



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Cass School District 63, DuPage County, Illinois; held at Cass Junior High School at 7:00 P.M. on the 21st Day of April, 2026.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Lana Johnson, Vice President Rinku Patel, Secretary Urszula Tanouye and Members Chris Green, Katie Marinelli, and Steve Wyent. Member Fiyaz Khan was absent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Mark R. Cross, Principal Christine Marcinkewicz, Principal Katie Doyle, and Board Recording Secretary Gayle Wilson

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Johnson welcomed attendees and noted FOIA requests from Justin Wenig, Lake County Gazette, and Michael Henry.

D. Student and Staff Spotlight and Recognition

Since the last meeting, the District recognized our teacher assistants in honor of Paraprofessional Appreciation Day, our assistant principals Megan Conlin and Michelle Roberts in honor of National Assistant Principal Week, Beth Dooley and Zainab Tapal in honor of National Library Workers Day, and our employees with Ivy League Kids in honor of Afterschool Professionals Week. Also, in honor of Administrative Professionals Day, we recognized Amy Perez, Jess Chapman, Maggie Adelman, Kathy Mensik, Amy Underhill, and Gayle Wilson. Mr. Cross also shared the recognition of Board President Lana Johnson at the most recent DuPage IASA Recognition Breakfast.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda**
- B. Approval of the March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- C. Approval of the March 24, 2026 Closed Meeting Minutes**
- D. Approval of Personnel Recommendations**
- E. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports**
- F. Approval of the District Bills**

Mr. Cross reviewed the personnel recommendations for the 2026-27 school year: Concord and Cass Speech Pathologist Marykate Trabulsy, Concord Speech Pathologist Sarah Mueller, and Cass STEAM teacher Ryan Kuhlman.

Member Marinelli moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Marinelli, Member Green, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Christine Marcinkewicz shared updates regarding Cass Junior High highlighting the upcoming Art and Jazz Show. She shared that our athletes are doing great in spring sports with boys soccer starting off with a 3-0 start. State IAR testing is wrapping up this week and 4th grade step-up activities are beginning with an upcoming parent meeting and a 4th grade visit to Cass.

Katie Doyle updated the Board on Concord Elementary, highlighting the Kindergarten Round-up response and a review of end of the year activities including Kindergarten and 4th grade concerts, NWEA and Aimsweb testing, and incoming Kindergartners visit to Concord during the school day.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Mr. Cross highlighted the Multicultural Celebration saying what an amazing event this was. He and other organizers thought there were more people than last year. So many families and community members attended the event, which included wonderful displays, incredible food, art work created by Concord students, and great performances by some of our families. He also thanked Katie Marinelli, Katie Doyle, Sonali Patel, and the rest of the steering committee for their work in planning this, and Board members and other families who also participated this year.

B. Review of Recommended English Language Arts Instructional Materials

Mr. Cross, Mrs. Doyle, and Mrs. Marcinkewicz reviewed recommendations for primary English Language Arts instructional materials, beginning with the 2026-27 school year. This is part of the normally planned five-year cycle, and the resources recommended are provided after being studied by the teachers and building administrators. The total cost for the five year adoption is approximately \$246,000, which is about \$70 per student per year over the course of the five years. The principals explained how the materials are selected and how some older materials are replaced or no longer continued if not necessary. They also discussed novel selection, how materials tie to and allow a deeper focus on current academic standards, as well as our student growth. The administrators answered a number of questions from the Board.

C. Review of Recommended Bids and Quotes for Phase III Facility Projects

Mr. Cross presented the results from the recent sealed bid opening for the summer 2026 Phase III renovation project. Mr. Cross recommended that the Board move forward with the lowest responsible bidder who met all bidder responsibility criteria as outlined in the qualifications and specifications. The recommended bid was from Reed Construction, with a total project cost of \$1,175,000, including the base bid of \$960,000 and alternate bid of \$215,000.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

This includes extensive work in various rooms, including flooring, ceiling, and lighting in 13 classrooms and the library, as well as the relocation and renovation of a new STEM lab at Concord. The alternate bid includes the replacement of the retractable stage wall at Cass Junior High School.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval of Final Revised 2025-26 School Year Calendar

Mr. Cross explained that the 2025-26 school calendar needs to be revised and approved by the Board because of the change from in person instruction to an eLearning day on January 23, 2026.

Member Green moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the final revised 2025-26 school year calendar.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Secretary Tanouye, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

B. Approval of 2026-27 Federal Funding Consolidated Plan

Mr. Cross reviewed the consolidated plan that we are required to submit in order to apply for Title I grants in the coming school year.

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the 2026-27 federal funding consolidated district plan.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Vice President Patel, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

C. Approval of English Language Arts Primary Instructional Materials

Member Green moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the English Language Arts primary instructional materials.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Secretary Tanouye, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

D. Approval of Phase II Facility Project Change Orders

No action was recommended at this time.

E. Approval of Recommended Bid for Phase III Interior Renovation Work

Member Green moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the recommended bid of \$1,175,000 from Reed Construction for Phase III summer 2026 interior renovation work.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Vice President Patel, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

F. Approval of Recommended Contractor for Phase III Asbestos Abatement

Member Marinelli moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve the recommended quote of \$35,000 from Valor Technologies for the Phase III asbestos abatement project at Concord Elementary School.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Marinelli, Member Green, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

G. Approval of 2026-27 Food Service Management Company Renewal Agreement

Mr. Cross reviewed the agreement noting that this renewal agreement is an annual state requirement, even if there is a current contract in place with a vendor. His recommendation also includes establishing student and adult lunch prices for the 2026-27 school year, based on guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Member Wyent moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve the food service management agreement and lunch prices of \$4.25 for students and \$4.75 for adults for the 2026-27 school year.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

B. Board Member Comments

There were no Board member comments.

C. Adjournment

Member Wyent moved and Member Green seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of April 21, 2026 at 9:01 p.m.

Voice Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

Lana Johnson, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Urszula Tanouye, Board of Education Secretary