

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the HOH Conference room in said district on Tuesday evening, July 28, 2026, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Silver-Schack called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

Whitney Goldin
Diana Horwitz
Eve Pfanzelter
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

Absent: DeShawn Arms and Christine Beeftink

Also present were Dr. Jason Pearson, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official, Dr. Eric Apgar, Director of Student Services; Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Maria Stavropoulos, Director of Technology; Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications; Chrissy Yonaite, Recording Secretary and Dan Johnson, Network Engineer.

Public Attendees: None.

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Pearson welcomed Dr. Eric Apgar, the new Director of Student Services to his first District 28 Board meeting.

Dr. Pearson informed the Board about the Admin Council retreat.

Construction Updates

Superintendent Dr. Pearson provided some construction updates including a few current pictures of the project sites.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Goldin that the Board of Education approve the minutes for Regular Meeting on June 23, 2026 and Closed Meeting on June 23, 2026.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz and Silver-Schack. Nay: None. Abstain: Pfanzer and Weinstock. Absent: Arms and Beefink. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Pfanzer and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of June 2026, in the amount of \$1,959,100.45 and covered by check numbers 69162 through 69176 and 69184 and deduction check numbers 69177 through 69183 inclusive and 69211 through 69222, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of July 2026, in the amount of \$361,532.18 and covered by check numbers 69223 through 69224 and deduction check numbers 69225 through 69230 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026;

The payment of employee salaries for Summer School June 2026, in the amount of \$280,189.86 and covered by payroll advices 9001614335- 9001614479, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026;

The payment of employee salaries for Summer Checks (July 15), in the amount of \$1,551,351.99 and covered by check numbers 69185 through 69188 and deduction check numbers 69193 through 69199 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026;

The payment of employee salaries for Summer Checks (July 31), in the amount of \$1,551,281.69 and covered by check numbers 69189 through 69192 and deduction check numbers 69193 through 69199 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll

Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026;

The payment of employee salaries for Summer Checks (August 14), in the amount of \$1,568,346.68 and covered by check numbers 69200 through 69203 and deduction check numbers 69193 through 69199 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026.

Bills

Vendor invoices for July 2026 totaling \$4,217,621.58 and Warrants listed as Numbers 66812 through 66963 and the following voids: none, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated July 28, 2026.

Personnel Report: Contract Changes, Employment of Staff, Leaves, Resignations and Dismissals

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Alaine Wong	School Office Admin Asst	GB	\$41,500	8/3/26
Jennifer Marando	School Office Admin Asst	MB	\$24,156	8/17/26
Susan Dubin*	Art Teacher (part-time)	MB	MA+12-29 Prorated to \$30,320	8/17/26
Grace Schwandner	Spec Educ Asst	GB	SE-5 \$37,455	8/17/26
Michelle Sachman	Spec Educ Asst	MB	SE-10 \$38,771	8/17/26
Claire Grasse	Classroom Asst	MB	CR-1 \$20,271	8/17/26
Paulina Walczak*	Music Teacher (part-time - 0.25 FTE) and Classroom Asst	MB	BA+00-01 Prorated to \$14,144 CR-2 \$20,879	8/17/26

Cameron Fong	Spec Educ Asst	GB	SE-5 \$37,455	8/17/26
Emma Ramos*	1st Gr Teacher	WM	BA+00-01 \$56,575	8/17/26
Jailynn Bravo	Classroom Asst	MB	CR-3 \$21,030	8/17/26
Christina Werber	Classroom Asst	MB	CR-6 \$21,490	8/17/26
Caroline Schmidt	Special Educ Asst	MB	SE-5 \$37,455	8/17/26
Erin Thunholm	Classroom Asst	MB	CR-2 \$20,879	8/17/26
Kelly Henrikson	Classroom Asst	GB	CR-2 \$20,879	8/17/26
Jacqueline Drengenberg	Classroom Asst	GB	CR-1 \$20,271	8/17/26
Siyoon (Alice) Park	Music Teacher	GB	MA+00-05 \$68,739	8/17/26

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Position Reassignment				
Name	Current Position to New Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date
Porfirio Palillero Navarro	PT to FT Custodian	GB	\$41,530	7/13/26

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Mary Kate Drevline	Classroom Asst	GB	Resignation	6/24/26
Jamie Kaufman	Classroom Asst	MB	Resignation	6/3/26
Rebecca Stowell	Permanent Substitute	NBJH	Resignation	6/30/26
Mason Witsman	Classroom Asst	GB	Resignation	7/15/26

Grace Sullivan	Classroom Asst	MB	Resignation	6/3/26
Sherry Gallarneau	Classroom Asst.	WM	Resignation	6/3/26

Staff Lane Changes				
Name	Position	Location	Current Salary	New Salary
Brooklyn Cohen	Teacher	WM	B+12-08 \$68,456	M+00-08 \$75,528
Kalina Vnoucek	Teacher	WM	M+12-17 \$103,532	M+30-17 \$107,209
Mackenzie Noto	Teacher	NBJH	B+00-06 \$63,930	M+00-06 \$71,002
Kasey Atkison	Teacher	GB	M+00-13 \$87,974	M+12-13 \$92,217
Sarah Fink	Teacher	WM	M+12-14 \$95,046	M+30-14 \$96,460

FY2027 Classified Personnel Compensation - Update

The Board approved the memo last month but a few corrections were needed. The updated memo was approved.

Destruction of Closed Session Recordings 18 months or older per Illinois State Law: 8/12/24, 11/19/24 and 12/18/24

The Board approved the destruction of the following closed sessions: 8/12/24, 11/19/24 and 12/18/24.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzelter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

Dr. Donato, Chief School Business Official, provided the finance report for the month ending June 30, 2026.

It was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve the Finance Report for June 2026.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

BMO Harris P-Card Invoice Payment

Dr. Donato explained the request to pay the BMO corporate card statement prior to the next meeting to avoid late fees.

It was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve release of the BMO P-card payment in the amount of \$16,801.24 prior to the next Board meeting.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

NBJH Cafeteria-Ala Carte Food Prices

Dr. Donato explained that various Ala Carte food items need price adjustments to offset some of the inflationary pressures within the supply chain.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education approve the Ala Carte price increases as outlined in the memo.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Adoption of Tentative Budget

During the Committee of the Whole meeting, Ms. Donato presented the FY2027 Tentative Budget.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve the Tentative FY27 Amended Budget.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Phone System Support and Maintenance Contract

Dr. Donato recommended the renewal of the phone system support and maintenance contract with B&B Networks for \$13,394.20.

It was moved by Member Pfanzelter and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Mitel software support and ProCare maintenance agreement with B&B Networks.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzelter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources, informed the Board that an exit interview process has been developed. An exiting staff member can fill out an electronic survey and have an opportunity for an in-person interview. Mr. Brophy explained this new process will help inform growth opportunities and monitor staff wellness along with reviewing any potential trends found in the data.

Mr. Brophy stated there are currently five classroom assistant openings.

STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Apgar, Director of Student Services stated he is currently meeting with families and staff as he adjusts to his role.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent, announced that the New Educator Orientation is two weeks away. Dr. Raitzer mentioned it has moved to three days instead of two days this year.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Pay App #3 for New Meadowbrook School

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #3 for the New Meadowbrook School project, outlining the \$1,468,715.40 payment schedule with Happ Builders based on work completed through June 30, 2026.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve the payment to Happ Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$1,468,715.40.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Pay App #11 for Meadobrook Gymnasium

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #11 for the Meadowbrook Gymnasium project, outlining the \$332,903.22 payment schedule with Happ Builders based on work completed through June 30, 2026.

It was moved by Member Goldin and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the payment to Happ Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$332,903.22.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Pay App #1 for Greenbriar Construction

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #1 for the Greenbriar construction project, outlining the \$744,720.93 payment schedule with Reed Construction based on work completed through June 30, 2026.

It was moved by Member Pfanzerter and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the payment to Reed Construction in the amount of \$744,720.93.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Pay App #1 for Westmoor Construction

Ms. Donato introduced Pay Application #1 for the Westmoor construction project, outlining the \$409,551.61 payment schedule with Reed Construction based on work completed through June 30, 2026.

It was moved by Member Goldin and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education approve the payment to Reed Construction in the amount of \$409,551.61.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION

No report.

POLICY

Mr. Brophy stated there will be a Policy Committee meeting in next few weeks to review PRESS 122.

COMMUNICATION

Samantha Scheinman, Director of Communications, gave everyone a copy of the Update 28 summer mailer copy which will hit mailboxes this week. Approximately 6,000 mailers are sent out.

Ms. Scheinman also noted that staff and families will receive more information on the new communications platform, ParentSquare.

There were ten FOIA's this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Dr. Pearson mentioned that in July there was some storm damage in one of the TrueNorth buildings. The roof has since been remediated but is due for replacement and they are bidding the project.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

In

At 7:29 p.m., it was moved by Member Pfanzelter and seconded by Member Horwitz that the Board of Education go into a Closed Session to discuss the following:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity as authorized by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Goldin, Horwitz, Pfanzerter, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Out

At 8:09 p.m., it was moved by Member Horwitz and seconded by Member Pfanzerter that the Board of Education come out of Closed Session. All members present voted Aye. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m., President Silver-Schack requested that the meeting be adjourned. All members present voted Aye. Absent: Arms and Beeftink. Motion carried.

Christine Beeftink, Secretary

Mara Silver-Schack, President