

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of
Hawthorn Community Consolidated District #73, Lake County, Illinois
841 W. End Ct, Vernon Hills IL 60061
7:00 p.m. on the 9th day of July 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

President Robin Cleek called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary called attendance and the following members attended: George Fievet, Michael Engle, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, and Julie Clifford. Also in attendance were Asst. Supt. of Finance & Business Operations Ms. Jennifer Akin; Asst. Supt. of Student Services Ms. Alicia Corrigan; Asst. Supt. of Teaching & Learning Dr. Allison Stein; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer; and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan. Mr. Karl Borchers and Ms. Stephanie Peters were not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

RECOGNITION

No recognition at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cleek reported that board members should have received an email from ED-RED regarding the upcoming legislative breakfast scheduled for August 1. Those interested in attending were asked to email Ms. Jessica Flores. Additionally, President Cleek shared an invitation from the Village of Mundelein for a guided tour of local governmental facilities. The tour, which will be conducted via school bus, is scheduled for August 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This initiative, led by Mundelein's new mayor, is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen intergovernmental relationships. Any interested board member should let President Cleek know.

ED-RED REPORT

No report at this time.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Michael Engle reported that the last Executive Board met on June 26 and the Governing Board met on June 4. The Executive Board approved the final FY25 budget and will be presented for Governing Board approval at the August 6 meeting. At that upcoming August 6 meeting, the SEDOL administration will present an update on the Continuous Improvement Plan. Additionally, the negotiations team will provide an overview of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the SEDOL Teachers' Union and the SEDOL Support Staff Association. A proposed extended bargaining agreement for the 2026–2027 school year with the SEDOL Support Staff Association will also be presented. Mr. Engle concluded with an announcement that Dr. Judy Hackett, Co-Interim Superintendent, has been appointed to serve on the governing board at the Illinois State Board of Education by Governor Pritzker. Her appointment, based on her extensive experience in special education, was formalized during the June 11 ISBE meeting in Springfield. Dr. Hackett will continue her current role at SEDOL alongside her new state board responsibilities. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for July 24, and the next Governing Board meeting will be held on August 6.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-President George Fievet reported that the Site and Facilities Committee will next meet on August 5. The committee has finalized its meeting schedule for the 2025–2026 school year. Meetings will be held on Tuesdays at noon at the District Office, specifically on the Tuesday of the week prior to each month's first board meeting. All meetings are open, and community members are welcome to attend. Agendas will be posted at the meeting location, and regular reports will continue to be shared with the full board.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE REPORT

No report at this time.

KEY TO 73 FOUNDATION REPORT

Board Secretary Julie Clifford reported that the Key to 73 Foundation met last month and shared that the recent golf outing was a great success. The Foundation is now planning its next event: a collaborative OctoberFest with the PTO, to be held in partnership with Melody Farm. Additional details will be shared as plans develop.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Business Operations, Ms. Jennifer Akin, discussed the Managed Service Provider Contract. Mrs. Akin provided an overview of the district's evolving technology needs and presented the proposed Managed Service Provider Contract. She highlighted the increasing complexity of the Hawthorn network and the importance of vendor support in maintaining reliable and secure operations. Impact Networking would offer 24/7 support, network engineering, project management, and virtual CIO and CISO services to support ongoing infrastructure needs.

In conclusion, Mrs. Akin emphasized that network infrastructure and cybersecurity remain critical to district operations. Engaging managed services staffed by network experts would enhance both efficiency and effectiveness. She also noted that budget implications are minimal due to strategic adjustments in staffing and vendor partnerships. The Impact Networking contract was presented for the Board of Education's consideration.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

No report at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1 Board Meeting Minutes: June 12, 2025
- 6.2 Closed Session Minutes: June 6, 2025
- 6.3 Closed Session Minutes: June 12, 2025
- 6.4 Expenditure Report: July 9, 2025
- 6.5 Amazon Expense Report: July 9, 2025
- 6.6 Mastercard Report: May 21, 2025
- 6.7 Treasurer's Report: May 2025
- 6.8 Personnel Report

8 New Hires:

1 Leaves of Absence:

9 Resignations:

8 New Hires: Irwin Ann, Interventionist, MS, 08/18/2026; Matthew Johnson, 7th Grade Science Teacher, MN, 08/18/2026; Abigail Jones, LBS1 Teacher, MS, 08/18/2026; Evan Pruyn, Science Teacher, MS, 08/18/2026; Alfred Marcus Sawyer, Music/Chorus Teacher, MS, 08/18/2026; Sol Cabachuela, Bilingual Family Liaison, District, 08/04/2025; Casey Garcia, Administrative Assistant to Department of Teaching & Learning, District, 07/16/2025; William Guenther, School Safety & Security Liaison, 08/04/2025.

3 Leaves of Absence: Gregoriann Massa, ECAT Speech/Language Pathologist, Lincoln, 08/28/2026.

11 Resignations: Madison Farca, 5th Grade Teacher, Townline, 05/28/2025; Dalila Hatibovic, Music/Chorus Teacher, MS, 05/28/2025; Yuridia Mancilla, 4th & 5th Grade Teacher, DL, 05/28/2025; Brandon Medrano, LBS1 Teacher, MN, 07/02/2025; Hannah Sternberg, 2nd Grade Teacher, TL, 05/28/2025; Samantha Studer, 5th Grade Teacher, ES, 05/28/2025; Katherine Ferrel, Instructional Assistant, HYSL, 06/17/2025; Marcia Kramer, Instructional Assistant, 07/02/2025; FNU Shalini Shruti, Instructional Assistant, ES, 07/02/2025.

Michael Engle requested to remove section 6.1 **Board Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2025** and 6.3 **Closed Session Minutes from June 12, 2025** from the consent agenda.

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve 6.1 **Board Meeting Minutes from June 12, 2025** and 6.3 **Closed Session Minutes from June 12, 2025** as presented; seconded by George Fievet.

Roll Call Vote: Robin Cleek, Michael Engle, George Fievet, Julie Clifford, and Joel Finfer.

Motion carried: 4 ayes; 1 abstain

MOTION: Michael Engle moved that the Board of Education approve the remaining **Consent Agenda** items as presented; seconded by George Fievet.

Roll Call Vote: Robin Cleek, Michael Engle, George Fievet, Julie Clifford, and Joel Finfer.

Motion carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays

As Jennifer Akin shared previously, the business department is seeking board approval for the proposed Managed Service Provider Contract with Impact Networking. She outlined how the complexity of the current network requires expert support to ensure secure and efficient operations. The contract includes 24/7 support, engineering services, and virtual leadership roles.

ACTION ITEMS

Managed Service Provider

MOTION: George Fievet moved that the Board of Education approve the Managed Service Provider Contract; Joel Finfer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Robin Cleek, Michael Engle, George Fievet, Julie Clifford, and Joel Finfer.

Motion carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment - Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that the District has received two FOIA requests since the last board meeting and has been responded to as identified in Section 8.2 of the Board agenda.
3. Media Clips

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

President Cleek sought board consensus on two topics previously shared via email by a community member. There was no consensus to move forward with either proposed topic for future board meetings—specifically, a detailed breakdown of district expenses related to staff lunches and celebrations, or a presentation of Humanex data by building. It was noted that Humanex data is already shared with the respective school staff.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Joel Finfer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michael Engle. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m. **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Flores



Robin Cleek, President


Julie Clifford, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: 8/14/25