

**School District U-46**

Elgin, Illinois

December 15, 2025

**The video of the December 15, 2025, meeting can be found here:**

[December 15, 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, IL 60120.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens. Ms. Martin 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 6:16 p.m. by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made at 6:53 p.m. by Ms. Thommes, seconded by Ms. Noland, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, 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 Welcome Center: Rich Bosh, Michele Chapman, Naul Conejo, Robyn Cornelissen, Sheila Downs, Amy Durkalski, Lisa Jackson, Myka Kennedy, Amanda Leatherby, Brian Lindholm, Jolene Linneman, Griselda Pirtle, Cassondra Reichenbach, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, and Dr. Ann Williams.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Bond Issue Notification Act (BINA) - PUBLIC HEARING Concerning the Intent of the Board of Education of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois to Sell \$32,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the Purpose of Increasing the Working Cash Fund

A. Opening of Hearing

The hearing was opened at 7:02 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning the intent to sell Working Cash Fund Bonds in the amount not to exceed \$32,000,000.00 for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund.

B. Comments from the Public

Cody Holt spoke against the \$32,000,000.00 bond issuance and the use of Raymond James.

C. Adjournment of Hearing

A motion was made by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the hearing. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

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

A. Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) and School District U-46 Explore 2025 Update

Bill Wright, Alignment Governing Board Chairman, Nancy Coleman, Executive Director for Alignment Collaborative for Education, Edgar Montes, Alignment Collaborative Community Program Manager, Todd Stirn, Northern Kane County Region 110 Work-Based Learning Specialist, and Terry Stroh, Director of Northern Kane County Region 110, provided the Board of Education with an update on Alignment Collaborative for Education and the Explore 2025 event.

B. Equity Update

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, Lisa Jackson, Director of Equity and Inclusion, Michele Chapman, Director of Post-Secondary Success, Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Griselda Pirtle, Director of Multilingual Multicultural Education, provided the Board of Education with an update on equity. The update provided information on the Equity Committee progress, academic growth, equity and innovation advancements, and HBCU and HSI tours.

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

President Owens asked the Board to discuss their experiences at the Triple I Conference.

Ms. Kerr spoke about the sessions she attended at the Triple I Conference. She attended a session with Dr. Tony Sanders on what is occurring at the State level and another session with a law firm discussing the implications of possible Federal funding cuts. She also spoke about the Delegate Assembly.

Ms. Thommes spoke about the sessions at the Triple I Conference that she attended. She attended a session with Dr. Acevedo regarding Dual Language and a session titled Trust Factor. She also attended a session with Laura Martinez titled 10 Topics and a session titled Tiny Moments Big Impacts.

Ms. Khan spoke about the sessions she attended at the Triple I Conference, including a session on collective bargaining.

Ms. Schwartz spoke about the sessions at the Triple I Conference that she attended. She attended a session called Fierce Conversations, a session with Dr. Williams titled Dollars and Decisions, Dr. Acevedo's Dual Language session, and the Large District Networking session.

Ms. Noland spoke about the sessions at the Triple I Conference that she attended. She attended a session titled What Will Spring 2026 Bring for School Finance, a session titled BOE Predicament Theater, and the Large District Networking session.

President Owens spoke about the sessions she attended at the Triple I Conference. She attended the session with Dr. Williams titled Dollars and Decisions, the session titled What Will Spring 2026 Bring for School Finance, and the Large District Networking session.

Dr. Johnson thanked her colleagues for providing professional learning opportunities at the Triple I Conference.

Ms. Noland thanked Evelyn Bevins for all she does regularly, but also for everything she did to help with the conference.

Ms. Thommes also thanked Ms. Bevins.

B. FOIA Requests – 14

Dr. Johnson stated that there were fourteen 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 - September 22, 2025
- C. Termination of Margarita Coronado Covarrubias – Monitor
- D. Termination of August A. Karbowski – PARA-CC; SESS 1:1
- E. Termination of Sandra Martinez – Noon Hour Supervisor
- F. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - Century Oaks Elementary School Electrical
- G. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - Glenbrook Elementary School Electrical
- H. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - Illinois Park Elementary School
- I. Proposal - Plant Operations - Kimball Middle School Emergency Chiller Repairs
- J. Contract - Specialized Student Services - Contract Related Service Staff
- K. Change Order - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Pathways Phase 2: Automotive, Culinary, and Engineering Renovation, Project #321
- L. Change Order - Plant Operations - Heritage Elementary School Electrical Switchboard Replacement and Emergency Generator Installation, Project #879
- M. Change Order - Plant Operations - Lords Park Elementary School Emergency Generator Installation, Project #1153
- N. Change Order - Plant Operations - Horizon Elementary School Electrical Switchboard Replacement and Emergency Generator Installation, Project #980
- O. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of Heredia v. Smith and School District U-46
- P. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of MJ and KJ v. School District U-46
- Q. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of Arias v. School District U-46 and Bartlett High School
- R. Statement of Completion – 1
- S. Building Permit - 1

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Noland, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-S as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

6. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

- A. Itemized Bills – December 15, 2025

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the List of Bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$99,156,360.74.

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$99,156,360.74. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

#### B. Estimate of 2025 Tax Levy

Dr. Ann Williams and Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendents of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Finance, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the Fiscal Year 2025 Tax Levy documents. Administration recommended adoption of the Truth in Taxation Certificate, Certification of Truth in Taxation Compliance, Certificate of Tax Levy, Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Certificate of Tax Levy, and Certification of the Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Certificate of Tax Levy.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to adopt the Truth in Taxation Certificate, Certification of Truth in Taxation Compliance, Certificate of Tax Levy, Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Certificate of Tax Levy, and Certification of the Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Certificate of Tax Levy.

Robyn Cornelissen reviewed the Tax Levy.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

#### C. Minutes of Board Committee Meetings

The Board of Education reviewed the following Board Committee Meeting Minutes: 09/08/2025 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting, and the 11/17/2025 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting. Administration recommended the Board of Education accept the minutes.

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to accept the Minutes of the 09/08/2025 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting and the 11/17/2025 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

D. Superintendent's Goals

The Board of Education discussed the Contract Goals for Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson.

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Noland, to accept the Contract Goals for Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

E. Proposal - Operations – Builder’s Risk Insurance

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Chubb Insurance Company in the amount of \$92,943.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure was charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the proposal from Chubb Insurance Company in the amount of \$92,943.00, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

F. Proposal - Operations - Owner Controlled Insurance Program

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Alliant Insurance Services in the amount of \$783,064.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure was charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to approve the proposal from Alliant Insurance Services in the amount of \$783,064.00, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

G. Proposal - Operations - Unite U-46 Century Oaks Elementary School - Winter Break 2025 Asbestos Abatement

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Kinsale Contracting Group, Inc. in the amount of \$47,212.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure was charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to approve the proposal from Kinsale Contracting Group, Inc. in the amount of \$47,212.00, and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes: 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

7. Other Business - Dr. Johnson

A. October 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.

B. 2026 Proposed Summer Projects Summary

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Projects Coordinator, reviewed the 2026 Proposed Summer Projects Summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

8. Work Session - Dr. Johnson

A. Donation Acceptance Between Assurance Technologies, Inc. and the Board of Education of School District U-46

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented the Donation Acceptance between Assurance Technologies, Inc. and the Board of Education of School District U-46. Administration recommended approval of the donation.

B. Intergovernmental Agreements - Video Integration Agreement with the Villages of Bartlett, Carol Stream, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, South Elgin, Streamwood, and Wayne

Rich Bosh, Director of School Safety, and Cassondra Reichenbach, Assistant Director of Planning and Systems, presented to the Board of Education the Intergovernmental Agreements - Video Integration Agreements with the Villages of Bartlett, Carol Stream, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, South Elgin,

Streamwood, and Wayne. This agreement is presented to the Board of Education after it has been approved by the municipalities. The Memorandum provides additional details regarding the Video Integration Agreements.

9. Work Session – Resolutions

- A. Resolution Providing for the Issue of Not to Exceed \$57,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2026A, for the Purpose of Paying Certain Costs of Those Capital Projects Approved by Referendum at the April 4, 2023, Consolidated Election, providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax Sufficient to Pay the Principal and Interest on Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Proposed Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof

Dr. Ann Williams and Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendents of Operations, and Anjali Vij, Partner at Chapman and Cutler, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Providing for the Issuance of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2026A, not to exceed \$57,000,000 for the purpose of paying certain costs of Capital Projects approved by referendum.

- B. Resolution Providing for the Issue of Not to Exceed \$32,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2026B, for the Purpose of Increasing the Working Cash Fund, providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax to Pay the Principal and Interest on Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Proposed Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof

Dr. Ann Williams and Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendents of Operations, and Anjali Vij, Partner at Chapman and Cutler, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Providing for the Issuance of General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2026B, not to exceed \$32,000,000 for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds.

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

- A. Bid - Plant Operations - South Elgin High School Modernization Pool, Project #282-25

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Projects 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, Lite Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$547,000.00, 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 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Proposal - Plant Operations - Hanover Countryside Elementary School Emergency Environmental Testing and Cleaning

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Falls Mechanical Insulation, Inc. in the amount of \$55,128.00 and Weaver Consultants Group in the amount of \$441,336.13, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure was charged to the Operations Fund.

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

A. Contract - Plant Operations - 2017 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect - IMEG Corp.

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Projects Coordinator, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with IMEG Corp. for the design of the Summer 2026 Capital Projects, 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 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Contract - Plant Operations - 2017 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect - Arcon Associates, Inc.

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Projects Coordinator, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Arcon Associates, Inc. for the design of the Summer 2026 Capital Projects, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations Fund and Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

C. Contract - Plant Operations - 2017 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect - Mechanical Service Associates Corp.

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Projects Coordinator, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Mechanical Service Associates Corp. for the design of the Summer 2026 Capital Projects, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to

the Operations Fund and Health and Life Safety Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

D. Contract Renewal - Information Services - Call Manager Flex

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Naul Conejo, Technology Operations Manager, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Sentinel Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$122,902.50, 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. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - 5Star Interpreting

Amanda Leatherby, Director of Specialized Student Services, and Amy Durkalski, 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 5Star Interpreting in the amount not to exceed \$300,000.00, 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. Work Session - Change Orders (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)


A. Change Order - Plant Operations - Coleman Elementary School Roof Replacement, Project #686-25

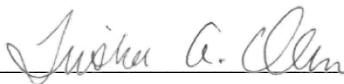
Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Jolene Linneman, Capital Project Coordinator, presented the change order and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the change order from Crowther Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of minus \$46,700.00.

13. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Board meeting of December 15, 2025, at 8:55 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 23rd day of February, 2026.

  
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President

  
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Secretary