

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

March 15, 2021

**The video of the March 15, 2021 meeting can be found here:**  
[March 15, 2021, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago Ave, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board Members answered roll call: John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

Ms. 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, collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes or employees; review of closed session minutes; and individual student matters.

The motion was made at 6:32 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Ms. Thommes, Mrs. Smith and Ms. Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 6:57 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present in-person for the business session were Superintendent Tony Sanders, Board members John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Donna Smith, and Sue Kerr, Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez, and student Board member Olivia Howell. Board members Eva Porter and Kate Thommes participated in the meeting virtually via Zoom. The following administrators were also present at the District's central office: Steve Burger, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Ann Chan, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Dr. Teresa Lance, Lela Majstorovic, Dr. Ushma Shah, Sheila Downs, Mary Fergus, and Brian Lindholm. Present for the meeting via Zoom were other administrators and members of the public.

Ms. Kerr noted that Covid-19 Executive Order 75, which extends modifications to the Open Meetings Act and permits public bodies to meet remotely through electronic means, is still in effect.

Ms. Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Strategic Plan Report - Mr. Sanders (Board Policy 2.020 - School Board Powers and Duties)

A. Return to Learn Update

Mr. Sanders, Superintendent, and Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, presented to the Board of Education an update on the 2020-2021 Return to Learn.

Updated Guidance – March 9, 2021 – ISBE/IDPH

Mitigation Strategies

1. Universal mask wearing
2. Social distancing observed as much as possible
  - a. 3-6 feet for students and fully vaccinated staff
  - b. Six feet remains the safest distance, but 3 feet allowed
  - c. Unvaccinated staff should remain 6 feet to the extent possible
3. Contact tracing and isolation of suspected/confirmed cases (quarantine rooms required).
4. Increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.
5. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
6. Self-Certification will continue to be required by staff and students; however, no symptom check required at the school. Screener removed runny noses, congestion, and abdominal pain.
7. Occupancy restrictions (including buses/50)

Additional Mitigation Strategies

1. Testing - Binax Now/CLIA Waiver approved and will start after spring break.
2. Vaccinations.

In-Person Instructional Model Updates

- Tuesday, 4/6/2021 will be an all online, synchronous learning day following the current Monday Instructional Schedule.
- Updates take effect on Wednesday, 4/7/2021.
- The 4/7 start is a response to U-46 sites being used as polling places on 4/6.
- A/B day designations will be eliminated. An updated district calendar will be posted this week.
- Additional information about potential Early Childhood changes is forthcoming.
- Elementary, K - 6: All currently enrolled Hybrid students will transition to in-person (no A/B groups). Distance Learning students will maintain in their distance learning assignments. In-person and distance learning schedules are as follows:
  - Mondays: modified schedule 8 - 12 or 8:30 - 12:30
  - Tuesday - Friday: Full day for all in-person and Distance Learning students
  - 8 - 2 or 8:30 - 2:30

Secondary - All Hybrid will be in-person (no A/B groups). Distance Learning students will maintain in their Distance Learning assignment.

Monday - Friday: Full day for all students

- High School: 7:40 - 2:55
- Middle School: 9:00 - 3:30
- DREAM Academy: Traditional Schedules
- Central School Programs, Transition and SWEP: Traditional Schedules

#### Considerations for Full-Return to In-Person Learning:

- Numbers of students
- Social Distancing Requirements and Protocols
- Operations: Transportation, Food Services, and Safety
- Student Needs
- Thresholds of Instruction
- Resources
- Instructional Models
- Instructional Strategies
- Staff Assignments

#### Priorities and Facets of All K - 6 Models

- Safety: In-person instruction will occur with all individuals wearing masks throughout the day, maintaining three to six feet of social distance, and washing hands frequently. Extra hand-washing stations have been installed across the district.
- Instructional Time and Modes: Every student will receive synchronous remote online or in-person instruction during the week.
- Attendance: Student attendance will be taken once each day, consistent with our current practice.
- Lunch: All in-person students will have lunch on site. Additional details about breakfast and snacks are forthcoming.
- Modified Monday Schedule: 8 - 12 or 8:30 - 12:30.
- Standards-Based Learning and Assessments: Following grade level learning standards and assessments with social-emotional lessons embedded as much as possible.

#### Priorities and Facets of All 7 - 12 Models

- Safety: In-person instruction will occur with all individuals wearing masks throughout the day, maintaining three to six feet of social distance, and washing hands frequently. Extra hand-washing stations have been installed across the district.
- Attendance: Student attendance is taken during each class period. Students who are scheduled to be in class for in-person instruction but attend via distance learning will be marked with a different attendance code. All high schools will continue to have an open campus, allowing students to arrive later or leave earlier if they do not have classes scheduled for the first or last period(s) of the day.
- Lunch: All schedules include a scheduled lunch period. Lunch will be served in the cafeteria. Plans are being made to ensure 6 feet of distancing and allow for outdoor dining.

### Tentative Timeline

3/16/21 - Household communication

3/19/21 - Professional development day for teachers. Non-instructional day for students.

3/22/21 - Professional development day for teachers. Non-instructional day for students.

4/6/21 - Synchronous Learning Day due to election polling locations in U-46.

4/7/21 - First day of full day, every day, In-Person Instruction for all Hybrid Students.

4/13/21 - SAT; high schools will be synchronous and distance learning for grades 9, 10, 12.

4/23/21 - Student instructional day.

## 2. Public Comments

Andrew Bauman stated that he had concerns that the district did not solicit feedback from parents regarding returning to in-person instruction.

Virginia McHugh-Kurtz stated that she had concerns with another schedule change for students and staff at this late point in the school year, as well as concerns for how these changes would effect distance learners.

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

### A. Additional Information

No updates were given.

### B. FOIA Requests

Mr. Sanders stated there were three (3) FOIA requests that the District has responded to since the previous Board meeting, and the responses are available on the Board book and would be made available on the District's website.

## 4. Consent Agenda – Mr. Sanders

A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases

B. Minutes of Board Meeting – March 8, 2021

C. Termination of Michael Bono - Maintenance

D. Termination of Randal Foster - Bus Driver

E. Termination of Matthew Frazier - Custodian

F. Termination of Lisa Merigold - Food Service Technician

G. Termination of Theresa Petrucci – Custodian

H. Termination of Mark Sheahan – Maintenance

I. Proposal - Business Services – Distribution Center Truck Replacement

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the consent agenda items A-I, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote 7-0.

5. Discussion/Action – Mr. Sanders

A. Itemized Bills – March 15, 2021

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the attached bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$3,292,133.77.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to approve the itemized bills in the amount \$3,292,133.77. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Other Business – CAC Update (Board Policy 2.152 – Advisory Committees to the Board

A. Additional Information

There were no CAC updates.

7. Other Business – Mr. Sanders

A. February Financial Report

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the February Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education.

8. Work Session - Contracts Over \$25,000.00 (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Contract Renewal - Human Resources - Frontline Absence and Substitute Management

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Mrs. Chan, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval of the contract renewal with Frontline Education in the amount of \$37,309.46 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

9. Work Session – Bids/Proposals (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Bid - Plant Operations - Educational Service Center Roof Replacement Project #330

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Elens & Maichin Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of \$1,938,300.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

B. Bid - Plant Operations - Larsen Middle School Gymnasium Floor Restoration Project #505

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to FH Pashen, SN Nielsen & Associates, LLC. in the amount of \$440,136.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

C. Bid - Plant Operations - Hillcrest Elementary School Boiler Replacement Project #926

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Independent Mechanical Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$344,000.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$263,000.00, with the remaining balance of \$81,000.00 charged to the Health Life Safety Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

D. Bid - Plant Operations - Elgin High School Stadium Improvements Phase Two Project #241

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Northwest Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,799,850.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

E. Bid - Plant Operations - Lowrie Elementary School - Library Relocation and Wall Repairs Project #1177

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Bulley and Andrews in the amount of \$701,000.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

F. Bid - Plant Operations - 1019 East Chicago Street Interior Buildout and Conference Room Furniture Purchase Project #2058

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Happ Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$3,563,500.00, and Warehouse Direct in the amount of \$225,374.00 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

G. Bid - Plant Operations - Willard Elementary Main Office HVAC System Replacement Project #1580

Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to 1 Source Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$158,600.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

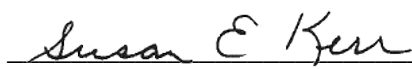
H. Bid - Plant Operations - Independence Center for Early Learning Roof Replacement Project #M0062

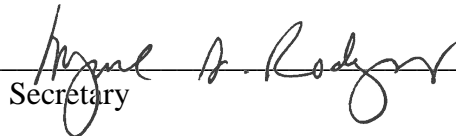
Mr. Phelps, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to Filotto Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$72,000.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of March 15, 2021 at 8:50 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 12th day of April 2021.

  
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President

  
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Secretary