

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 22, 2025

The video of the September 22, 2025, meeting can be found here:

[September 22, 2025 BOE Meeting](#)

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

A motion was made by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to allow Ms. Khan to participate in the September 22, 2025, Board of Education Meeting remotely due to personal illness or disability. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Dawn Martin, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens. Ms. Veronica Noland was absent.

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 5:47 p.m. by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Kerr. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

A motion was made at 6:50 p.m. by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to move into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Sue Kerr, Dawn Martin, 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, Richard Bosh, Michele Chapman, Robyn Cornelissen, Sheila Downs, Myka Kennedy, Amanda Leatherby, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Ashlee McHaney, Kevin McKenzie, Beth McKinney, Marcy Murphy, Milena

Nedeljkovic, Mario Pestaña, Doreen Roberts, Melissa Robison, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, and Dr. Ann Williams.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Tony Allen and Sebastian Flores.

1. Accent on Achievement - Dr. Johnson

A. U-46 Financial Operations Department Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education honored School District U-46's Financial Operations Department for having been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting by ASBO International. Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Finance, and Trinette Gardner, Financial Comptroller, accepted the recognition on behalf of the District's Financial Operations Department.

B. Illinois Special Olympics Summer Games Winner

As part of the Board of Education's Accent on Achievement, the Board of Education honored Nathan Scholl of Bartlett High School for finishing in 1st place in the 25 Meter Freestyle and the 25 Meter Backstroke during the Illinois Special Olympics Summer Games.

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

A. 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 update provided information on construction projects at several facilities.

B. Post Secondary Success Update

Michelle Chapman, Director of Post Secondary Success, Myka Kennedy, Assistant Director of Early College and Career Pathways, Milena Nedeljkovic, Assistant Director of Gifted, Accelerated, and Magnet Academies, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of AVID, APEX, and Summer Connections, presented to the Board of Education with a Post Secondary Success update. The update provided information on the College and Career Pathway Endorsement, new Dual Credit classes, AVID, online credit recovery, Magnet Academies, and summer programming.

3. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Jose Perez recognized DUEA leadership and commended School District U-46 for the new DUEA agreement.

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

A. Additional Information

Dr. Johnson spoke about the Explore event and the Explore Family Night. Dr. Johnson thanked the team members and partners for all their efforts making this happen.

5. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meetings June 9, 2025, and June 19, 2025
- C. Termination of Guadalupe D. Iniguez Cardenas – Food SVC Technician
- D. Termination of Marilena C. Schuld – Food SVC Technician
- E. Termination of Charles N. Smith – Assistant Principal-MS
- F. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Dust Collector)
- G. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Damaged Furniture)
- H. Bid - Procurement - Kimball Middle School Furniture
- I. Proposal - Office of Schools - Upstate 8 Athletic Conference Dues
- J. Proposal - Operations - Construction Management Services
- K. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Video and Access Control Maintenance Agreement
- L. Contract - Office of Schools - Athletics - Hudl All School Package
- M. Occupancy Permit - 1

Motion by Ms. Thommes, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-M as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – September 22, 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 \$34,164,811.25.

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$34,164,811.25. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, 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.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Martin, to approve the 6th Grade Spanish Language Arts Curriculum Proposal, in the amount of \$57,044.61, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

C. Middle School Elective - Career and Technical Education - Business, Culinary Arts, and Healthcare Science Curriculum Proposals

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, 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.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Career and Technical Education (Business, Culinary Arts, and Healthcare Science) Curriculum Proposal, in the total amount of \$320,772.45 and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

D. Middle School Elective - Fine Arts - Art, Choir, Dance, and Theatre Curriculum Proposals

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, 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.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the Fine Arts (Art, Choir, Dance, and Theatre) Curriculum Proposal, in the amount of \$316,117.44, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Mario Pestaña, Coordinator of Multilingual/Multicultural Education, were available for questions relating to the Rotations Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise Electives Curriculum Proposal. Administration recommended approval of the Rotations Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise, and Explore Voices, Vision, and Vocation Electives 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.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Rotations Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise, Electives Curriculum Proposal, in the amount of \$286,865.95, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Beth McKinney, Coordinator of AVID, APEX, and Summer Connections, 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.

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to approve the 6th Grade AVID Curriculum Proposal at no additional cost and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

G. 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, were available for 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.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Resolution Adopting the School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026.

President Owens thanked the team for their work.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

H. 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, was available for 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.

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to 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. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

I. Approval of the DUEA Tentative Agreement

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer, and Lela Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, presented a proposed 2025-2029 Tentative Agreement with the District U-46 Educational Assistants (DUEA). Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Agreement.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to approve the 2025-2029 Tentative Agreement with the District U-46 Educational Assistants (DUEA) as presented and to authorize the President and the Superintendent to sign the tentative agreement.

President Owens thanked administration and DUEA for all the work that has gotten to this point.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

J. Contract - Specialized Student Services - Speech and Language Therapy Services

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Melissa Robison, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services (Operations), presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with the list of agencies and independent contractors below, not to exceed the amount of \$3,084,840.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Bilingual Speech Solutions - \$299,232.00, 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, Amergis - \$128,700.00, 360 Therapy - \$86,580.00, Parallel Learning - \$27,648.00, Sage Connections LLC. - \$79,560.00. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the contract with the list of agencies and independent contractors as read into the record, not to exceed the amount of \$3,084,840.00, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

K. Amend Agenda Item 14-E

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to amend agenda item 14-E to ratify the language for Middle School Electives. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the Rotations Explore Justice, Design, and Enterprise, Electives Curriculum Proposal, and the Explore

Voices, Vision, and Vocation Electives Curriculum Proposal in the amount of \$286,865.95 and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

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

A. Proposal - School Safety - Central Schools/Dream Academy Radio Replacements

Richard Bosh, Director of School Safety, and Kevin McKenzie, Security Operations Manager, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Alpha Prime Communications in the amount of \$80,604.76, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Department of School Safety. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

B. Proposal - Specialized Student Services - Purchase of Student iPads

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Melissa Robison, Assistant Director of Specialized Student Services (Operations), presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Apple Education in the amount of \$125,150.00, 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.

C. Proposal - Transportation - Student Transportation Routing Software Upgrade

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Marcy Murphy, Director of Transportation, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$939,696.00, 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.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Career and Technical Education: Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Participation Fee

Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the proposal and were

available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Project Lead the Way in the amount of \$35,550.00, 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 - Plant Operations - Streamwood Park District Intergovernmental Agreement

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with the Streamwood Park District and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents.

C. Contract - Equity and Innovation - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Tour

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with WorldStrides in the amount of \$79,800.00, 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.

D. Contract - Equity and Innovation - Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) Student Tour

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with WorldStrides in the amount of \$91,800.00, 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.

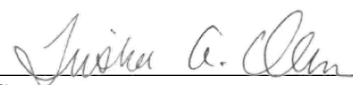
9. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to adjourn the Board meeting of September 22, 2025, at 8:20 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

Approved this 15th day of December, 2025.



President



Secretary