



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 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 16th Day of June, 2026.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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, Fiyaz Khan, Katie Marinelli, and Steve Wyent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Mark R. Cross, incoming superintendent Dr. Travis McGuire, and Board Recording Secretary Gayle Wilson.

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Johnson welcomed attendees and noted FOIA requests from Carla Carlos, David Arvayo, Katsuhiro Tusda, Lindsay Weld, Daniel Cramer, and Caroline Darnell.

D. Student and Staff Spotlight and Recognition

In his final meeting as superintendent, Mr. Cross thanked and recognized the Board for their support for the great work that has been achieved. He expressed pride in the progress made over the past six years and his gratitude to the Board for allowing so many good things to happen. He noted that he and incoming superintendent Dr. Travis McGuire have had an excellent transitioning process over the last six months and that Dr. McGuire will take the district to the next level from where we are now.

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.



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II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the June 16, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda**
- B. Approval of the May 19, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- C. Approval of Personnel Recommendations**
- D. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports**
- E. Approval of the District Bills**
- F. Approval to Prepay July 2026 District Bills**

Mr. Cross reviewed the following personnel recommendations prior to Board approval:

- Authorization to approve incoming superintendent Travis McGuire as bank signatory, effective immediately.
- Request for leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act from speech-language pathologist Jessica Andujar.
- Requests for retirement from custodian Pete Pauley effective August 31, 2026, and Concord teacher assistant Cindy Becker effective at the close of the 2029-30 school year.
- Resignation of Concord special education teacher Katy Modglin.
- Employment of Concord special education teachers Toni Lawson and Meredith Spiegel for the 2026-27 school year.

Member Wyent moved and Member Khan seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Member Khan, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

III. Public Hearing Regarding Renewal of the District eLearning Plan

Member Marinelli moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to enter into a Public Hearing for a review and potential renewal of the District eLearning Plan.



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Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Member Khan, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Mr. Cross reviewed the District eLearning Plan noting that there are no substantive changes from when it was last renewed in 2023, aside from the addition of a more detailed schedule for Concord students and parents. He emphasized that these days and schedules are only utilized when necessary.

There was no public comment.

Member Khan moved and Member Green seconded a motion to close the public hearing.

Voice Vote – Aye: Member Khan, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

IV. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Mr. Cross shared the end of the school year went very well. He will be attending a federal Impact Aid meeting with the FLISA organization to plan for the fall NAFIS Conference and Hill visits in Washington D.C. to advocate for the continued funding of Impact Aid. Mr. Cross said it has been determined that the November election day will not be a required school holiday, so school will be in session on that date and winter break will be extended by one day.

B. Presentation of Strategic Plan Progress Review

Mr. Cross reviewed a final progress report on the district's Vision 2025 Strategic Plan with the Board, noting significant growth on indicators 1A, 2B, and 2D. He shared how critical the work has been and is also proud of the leadership team and staff for the progress that has been made. He thanked the Board for supporting the changes and growth that was needed to date to continue to provide the best possible education for our students.



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C. Second Reading of Recommended Board Policy Updates

Mr. Cross reviewed the recommended policy updates and stated that there are no changes to what was presented at last month's meeting aside from clarifying language on the leave policy to ensure that it matches current practice. The more substantive recommendations are related to changes with Freedom of Information Act requests as it relates to artificial intelligence, and policy that considered how best to address the development of the agenda, meeting procedures, discussion items, and what legally constitutes a quorum.

D. Update Regarding Summer 2026 Phase III Facility Projects

Mr. Cross shared that the summer renovation at Concord is off to a great start, with updates to flooring and lighting in 14 classrooms, including the library and new STEM classroom, as well as the replacement of the retractable wall in the Cass stage and gym, and replacement of the Cass parking lots. So far, the work appears to be going well and is on schedule. Mr. Cross reminded the Board of the planned partial use of the FY27 Operations and Maintenance Fund budget and existing fund balance to cover a considerable portion of the Phase III project, along with the remaining Capital Projects Fund balance.

V. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval of Phase II Facility Project Change Orders

There were no change orders presented, so no action was necessary. Outstanding change orders will be presented once finalized.

B. Approval of the Recommended Board Policy Updates

Member Khan moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the recommended board policy updates.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Khan, Vice President Patel, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson.
Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

C. Adoption of Resolution to Renew the District eLearning Plan

Member Khan moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to adopt the Resolution to Renew the District eLearning Plan.



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Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Khan, Vice President Patel, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

D. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with the Cass Education Association

Member Green moved and Member Khan seconded a motion to approve the eLearning Memorandum of Understanding with the Cass Education Association.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Member Khan, Member Marinelli, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

E. Adoption of Resolution Ratifying Proposed Amendments to the School Association for Special Education in DuPage (SASED) Articles of Joint Agreement

Mr. Cross explained that this resolution is to ratify the amendment to the SASED Articles of Joint Agreement that was shared with the Board last month.

Member Marinelli moved and Member Green seconded a motion to ratify the proposed amendments to the School Association for Special Education in DuPage (SASED) Articles of Joint Agreement.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Marinelli, Member Green, Member Khan, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

VI. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

Incoming superintendent Dr. Travis McGuire thanked Mr. Cross for how fantastic he has been in preparing for and assisting with the transition, which will be very helpful when he starts in the role July 1.



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Ronda Cross thanked the Board for the kindness and support the Board has shown Mr. Cross for the past six years, sharing that his superintendency has been such a positive experience in large part because of their support.

B. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Johnson read a resolution from the Regional Office of Education to Mr. Cross and then expressed her appreciation for his service and her excitement to work with Dr. McGuire.

Mrs. Tanouye thanked Mr. Cross for his service and said that the Board will miss working with him.

Dr. Patel asked Mr. Cross to take a moment to reflect on the impact he has had noting his many years of service in education. He added that Mr. Cross started in District 63 at the worst possible time during the pandemic and he not only managed to elevate the District, but he also gained and retained the strong support of the community.

Mr. Cross thanked the Board again for their support and always doing what is best for our school district, students, staff, and community.

C. Adjournment

Member Wyent moved and Member Green seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of June 16, 2026 at 7:52 p.m.

Voice Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Vice President Patel, Member Green, Member Khan, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Lana Johnson, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Urszula Tanouye, Board of Education Secretary