

**KILDEER COUNTRYSIDE  
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 96**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes for February 3, 2026**

**Call To Order**

Dr. Feygin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Educational Development Center of Ivy Hall School.

**Roll Call**

Present: Marc Tepper, Dina Manka, Erika Immel, Cynthia Zarkowsky, and Amy Feygin  
Remote: None  
Late: None  
Absent: José Rivera, Mike Burns  
Administrators in Attendance: Katie Sheridan, Jon Hitcho, Jane Pedersen, Ninja Idrizi, and Jennifer Dunne

**Welcome to Visitors**

Dr. Feygin welcomed members of the faculty, community, and press to the meeting. Members of the audience introduced themselves. Mr. Hitcho led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Feygin asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one responded.

**Administrative Reports**

**Student Recognition**

The Board members recognized the outstanding achievements of our Boys' Basketball conference champions. The students were presented with certificates of accomplishment by Ms. Sheridan and were also recognized within their schools today, January 30, 2026. Ms. Sheridan shared highlights from her discussions with the team regarding their season, specifically reflecting on the perseverance required to navigate various challenges. She commended the students for the leadership and teamwork they displayed, which proved instrumental in encouraging their peers and securing a successful end to the season.

**Staffing and Class Size Projections**

Dr. Pedersen presented the preliminary staffing plan for the 2025–26 school year, serving as the foundational framework for next year's personnel allocations. This plan was developed in response to the enrollment projections and student needs assessments shared with the Board two weeks prior. Dr. Pedersen noted that while overall enrollment is seeing a gradual decrease, the proposed recommendations prioritize the maintenance of robust resources and direct support for students. The administration will continue to monitor registration data closely throughout the spring and summer to make any necessary adjustments to ensure optimal class sizes and service delivery.

**County School Facility Occupation Tax**

As an education opportunity, Ms. Sheridan introduced the Board to a possible additional revenue stream known as the County School Facility Occupation Tax (CSFT).

**Priority Items for Consideration and/or Action**

Closed Session

Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was presented by Mr. Tepper and seconded by Ms. Zarkowsky to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of:

- Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Tepper, Manka, Immel, Zarkowsky, and Feygin

Nay: None

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 7:32 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

The meeting reconvened in open session at 7:50 p.m.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Zarkowsky and seconded by Mr. Tepper to approve the minutes of the closed session. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Zarkowsky, Tepper, Manka, Immel, and Feygin

Nay: None

**Action Items**

**Employment, Appointment, and Dismissal – Certified Staff**

Resignations

A motion was presented by Ms. Zarkowsky and seconded by Mr. Tepper to accept the resignation of the following individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Eff. Date</u>
Appell, Jaime	Interventionist	1.0	Woodlawn	06/01/26
Santucci, Angela	Kindergarten Teacher	1.0	Willow Grove	06/01/26

All members present voted Aye; the motion carried.

Employment

None at this time.

Student Services Coordinator Contract Approval

A motion was presented by Ms. Manka and seconded by Ms. Immel to approve Kelly Szafranski to become the D96 Student Service Coordinator. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Manka, Immel, Zarkowsky, Tepper, and Feygin

Nay: None

**Employment, Appointment, and Dismissal – Educational Support Personnel**

**Employment, Appointment, and Dismissal**

A motion was presented by Mr. Tepper and seconded by Ms. Manka to approve the memo presented by Human Resources for the employment, appointment, and dismissal of certain educational support personnel as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Tepper, Manka, Immel, Zarkowsky, and Feygin

Nay: None

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Literacy Curriculum Adoption**

Dr. Idrizi presented a unified K–8 literacy vision through two departmental memos, originating from a 2023–24 review of the district’s curriculum process. The first memo recommends the formal adoption of Amplify CKLA and Caminos for grades K–5 for the 2026–27 school year. This recommendation follows a successful two-year pilot that demonstrated strong alignment with the Science of Reading and support for the Dual Language program. Formal Board approval for this adoption will be sought at the next meeting. The second memo provided an update on the middle school ELA pilot. The administration is currently comparing data between pilot and non-pilot classrooms to evaluate instructional impact. A formal curriculum recommendation for the middle school level is expected to be presented to the Board this spring.

### **Information Items**

#### **IASB Lake Division Dinner Spring**

The Lake Division spring meeting will be held on April 15, 2026, from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Doubletree by Hilton Libertyville in Mundelein. The topic will be AI in Schools: Shaping the Future of Education, presented by Eric Santos, LTC Illinois. Please let Ms. McGillian know if you would like to attend.

### **Board Comments**

The Board received an update on building maintenance, upcoming committee and board meeting attendance, and an update on an event.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business before the Board of Education, a motion was presented by Mr. Tepper and seconded by Ms. Zarkowsky to adjourn the meeting. On a roll call vote, the motion carried:

Aye: Tepper, Manka, Immel, Zarkowsky, and Feygin

Nay: None

Dr. Feygin adjourned the February 3, 2026, regular meeting of the Kildeer Countryside Community Consolidated School District 96 Board of Education at 8:03 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for February 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education