

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 8, 2025

The video of the September 8, 2025, meeting can be found here:

[September 8, 2025 BOE Meeting](#)

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:15 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, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens.

Ms. Noland joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m., immediately after roll call.

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 6:16 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Kerr. 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.

A motion was made at 6:42 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to recess. 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.

A motion was made at 6:55 p.m. by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, 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. The following were also present at the District's central office: Celia Banks, Richard Bosh, Michele Chapman, Robyn Cornelissen, Sheila Downs, Jaimie Giraldo, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Beth McKinney, Rola Tarek Mohamed,

Paul Pennington, Mario Pestaña, Griselda Pirtle, Cassondra Reichenbach, Doreen Roberts, Danise Smith, Marc Spacone, Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, 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. 2026-2027 Boundary Transition Update

Lela Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Griselda Pirtle, Director of the Multilingual/Multicultural Department, presented an update to the Board of Education on the 2026-2027 Boundary Transition. The update included Dual Language and ESL Programming for 6th grade and progress on key areas of work, including student and family engagement, staffing, Curriculum and Instruction, and Finance and Operations.

B. ChatGPT Update

Rola Tarek Mohamed, Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives, and Jim Wolf, Director of Information Services, provided the Board of Education with an update on ChatGPT.

2. PUBLIC HEARING - 2025/2026 School District U-46 Budget (Board Policy 4:10 - Fiscal and Business Management)

A. Opening of Public Hearing

The Hearing was opened by a simple declaration by the Board President. Dr. Ann Williams and Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendents of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Finance, presented the overview of the 2025-2026 District Budget. As required by law, the budget has been on display for the general public since August 8, 2025.

B. Comments from the Public

There were no Public Comments.

C. Close of Public Hearing

The Hearing was closed by a simple declaration by the Board of Education President.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

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

A. Additional Information

Dr. Suzanne Johnson spoke about the ongoing collaboration with the School District U-46 Foundation and the Gail Borden Foundation. The foundations will host the 2nd annual 5k on October 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

B. FOIA Requests - 6

Dr. Suzanne Johnson stated that there were six Freedom of Information Act requests, which will 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 Meeting June 2, 2025
- C. Termination of Pamela Butler – Food SVC Lead
- D. Termination of Dominick J. Cozza, Jr. – Sub-Bus Driver
- E. Termination of Patricia Duckworth – Sub-Bus Driver
- F. Termination of Debra A. Jones – Bus Driver-Route
- G. Termination of Jacqueline B. Kramp – SSS Grants Manager
- H. Termination of Ayodele D. Odunuga – Driver's Assistant
- I. Termination of Melissa A. Schaffer – Para-CC SE
- J. Termination of Nicolas Vences – Bus Driver-Route
- K. Contract Renewal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Kane County Regional Office of Education Learning Partner
- L. Contract Renewal - Chief of Staff - Gallup, Inc.
- M. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Elementary Literacy Consultant
- N. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction/K-12 Science and Planetarium - HMH 6th Grade Science
- O. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services/Health Services - Automatic External Defibrillator Maintenance Program
- P. Occupancy Permits - 16

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-P 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 – September 8, 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 \$50,582,222.22.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$50,582,222.22. 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. Approval of 2025 High School Graduates

The Board of Education certified the listings of high school graduates.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to certify the listings of High School Graduates as listed in the attachments. 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. Minutes of Board Committee Meetings

The Board of Education reviewed the following Board Committee Meeting Minutes: June 16, 2025, Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting Administration recommended the Board of Education accept the minutes.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Schwartz, to accept the June 16, 2025, Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting minutes. 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 - School Safety - Renewal of School Resource Officer Contracts

Richard Bosh, Director of School Safety, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewals with the City of Elgin, the Village of Bartlett, the Village of South Elgin, and the Village of Streamwood, in the total amount of \$1,384,635.68, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Tort Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the contract renewals with the City of Elgin, the Village of Bartlett, the Village of South Elgin, and the Village of Streamwood, in the total amount of \$1,384,635.68 and authorize 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.

E. Proposal - Chief of Staff - Plat of Easement for Stormwater Management, Plat of Easement for Watermain, and Plat of Dedication

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the Plat of Easement for stormwater management, the Plat of Easement for water main, and the Plat of Dedication with the City of Elgin for the property located at 1835 Rohrssen Road in Elgin, Illinois, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Plat of Easement for stormwater management, the Plat of Easement for watermain, and the Plat of Dedication with the City of Elgin for the property located at 1835 Rohrssen Road in Elgin, Illinois. 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. Secondary Schools Financial Report for the Fourth Quarter

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

B. Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report - School Year 2025

Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Also, presented, for information purposes, was Public Act 097-256 amending Sections 105 ILCS 5/10-20.47 and 5/34-18.38 requiring school districts to report to ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education), on or before October 1st of each year, the base salary and benefits of all administrators and teachers employed by the school District; present the report at a school board meeting; submit it to the District's regional superintendent of schools; and post the report on the District's internet website. For consistency across school districts, once the information is entered into IWAS (ISBE Web Application Security), the State's reporting system, a report is generated and sent back to the school District to be posted on their website.

8. Work Session - Dr. Johnson

A. Middle School Elective - 6th Grade Spanish Language Arts Curriculum and Resource Proposal

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, Jaimie Giraldo, Coordinator of Fine Arts, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Student Success and AVID, were available for questions relating to the 6th Grade Spanish Language Arts Curriculum and Resource Proposal. Administration recommended approval of the 6th Grade Spanish Language Arts Curriculum Proposal, in the amount of \$57,044.61, 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. Middle School Elective - Career and Technical Education - Business, Culinary Arts, and Healthcare Science Curriculum Proposals

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, Jaimie Giraldo, Coordinator of Fine Arts, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Student Success and AVID, were available for questions relating to the Career and Technical Education Business, Culinary Arts, and Healthcare Science Curriculum Proposals. Administration recommended approval of the Career and Technical Education (Business, Culinary Arts, and Healthcare Science) Curriculum Proposal, in the total amount of \$320,772.45, 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. Middle School Elective - Fine Arts - Art, Choir, Dance, and Theatre Curriculum Proposals

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, Jaimie Giraldo, Coordinator of Fine Arts, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Student Success and AVID, were available for questions relating to the Fine Arts - Art, Choir, Dance, and Theatre Curriculum Proposals. Administration recommended approval of the Fine Arts (Art, Choir, Dance, and Theatre) Curriculum Proposal, in the amount of \$316,117.44, 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.

D. Middle School Elective - Rotations - Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise and Explore Voices, Vision, and Vocation Curriculum Proposals

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, Jaimie Giraldo, Coordinator of Fine Arts, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Student Success and AVID, were available for questions relating to the Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise Rotation and the Explore Voices, Vision, and Vocation Rotation Curriculum Proposals. Administration recommended approval of the Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise Rotation and the Explore Voices, Vision, and Vocation Rotation Curriculum Proposals, in the amount of \$286,865.95, 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.

E. Middle School Elective - 6th Grade AVID Curriculum Proposal

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, Jaimie Giraldo, Coordinator of Fine Arts, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of Student Success and AVID, were available for questions relating to the 6th Grade AVID Curriculum Proposal. Administration recommended approval of the 6th Grade AVID Curriculum Proposal, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. As the District pays for AVID subscriptions per building, there is no additional cost for 6th grade teachers and staff to access our existing AVID resources.

9. Work Session – Resolutions

A. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Dust Collector)

Michele Chapman, Director of Post-Secondary Success, 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.

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

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Finance, and Danise Smith, Procurement Coordinator, 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.

C. Resolution Authorizing a Transfer to School District U-46 of Subdivider's or Developer's Cash Contribution in Lieu of School Sites and Cash Donation at Time of Occupancy Permit

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of 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 Authorizing a Transfer to School District U-46 of Subdivider's or Developer's Cash Contribution in Lieu of School Sites and Cash Donation at Time of Occupancy Permit.

D. Resolution Adopting School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Dr. Ann Williams and Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendents of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Finance, presented the FY26 Budget resolution with supporting documents and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution Adopting the School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026.

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

A. Bid - Procurement - Kimball Middle School Furniture

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 bidders, Frank Cooney in the amount of \$26,810.20, Garvey's Office Products in the amount of \$12,432.00, School Specialty in the amount of \$4,935.34, and Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$13,079.94, in the total amount of \$57,257.48, 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.

B. Proposal - Office of Schools - Upstate 8 Athletic Conference Dues

Marc Spacone, Coordinator of Athletics and Activities, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Update 8 Athletic Conference in the amount of \$37,500.00, 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. Proposal - Operations - Construction Management Services

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, 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. (ICI) in an amount not to exceed \$762,827.49, 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 budgets for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Video and Access Control Maintenance Agreement

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Cassondra Reichenbach, Assistant Director of Planning and Systems, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Convergent in the amount of \$322,578.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

B. Contract - Office of Schools - Athletics - Hudl All School Package

Marc Spacone, Coordinator of Athletics and Activities, and Paul Pennington, Elgin High School Athletic/Activities Director, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Hudl All School Package in the amount of \$95,000.00, 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.

12. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Board meeting of September 8, 2025, at 9:01 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 17th day of November, 2025.

Kathleen Thommes

Vice President

Justin Olsen

Secretary