

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

March 24, 2025

The video of the March 24, 2025 meeting can be found here:

[March 24, 2025 BOE Meeting](#)

The Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:46 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 5:48 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, 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 6:12 p.m.

A motion was made at 7:02 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, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, Dr. Ann Williams, 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, Mark Gonella, Lisa Jackson, Amanda Leatherby, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Ashlee McHaney, Deb McMullen, Mark Moore, Mireya Perez, Matt Raimondi, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Frankie Valenzia, Jacob VandeMoortel, Dr. Frank Williams, and Jim Wolf.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement - Dr. Ann Williams

A. Golden Apple Finalist

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognized Matt Erbach, who has been recognized in the prestigious group of 2025 Golden Apple Finalists. Matt Erbach is a precision manufacturing teacher at South Elgin High School. He has been recognized for his role in building a stronger, better-educated society.

B. Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel Award Winners

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education recognized the following U-46 Staff members who will be recognized at the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Those Who Excel banquet in May 2025:

Award of Excellence

Kimberly Blazek (Centennial Elementary School Teacher)

Jill Gerovac (Eastview Middle School Teacher)

Award of Meritorious Service

Angela Ginnan (Eastview Middle School Principal)

Paul Kowalyszyn (Streamwood High School Teacher and Instructional Coach)

Lela Majstorovic (Deputy Superintendent of Instruction)

Award of Special Recognition

Patricia Briones (Project Access Coordinator)

Rafael Martinez-Ortiz (Dream Academy Associate Principal)

Jose Mora (South Elgin High School Teacher)

Angela Rojas (Independence Center for Early Learning Teacher)

Ms. Khan joined the open session at 7:16 p.m.

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

A. Climate and Culture Update

Mark Gonella, Director of Culture and Climate, presented to the Board of Education an update on climate and culture. The update included updates on proactive measures and universal support, targeted supportive measures, crisis response and intensive measures, and other updates from the Culture and Climate office.

Ms. Thommes left the meeting at 7:44 p.m. and returned at 7:46 p.m.

B. Facility Planning Update

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, Lela Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented to the Board of Education an update on facility planning. The update included a summary of the preliminary boundary change recommendations, recommended adjustments to the preliminary recommendations, an analysis of the resulting feeder pattern alignments, more details on a proposed modification to the residency exception request process, and next steps.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Maite Anton Barreda, spoke on behalf of herself and Leticia Martinez Valcuende. She discussed their employment with U-46 and their relationships with students and the community. She discussed visa status and requested the opportunity to keep working for the District.

Jacob Lesch, shared concerns of erosion and increased invasive species at Poplar Creek. He asked the District to assist in preservation efforts.

Aarav Patel, addressed pollution and erosion concerns at Poplar Creek. He stated that it is important for action to be taken.

Brandon Cardozo, spoke of long-term damage and potential restoration efforts for Poplar Creek.

Hasah Hammad, discussed how to improve the health of Poplar Creek.

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

A. Additional Information

Mahitha Ratakonda spoke about the Student Summit being held at Elgin Community College. She is excited to hear the results next month.

Ms. Schwartz participated in a Women's Panel with the I Am Lead girls at Heritage Elementary School and it was a wonderful experience.

Ms. Noland attended the U-46 Talent Fest. She stated it was a great opportunity to see the wonderful talent at all of the high schools.

5. Consent Agenda - Dr. Ann Williams

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meetings January 25, 2025 and January 27, 2025
- C. Termination of Maria Santana – SEC-HS SUB Caller
- D. Bid - Procurement - Hawk Hollow Middle School Furniture
- E. Bid - Procurement - Hawk Hollow Middle School Fitness Equipment and Supplies
- F. Bid - Procurement - Hawk Hollow Middle School Fine Arts Equipment and Supplies
- G. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Hand2Mind and Literacy Take Home Kits
- H. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Libraria Classroom Libraries
- I. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Scholastic Books
- J. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - School Climate and Culture Training
- K. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Catalyst of Educational Change Learning Partner
- L. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Personalized Lessons in Reading and Mathematics
- M. Proposal -Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department - In-Person Teaching for Biliteracy Institute Chicago
- N. Proposal - Equity and Innovation - 2025 AVID Summer Institute
- O. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 - Kenyon Woods Middle School Project
- P. Proposal - Assistant Superintendent of Schools - Association for Middle Level Education 2025 Summer Conference
- Q. Contract - Office of Schools - Northern Illinois University Principal Preparation Program
- R. Contract Renewal - Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department - Northern Illinois University Bilingual/English as a Second Language Teacher Cohort VII
- S. Building Permit - 1

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-S 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. Ann Williams

- A. Itemized Bills – March 24, 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 \$28,799,161.59.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$28,799,161.59. 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. Secondary Library and Media Curriculum Proposal

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, was available to answer questions relating to the Secondary Library and Media Curriculum Proposal.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Secondary Library and Media Curriculum Proposal with an associated estimated resource cost of \$456,274.50. 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. Human Resource (HR) Resolutions

In order to follow State guidelines that allow for staff dismissal up until 45 days before the end of the school year, administration annually presents personnel categories that are eligible for possible dismissal. Depending on the budget situation and when programs and classes are determined for the next school year, some of these individuals may be rehired providing they have proper licensure. While the Board of Education takes this action very seriously, dismissal consideration is customary at this time of year in order to follow state requirements. Each Resolution must be voted on separately. Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and Mireya Perez, Director of Human Resources, were available to discuss additional reductions in force. The reductions in force on tonight's agenda will address the following categories.

Teachers (Board Policy 5:200 - Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal)

- Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers (2515)

Administrators (Board Policy 5:200 - Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal)

- Authorizing Non-Renewal of Administrative Contracts and Re-Assignment of Tenured Administrators (2528)

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve Resolution 2515, Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Teachers. 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 by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve Resolution 2528, Authorizing Non-Renewal of Administrative Contracts and Re-Assignment of Tenured Administrators. 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. Work Session – Dr. Ann Williams

A. Attendance Boundary Proposal

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the attendance boundary change proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education vote to accept the attendance boundary changes.

B. Renewal of School District U-46 High School Membership in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) 2025-2026

Dr. Annette Acevedo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, presented a request to the Board of Education to certify the renewal of membership in IHSA. IHSA Membership will not require payment of dues. The District's five high schools participate in this organization and the District will submit five signed membership copies due by June 30, 2025.

C. Biology Curriculum Resource Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Deb McMullen, Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium, and Frankie Valenzia, Secondary Science Instructional Coach, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Biology Curriculum Resource Proposal.

D. Chemistry Pilot Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Deb McMullen, Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium, and Frankie Valenzia, Secondary Science Instructional Coach, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Chemistry Pilot Proposal.

E. Physics Pilot Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Deb McMullen, Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium, and Frankie Valenzia, Secondary Science Instructional

Coach, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Physics Pilot Proposal.

F. German, French, and Spanish Curriculum Proposal

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, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the German, French, and Spanish Curriculum Proposal.

G. High School Civics, Economics, United States History and American Studies, World Geography, and World History Social Studies Curriculum Resource Proposal

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, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the High School Civics, Economics, United States History and American Studies, World Geography, and World History Social Studies Curriculum Resource Proposal.

H. High School Advanced Placement Social Studies Curriculum Resource Only Proposal

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, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the High School Advanced Placement Social Studies Curriculum Resource Proposal.

Ms. Noland left the meeting at 9:09 p.m. and returned at 9:20 p.m.

8. Work Session – Resolutions

A. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property

Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, reviewed the Resolution and was 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.

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

A. Bid - Plant Operations - Larkin High School Roof Replacement, Project #274-25

Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant 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, Preservation Services, Inc., in the amount of \$2,972,000.00, 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 fiscal year.

B. Bid - Plant Operations - Integrated Pest Control Management Services

Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant 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, Able Pest Control, Inc., in the amount of \$246,690.00, 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 2027-2028 fiscal years.

C. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Kane County Regional Office of Education Learning Partner

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, and Matt Raimondi, Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Kane County Regional Office of Education in the amount of \$324,400.00, 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 2024-2025 fiscal year.

D. Proposal - Equity and Innovation - Northern Illinois University Social Justice Camp

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, and Lisa Jackson, Director of Equity and Innovation, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Northern Illinois University in the amount not to exceed \$54,768.82, 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 2024-2025 fiscal year.

E. Proposal - Information Services - 2025 Student Chromebooks

Jim Wolf, Director of Information Services, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Vivacity Technologies in the amount of \$3,145,000.00, 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.

F. Proposal - Information Services - Network Equipment Refresh

Jim Wolf, Director of Information Services, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Sentinel Technologies in the amount of \$627,234.42, and Marco Technologies in the amount of \$541,003.08, 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 2024-2025 fiscal year.

G. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 Kimball Middle School Project

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from AMSCO in the amount of \$44,750.00, 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 and 2025-2026 fiscal years.

H. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 New Elgin Middle School Project

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from CERx Solutions in the amount of \$42,577.00, 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 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Panorama Student Success Dashboard and Surveys

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and Matt Raimondi, Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with

Panorama Education in the amount of \$766,165.77, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

B. Contract Renewal - Chief of Staff - Projection, Staffing, and Mapping Software

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Univerus Software Canada for five years in the amount of \$382,441.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 through 2029-2030 fiscal years.

C. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – Canvas

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Instructure in the amount of \$962,838.10, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

D. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Care Solace

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, and Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Care Solace in the amount of \$290,736.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

E. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - News2You

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with n2y, LLC. in the amount of \$275,041.47, and requested authorization for District administration

to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

11. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Board meeting of March 24, 2025, at 9:46 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 2nd day of June, 2025.

President



Secretary

