June 15. 2026

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met for its Monthly Business Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2026 at the Administrative Service Center.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following Board members answered present: Don Renner, President; Kara Casten, Vice President; and Members Katie Courtney, Ken Dawson, Christopher Espinoza and Michael Riske. Member April Finan was absent.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Associate Superintendent for Student Learning; Jeff Bergholtz, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Travis McGuire, Assistant Superintendent for Learning Resources; Jeree Ethridge, Chief School Business Official; Jill Browning, Chief Communications Officer; Courtney DeMent, North High Principal; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were two visitors. A copy of the Visitor Roster is attached.

1. RECOGNITION – NORTH AND SOUTH HIGH STUDENTS AND STAFF

Andrew Adelmann, North High Boys Track and Field Coach, introduced the State Champion 4x800 relay team of Tyler Lynch-Goff, Joshua Farrero, Will Surratt, Brennan Hardy and Philip Cupial; Will Surrratt, who placed 3rd in the State in the 1600m; Mac LaForge, 8th Place finisher at State in the discus; and Philip Cupial, 1600m State Champion. Mr. Adelmannn stated Mr. Cupial and Mr. Surratt, who are currently in Philadelphia participating in the New Balance Nationals, each received their 5th State title; and the relay team received its 3rd State title in a row.

Dr. Thiele presented Proclamations from the Village of Woodridge and the Village of Downers Grove to Mr. Adelmann for the State Champion 4x800 relay team and for Mr. Cupial for his State Championship 1600m run. The Proclamations from the Village of Downers Grove named June 15, 2026 in honor of the 4x800 relay team and June 16 Philip Cupial Day. Village of Woodridge Proclamations named June 15, 2026 for both Mr. Cupial and the 4x800 relay team.

North High Girls Track and Field Coach Matt Maletich recognized Sophia Solecki for her 9th Place discus finish at State. Gail Grant and Nicole Muccianti, South High Girls Track and Field Coaches, introduced Karen Boakye, State Champion in the Triple Jump. Ms. Grant shared Ms. Boakye holds all four indoor and outdoor records and was named All-State all four years.

Dr. Thiele presented Ms. Boakye a Proclamation from the Village of Downers Grove naming June 18, 2026 Karen Boakye Day and a Proclamation from the Village of Woodridge naming June 15, 2026 Karen Boakye Day.

Brian Caldwell, South High Boys Track and Field Coach, recognized the State 3rd Place 4x800 relay team of John Clinton, Conrad Saner, Sam Axelson, Chris Janota and Will Miller. He noted the team broke the indoor school record and the indoor and outdoor conference record.

Jordan Balsavich was introduced by South High Softball Coach James Cushing. Mr. Cushing shared Ms. Balsavich was named to the ICA 3rd Team All-State and led the team in many categories. South High Boys Tennis Coach Josh Forst introduced Ryan Roumenov and Koko Dimitrakakos, who received All-State honors.

Brandon Murphy, South High Associate Principal for Athletics, recognized Wesley Mills for his 8th Place All-Around, 8th Place High Bar, 6th Place P-Bars, 7th Place Pommel Horse and 5th Place Floor finishes at State. He also recognized Alex Stoev, who received 8th Place in Floor at State.

Shon Zawlocki, District 99 Boys Lacrosse Coach, introduced All-State IBLCA First Team member Grey Welter and Second Team members Grant Gagnon and Blake Ryden. He shared the team had a 16 and 3 record. Mr. Zawlocki also introduced Assistant Coach Josh Maluta who, for the second year in a row, was named IBLCA Lacrosse Assistant Coach of the Year.

District 99 Girls Lacrosse Coach Jon Gargiulo introduced Ello Cho, who received All-State IGLCA Honorable Mention and recognized Ella Williams, All-State IGLCA First Team member. He shared the team had an 18 and 4 record.

Those in attendance congratulated the student athletes and their coaches.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Espinoza moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the May 18, 2026 Monthly Business Meeting; the May 18, 2026 Closed Meeting; the June 1, 2026 Workshop Meeting; and the June 1, 2026 Closed Meeting.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Espinoza, Dawson, Riske, Casten, Courtney and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

3. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE

Dr. Thiele stated he received no follow up questions on the Agreement and there had been no changes to the Agreement since it was first presented. Dr. Thiele asked if there were any final questions. There were none.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item.

5. SASED AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF JOINT AGREEMENT

Dr. Thiele stated he has received no questions on the document and this is an Action Item this evening.

6. STUDENT/FAMILY HANDBOOK AND ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

Hank Thiele stated one non-substantive clerical correction has been made since the changes to the Student/Family Handbook were presented. He stated there were no changes to the Athletic/Activities Handbook.

Dr. Thiele asked if there were any final questions. There were none. He stated this is an Action Item.

7. APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL TREASURER

Dr. Thiele stated appointment of a school treasurer was discussed at a previous Board meeting and is returning now to appoint Tammy Maksa, Director of Business Services, as the District 99 Treasurer. President Renner noted this appointment will save the District funds since it is no longer outsourcing treasurer services.

Dr. Thiele advised this is an Action Item.

8. DISTRICT DEPOSITORIES

Ms. Ethridge stated this is a routine item to designate the District depositories and the account signers.

9. COMMERCIAL INSURANCE RENEWALS

Ms. Ethridge explained District 99 has partnered with District 58 for twenty years for its commercial insurance renewals. She noted the District uses AssuredPartners as its insurance broker. Ms. Ethridge reported District 99 received only one quote and the quote was from Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT), which only provides insurance to public entities. The overall cost of insurance, according to Jeree Ethridge, is 4% greater than last year, and includes Violent Response Coverage, which the District did not previously have.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item.

10. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Dr. Thiele reported the District received and responded to Freedom of Information Act requests and they are posted on the District's website.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Member Espinoza moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which includes: A. Personnel Report - Appointment-Certified; Appointment-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Resignations-Certified; Resignations-Classified; Retirements-Exempt; Retirements-Classified; C. Personnel Report - Termination-Classified; D. Personnel Report - Salary and Benefits Wages; E. May Treasurer's Report and Financial Pages; F. Purchase of Two Driver Education Vehicles in an Amount not to Exceed $80,000; G. Approval of Treasurer's Surety Bonds; H. Appointment of Ivy Scherman as Board of Education Secretary effective July 1, 2026; I. Acceptance of Donation - District 99 Education Foundation; and J. Acceptance of Donation - Downers Grove Wolfpack.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Espinosa, Dawson, Riske, Casten, Courtney and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

President Renner thanked the Foundation and the Wolfpack for their generous donations and congratulated Ms. Scherman on her appointment as Board Secretary.

12. APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DISTRICT 99 FOR THE SERVICES OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SROs)

Member Riske moved and Member Casten seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Downers Grove and the Board of Education of District 99 for the Services of School Resource Officers (SROs).

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Riske, Casten, Courtney, Dawson, Espinoza and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

13. RATIFICATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIAL EDUCATION IN DUPAGE ARTICLES OF JOINT AGREEMENT

Member Espinoza moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion for the Board of Education to ratify the Proposed Amendments to the School Association for Special Education in DuPage Articles of Joint Agreement.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Espinoza, Dawson, Riske, Casten, Courtney and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

14. APPROVAL OF STUDENT/FAMILY HANDBOOK (INCLUDING THE DISCIPLINE CODE) AND RE-APPROVAL OF THE ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

Member Dawson moved and Member Courtney seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Student/Family Handbook (including the Discipline Code) and Re-Approve the Athletic/Activities Handbook.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Dawson, Courtney, Espinoza, Riske, Casten and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

15. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISTRICT DEPOSITORIES

Member Dawson moved and Member Espinoza seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution Authorizing District Depositories and authorize the District Administration to complete and sign all appropriate documents.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Dawson, Espinoza, Riske, Casten, Courtney and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

16. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPOINTING SCHOOL TREASURER

Member Dawson moved and Member Courtney seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution Appointing School Treasurer.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Dawson, Courtney, Casten, Espinoza, Riske and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

17. APPROVAL OF COMMERCIAL INSURANCE RENEWALS

Member Riske moved and Member Espinoza seconded the motion for the Board of Education to

approve the Commercial Insurance Renewals as presented.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Riske, Espinoza, Casten, Courtney, Dawson and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

18. OLD BUSINESS – SECOND READING AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES

Dr. Thiele stated most of the changes to the policies were clerical and there had been no follow up questions on the policies from the Board.

Member Espinoza moved and Member Courtney seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the policies as presented.

- 2.200, Types of School Board Meetings
- 2.220, School Board Meeting Procedure
- 2.250, Access to District Public Records
- 4.165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
- 5.30, Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5.50, Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition
- 5.250, Leaves of Absence
- 6.50, School Wellness
- 6.65, Student Social and Emotional Development
- 6.145, Migrant Students
- 6.170, Title I Programs
- 7.20, Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7.50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
- 7.185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
- 7.220, Bus Conduct
- 7.230, Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
- 7.260, Exemption from Physical Education
- 7.300, Extracurricular Clubs and Organizations & Athletics
- 8.90, Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Espinoza, Courtney, Dawson, Riske, Casten and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

19. NEW BUSINESS

None

20. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

21. REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION NETWORK OF DUPAGE (LEND)

Member Casten reported the LEND polling initiative passed both chambers; the World Language bill passed both Houses, allowing an exemption for students in the CTE curriculum; and the cell phone ban goes into effect in 2027-2028.

22. REPORT ON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN DUPAGE COUNTY (SASED)

Member Espinoza reported the budget was approved and Dr. Kim Dryier's contract was renewed as Executive Director. He also noted SASED is considering purchasing one of three buildings.

23. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

No report.

24. REPORT ON ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (IASB)

Member Dawson reported the Joint Annual Conference is in November.

25. REPORT ON DOWNERS GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Member Renner reported there is nothing that has an impact on the schools.

26. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Renner announced the following meeting date:

July 27, 2026 Monthly Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – ASC

Dr. Thiele stated this meeting is on the fourth Monday of July instead of the third Monday.

27. STAFF RECOGNITION – RECOGNITION OF STAFF LEAVING DISTRICT 99

Dr. Thiele recognized Tony Dotts, Information Security Manager; Dr. McGuire; Ms. Ziccardi; and Secretary Gniadek, who are all leaving District 99. He noted Mr. Dotts is going to Barrington District 220 where he will serve as the Director of Technical Services; Dr. McGuire is the new Superintendent of Center Cass School District 66; and Ms. Ziccardi and Ms. Gniadek are both retiring. Hank Thiele commended all four individuals for their contributions and service to the District.

President Renner offered words of appreciation and gratitude to the retirees.

Those in attendance congratulated the staff and wished them well in their next pursuit.

28. CLOSED SESSION

Member Espinoza moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing:

A. **OMA Exception (1) Personnel:** 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 body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

B. **OMA Exception (2) Collective negotiating matters:** 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).

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Espinoza, Dawson, Riske, Casten, Courtney and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

President Renner stated the only Action the Board will be taking when it comes out of Closed Session is to Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 7:20 p.m.

29. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was reconvened in Open Session with the following members of the Board of Education in attendance: Don Renner, President; Kara Casten, Vice President; and Members Katie Courtney, Ken Dawson, Christopher Espinoza and Michael Riske. Member April Finan was absent.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Jeff Bergholtz, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Travis McGuire, Assistant Superintendent for Learning Resources; Jeree Ethridge, Chief School Business Official; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

30. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Dawson moved and Member Riske seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the six members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Don Renner, President

~~Juli Gniadek~~, Secretary
Ivy Scherman

Community HIGH SCHOOL District 99

BOARD OF EDUCATION

JUNE 15, 2026

VISITOR ROSTER

NAME

MIKE GNADEK

JIM WOOD

091615