

School District U-46

Elgin, Illinois

July 21, 2025

The video of the July 21, 2025, meeting can be found here:

[July 21, 2025 BOE Meeting](#)

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, 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 5:01 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin. 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.

The cabinet was excused from Closed Session at 6:39 p.m.

A motion was made at 6:58 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 Dhanvi Dhandapani. The following were also present at the District's central office: Celia Banks, David Bell, Michele Chapman, Robyn Cornelissen, Katie Cox, Sheila Downs, Amanda Leatherby, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Ashlee McHaney, Deborah McMullen, Matt Raimondi, Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Danise Smith, Brian Tennison, Dr. Ann Williams, and Jim Wolf.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A. 2025-2026 School Improvement Plans Update

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Matt Raimondi, Director of Assessment and Accountability, provided the Board of Education with an update on the 2025-2026 School Improvement Plans.

B. Facility Planning Update

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented to the Board of Education an update on facility planning. The presentation included updates on construction and sustainability features.

2. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Lorie Estanislao, current employee and Professional Development Chair for DUEA, shared an experience and thanked the Board of Education and various District teams for collaboration and investment in professional learning.

Jose Perez, U-46 graduate, current employee and DUEA member, shared positive experiences and discussed the importance of para-educators.

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

A. Additional Information

President Owens welcomed everyone to the new facility at the U-46 Welcome Center. She also thanked everyone who has played a part in making this happen.

Dr. Johnson thanked the team that supported the transition. Dr. Johnson also thanked the Operations team for all the projects going on at every school in the District.

Ms. Thommes shared her appreciation for para-educators.

B. FOIA Requests - 10

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

4. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting April 28, 2025
- C. Termination of Rosalind M. Cobbs – Admin Asst-AS Equity Innovations
- D. Termination of Antonio Hernandez Colin – Driver Route
- E. Termination of Lindette Moore – Driver’s Assistant
- F. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Cafeteria Tables)
- G. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Career and Technical Education)
- H. Bid - Plant Operations - Herbicide and Fertilizer Treatments
- I. Bid - Plant Operations - Larsen Middle School Domestic Pipe Insulation, Project #508-25
- J. Bid - Procurement - Athletic Trainer Provider
- K. Bid - Procurement - Liberty Elementary School Library Furniture
- L. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - New Middle School in Elgin
- M. Proposal - Information Services - ViewSonic Interactive Displays, Commercial Displays, Mobile Stands, and Licenses
- N. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Brightly Inc. Asset Essentials Core Pro Software
- O. Occupancy Permit - 6

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-O 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 – July 21, 2025

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$57,061,370.91.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$57,061,370.91. 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 to Approve 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and Set Public Hearing

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented an overview of the Tentative Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and the supporting resolution. On or before

August 9, 2025, the tentative budget will be made available for public inspection, and a public notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation. The resolution presented tonight requests approval of the budget in tentative form and addresses the requirement regarding the Notice of the Public Hearing. This timeline fulfills all Illinois School Code requirements. Administration was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended adoption of the Resolution to Approve 2025-2026 Tentative Budget and Set Public Hearing.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to adopt the Resolution to approve the 2025-2026 tentative budget and set a public hearing.

Dr. Ann Williams spoke about the tentative budget.

Ms. Martin thanked the team for staying on top of all the changes.

President Owens thanked the team for their focus on doing what is best for students.

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 - Procurement - Hawk Hollow Middle School Library Collection

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, and Danise Smith, Procurement Coordinator, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Follett Content Solutions, LLC., in the amount of \$77,160.03, 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 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, second by Ms. Kerr, to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Follett Content Solutions, LLC., in the amount of \$77,160.03, and approval for authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

Ms. Kerr asked if these are physical books and if the students will have access to eBooks.

Danise Smith responded that eBooks are included in the specification.

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. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Student Read 180

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 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the amount of \$192,037.12, 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.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the contract renewal with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the amount of \$192,037.12, and approve 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.

6. Other Business - Dr. Johnson

A. Graduation Requirements Update

Lela Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Michele Chapman, Director of Post-Secondary Success, presented the graduation requirements update and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

B. May Financial Report

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, reviewed the Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

7. Work Session - Dr. Johnson

A. 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer, presented the 2026-2027 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

8. Work Session – Resolutions

A. Resolution Approving Surety Bond of Treasurer

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented the Resolution Approving Surety Bond of Treasurer. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution.

B. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Preschool Furniture)

Katie Cox, Director of Early Learner Initiatives, 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 - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Fall Practice ACT

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and David Bell, Coordinator of Assessment and Accountability, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Progress Learning, LLC., in the amount of \$104,000.00, 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. Bid - Plant Operations - High School Auditorium Wireless Intercom System

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Operations and Maintenance, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Sound Productions, in the amount of \$85,115.52, 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 2025-2026 fiscal year.

C. Proposal - Information Services - Copiers

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 ProvenIT, Inc. in the amount of \$237,625.80, 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 through 2029-2030 fiscal years.

D. Proposal - Office of Teaching and Learning - NCTM 2025 Annual Meeting and Exposition

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from NCTM

2025 Annual Meeting and Exposition in the amount of \$46,683.00, 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.

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

A. Contract - Specialized Student Services - AMN Healthcare, Inc., Related Services and Behavior Support Team

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with AMN Healthcare, Inc., not to exceed the amount of \$2,108,096.00, 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 - Specialized Student Services - Psychologist Services

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Reber Consulting, LLC., not to exceed the amount of \$80,000.00, 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.

C. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - Speech and Language Therapy Services

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Dr. Christopher Sanzeri, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with the listed vendors in the amount not to exceed \$3,084,840.00, and requests authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

- AHS Staffing - \$277,200.00
- Bilingual Speech Solutions - \$344,520.00
- Cammunicate Therapy, LLC. - \$138,600.00
- Cheryl Lipkie Hoika - \$108,240.00
- Cuentame Speech and Language Services, LLC. - \$135,960.00
- Epic Special Education Staffing - \$252,120.00

- Katherine Burgess, KB Bilingual Services - \$151,800.00
- Maria T. Rodriguez - \$132,000.00
- Soliant Health, LLC. - \$545,160.00
- The Stepping Stones Group, LLC. - \$739,200.00
- Tanama Speech and Language, LLC. - \$151,800.00
- Therapy Care - \$108,240.00

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 - Specialized Student Services - Easterseals Metropolitan Chicago

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 Easterseals Metropolitan Chicago in the amount of \$344,819.20, 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 - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - School Climate and Culture Training

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Matt Raimondi, Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with The Flippen Group, LLC. in the amount of \$52,150.00, 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. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - K-12 Science and Planetarium – Pearson

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Deborah McMullen, Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Pearson in the amount of \$153,000.00, 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.


G. Contract Renewal - Information Services - Infinite Campus Student Information System

Jim Wolf, Director of Information Services, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Computer Information Concepts (CIC) in the amount of \$1,231,340.00, 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 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

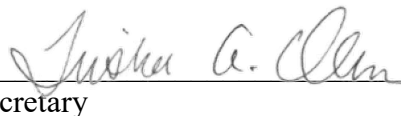
11. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to adjourn the Board meeting of July 21, 2025, at 8:20 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 6th day of October, 2025.



President



Secretary