

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25
1200 S. Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

School Board Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2026

Greg Scapillato, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. The meeting was held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 S. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Roll call was noted.

Board members present: Melissa Buchberger, Brian Cerniglia, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Greg Scapillato, and Deb Tranter

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Brian Kaye, Superintendent

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education adjourn into closed session to discuss: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11); Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.



The Board returned to open session at 7:02 p.m. Roll call was noted and the Pledge of Allegiance said.

Board members present: Melissa Buchberger, Brian Cerniglia, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Greg Scapillato, and Deb Tranter

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Brian Kaye, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Dr. Becky FitzPatrick, Assistant Superintendent of Student Learning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Kendra Perri, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology; Sandy Voss, Director of Food and Nutrition Services; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

Recognitions and Presentations

District Spelling Bee Participants

Congratulations to the following middle school students for participating in the District 25 Spelling Bee. Candice Ong was the winner of the District Bee, and will represent the district in the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee. Kim Kusiciel is the Coordinator of the district's Spelling Bee program.

South Middle School

Meara Mladic
Olivia Schoenbeck
Dino Spiropoulos

Thomas Middle School

Reyansh Banerjee
Candice Ong
Anya Sachdev

Thomas Middle School 7th Grade Girls State Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Thomas 7th Grade Girls Basketball Team that participated in the state tournament. Thank you to their Coach, Brad Keeler.

Emma Amos
Brooklyn Bucciarelli
Lucy Dalton
Julia Gurvis
Addison Korba

Lavera (Vera) Kozak
Leighton Mattix
Adey Melaku
Katherine Neary
Isla Orlandino

Olivia Reynolds
Samantha Vaskovsky
Lucie Weaver

Thomas Middle School 7th Grade Boys State Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Thomas 7th Grade Boys Basketball Team that participated in the state tournament, and came in 4th place. Thank you to their Coach, Brad Keeler.

Camden Choi
JB Gandor
Nolan Goheen
Barrett Irvin
Nicholas Knuth

Camden Magsino
Ryan Manis
Michael Mathew
Rafael Melendez
Tyler Molina

Gavin O'Neil
Sean Park
Kurt Peterson

Communications from District Partners

- PTA –Ms. Lakomski reported that today is PTA Founder's Day, and she provided a brief history of the founders. The Pack the Piggies fundraiser will be held this spring, and the annual Scholarship Breakfast will be May 1. She described some of the various activities and events at the schools. PTA nominations are starting for the next

school year. She also provided an update on the Music for Youth program, including various events.

- ABC25 Foundation – Dr. Kaye read a report from Ms. Faso. Details on the Top Golf fundraiser on March 15 were reviewed.
- ATA – Ms. Berg talked about the various happenings in the schools.

Community Input - None

Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Ms. Tranter is proud of the students that are participating in the strategic planning group. Ms. Nierman attended the Thomas Poms competition. Ms. Buchberger thanked the Windsor teachers and families that are helping to support the Windsor community. Dr. Jogee attended a Science Olympiad competition. Mr. Scapillato and other Board members attended the ED-RED Legislative dinner.
- Legislative Report – Mr. Michael attended the Legislative Dinner last month. He provided an overview of the February 13 virtual ED-RED meeting. The next meeting will be held virtually on March 6.
- IASB/COSSBA – Dr. Jogee reported that the IASB Board President's Academy will be held on June 13. Board members are invited to apply to attend the IASB Advocacy Day on March 24. She noted that the deadline for the Board to submit a proposal to present at the November conference is March 15. The COSSBA conference will be held in mid-March.
- NSSEO – Ms. Nierman reported that NSSEO hosted educators on the January 5 Institute Day. The Amy Rudolph Basketball tournament will be held on February 20. The Operational Board meetings have begun and will be held monthly. Dr. Kaye noted that next year's operational meetings will align more closely with the NSSEO Board meetings.

Consent Agenda

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve those items on the Consent Agenda as follows: (A) Personnel Report and Addendum to Personnel Report; (B) Treasurer's Report (C) Invoices; (D) Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026; (E) Special Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026; (F) Hold Closed session minutes of October 21, 2025, November 11, 2025, and December 16, 2025 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (G): Release Closed session minutes of July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, and November 12, 2025 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (H) Hold Audiotapes May 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (I) Destruction of Audiotapes January 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024 per Board Policy 2:220-E1

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Student Learning

Middle School Math Curriculum Adoption

Dr. FitzPatrick introduced Sean McGann, Math and Science Curriculum Coordinator; and Tiffany Marston and Maddie Mowery, South Middle School Math Teachers.

Dr. FitzPatrick provided an overview on the District 25 program review process. Mr. McGann provided details on the middle school math timeline phases, which include research, development, implementation, and refinement. The committees developed core belief statements and previewed and piloted curricular resources. A consultant, Susan Resnick, provided professional learning for the team. Mr. McGann reviewed the Draft Illinois Comprehensive Numeracy Plan goals including equity and access, rigorous instruction, and cohesive systems. The district core math beliefs were explained. The committee is recommending Savvas enVision+, and the benefits of the resource were provided. The implementation will begin in 2026-2027 for 6-8th grades, and then in 2027-2028 for 6th-7th grade advanced math, and 8th grade honors algebra. There will be ongoing professional learning and Instructional Coach support.

Dr. FitzPatrick noted that they are recommending a seven-year contract, which will provide a large savings over an annual contract. Ms. Marston and Ms. Mowery explained their experiences and the instructional impact in their classrooms from a teacher perspective, and as well as student feedback.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on the implementation plan; the program's digital and print materials and student screentime; the curriculum for the advanced geometry students that take classes at District 214; the materials for the 7th grade implementation; professional learning and instructional material standards; the district program review process; and the phased approach of the implementation. The team was thanked for the detailed presentation.

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance

Five-Year Financial Forecast

Ms. Mallek presented five-year financial projections to the Board. She provided a detailed review of the assumptions related to revenues and expenditures. A chart with the financial projection of all funds was shown, as well as the fund balance. She reviewed projected revenues, expenditures, and fund balance through 2030-2031. The district should expect to spend \$21.5M for capital projects over the next five years. She stated that any projection beyond five years would not be precise.

Property taxes are the district's largest source of revenue, and are collected in March/April and the fall. Ms. Mallek reviewed the fund balance. As of June 30, the fund balance must provide cash flow for expenditures until the second installment of property taxes is received. The fund balance helps the district process expenditures on a timely basis without disrupting what is being offered in the schools. It begins to drop below 60% around 2027, but it is still above the 40% level through 2031. Ms. Mallek summarized the

challenges and advantages for the Board to consider. The district is in a situation where we do not have to significantly react, but we can look at options because we have a healthy fund balance. Ms. Mallek was thanked for the detailed presentation.

Approve Food and Nutrition Services Serving Equipment Bid

Ms. Voss explained the decision to go to bid for the equipment, and the benefits of the new equipment.

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the contract for the purchase of front-of-house serving equipment at South and Thomas Middle Schools to Gator Chef in the amount of \$655,941.66.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning – No Report

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Update

Dr. Kaye shared updates with the Board on various items including Monday's Parent-Teacher Conferences; thanking the Windsor staff and community for supporting the community and students; and an update on the Strategic Plan Setting Direction Retreat, which will be held on February 24.

Freedom of Information Act Report

- Kimia Hamidi of The Data Branch Research Team requested information on fleet management contract data; a response was provided on January 20, 2026.
- Michelle Connolly requested information regarding her employment; a response was provided on January 27, 2026.
- Michelle Connolly requested information regarding her employment; a response was provided on January 29, 2026.
- Michelle Connolly requested information regarding her employment; a response was provided on February 2, 2026.
- Matt Stockwell of The Data Branch Research Team, requested information on purchase orders; a response was provided on February 3, 2026.
- William Boodro requested information on the Phase 2 Miner School window replacement project; a response was provided on February 4, 2026.
- Austin Brenneman, Business Development Manager of Yellowstone Landscape, requested information on grass cutting services; a response was provided on February 11, 2026.

Second Reading of Policies – PRESS 120

Dr. Kaye noted that there were no changes since the last meeting.

PRESS 120:

2:120	Board Member Development
2:150	Committees
2:270	Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited
4:10	Fiscal and Business Management
4:80	Accounting and Audits
4:140	Waiver of Student Fees
4:190	Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
5:10	Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
5:90	Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
5:100	Staff Development Program
5:190	Teacher Qualifications
5:200	Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:220	Substitute Teachers
5:280	Duties and Qualifications
5:300	Schedules and Employment Year
6:20	School Year Calendar and Day
6:40	Curriculum Development
6:60	Curriculum Content
6:130	Program for the Gifted
6:160	Multilingual Learners
6:260	Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
6:280	Grading and Promotion
6:315	High School Credit for Students in Grades 7 or 8
7:10	Equal Educational Opportunities
7:70	Attendance and Truancy
7:150	Agency and Law Enforcement Requests
7:180	Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
7:190	Student Behavior
7:290	Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
7:310	Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools
7:340	Student Records
8:30	Visitors and Conduct on School Property

Misc:

2:125-E3	Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursements
7:326	Student Gifts and Solicitations

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the policies and exhibits as presented.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Resolution Calling on the Cook County Treasurer and Other Cook County Officials Responsible for the Issuance of Property Tax Bills to Resolve Systemic Issues

Dr. Kaye stated that there were no changes since this was presented at the last meeting.

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the "Resolution Calling on the Cook County Treasurer and Other Cook County Officials Responsible for the Issuance of Property Tax Bills to Resolve Systemic Issues" as presented.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Resolution Prohibiting the use of School District Property for Civil Immigration Enforcement Staging Areas, Processing Locations, or Operations Bases

Dr. Kaye stated that there were no changes since this was presented at the last meeting.

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the "Resolution Prohibiting the use of School District Property for Civil Immigration Enforcement Staging Areas, Processing Locations, or Operations Bases" as presented.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Student Voice

Dr. Kaye facilitated a discussion with Board members on student voice. He asked that Board members review the list of interests and solutions, and think about any non-negotiables. Dr. Kaye will then look into solutions that incorporate them.

Draft Board Meeting Dates for 2026-2027

Dr. Kaye asked the Board for input on the draft dates. He highlighted specific dates, and noted that meetings will still occur the third Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted. It will be brought back in March for another information item.

Community Input – None

Future Agenda Items

Topics with Dates to be Determined - None

New Topics - None

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education return to the Closed session meeting at 9:32 p.m. for the same reasons as previously stated.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board returned to open session at 10:39 p.m.

Motion: K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 10:39 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien
Recording Secretary

Approved: March 10, 2026

President
Board of Education

Secretary
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: March 11, 2026

Date minutes posted on District website: March 11, 2026