

BOARD BRIEFS

INFORMATION FROM THE MARCH 17, 2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

KYLE BUAK SWORN IN AS NEWEST D34 BOARD MEMBER

Antioch CCSD 34 is pleased to welcome Kyle Buak as the newest member of the Board of Education. Kyle has lived in the community for the past 5 ½ years and is the parent of a fifth grade student at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Kyle brings leadership experience from both military and private sector roles. A graduate of the U.S. Army School of Aviation Logistics, he currently serves as a Fleet Manager for Solar Turbines, where he monitors and plans maintenance for gas turbine engines that support hospitals, universities, and communities. His experience includes leading teams, mentoring others, managing high-stakes situations, and working collaboratively to solve complex problems.

In addition to his professional background, Kyle has a strong history of service. He is an Eagle Scout and has volunteered in a variety of roles through Scouting, including Assistant

Scoutmaster and Pack Chairman, while also supporting youth-focused community events. Through his family's small business in Antioch, he has helped raise money to provide free arts and crafts opportunities for children in the community.



As a board member, Kyle hopes to support educators by ensuring they have the tools and resources needed to provide students with an exceptional education, while also helping the district make sound and responsible decisions on behalf of students and taxpayers.

Kyle replaces outgoing Board of Education member Lori Linck.

OTHER NEWS

ELAINE JOHNSON RECEIVES THE 2026 LORI BEDNAR SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Antioch CCSD 34 is proud to recognize Elaine Johnson as the recipient of the D34 Lori Bednar Spotlight Award. A speech-language pathologist at Oakland Elementary School, Elaine was nominated for her exceptional dedication to students, colleagues, and the district.

Throughout her career, she has gone above and beyond in service to others through leadership roles, mentorship, and her unwavering commitment to helping students succeed.



With more than 30 years of experience, Elaine is known not only for excellence in her role, but also for the positive impact she has across the district. She serves on multiple teams, supports staff with her expertise in special education and IEP compliance, mentors students both on and off her caseload, and continually seeks learning opportunities to better serve students. Her passion for lifelong learning, care for colleagues, and genuine investment in students and families make her a truly deserving recipient of this honor.

AEEA CONTRACT

The D34 Board of Education approved and adopted a new three-year contract with the Antioch Elementary Education Association, for the 2026/27 school year through the 2028/29 school year.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

McKenna Gomez was approved as the new Director of Student Services for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

Debora Johnson was approved as the new Coordinator of Student Services for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

AUGS ELA PILOT

The Board approved the purchase of pilot materials for the Savvas myPerspectives and Carnegie Learning Lenses on Literature middle school ELA programs for use during the 2026-2027 school year, at a cost not to exceed \$3,550 for myPerspectives and \$4,500 for Lenses on Literature.

STRUCTURED LEARNING PROGRAMS

Board approval was given to renewal of the STAR Online and LINKS curriculum licenses for the structured learning programs in an amount not to exceed \$3,650.

UNITED WAY KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN CAMP

Approval was given for the 2026 Kindergarten Countdown Camp with United Way of Lake County, which will take place in June at W.C. Petty Elementary School.

OAKLAND HVAC UPDATE

The Board approved the contracting agreement with Siemens in the amount of \$1,794,219.43 for the proposed HVAC upgrade at Oakland and the mechanical service agreements in the amounts of \$8,256 for FY27, \$8,484 for FY28, and \$8,700 for FY29.

CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FEE

The Board approved the implementation of a transaction fee for all credit/debit card payments, effective July 1, 2026.

POLICY READING

A first and second reading of Policy 7:100 took place at Tuesday's meeting. The Board voted to move the student exclusion date from the first day of school to October 15th in alignment with Illinois School Code.

ACTIVITY BUS PURCHASE

The purchase of a 14-passenger Chevy Collins MFSAB activity bus was approved by the Board in the amount of \$108,824.

DONATIONS

The district received a check in the amount of \$500 from community member Rebecca Abel for the AUGS Drama Club.

D34 DAY DONATIONS

The district received donations for the D34 Day student and staff raffle from the following businesses and organizations:

- 129 Center Cut
- Action Territory
- Antioch Lanes
- Antioch Pizza Shop
- Antioch Police Department
- Antioch Public Library District
- Antioch Upper Grade School
- Bella's Bouncies
- Bertrand Lanes
- Boundless Adventures
- Bowlero
- Chicago Bears
- Chicago White Sox
- Chicago Wolves
- Colony House
- Coopers Hawk Winery & Restaurant
- Culver's of Antioch
- The Fire Pitt
- Hillcrest Elementary School
- Just For Fun Roller Rink
- Kane County Cougars
- Kenosha Kingfish
- L.A. Tan of Antioch
- Latte Cafe & Bakery
- Lakes Eagles Booster Club
- The Lodge
- Lou Malnati's Pizzeria (Gurnee/Grayslake)
- McDonald's of Antioch
- Milwaukee Admirals
- Modern Home Products
- MZ's Spotless Cleanings
- Petty Bobcat Boosters
- Pleasant Prairie RecPlex
- PM&L Theatre
- Rivalry Alehouse
- Racine Zoo
- Salt Salon + Spa
- Sequoit Pride
- Spring Valley Country Club
- Starbucks of Antioch (Route 173/Deep Lake Rd.)

BOARD RECOGNITION

D34 PUBLISHED POETS

AUGS, Hillcrest, Oakland and W.C. Petty students were recognized by the D34 Board of Education for having their poetry published in a national poetry book, which now graces the shelves of our school libraries.

- Elliott Adams
- Rose Avila
- Tyler Balen
- Paige Bargle
- Kennedy Beal
- Joey Beelow
- Alison Bellucci
- Molly Bock
- Renee Cashmore
- Leila Ceplawskes
- Braxton Clark
- Katherine Collet
- Georgia Cornwell
- Soren Cygan
- Felicity Deischel
- Henley Donovan
- Hazel Fisher
- Lillianna Foley
- Vivian Foster
- Eleanor Garberding
- Nolan Goodale
- Emily Griffin
- Carlton Hansen
- Alivia Jasper
- Neysa Kadakia
- Olivia Kahanec
- Noor Kanan
- Gavin Korcovelos
- Sasha Kozlik
- Alexis Kretschmer
- Danica Larson
- Fiona Lebavitz
- Sara Leiter
- Easton Levin
- Jasmina Llanos
- Eli Lopez
- Josephine Marlier
- Sebastian Marlier
- Owen Marro
- Brendan Minniear
- Joshua Minnear
- Nelly Montealegre
- Olivia Nestorios
- Taryn Osgood
- Kenzie Owens
- Josephine Paddock
- Aara Patel
- Clayton Pomianek
- Adalynn Ridley
- Gracie Rife
- Amelia Roseberg
- Adelaide Rosberg
- Jasmine Sanchez
- Henry Sanchez-Painter
- Alice Schiffman
- Arya Sewell
- Madison Siemens
- Emily Stoj
- Zachary Strohmman
- Avery Sutton
- Hayley Taylor
- Emma Teal
- Alayna Tompkins
- Evelyn Waller
- Luke Weidrich
- Maddox White
- Blair Zeman

D34 STAFF PRESENTERS

The BOE recognized seven D34 staff members who presented at the February 13th county-wide Staff Inservice Day: Sarah Amrein, Elaine Johnson, Amy Pieniazkiewicz-Grude, Kim Reagle, Samantha Schott, Tinsley Sinnott, and Melissa Smith.

OAKLAND SPORTSMANSHIP

Eddie Bappert, Dane Gaidar, Kyrie Golston, Easton Levin, Adalynn Ridley, and Joshua Snaveley were recognized by the Board for going above and beyond to demonstrate sportsmanship, Oakland's PBIS trait of the month.

AUGS SOLO & ENSEMBLE PERFECT SCORES

The following Choir, Band, and Orchestra students were recognized by the Board of Education for receiving a perfect score at the 2026 Solo & Ensemble Recital:

- Charlie Anglada
- Gracie Amrein
- Annabelle Arizmendi
- Taliya Bernard
- Nolan Boyd
- Asher Deischel
- Bennett Elbert
- Bronson Gibbs
- Abby Glowacki
- Sabrina Hersetowski
- Abigail Johnson
- Kiera Koczorowski
- Kaitlyn Kusek
- Jazmina Lopez
- Anastasia Mollison
- Henry Obermeyer
- Madison Oleson
- Jovie Parker
- Holly Pfautz
- Leah Pfautz
- Molly Pounds
- Szymon Przybyla
- Harper Raskin
- Dominic Reid
- Sam Sutton
- Chrisanna Vatistas
- Dylan Von Drasek
- Olivia Werchek

TERRIFIC TURTLES

MKM Early Learning Center students Chloe Kiefner and Jaxon Jones were recognized for being kind, responsible, and helpful classmates.

STAFF COLLABORATION

AUGS teachers Anne Mager, Stacy Kaminsky, and Cheryl Jerik were recognized for their cross-curricular collaboration between Social Science and Art class.

MEETING INFORMATION

APRIL BOARD MEETING

The next Regular Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM on April 21, 2026 at the D34 Administrative Services Center.

BOARD MEETING RESOURCES

The Board of Education meeting schedule, meeting agendas, minutes, and board meeting livestream are all accessible on the Antioch CCSD 34 website.