned the latest issue of Update 28.

There were 4 FOIA's this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Member Weinstock shared information from the last TrueNorth Board meeting. Other districts are also giving their notice to withdraw as an option if needed. He mentioned the TrueNorth Superintendent resigned and the head of Human Resources is the acting superintendent while an interim superintendent is hired.

Dr. Pearson reiterated that we will continue to provide the needed services of our students and all is status quo for the 2025-26 school year.

Resolution for the Proposed Withdrawal of District 27 from the TrueNorth Cooperative 804

District 27 is withdrawing from the TrueNorth Cooperative and part of that process is obtaining approval from each of the member districts.

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Arms seconded that the Board of Education approve District 27's withdrawal from TrueNorth.

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

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:23 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: Beeftink. Motion carried.

Beth Bazer, Secretary

Mara Silver-Schack, President