



## REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

September 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Palos West Elementary

12700 W. 104th Ave.

Palos Park, IL

1. **Call to Order.** Pam Paris, Board President, called the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2025, to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Board members present: Pam Paris, Board President, Mike Pizur, Vice President, Dr. Tim Baker, Dan Cox, Kevin Quinn. Others Present: Dr. Anthony Scarsella, Superintendent of Schools; Erin Deval, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Scott Fox, Director of IT; Terri Dodds, Assistant Director of Student Services; Dr. Huwaida Hamed, Director of EL; Rob Szklanecki, Director of Teaching and Learning; Justin Veihman, Chief School Business Official; Allison Grasso, Palos East Principal; Jennifer Peloquin, Palos West Principal; Dr. Stuart Wrzesinski, Palos South Principal; Sara Leahy, Palos South Assistant Principal; Andrea Ramoley, Palos East Assistant Principal; Kristie Tieri, Palos West Assistant Principal; Brock Stein, Director of Communications; Members Absent: Susan Szafranski, Secretary; Jennifer Jensen.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Recognition.** Mr. Szklanecki, the principals, and assistant principals recognized new teachers, teachers receiving tenure, and those who earned advanced degrees.
5. **Public Comment.** None
6. **President's Report.** Mrs. Paris asked Mr. Quinn to read a section of the Oath of Office/Code of Conduct as a reminder and affirmation of the commitment of each board member to faithfully discharge their duties in pursuit of fulfilling the school district's mission and vision. Mrs. Paris reminded those in attendance of the following upcoming dates:
  - September 19: Spirit Lunches at East and West
  - September 20: Autumn in the Park Parade at 1 p.m.
  - October 3: PFA Barn Dance at Palos West at 6 p.m.
  - October 10: Teacher Institute Day (No School)
  - October 13: Columbus Day (No School)
  - October 14: Regular Board Meeting at Central (6 p.m.)
  - October 17: Harvest Fest at Palos South (5:30 pm)
7. **Administrative Reports.** Dr. Scarsella reported that he was pleased to see so many families attended curriculum nights to learn more about their students' upcoming year. He

congratulated the early childhood program at Palos West which was the recipient of a Gold Circle of Quality Award from the Illinois State Board of Education. Dr. Scarsella commended Dr. Wrzesinski, Mrs. Leahy, and the staff at Palos South for their fun kick off their PBIS program. He reminded parents to download the My Ride K-12 app for bus updates, and the ParentSquare app for updates from their schools and the District.

## 8. Committee Reports

- 8.1 **Policy Committee Report.** Policy Committee Chair Mr. Dan Cox reported that the committee met on August 19 and Dr. Scarsella reviewed PRESS Update 119 with the committee and a recommended revision to Board Policy 7:60 Residence to provide clarity around the requirement to be a resident of the school district at time of enrollment. The Committee also discussed the Board's participation in the Palos Park Autumn in the Park Parade and branding initiatives pursuant to Board Policy 8:10 Connection with the Community.
- 8.2 **Finance and Facilities Committee.** Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Pizur, reported that the Finance and Facilities Committee met on September 2 where Mr. Veihman presented the final FY26 budget to the committee. Mr. Veihman also notified the committee that due to the delay with Cook County property tax receipts, it is highly likely the district will face a cash shortfall by late October or early November and recommended the issuance of tax anticipation warrants to address the temporary cash flow issues created by Cook County's delay in distributing property tax receipts. Mr. Veihman shared with the committee the revised Facilities Use Procedures and notified the committee that the district has complied with the posting of compensation and shared service reports. Mr. Veihman requested approval to dispose of surplus technology equipment. The Committee appointed board member Jennifer Jensen to serve on the District Safety Committee.
- 8.3 **Foundation.** Shiela Pacholski, President of the Educational Foundation or the Foundation designee reported that the Foundation would host Laps for Literature on September 12.
- 8.4 **PFA.** No Report.
- 8.5 **MPA.** Dr. Wrzesinski reported that the MPA would host Harvest Fest at Palos South on October 17 starting at 5:30 p.m.

## 9. New Business

- 9.1 **Budget Hearing FY2026.** A motion was made by Dr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Cox for the Board to open a public hearing on the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget. The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed.

There were no public comments. A motion was made by Dr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Quinn for the Board to close the public hearing on the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget. The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed.

- 9.2 **Adoption of FY2026 Legal Budget.** A motion was made by Dr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Pizur for the Board to approve the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

Legal Budget. The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed.

- 9.3 **Approval of Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$5,000,000 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.** A motion was made by Dr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Cox for the Board to approve the Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$5,000,000 Taxable Tax Anticipation Warrants. The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed.
- 9.4 First Reading Press Update 119 & 7:60 Residence. The Board held a first reading of Press Update 119 and policy 7:60 Residence.

## 10. Secretary's Report

- 10.1 **Correspondence Received.** Dr. Baker reported that the District received Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests from the Foundation for Fair Contracting and Smart Procure. Both requests have been completed.
- 10.2 **Correspondence Sent.** None

## 11. Recommended for Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Mr. Pizur for the Board to approve the following agenda items 11.1 through 11.6 under a consent agenda.

- 11.1 Approval of Facility Use Agreement and Fees
- 11.2 Approval of Disposal of Surplus Property
- 11.3 Approval of Certified Personnel Report A:  
**FMLA:** Jillian Lundy, Speech Pathologist, West
- 11.4 Approval of Classified Personnel Report B:  
**Employment:**  
Asmahan "Hannah" Zorab, Paraprofessional, East;  
Gloria Lopez, Paraprofessional, East;  
Michelle Solski, Paraprofessional, South;  
Kenneth Dompeling, Bus Driver, Transportation;  
Jenny Merneigh, Part-Time Playground, West;  
Sandra Hazzard, Part-Time Playground, East  
**Resignation:**  
Deanna Agnos, Playground Supervisor, East;  
Kayla VonDrasek, Paraprofessional, East
- 11.5 Approval of Regular and Special Meeting Minutes dated August 12, 2025, and Special Meeting Minutes dated August 19, 2025, and September 2, 2025.

11.6 Authorize Payment of Payrolls, Bills Payable and Aggregate Totals:  
\$4,421,405.65

The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox,  
Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed.

12. **Public Comment.** Non-Agenda Items. None

13. **Closed Session.** A motion was made by Mr. Quinn and seconded by Dr. Baker for the Board of Education to go into closed session for 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 body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed and the Board went into closed session at 6:26 p.m.

14. **Adjournment.** A motion was made by Mr. Quinn and seconded by Mr. Pizur that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. The roll call vote was, Aye votes: Mrs. Paris, Mr. Pizur, Dr. Baker, Mr. Cox, Mr. Quinn. Nay votes: None. The motion passed and the Board adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education