

**School District U-46**  
Elgin, Illinois

October 21, 2024

**The video of the October 21, 2024 meeting can be found here:**

**[October 21, 2024 BOE Meeting](#)**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:46 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Avenue, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board Members answered roll call: Sue Kerr, Samreen Khan, Dawn Martin, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Melissa Owens. Veronica Noland arrived at 5:49 p.m., after the motion to move into closed session.

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 5:48 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Kerr. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made at 6:57 p.m. by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, 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. The following were also present at the District's central office: Celia Banks, Karla Jimenez, Brian Lindholm, Patricia Makishima, Ashlee McHaney, Griselda Pirtle, Doreen Roberts, Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Brian Tennison, Jacob VandeMoortel, Dr. Ann Williams, and Dr. Frank Williams.

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. Multilingual and Multicultural Education Update

Dr. Leatrice Satterwhite, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, Griselda Pirtle, Director of Multilingual and Multicultural Education, and Patricia Makishima, Coordinator of Multilingual and Multicultural Education, provided the Board of Education with an update on Multilingual and Multicultural Education which included updates on the Elementary Dual Language program and the English as a Second Language program.

B. Facility Planning Update

Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented to the Board of Education an update on facility planning which included an enrollment update, an update on the middle school construction project, continued discussion on the middle school transition options, a reminder and timeline for naming the new middle school in Bartlett, and next steps for Unite U-46.

Ms. Thommes left the meeting from 7:06 p.m. and returned at 7:09 p.m.

2. Comments from the Audience - Ms. Owens

A. Public Comments

Abdulraheem Amodi, U-46 building substitute, discussed the lack of period pay for substitutes. He requested that this payment be reinstated and a standard across the District. He also requested fair compensation for substitutes.

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

A. Additional Information

Ms. Martin reported that she attended the AVID Student Summit at Bartlett High School. She thanked the staff for inviting her and entertaining all of her questions. Ms. Martin discussed some of the things she learned at the Summit.

Dr. Johnson reminded the community that the Board is in the process of strategic planning and there are four community strategic planning sessions later this week,

at South Elgin High School, Elgin High School, Larkin High School, and the Welcome Center. She encouraged the community to attend.

Ms. Martin also reported that there had been a Curriculum Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting and the presentation will be posted online for the community to see. She reviewed a few highlights from the meeting.

B. FOIA Requests – 6

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

C. 2024 Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions Committee Report

Dr. Johnson, Superintendent, and the Board of Education discussed the November 23, 2024 Delegate Assembly. Ms. Martin agreed to be the Board Delegate.

4. Consent Agenda - Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meetings - July 22, 2024 and July 29, 2024
- C. Proposal - Assessment, Accountability, and Student Success - Personalized Lessons in Reading and Mathematics
- D. Contract - Plant Operations - Joint Purchase Agreement for Rock Salt
- E. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Pear Deck Learning
- F. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the *Matter of Ponce v. Satterwhite, School District U-46, et al.*
- G. Occupancy Permits – 8

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-G 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 - October 21, 2024

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, 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 \$28,160,612.98.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Itemized Bills in the amount of \$28,160,612.98. 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, presented proposed changes to the following Board policies. Administration recommended adoption of the proposed changes.

#### IASB PRESS Issue 115 Updates:

2:70	Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies
2:125	Board Member Compensation; Expenses
2:160	Board Attorney - Legal Counsel and Legal Officer
4:15	Identity Protection
4:40	Incurring Debt
4:70	Resource Conservation
4:80	Accounting and Audits
4:140	Waiver of Student Fees
5:130	Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information
5:180	Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity
5:200	Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:285	Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers
5:290	Employment Termination and Suspensions
6:110	Programs for Students at Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program
6:150	Home and Hospital Instruction
7:170	Vandalism

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to accept the recommendation of Administration to adopt the amendments to the Board of Education's policies as outlined in IASB PRESS Issue 115 as stated in 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:

6:140	Education of Unhoused Children
-------	--------------------------------

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to accept the recommendation of Administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education's policy 6:140 as outlined in IASB PRESS issue 115 and as suggested by 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.

6:230	Library Media Program
-------	-----------------------

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to accept the recommendation of Administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education's policy 6:230 as suggested by 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.

7:150	Agency and Police Interviews
-------	------------------------------

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to accept the recommendation of Administration to adopt the amendment to the Board of Education's policy 7:150 as suggested by 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. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

The following closed session minutes have been reviewed for approval:

Minutes for Approval – October 2024

April 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2024

May 6 & 20, 2024

June 10 & 24, 2024

Audio to be Destroyed – October 2024

November 21, 2022

December 12 & 19, 2022

January 9, 21, & 23, 2023

February 6, 13, & 27, 2023

March 6, 13, & 20, 2023

April 10, 2023

A Motion was requested and the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of closed session minutes and, therefore, all closed session minutes, with the exception of the minutes already released including audio recordings, remain confidential.

A Motion was also requested that all audio recordings more than 18 months old having been put into writing and approved, may be destroyed.

Motion by Ms. Kerr second by Ms. Martin, to approve the closed session minutes and approve audio to be destroyed 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.

6. Other Business - Student Disciplinary Case (Board Policy 7:190 - Student Behavior)

A. Student A

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Noland, to uphold the suspension of student A. 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.

7. Other Business - Dr. Johnson

A. Investment Report for the Fourth Quarter

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented the Investment Report for the fourth quarter and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

Ms. Noland left the meeting from 8:41 p.m. and returned at 8:43 p.m.

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

A. Proposal - Curriculum and Instruction - Career and Technical Education Tooling U-SME

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Doreen Roberts, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Tooling U-SME in the amount of \$39,000.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

B. Proposal - Communications and Plant Operations - Welcome Center Interior Graphic Installation

Karla Jimenez, Director of Communications and Community Relations, Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, and Brian Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Descon Signage in the amount of \$107,100.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

C. Proposal - Plant Operations - Annual Fire Alarm Inspection and Testing Services

Ashlee McHaney, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Cintas Fire Protection in the amount of \$236,468.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years.

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

A. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction - Wayside Publishing

Brian Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Celia Banks, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Jacob VandeMoortel, Coordinator of Social Sciences and World Languages, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Wayside Publishing, in the

total amount of \$54,811.80, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund. This cost is included in the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

10. Move to Closed Session - Ms. Owens

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.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to move to closed session at 8:46 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.

11. Move to Open Session - Ms. Owens

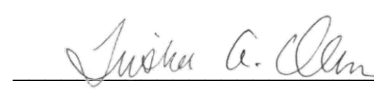
Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to move to open session at 9:35 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Khan, Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Owens. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

12. Adjournment - Ms. Owens

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Board meeting of October 21, 2024, at 9:37 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 13th day of January, 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary