

School District U-46

Elgin, Illinois

February 23, 2026

The video of the February 23, 2026, meeting can be found here:

[February 23, 2026 BOE Meeting](#)

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:31 p.m. at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 East Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120.

The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens. Samreen Khan joined the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

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 5:32 p.m. by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Khan arrived at 6:29 p.m.

A motion was made at 7:03 p.m. by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Dawn Martin, 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: Valerie Albuck, Nick Corn, Robyn Cornelissen, Sheila Downs, Amy Ingente. Dr. Richard Lebron, Sophia Lopez, Lela Majstorovic, Ashlee McHaney, Rola Tarek Mohamed, Mark Moore, Marcy Murphy, Danise Smith, Brian Tennison, Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Dr. Ann Williams, and Sergiusz Zgrzebski.

President Owens led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

A. ChatGPT Update

Lela Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Rola Tarek Mohamed, Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Richard Lebron, Tefft Middle School Principal, Sophia Lopez, Highland Elementary School 5th Grade Teacher, Sergiusz Zgrzebski, South Elgin High School Beacon Academy Teacher, and Valerie Albuck, Tefft Middle School English Language Arts Teacher, provided the Board of Education with an update on ChatGPT.

B. Facility Planning Update

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented to the Board of Education an update on facility planning. The presentation provided an update on construction projects at Kimball Middle School, Kenyon Woods Middle School, Legacy Middle School, Century Oaks Elementary, the new Elgin Elementary school, and groundbreaking ceremonies at Larkin High School and Glenbrook Elementary School.

2. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Krystal Arredondo, parent, discussed student dismissal and supervision concerns and asked for a change in protocols.

Jonathan Medina, parent, discussed concerns regarding redacted Bartlett Police Department body camera footage.

3. Other Business - Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Ms. Kerr stated that she attended the SRO Appreciation Breakfast and thanked all the officers for what they do.

President Owens stated that she, Ms. Kerr, and Ms. Thommes attended the Years of Service ceremony and thanked all the staff members who participated.

Dr. Johnson also spoke about the Years of Service ceremony and stated that it was a great evening, and thanked the Community Relations Team and Human Resources for their work on it.

B. FOIA Requests – 14

Dr. Johnson stated that there were fourteen Freedom of Information Act requests, which would be available on BoardDocs and the District's website.

C. February 23, 2026, Finance Committee Meeting

A Finance Committee Meeting was held prior to the regularly scheduled meeting to discuss five-year financial projections. The presentation will be made available on the District's website. Ms. Kerr spoke about the presentation.

4. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meetings - December 15, 2025
- C. Termination of Payal Vyas - Bus Driver-Route
- D. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Instruments)
- E. Resolution for the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property (Damaged Furniture)
- F. Bid - Plant Operations - Larsen Middle School Domestic Water Piping Replacement, Project #508-25
- G. Contract - Plant Operations - 2017 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect - Studio GC Architecture and Interiors
- H. Contract Renewal - Specialized Student Services - One-to-One Nursing Services
- I. Change Order - Operations - Unite U-46 - Kimball Middle School Additional Scope

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Martin, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-I as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

5. Discussion/Action - Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – February 23, 2026

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 \$33,851,181.75.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$33,851,181.75. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Board Policy Updates

Trisha Olson, Chief Legal Officer, was available for questions relating to the proposed changes of the following Board policies. Administration recommended adoption of the proposed changes.

IASB PRESS Issue 120 Updates:

2:120	Board Member Development
2:150	Committees
2:270	Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited
3:10	Goals and Objectives
3:50	Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent
3:60	Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal
4:10	Fiscal and Business Management
4:30	Revenue and Investments
4:110	Transportation
4:140	Waiver of Student Fees
4:150	Facility Management and Building Programs
4:160	Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
4:170	Safety
4:190	Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
5:10	Equal Employment Opportunity, Nondiscrimination, and Minority Recruitment
5:20	Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:90	Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
5:100	Staff Development Program
5:120	Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
5:185	Family and Medical Leave
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
6:130	Program for the Gifted
6:135	Accelerated Placement Program
6:140	Education of Homeless Children
6:160	English Learners
6:220	Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct
6:235	Access to Electronic Networks

6:240	Field Trips
6:260	Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
6:270	Guidance and Counseling Program
6:280	Grading and Promotion
6:300	Graduation Requirements
6:310	High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students
6:315	High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8
6:320	High School Credit for Proficiency
7:10	Equal Educational Opportunities
7:70	Attendance and Truancy
7:130	Student Rights and Responsibilities
7:140	Search and Seizure
7:150	Agency and Law Enforcement Requests
7:180	Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
7:190	Student Behavior
7:250	Student Support Services
7:290	Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
7:310	Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools
7:315	Restrictions on Publications; High Schools
7:340	Student Records
8:100	Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Martin, to accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt the amendments to the Board of Education policies as outlined in IASB Press Issue 120 and as stated into the record. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Additional Policies:

4:80	Accounting and Audits
------	-----------------------

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education's policy 4:80 as outlined in IASB Press Issue 120 and as suggested by the administration. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

6:60	Curriculum Content
------	--------------------

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education’s policy 6:60 as outlined in IASB Press Issue 120 with the default language. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

6:210	Instructional Materials
-------	-------------------------

Motion by Ms. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Noland, to accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education’s policy 6:210 as outlined in IASB Press Issue 120, with the additional language and as suggested by the administration.

Ms. Martin asked for clarification on what language is being included.

Ms. Olson responded that the wording “Or Designee” is being added.

Ms. Martin asked for clarification on whether this was changing the way the District approves curriculum.

Ms. Olson stated that it is not.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

8:30	Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
------	--

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Noland, to accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education’s policy 8:30 as outlined in IASB Press Issue 120 and as suggested by the administration. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

C. Elementary Math Curriculum and Resource Proposal

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Amy Ingente, Math Coordinator, were available for questions regarding the Elementary Math Curriculum and Resource Proposal. Administration recommended approval of the Elementary Math Curriculum and Resource Proposal in the amount of \$4,906,280.51, 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.

Motion by Ms. Noland, seconded by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Elementary Math Curriculum and Resource Proposal in the amount of \$4,906,280.51 and grant authorization for District administration to execute related documents. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

D. 2026-2027 School Fees

Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, were available for questions regarding the attached school fees. Information on Student Insurance (School Time Coverage, 24 Hour Coverage, Optional – 24-Hour Dental) is posted on the District website each July. Administration recommended approval of the School Fees for the 2026-2027 School Year.

Motion by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the School Fees for the 2026-2027 School Year. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Other Business - Employee Matters (Board Policy 5.290 - Suspension and Dismissal of Support Staff Members)

A. DUEA Grievance #01-11-25 Step III

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Noland, to deny DUEA Grievance #01-11-25. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. Abstain: Ms. Khan. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0-1.

7. Work Session - Resolutions

A. Resolution Authorizing Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget

Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, reviewed the Resolution Authorizing Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

B. Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of Serious Safety Hazard Findings to the Illinois Department of Transportation

This Resolution is required annually by the Illinois State Board of Education. The Resolution confirms that District Administration and the Transportation Routing Team have completed a comprehensive review of all newly established attendance boundaries for the 2026-2027 school year. These locations will be submitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation once approved by the Board of Education, and students who reside within the designated areas during the 2026-2027 school year will be provided free transportation services. The District will request reimbursement from the state for transportation services provided. Marcy Murphy, Director of Transportation, presented the Resolution and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of Serious Safety Hazard Findings to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

C. Resolution Approving Surety Bond of Treasurer

Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented the Resolution Approving Surety Bond of Treasurer. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution.

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

A. Bid - Operations - Unite U-46 - Legacy Middle School Off-Site Roadway Improvements

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidder, Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc., in the amount of \$1,577,281.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Bid - Procurement - 2026-2027 Hawk Hollow Middle School Furniture

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, and Danise Smith, Procurement Coordinator, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award to the lowest responsible bidders, Frank Cooney in the amount of \$5,198.60, Garvey's Office Products in the amount of \$46,704.00, School Outfitters in the amount of \$1,979.88, School Specialty in the amount of \$16,437.22, and Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$18,621.80, for the total amount of \$88,941.50, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

C. Proposal - Plant Operations - McKinley Elementary School Emergency Repair

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and David Shumaker, Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Weaver Consultants Group in the amount of \$77,431.05 and Northwest Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$38,164.58, for the total amount of \$115,595.63, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

D. Proposal - Plant Operations - Educational Services Center Emergency Repair

Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and David Shumaker, Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Weaver Consultants Group in the amount of \$36,802.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Financial Services - Investment Consulting

Robyn Cornelissen, Executive Director of Financial Services, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal from RVK, Inc. for a three-year term, with two optional one-year extensions, in the amount of \$356,000.00, 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 through 2028-2029 fiscal years.

B. Contract Renewal - Human Resources - Employee Benefits Consulting Services Agreement

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. in the total amount of \$250,000.00, 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 through 2027-2028 fiscal years.

C. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Landscape Maintenance

Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, and Nick Corn, Coordinator of Grounds, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with TNT Landscape Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$374,581.73, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

D. Contract - Operations - Contractual Services

Dr. Kyle VonSchnase, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Sheila Downs, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract with Bruce Phelps in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00, 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.

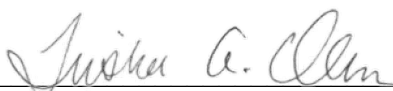
10. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Kerr, seconded by Ms. Thommes, to adjourn the Board meeting of February 23, 2026, at 8:25 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 27th day of April, 2026.



President



Secretary