

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 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, August 26, 2025, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Silver-Schack called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

Christine Beeftink
Diana Horwitz
Eve Pfanzelter
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

Absent: DeShawn Arms and Beth Bazer

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 Yonaites, Recording Secretary and Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech.

Public Attendees: None

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Back to School

Dr. Pearson, Superintendent, informed the Board that it was a smooth start of the school year due to all of the spring planning, the work done by the maintenance staff in the summer and the teachers prepping their classrooms in August. There are 65 new hires and currently the District has 11 openings. Dr. Pearson stated that there are 1,806 students enrolled which is on par with the last few years.

Dr. Pearson updated the Board on the first institute day which included an all staff workshop meeting with Jeffrey Benson. The focus was on SEL instruction which is well

timed with this year's launch of the new social emotional curriculum.

Construction Updates

Dr. Pearson provided the Board with an update on the District's construction projects. There was a groundbreaking at Meadowbrook mid-August. Dr. Pearson announced that the fence at Meadowbrook was completed in mid-August, and the area is ready for the project to begin. He also noted that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation provided a credit since some planned work was deemed unnecessary after the project started.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve the minutes for Regular Meeting on July 22, 2025 and Committee of the Whole Meeting for July 22, 2025.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of July 2025, in the amount of \$394,045.68 and covered by check numbers 68488 through 68489 and deduction check numbers 68490 through 684504 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 August 26, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of August 2025, in the amount of \$400,865.92 and covered by check numbers 68505 through 68509 and deduction check numbers 68510 through 68515 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 August 26, 2025.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$2,711,903.56 and Warrants listed as Numbers 65053 through 65242 and the following voids: none, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated August 26, 2025.

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

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Alice Seay*	Librarian	NBJH	M+12-14 \$93,064	8/18/25
Lois Choi	Kindergarten Asst.	MB	K-12 \$34,152	8/18/25
Dory Elzaurdia	Spec Educ Asst.	MB	SE/YE-5 \$34,383	8/18/25
Taylor Rogers*	Special Educ Teacher	MB	M+30-12 \$88,909 -	8/18/25
Maria Chihuahua	Spec Educ Asst.	WM	SE/YE-3 \$33,928	8/18/25
Hina Siddiqui	Spec Educ Asst.	WM	SE/YE-1 \$33,482	8/18/25
Mary Katherine Drevline	Classroom Asst.	GB	CR-1 \$20,271	8/18/25
Judy Solway	ML Asst.	GB	SE/YE-10 \$35,560	8/18/25
Sydney Banh	Foundational Asst.	GB	F-1 \$35,812	8/18/25
Courtney Evers	Classroom Asst.	MB	CR-6 \$21,016	8/18/25
Jocelyn Monroy Del Villar	Classroom Asst.	WM	CR-11 \$21,798	8/18/25
Sherry Gallarneau	Classroom Asst.	WM	CR-6 \$20,271; Full-Time \$28,188	8/18/25
Hailey Rappin	Classroom Asst.	WM	CR-1 \$20,271	8/18/25
Sarah de Galicia*	Science Teacher	NBJH	B+00-05 \$60,935	8/18/25

Charlotte Zelman*	Orchestra Teacher (.6 FTE)	NBJH	B+00-02 \$33,902	8/18/25
Mason Witsman	Classroom Asst.	GB	CR-1 \$20,271	8/18/25
Wendy Witzel	Classroom Asst.	GB	CR-7 \$21,169	8/18/25
Arely Torres	YE Program Asst.	WM	SE/YE-3 \$33,928	8/18/25
Daniel Dworkin	Special Educ Asst.	GB	SE/YE-2 \$33,704	8/18/25
Jenette Runge	Special Educ Asst.	GB	SE/YE-10 \$35,560	8/18/25
Erin MacHarg*	School Psychologist (.6 FTE)	District-wide	M+30-19 \$66,973	8/18/25
Grace Wilson	KidCare Director	GB/WM/MB	\$62,328	8/18/25
Brian Farley*	Special Educ Teacher	NBJH	M+12-06 \$72,567	8/18/25
Megan Hamm*	Art Teacher (.21 FTE)	MB	B+00-10 \$14,309	8/18/25
Dana Orr	Foundational Asst.	GB	F-10 \$38,634	8/18/25
Jamie Kaufman	Classroom Asst.	MB	CR-1 \$20,271	8/18/25
Adison Minor	Classroom Asst.	MB	CR-1 \$20,271 prorated to \$18,682	9/8/25
Grace Wojciechowski	Foundational Asst.	GB	F-3 \$36,413	8/18/25
Alexandra Pena	Temp. Building Sub	GB, MB, WM	B+00-01 \$55,395	8/18/25
Katherine Chron	Special Educ Asst. (partial year - parent leave coverage)	MB	SE/YE-4 Prorated \$23,169	8/18/25
Fabiana Taube	Kindergarten Asst. (Long term sub)	MB	\$304.37 per diem	8/21/25
Alexi Viviano	Classroom Asst.	MB	CR-2 \$20,417	8/19/25

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Nicole Koren	Spanish Teacher	NBJH	Resignation	8/1/25
Ellie Lee	Special Educ Asst.	GB	Resignation	7/22/25
Kyle Roy	Special Educ Asst.	NBJH	Resignation	7/31/25
Emily Roman	Special Educ Asst.	GB	Resignation	8/14/25
Kathleen Corcoran	Special Educ Asst.	GB	Resignation	8/15/25

Staff Leave of Absence				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Maddie Schwartz	Social Worker	NBJH	Parent Leave	9/22/25
Taraneh Tompkins	5th Gr Teacher	MB	Parent Leave	10/27/25

Staff Lane Changes 2025-26				
Name	Position	Location	Current Salary	New Salary
Sarah Fink	Teacher	WM	M+00-13 \$86,139	M+12-13 \$90,294
Morgan Adducci	Teacher	WM	M+00-07 \$71,737	M+12-07 \$74,783
Julie Sherman	Nurse	GB	B+00-07 \$63,704	B+12-07 \$65,366
Megan Roberts	Teacher	GB	M+00-10 \$78,661	M+12-10 \$81,985
Heather Havlicek	Teacher	WM	B+12-14	M+00-14

			\$78,107	\$88,632
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Principal on Special Assignment Contract

The Board approved a contract for Jeanne Banas as Principal on Special Assignment.

Owner's Representative / Construction Manager Position

Dr. Pearson explained that the decision was made to hire an individual as a Construction Manager because the options of using a firm were much more expensive. This is a new role for the District so the job description for the Owner's Representative / Construction Manager role was in the consent agenda for approval.

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

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

No report this month.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Outstanding Vacancies

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services, stated the information was covered in the Superintendent Report.

FY2026 Salary Placement Schedules

Mr. Brophy explained that a salary placement schedule was created for each instructional assistant group. There are five groups: Kindergarten, 1st- 5th Grade, Multilingual/Special Ed/Young Explorers, Foundational Program and Library/Media. The schedule allows for more accurate compensation when hiring personnel. It also allows the District to consider previous experience when determining salaries.

FY2026 Library/Media Assistant Updated Hourly Rates

Mr. Brophy presented the Board with a Salary Placement Schedule for Library / Media Assistants. These updates were based on the new salary placement schedule for all assistants.

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Beeftink seconded that the Board of Education approve the FY2026 Library / Media Assistant Updated Hourly Rates.

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

FY2026 Extra Sections Stipends

Mr. Brophy presented the recommendation for the Extra Sections Stipends. This is an annual stipend for certified staff who teach more classes than a 1.0 FTE for their position.

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Beeftink seconded that the Board of Education approve the FY2026 Extra Sections Stipends.

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

FY2026 Substitute Daily Rate-Retired Teachers and Assistants

It was recommended that the Board approve an increase to the daily substitute rate to \$156.00 for retired teachers and assistants.

Member Pfanzerter moved, and Member Beeftink seconded that the Board of Education approve the FY2026 Substitute Daily Rate-Retired Teachers and Assistants.

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

STUDENT SERVICES

No report.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Summer Professional Learning

Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent, presented the Board with an overview of Summer Professional Learning. District 28 offered 36 summer professional learning sessions attended by over 150 staff members. Feedback is always positive with staff noting the variety of classes supporting their professional development.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Summer Projects Updates

Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official, gave an overview of the main summer projects. She informed the Board that the Westmoor bus lane and Greenbriar paver projects were complete. The NBJH roofing project was delayed with the summer rain but it is almost complete. There is also some background software programming to be fixed for the HVAC upgrades. Lastly, the project to upgrade the exterior doors is also close to completion.

GEOCON Material Testing Proposal for Meadowbrook

Ms. Donato presented a proposal from GEOCON for an estimated fee of \$25,260. Under this proposal, GEOCON would conduct required soil, concrete and steel testing. This is an important part of the project to ensure safety and quality work.

Member Horwitz moved, and Member Weinstock seconded that the Board of Education approve the GEOCON Material Testing Proposal for Meadowbrook.

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

HR Green Plumbing Inspection Proposal for Meadowbrook

A proposal from HR Green Plumbing was presented to the Board by Ms. Donato. The proposal covers on-call plumbing inspections for the Meadowbrook Gym Construction project.

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Horwitz seconded that the Board of Education approve the HR Green Plumbing Inspection Proposal for Meadowbrook.

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

Pay App Meadowbrook Gym Construction

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #1 for the Meadowbrook project, outlining the \$142,097.40 payment schedule with Happ Builders based on work completion.

Member Weinstock moved, and Member Horwitz seconded that the Board of Education approve the payment to Happ Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$142,097.40.

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

LEGISLATION

No report.

POLICY

No report.

COMMUNICATION

Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications reminded the Board about picture day. She would like to have new uniform headshots of the Board.

There was 1 FOIA this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Member Weinstock provided a recap of the recent TrueNorth Council meetings. He noted TrueNorth is back in session and off to a good start. The contracts for the two interim superintendents were approved.

All member districts entered a resolution of the option to withdraw. The future possible options for TrueNorth is to reorganize or dissolve the cooperative. Member Weinstock stated there is a meeting in September to hear more details about each option then in October the Districts will discuss what they want to do.

It was impressed that students will always be serviced at the highest standard regardless of the future of TrueNorth.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

In

At 7:34 p.m., it was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Beeftink that the Board of Education go into a Closed Session to discuss the following:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity as authorized by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

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

Out

At 8:03 p.m, it was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the meeting return to Regular Session. All members present voted Aye. Absent: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m., it was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzerter to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted Aye. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Bazer. Motion carried.

Beth Bazer, Secretary

Mara Silver-Schack, President