

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

November 6, 2023

The video of the November 6, 2023 meeting can be found here:
[November 6, 2023, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board Members answered roll call: Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Chanda Schwartz, and Sue Kerr. Kate Thommes was absent from roll call and arrived at 5:54 p.m. Samreen Khan and Dawn Martin were absent.

President Kerr 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 5:32 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 4-0.

Kate Thommes arrived at 5:54 p.m., during closed session.

A motion was made at 6:56 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr, Student Board member Asraar Ahmed Siddiqui, Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson, and Chief Legal Officer Trisha Olson. The following were also present at the District's central office: Dr. Annette Acevedo, Mitchell Briesemeister, Nancy Coleman, Dr. Teresa Lance, Elizabeth Hennessy, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Matt Raimondi, Brian Tennison, Dr. Ann Williams, and Dr. Frank Williams.

President Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement – Dr. Johnson

A. American Education Week and Education Support Professionals Day

In recognition of American Education Week, November 13-17, 2023, a Proclamation of Appreciation was presented to the Elgin Teachers Association, represented by Ms. Barbara Bettis. In recognition of National Education Support Professionals Day, November 15, 2023, annually falling on the Wednesday of American Education Week, a Proclamation of Appreciation will also be presented to Ms. Pizzitola, Ms. Avina, Ms. Weiss, and Mr. Sheahan on behalf of the support unions. Each day our teachers and support staff play an important role in the lives of nearly 34,000 students in School District U-46. Dr. Johnson and the Board of Education shared their appreciation for their hard work and thanked them for their dedication.

2. Strategic Plan Report - Dr. Johnson (Board Policy 2:20 - Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification)

A. School Report Card Data

Mrs. Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, Dr. Acevedo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lance, Assistant Superintendent of Equity and Innovation, Mr. Tennison, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, and Mr. Raimondi, Director of Assessment and Accountability, discussed the School Report Card Data with the Board of Education. President Kerr inquired about chronic absenteeism and how it is being addressed. Dr. Acevedo stated that conversations are being had to identify support and resources to target that area. Dr. Lance added that Executive Directors and other departments, are also working around conditions to ensure that students have a sense of belonging and security.

B. Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) and School District U-46 Explore 2023 Update

Mr. Briesemeister, Director of Educational Pathways, and Mrs. Coleman, Executive Director of ACE, provided an update on the Explore 2023 event.

3. Comments from the Audience – Ms. Kerr

A. Public Comments

Crystal Ritchie, McKinley PTO Co-President, wants the school communities and the District to work together, with a common goal of building the community. She asked the Board to revisit the facility rental process for the PTO, as the PTO is being charged for custodial fees. Ms. Ritchie and other PTO members are concerned, as PTO events typically do not raise enough money to pay for custodial fees, and they worry this will limit events.

Beverly Crosby, Bus Driver, spoke of the challenges of driving a school bus and the issues when handling multiple routes. She also shared her concerns of not having an assistant available on a bus. She asked the Board to help the Transportation team.

Elva Luna, Bus Driver, shared concerns regarding the contract for Transportation. She stated that monetary incentives are needed and asked the Board to consider an MOU before more transportation employees seek higher competitive wages at other districts.

Glenda Hodges, shared information regarding her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, based in Schaumburg. She shared that her roots run deep in the Elgin community and that both her and her sorority, is interested in improved academic and emotional support for students.

Tina Pizzitola, shared information and recognized DUEA. She also thanked the Board of Education for their recognition.

4. Other Business – Board Member and Superintendent Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Student Board member, Asraar Ahmed Siddiqui, shared that the Muslim Student Association (MSA), established a designated daily prayer space and a process to utilize this space.

B. Report to Membership - 2023 IASB Delegate Assembly

The Board of Education discussed the November 18, 2023 Delegate Assembly. President Kerr stated that Ms. Martin agreed to be the School District U-46 Board Delegate representing the Board of Education at the 90th Annual Conference. They discussed the five resolutions noted below and how the District will vote.

Resolution	District Vote
Industrial Construction	Do not adopt
School Resource Officer Funding	Adopt
Bus Driver Regulations	Adopt
Employment History Review	Do not adopt
Alternative Safe School Funding	Do not adopt

C. FOIA Requests – 8

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

5. Consent Agenda – Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Termination of Angelina Damiana - PARA-MLP BIL SESS
- C. Bid - Information Services - Staff Laptops
- D. Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Lighting Inspections
- E. Proposal - School Safety - Two Way Radio Replacements
- F. Contract Renewal - Fine Arts - MusicFirst Secondary Music Curriculum Resource
- G. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Snow Removal Contract Extensions
- H. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - Judson University Mutual Use Agreement
- I. Contract - Office of Schools - Heritage and Ridge Circle Elementary Schools K-2 Balanced Literacy Professional Development
- J. Change Order - Plant Operations - Elgin High School Roof Replacement, Project #246
- K. Change Order - Plant Operations - Fox Meadow Elementary School Roof Replacement, Project #726
- L. Change Order - Plant Operations - Prairieview Elementary School Fire Alarm System Replacement, Project #1353
- M. Change Order - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Track Improvements, Project #317
- N. Change Order - Plant Operations - Tefft Middle School Ceiling, Lighting, and Insulation Replacement, Project #531
- O. Change Order - Plant Operations - Tefft Middle School Fire Alarm Replacement, Project #530
- P. Approval of Settlement Agreement and General Release in the Matter of Flores v. School District U-46

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Schwartz to approve Consent Agenda items A-P, as presented. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. Discussion/Action – Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – November 6, 2023

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the attached bills. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$14,687,988.13.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Itemized Bills in the amount of \$14,687,988.13. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

B. Bid - Operations - Hawk Hollow Additions and Renovations

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends to award to the lowest responsible bidder, The George Sollitt Construction Company, in the amount of \$52,438,799.00 and requests authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the Hawk Hollow Additions and Renovations bid to The George Sollitt Construction Company, in the amount of \$52,438,799.00. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

C. Proposal - Operations - Kimball Middle School Addition Architect Recommendation

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for renovations as well as an addition to Kimball Middle School, and requests authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Schwartz, to approve the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for renovations and additions to Kimball Middle School. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

D. Proposal - Operations - New Elgin Middle School Architect Recommendation

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for the design of a new Elgin Middle School, and requests authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund. The cost will be included in the budget for the 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the proposal submitted by DLA Architects for the design of a new Elgin Middle School. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

7. Other Business – Dr. Johnson

A. Secondary Schools Financial Report for the First Quarter

Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Secondary Schools Quarterly Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

B. Investment Report for the First Quarter

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

8. Work Session - Resolutions

A. Resolution Declaring the Intention to Issue Bonds not to Exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the Purpose of Increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, and Directing that Notice of such Intention be Published in the Manner Provided by Law

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent Operations, Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Elizabeth Hennessy, Managing Director of Raymond James, presented the Resolution and summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Declaring the Intention to Issue Bonds not to Exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the Purpose of Increasing the District's Working Cash Fund, and Directing that Notice of such Intention be Published in the Manner Provided by Law.

9. Work Session – Dr. Johnson

A. Order Calling a Public Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board of Education of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent Operations, Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, and Elizabeth Hennessy, Managing Director of Raymond James, reviewed the Order Calling a Public Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board of Education of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds and will respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education adopt the Order Calling a Public Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board of Education of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds.

10. Work Session – 2023 Tax Levy (Board Policy 4:30 – Revenue and Investments)

A. Resolution Regarding Proposed 2023 Levy

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Resolution regarding the Proposed 2023 Levy and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. The Certificate of Tax Levy and the Tax Levy Resolution will be presented on November 20, 2023 and adoption will be requested on December 4, 2023. The tax levy must be filed with the counties by the last Tuesday in December. Administration recommends adoption of the proposed levy resolution.

B. Estimate of 2023 Tax Levy

Dr. Ann Williams, Deputy Superintendent Operations, and Dr. Frank Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reviewed the Determination of the 2023 Tax Levy and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

The following steps are required when filing a tax levy:

1. The Board of Education determines the amount of the tax levy at least 20 days prior to taking action on the particular levy.
2. The tax levy must be filed with County Clerks by the last Tuesday in December.
3. The Board of Education levies dollars. The County Clerks set the rates. In order to have the maximum tax extensions, levy amounts must be high enough to reach the maximum amounts to be calculated in accordance with the "Tax Cap" legislation. Since the equalized assessed valuation (EAV) of property and new construction numbers are unknown, it is a common practice to establish a defensive levy. This means levies are set higher than what is actually expected to be received. County Clerks will reduce levies to the maximum legal amounts. The proposed property taxes to be levied for the 2023 tax year are 7.98% over the previous year.
4. Since the new levy is more than 105% of the prior year's tax extension, a "Truth in Taxation Notice" must be published in a newspaper in each County of the District and a Public Hearing held prior to the adoption of the levy. The Notice is published no more than fourteen (14) days or less than seven (7) days before the hearing. The hearing will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023 the same meeting that the "Certificate of Tax Levy" is presented with adoption on December 4, 2023.

President Kerr 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.


A motion was made at 8:30 p.m. by Ms. Noland second by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

A motion was made at 9:17 p.m. by Ms. Noland second by Ms. Owens, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

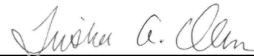
11. Adjournment – Ms. Kerr

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Schwartz, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of November 6, 2023 at 9:20 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 5-0.

Approved this 11th day of December, 2023.



President



Secretary