

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

President Silver-Schack called the meeting to order at 7:07p.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 Yonaite, Recording Secretary and Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher/Streaming Tech.

Public Attendees: AJ Simon from Audio Enhancement and Tim Keenan.

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Construction Updates

Dr. Pearson, Superintendent, updated the Board on the District's construction projects. Dr. Pearson outlined the Meadowbrook Gymnasium's progress, noting the wall construction will be completed in November.

Dr. Pearson then presented interior images and exterior drawings of the new Meadowbrook building. The plan is to go for bid in December, with construction commencing in April.

New information was also shared regarding the project plans for the other three schools. Westmoor is scheduled for bids in April, with construction beginning in summer 2026 and concluding the following summer. Greenbriar's project plans were updated to ensure they remain within budget, and construction there will be completed in phases. Plans for Northbrook Junior High were recently updated, and Dr. Pearson will provide new renderings once they are available.

TrueNorth

Dr. Pearson updated the Board on the TrueNorth Cooperative, noting that the decision to reorganize, which was discussed last month, is moving forward. Later in the meeting, the Board officially approved rescinding the resolution of intent to withdraw, confirming the District's continued membership in the cooperative. The new bylaws will be approved at the November TrueNorth meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the minutes for Regular Meeting on September 30, 2025 and Closed Meeting on September 30, 2025.

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.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of September 2025, in the amount of \$1,972,559.78 and covered by check numbers 68593 through 68614 and deduction check numbers 68592 and 68615 through 68632 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 October 28, 2025;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of October 2025, in the amount of \$1,997,853.64 and covered by check numbers 68633 through 68659 and deduction check numbers 68660 through 68669 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 October 28, 2025.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$2,108,708.76 and Warrants listed as Numbers 65462 through 65627 and the following voids: 65336, 65443, 202600034 and 202600048, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated October 28, 2025.

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

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Amy Capocchi	EC YE Assistant	WM	SE/YE-4 \$26,142.77	10/31/25

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Richard Kim	Special Educ Asst.	GB	Resignation	10/28/25

Staff Salary Placement Changes 2025-26				
Name	Position	Location	Current Salary	New Salary
Michael Klotz	Teacher	NBJH	M+12-10 \$75,678.46	M+30-10 \$76,956

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

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

Ms. Donato, Chief School Business Official, provided the finance report for the months ending August 31, 2025 and September 30, 2025, and the list of bills paid in October were included in the Board packet. After three months of the new fiscal year, the monthly variance report shows 17.5% of the 2025-26 budget expended and 2.6% of budgeted revenues collected.

Food Service Sales

NBJH food services for the month of September totaled \$63,598. Organic Life's operating statement has a surplus of \$2,812 for the month. The year-to-date operating deficit is \$14,949.

Fiscal Year 2025 Audit

The audit will be presented at the December Board meeting. The capital assets report was delayed, and the auditors are working through those details. We have applied for and received an extension from the North Cook ISC.

Local, State & Federal Requirements

Since the September Board of Education Meeting, District 28 submitted the following:

- Posted 2025 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits on the District website
- Posted 2025-26 budgeted employees' salaries and benefits that exceed \$75,000 for IMRF and other employees on the District website
- Submitted FY2026 Budget to ISBE and Cook County and posted it on the District website
- Distributed annual Certificate of Creditable Coverage to employees
- Filed Employer's Quarterly Federal & Illinois Withholding Tax Returns (Form 941 & IL-941)
- Filed Illinois Department of Employment Security Quarterly Report (UI-3/40) & Multiple Worksite Report
- Filed monthly Bureau of Labor Statistics Report on Current Employment
- Submitted monthly Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Wage Report

It was moved by Member Pfanzelter and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Finance Report for August and September 2025.

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.

Resolution of Estimated Property Tax Levy 2025

Each year, the District is required to adopt a tax levy to request local property tax revenues. Ms. Donato presented the estimated property tax levy for 2025 as \$48,325,000. This final tax levy amount determines the maximum dollar amount the District can receive from property taxation.

This amount is subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL), which caps the growth in property tax revenue at the lesser of 5% or the annual change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding calendar year. The 2024 CPI was 2.90%, which will serve as the PTELL limit for the 2025 Extension.

The District is proposing a 4.99% levy increase over last year's extension. Due to the proposed aggregate levy exceeding 105% of the prior year's aggregate extension, the District is mandated to publish a notice and conduct a public hearing.

It was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the 2025 Estimated Property Tax Levy Resolution, as presented.

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.

Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$9,083,000 Taxable Tax Anticipation Warrants in anticipation of the collection of taxes levied for the year 2024 by the Board of Education of the District for educational purposes and authorizing the sale of said warrants to the purchaser thereof.

Ms. Donato reported that Tax Warrants are being prepared as a precautionary measure in case of delayed property tax revenues. Although tax bills are significantly behind schedule, with an expected issuance date of December 1, this delay might ultimately prevent the need for the District to issue these warrants. The District intends to continue collaborating with attorneys to ensure preparedness and plans to manage payroll through mid-December, as there are currently no active tax bills or due dates.

It was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Taxable Tax Anticipation Warrants Resolution.

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.

Resolution loaning funds from the working cash fund to the municipal retirement/social security and operations and maintenance funds

Ms. Donato clarified that this resolution would prepare the District in the event that property tax revenues are not received by year-end. This would enable the District to essentially borrow from itself, facilitating the necessary transfer of funds.

It was moved by Member Pfanzerter and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the Working Cash Fund Resolution, as presented.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

Interim Network Manager Job Description

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services, recommended hiring an interim contractor for the Network Manager position due to the passing of the District's contracted Network Manager. A job description for this temporary role was presented to the board.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Beefink that the Board of Education approve the Interim Network Manager Job Description.

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

IMRF Retirement Incentive

Ms. Donato presented a voluntary retirement incentive for classified (IMRF) employees. Employees would be incentivized to give early notice of election to retire.

It was moved by Member Pfanzerter and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the IMRF Retirement Incentive.

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

STUDENT SERVICES

No report.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

During the Board Meeting, Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent, announced that Monica Benz, Meadowbrook Librarian, is this year's recipient of the School District Library Grant. The approximately \$1,500 award is rotated annually among the District's librarians.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Pay App #2 Meadowbrook Gym Construction

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #2 for the Meadowbrook project, outlining the \$544,333.50 payment schedule with Happ Builders based on work completion.

It was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the payment to Happ Builders, Inc in the amount of \$544,333.50.

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.

AV / Acoustic Consulting Contracts

The District solicited proposals for AV/ Acoustic Consulting Fees from three vendors. Ms. Donato is recommending that the Board approve contracts with HAV for AV and Soundscape for Acoustics.

It was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Pfanzer that the Board of Education approve the contracts with HAV and Soundscape for \$152,250.

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

Member Beeftink provided a legislative update, highlighting two potential pieces of legislation. One concerns Tier 2 Pension Reform, which could involve changes such as lowering the retirement age requirement. The second relates to K-2 discipline rules, specifically limiting suspensions and expulsions.

POLICY

PRESS 119 Final Reading and Approval

Policies in PRESS 119 were recommended for approval by the Policy Committee. These included updates to policies: 2:80, 2:130, 7:140, 7:300, 8:80. As part of a 5-year cycle, the committee also reviewed the following policies: 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:240,

3:30, 4:50, 4:90, 4:180, 5:270, 7:40, 7:90, 7:130, 7:325, 8:110 and did not recommend any changes.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the policies from Press 119 as presented.

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.

IASB Resolutions Committee Report 2025

The Board was provided the IASB resolutions committee report ahead of the meeting. Members discussed the resolutions being voted on this November and decided a delegate from the Board is not needed to attend this year.

COMMUNICATION

Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications, informed the Board that the second podcast, which discusses Greenbriar renovations, has been released. She is currently developing the next podcast, focusing on Westmoor.

There was one FOIA this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Member Weinstock provided an update on the TrueNorth reorganization. He impressed the continued focus on student needs and a sustainable financial model.

Rescission of Intent to Withdraw from TrueNorth

In June, the Board approved a resolution for notice of intent to withdraw from TrueNorth. With the decision to reorganize the cooperative, Dr. Pearson recommended that this be revoked with the District remaining in the cooperative.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the rescission of intent to withdraw from TrueNorth.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

In

At 8:03 p.m., it was moved by Member Weinstock 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 8:33 p.m, it was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Horwitz that the meeting return to Regular Session. All members present voted Aye. Absent: Arms and Bazer. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:34 p.m., it was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzelter 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