

**School District U-46**  
Elgin, Illinois

May 5, 2025

**The video of the May 5, 2025 meeting can be found here:**

[May 5, 2025 BOE Meeting](#)

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Avenue, Elgin, Illinois.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens.

President Owens requested a motion to move into Closed Session to discuss individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public, or legal counsel for the public body; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; an internal audit, control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews; collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; review of Closed Session Minutes; and individual student matters.

The motion was made at 5:31 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Khan joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

The cabinet was excused from Closed Session at 6:38 p.m.

A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to move into open session. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, Melissa Owens, Superintendent, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, and Chief Legal Officer, Trisha Olson. Also present was Student Board member Mahitha Ratakonda. The following were also present at the District's central office: Dr. Annette Acevedo, Celia Banks, Michele Chapman, Naul Conejo, Sheila Downs, Tracey Jakaitis, Jacquelyn Johnson, Patty Kenyon, Brian Lindholm, Beth McKinney, Mark Moore, Doreen Roberts, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Scott Sternal, Brian Tennison, Jacob VandeMoortel, Dr. Ann Williams, and Dr. Frank Williams.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Dr. Jose M. Torres.

1. Accent on Achievement - Dr. Johnson

A. Teacher Appreciation Week

In recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Week, the U-46 Board of Education presented a Proclamation of Appreciation on behalf of all U-46 teachers for delivering inspiration, knowledge and motivation in an effort to create exemplary citizens. School District U-46 has 2,600 teachers serving nearly 34,000 students from 11 communities across Kane, Cook, and DuPage counties. The role of a teacher is to provide knowledge, to build a welcoming environment, to mentor students, and to be a role model while continuing to grow in their individual knowledge. Our educators demonstrate a commitment to education and a love for teaching and learning.

B. National School Nurses Day

In recognition of National Nurses Week, the U-46 Board of Education presented a Proclamation of Appreciation on behalf of all U-46 nurses in recognition of National School Nurses Day on May 7, 2025. School District U-46 encourages all members of our community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our school nurses for their dedication and devotion to their work.

2. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Other Business - Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Ms. Schwartz spoke about the first annual I am LEAD Gala. She stated it was a great event.

Ms. Kerr stated she had the opportunity to attend the Streamwood High School Student Government event with Ms. Martin and President Owens. She was very impressed.

President Owens thanked the staff from Streamwood High School and all the Administrators that participated in the Student Government event.

Dr. Johnson recognized the teachers that were nominated for Kane County Educator of the Year: Cathy Daker, Jessica Ventrella, Katie Finn, Jennele Murphy, Rebecca Pesch, and Kelly Plate.

4. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 Kimball Middle School Project Abatement - Phase 1B and 1C
- C. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 Kimball Middle School Project - Electrical and Technology Infrastructure
- D. Bid - Food and Nutrition Services - Food Service Equipment, Bid #344
- E. Bid - Plant Operations - Warehouse Roof Replacement, Project #2073-25
- F. Proposal - Plant Operations - Picnic Pavilion Phase Two: Elgin High School Memorial Field
- G. Proposal - Curriculum and Instruction - Character Strong
- H. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Britannica Education Subscription
- I. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Learning A-Z
- J. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Scholastic Classroom Magazines
- K. Contract - Curriculum and Instruction - Better Lesson
- L. Building Permits - 11

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-L as presented. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

5. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – May 5, 2025

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the itemized bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$17,793,813.14.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$17,793,813.14. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Elementary Physical Education (PE) Waiver

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Tracey Jakaitis, Coordinator of Student Wellness and Physical Education, were available to answer any Board questions.

The requested waiver will allow for elementary Physical Education to take place less than the required 3 days per week in grades 1-6 due to physical space constraints.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the waiver allowing for elementary Physical Education to take place less than the required 3 days per week in grades 1-6 due to physical space constraints. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

C. Resolution Amending the Current Administrators' Employment Contract

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer, and Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, were available for questions regarding the resolution. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve this Resolution Amending the Administrators' Contract and Benefits Document.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Resolution Amending the Administrators' Contract and Benefits Document. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

D. Resolution Declaring the Need to Continue Usage of Temporary Classrooms

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, was available for questions regarding the Resolution and updated summary list of mobile classrooms that will be used in the FY 2026 school year. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution Declaring the Need to Continue Usage of Temporary Classrooms.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Resolution Declaring the Need to Continue Usage of Temporary Classrooms. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

E. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 New Elgin Middle School

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, was available for questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended awarding the following bidding packages to the lowest responsible bidders, in the total amount of \$67,427,140.00, in addition to the award of Alternate 1 in the amount of \$16,068.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents:

<b><u>Recommended Bidder</u></b>	<b><u>Low Base Bid</u></b>
Premium Concrete, Inc.	\$ 4,870,000.00
Midwest Masonry, Inc.	\$ 6,985,900.00
Affordable Welding US, Inc.	\$ 5,824,000.00
Straub Builders, Inc.	\$ 2,818,450.00
Straub Builders, Inc.	\$ 2,578,450.00
Straub Builders, Inc.	\$ 1,497,450.00
Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal Inc.	\$ 4,144,700.00
H&Z Fireproofing Inc.	\$ 57,884.00
C.A.D. Contract Glazing Inc.	\$ 2,454,500.00
Security Builders Supply Co.	\$ 1,142,190.00
LJ Morse Construction Co.	\$ 4,198,845.00
K&J Painting, LLC	\$ 573,680.00
E&K Companies	\$ 1,449,750.00
H2I Group	\$ 260,050.00
CCI Flooring Inc.	\$ 163,700.00
H2I Group	\$ 508,175.00
Straub Builders, Inc.	\$ 236,450.00
H2I Group	\$ 500,197.00
Great Lakes Hotel Supply Co	\$ 766,694.00
TK Elevator Corp.	\$ 165,000.00
Absolute Fire Protection Inc.	\$ 588,400.00
CR Leonard Plumbing	\$ 3,446,750.00
Flo-Tech Mechanical Systems	\$ 6,969,000.00
Hy-Power Electric Company	\$ 12,350,000.00
Berger Contractors, Inc.	\$ 1,297,000.00
Abbey Construction Co., Inc.	\$ 759,925.00
Twin Oaks Landscaping	\$ 820,000.00
Subtotal	<b>\$ 67,427,140.00</b>

This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the bidding packages as read into record, in the total amount of \$67,427,140.00, in addition to the award of Alternate 1 in the amount of \$16,068.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

F. Bid - Office of Schools - Elementary Supply Kits

Dr. Annette Acevedo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Pala Supply Company, Inc. in the amount

of \$599,688.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the bid from Pala Supply Company, Inc. in the amount of \$599,688.00.

Ms. Martin thanked Administration for answering her questions and stated she is very excited to vote yes for this. She spoke about how the District is also trying to support families and students in non-Title 1 schools.

Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

G. Approval of the Education Support Service Organization (ESSO) Tentative Agreement

Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented a proposed 2024-2028 Tentative Agreement with ESSO. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Agreement.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes to approve the 2024-2028 tentative agreement with the Education Support Service Organization, also known as ESSO, as presented, and to authorize the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent to sign the agreement.

President Owens thanked everyone involved in the negotiations.

Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Other Business - Student Disciplinary Cases (Board Policy 7:190 - Student Conduct)

A. Student C

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Martin, to expel Student C for the term of two calendar years from the date of action being taken tonight. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

7. Recognition of Service as Student Board Member

A. Mahitha Ratakonda

The Board of Education recognized Mahitha Ratakonda, the seventeenth Student Board of Education Member.

8. Oath of Office for New Student Board Member

A. Oath of Office

The newly appointed Student Board of Education Member, Dhanvi Dhandapani, was sworn in by the Board of Education Secretary.

9. Abstract of Votes

A. Canvass of Votes

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer, presented Abstract of Votes and the Canvass of Votes and requested a motion to approve the April 1, 2025 Abstract of Votes.

Motion by Ms. Thommes, Second by Ms. Kerr. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

10. Convening of the Reconstituted Board of Education (2:210 - Board Organizational Meeting)

A. Seating of New Board Members and Selection of New Officers

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer and Board of Education Secretary, began the process to seat the newly elected Board of Education Members and the selection of new officers.

11. Oath of Office for Elected Board Members

A. Oath of Office

The newly elected Board of Education Members were sworn in by the Board of Education Secretary.

B. Roll Call

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens

## 12. Election of Officers

### A. Process for Election of Board Officers

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer and Board of Education Secretary, initiated the process for the selection of new officers.

### B. President

Ms. Kerr nominated Ms. Owens for Board President.

#### Close of Nominations:

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to close the nominations for President. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

#### Motion to Elect Melissa Owens as Board President:

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Schwartz, to elect Melissa Owens as President of the Board of education. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

### C. Vice-President

Ms. Martin nominated Ms. Thommes for Board Vice-President.

#### Close of Nominations:

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Noland, to close the nominations for Vice-President. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

#### Motion to Elect Kate Thommes as Board Vice-President:

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Noland to elect Kate Thommes as Vice-President of the Board of Education. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

#### D. Secretary Pro-Tempore

Ms. Thommes nominated Ms. Schwartz for Board Secretary Pro-Tempore.

##### Close of Nominations:

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to close the nominations for Secretary Pro-Tempore. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

##### Motion to Elect Chanda Schwartz as Board Secretary Pro-Tempore:

Motion by Ms. Khan, second by Ms. Noland to elect Chanda Schwartz as Secretary Pro-Tempore of the Board of Education. Upon Roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Ms. Thommes left the meeting at 8:00 p.m. and returned at 8:04 p.m.

#### 13. Other Business - Appointment of IASB Governing Board Representative

##### A. IASB Governing Board Representative

The IASB requests the Board of Education designate one of its members as an IASB Governing Board Representative. No formal vote is necessary. A simple consensus is all that is required. The Board agreed that Ms. Martin would be the representative.

#### 14. Other Business - Dr. Johnson

##### A. March Financial Report

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

#### 15. Work Session - Dr. Johnson

##### A. Elementary Integrated Curriculum Proposal

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Jackie Johnson, Coordinator of Literacy and Library, Jacob VandeMoortel, Coordinator of Social Studies and World Language, and Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Elementary Integrated Curriculum Proposal.

B. Elementary Library and Media Curriculum Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jackie Johnson, Coordinator of Literacy and Library, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Elementary Library and Media Curriculum Proposal.

C. Middle School English Language Arts Curriculum Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jackie Johnson, Coordinator of Literacy and Library, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Middle School English Language Arts Curriculum Proposal.

D. High School Freshman Seminar Curriculum Proposal

Michele Chapman, Director of Post-Secondary Success, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Programs and Supports for the Post-Secondary Success Department, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the High School Freshman Seminar Curriculum Proposal.

16. Work Session - Bids/Proposals (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)

A. Bid - Plant Operations - Ronald D. O'Neal Elementary School Parking Lot Paving, Project #1406-25

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Maneval Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$382,800.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

B. Bid - Plant Operations - Elgin High School Parking Lot Paving, Project #251-25

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc., in the amount of \$3,435,000.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

C. Proposal - Information Services - 2025-2026 Staff Laptops

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Naul Conejo, Manager of Technology Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Pace Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$875,000.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

17. Work Session - Contracts Over \$35,000.00 (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)

A. Contract - Equity and Innovation - Trinity Breakthrough Coaching

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Trinity Breakthrough Coaching in the amount of \$60,000.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

B. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Savvas My World Interactive

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jacob VandeMoortel, Coordinator of K-12 Social Studies and World Languages, presented the attached proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Savvas Learning Company in the amount of \$620,655.98, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

C. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Career and Technical Education: TechSmart, Inc.

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with TechSmart, Inc. in the amount of \$87,750.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.


D. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Career and Technical Education:  
Electude

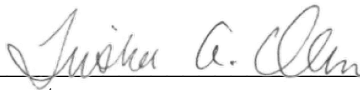
Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Electude USA LLC in the amount of \$67,622.50, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

18. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Board meeting of May 5, 2025, at 8:56 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 4th day of August, 2025.

  
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President

  
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Secretary