

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

February 10, 2025

**The video of the February 10, 2025 meeting can be found here:**

[February 10, 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. Noland. 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.

A motion was made at 6:53 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, 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: Rich Bosh, Sheila Downs, Zachary Geller, Jaimie Abney-Giraldo, Brian Lindholm, Ashlee McHaney, Kimberly Neilson, Dr. Ann Williams, Dr. Frank Williams, Jim Wolf, and Lisa Yagow.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement - Dr. Johnson

A. National School Social Work Week

In recognition of National School Social Work Week, the U-46 Board of Education presented a Proclamation of Appreciation to Kimberly Neilson, a U-46 Lead Social Worker, on behalf of all U-46 students, staff, and families. School District U-46 employs approximately 115 social workers.

2. Strategic Plan Report - Dr. Johnson (Board Policy 2:20 - Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification)

A. School Safety Update

Rich Bosh, Director of School Safety, presented to the Board of Education an update on school safety. The update included updates on: safety drills, school safety audits, school resource officers, professional development, reunification process, preventative weapon searches, and new facilities.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

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

A. Additional Information

Dr. Suzanne Johnson stated that she was looking forward to the upcoming strategic plan meetings and expects to have a strategic plan update at the next Board meeting.

B. FOIA Requests – 5

Dr. Suzanne Johnson stated that there were five Freedom of Information Act requests, which would be available on BoardDocs and the District's website.

5. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases

B. Minutes of Board Meetings: December 9, 2024 and December 16, 2024

C. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property

D. Proposal - Athletics - Football Helmet and Shoulder Pad Replacement and Conditioning

E. Proposal - Plant Operations - Ten-Year Life Safety Surveys and Safety Reference Plans

F. Building Permits – 3

G. Approval of Settlement Agreement Related to Lawsuit Filed Under Case Number 2022 L 471

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-G 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.

6. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – February 10, 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 \$28,086,604.21.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$28,086,604.21. 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. Resolution Authorizing Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, were available to answer questions regarding the Resolution Authorizing Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin to approve the Resolution Authorizing Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget. 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. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - Kimball Middle School Project Abatement - Phase 1A

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, M&O Environmental, in the amount of \$69,850.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

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

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, to award the lowest responsible bidder, M&O Environmental, in the amount of \$69,850.00 for the Kimball Middle School Project Abatement - Phase 1A. 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. Other Business - Dr. Johnson

A. December 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.

8. Work Session – Dr. Johnson

A. 2025-2026 School Fees

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented the school fees and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Information on Student Insurance (School Time Coverage, 24 Hour Coverage, Optional – 24-Hour Dental) is posted on the District website each July. Student meals will remain free of charge for all students for calendar year 2025-2026. Administration recommended approval of the School Fees for the 2025-2026 School Year.

B. High School Introduction to Instrumental Music Curriculum Proposal

Jaimie Abney-Giraldo, Fine Arts Coordinator, Zachary Geller, Fine Arts Teacher Leader, and Lisa Yagow, U-46 Orchestra and Chorus Teacher, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the High School Introduction to Instrumental Music Curriculum Proposal.

9. Work Session – Resolutions

A. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Jim Wolf, Director of Information Services, reviewed the Resolution and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property.

B. Resolution Authorizing Individuals to Act on Behalf of Plan [403(b)]

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Resolution Authorizing Individuals to Act on Behalf of Plan. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

C. Resolution Authorizing Individuals to Act on Behalf of Plan [457(b)]

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Resolution Authorizing Individuals to Act on Behalf of Plan. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

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

A. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 Kimball Middle School Project - Third-Party Inspections

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from HR Green in an amount not to exceed \$46,801.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. 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.

B. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 New Elgin Middle School Project - Third-Party Inspections

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from HR Green in an amount not to exceed \$46,801.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. 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.

C. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 Kimball Middle School Project - Construction Material Testing Services

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from ECS Midwest, LLC. in an amount not to exceed \$85,671.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

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.

D. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 New Elgin Middle School Project - Construction Material Testing Services

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from ECS Midwest, LLC. in an amount not to exceed \$186,707.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. 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.

E. Proposal - Operations - Construction Management Services

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from International Contractors, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$6,808,812.83, or 5.93%, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.


F. Proposal - Plant Operations - Vehicle Purchase - Additional Ford Transit 350 Vans

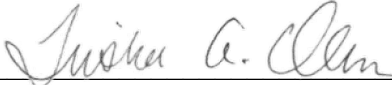
Sheila Downs, Executive Director of Facilities, and Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Currie Motor Ford in the amount of \$185,973.00, 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 fiscal year.

11. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Khan, to adjourn the Board meeting of February 10, 2025, at 7:57 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 14th day of April, 2025.

  
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President

  
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Secretary