

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

September 25, 2023

The video of the September 25, 2023 meeting can be found here:
[September 25, 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: Dawn Martin, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Samreen Khan, Chanda Schwartz, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

President Kerr requested a motion to allow Board Member, Ms. Khan, to participate via Zoom as she was unable to be physically present due to a family or other emergency.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin to allow Ms. Khan to participate via Zoom. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

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. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Noland second by Ms. Owens, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

Present for the business session were Board members Dawn Martin, 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: Dale Burnidge, Kathleen Cox, Brian Lindholm, Lela Majstorovic, Virginia McHugh Kurtz, Sarah Siddiqui, Patricia Waldau, Dr. Ann Williams, and Dr. Frank Williams. Board member Samreen Khan was present via Zoom as well as other administrators and members of the public.

President Kerr led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of silence was had for two individuals who passed away who made great contributions to District U-46.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – 2023/2024 School District U-46 Budget (Board Policy 4:10 – Fiscal and Business Management)

A. Opening of Public Hearing

The Hearing was opened by a simple declaration by the Board Vice President.

Dr. Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented an overview of the 2023-2024 district budget and were available for questions.

B. Comments from the Public

There were no public comments regarding the 2023/2024 School District Budget.

C. Close of Public Hearing

The Hearing was closed by a simple declaration by the Board Vice President.

2. Comments from the Audience – Ms. Kerr

A. Public Comments

Tina Semock, Bus Driver at U-46 and Elgin resident, stated concerns regarding the wage section of their contract. She also mentioned concerns about retaining current employees and attracting new employees due to current wages. She requested an MOU to address their wage concerns.

Laura Taets, current U-46 transportation employee, stated that there are not enough drivers or assistants. She also shared concerns about equipment, maintenance of parking lots, overscheduled routes, and low wages. She also requested an MOU to address their wage concerns.

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

A. Additional Information

There were no updates.

B. FOIA Requests – 1

Dr. Johnson stated that there was one Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that is available on BoardDocs and will also be available on the District's website.

4. Other Business – Community Advisory Council (CAC) Update (Board Policy 2:150 – Committees)

A. Community Advisory Council (CAC) Update

Specialized Student Services Committee Co-Chairs, Ms. Virginia McHugh Kurtz, and Ms. Sarah Siddiqui, presented the 2022-2023 yearend report. They also mentioned the below meetings:

- CAC General Meeting, October 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM, Elgin High School
- CAC Specialized Student Services Meeting, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom
- CAC Instructional Initiatives Meeting, October 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom

5. Consent Agenda – Dr. Johnson

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of the Board Meeting September 11, 2023
- C. Board Policy Updates
- D. Proposal - Plant Operations - Picnic Pavilion Phase 1: Streamwood High School Millennium Field
- E. Proposal - Plant Operations - Equipment Purchase - Mini Skid Steer
- F. Proposal - Plant Operations - Equipment Purchase - New Holland Skid Steer
- G. Contract Renewal - Curriculum and Instruction – Newsela
- H. Contract - Office of Schools - Illinois Principals Association Coaching and Mentoring
- I. Change Order - Plant Operations - Streamwood High School Pathways Phase One: Early Childhood, Healthcare Science, Business Incubator, and Science Lab Renovation - Project #319
- J. Occupancy Permits – 13
- K. Statements of Completion – 2

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Noland to approve the Consent Agenda items A-K, as presented. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Discussion/Action – Dr. Johnson

A. Itemized Bills – September 25, 2023

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$11,397,254.71.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the Itemized Bills in the amount of \$11,397,254.71. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Minutes of Board Committee Meeting

The Board of Education reviewed the following Board Committee Meeting Minutes:

- August 21, 2023 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the August 21, 2023 Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting minutes. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

C. Resolution Adopting School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Dr. Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the FY24 Budget resolution. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the Resolution Adopting the School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Ms. Owens thanked the Finance Department and reminded the Public that there is an executive summary at the beginning of the budget book. She also stated that there were several discussions about the budget at the Finance Committee Meetings, of which, minutes from one of those meeting were approved today. President Kerr also thanked the Finance Department and encouraged the public to review the Board Book.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve Resolution Adopting the School District U-46 Budget, July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

D. Resolution Affirming U-46 Facility Study

Dr. Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the Resolution Affirming U-46 Facility Study. President Kerr asked for an overview of this Resolution. Dr. Williams stated that this Resolution contains the authorization of the educational facility master plan and provided preliminary recommendations and timelines adopted by the Board. It also documents the plan to retire Abbott Middle School and Ellis Middle School after the 2025-2026 school year, update the transition of 6th grade to Middle School in the 2026-2027 school year, and initial design phases for a new Middle School as well as additions to Kimball Middle School and Kenyon Woods Middle School.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve Resolution Affirming U-46 Facility Study. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

E. Resolution Adopting JUUL Litigation Settlement

Ms. Olson, Chief Legal Officer, was available to answer questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board of Education approve the Resolution Adopting JUUL Litigation Settlement.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve Resolution Adopting JUUL Litigation Settlement. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

F. Contract - Operations - Property Insurance

Dr. Williams, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the contract with Chubb Insurance in the amount of \$839,723.00, and requests authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Tort Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Martin, to approve the contract with Chubb Insurance in the amount of \$839,723.00. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

7. Other Business – Student Disciplinary Cases (Board Policy 7:190 – Student Conduct)

A. Student A

This matter was before the Board whether to expel Student A for the term of two years. While serving the expulsion, Student A will have the opportunity to enroll in an alternative education program.

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the expulsion of Student A. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

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

A. Proposal - Plant Operations - Snow Removal Equipment Purchase

Ms. Waldau, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the proposal from AHW, LLC in the amount of \$51,368.46, and requests 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 2023-2024 fiscal year.

B. Proposal - Plant Operations - Emergency Electrical Inspections and Repairs

Ms. Waldau, Director of Plant Operations, presented the attached proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the invoice from Peters Electric and Technology, Inc. in the amount of \$193,391.46, and requests 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 2023-2024 fiscal year.

C. Proposal - Operations - Construction Management Services - International Contractors, Inc.

Dr. Williams Deputy Superintendent of Operations, and Mr. Lindholm, Chief of Staff, presented the proposal summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the proposal from International Contractors, Inc. in the amount not to exceed approximately \$5,110,786.00 or 5.11% of the total project, 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 fiscal year.

D. Proposal - Operations - Construction Management Services - Gilbane Building Company

Dr. Williams Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the proposal summary and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the proposal from Gilbane Building Company in the amount not to exceed approximately \$5,006,466.00 or 5% of the total project cost, 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 fiscal year. For the Public's understanding, Ms. Martin asked if they could explain the role of these construction companies. Dr. Williams explained that due to the size and scope of the projects there is a need of a higher level of monitoring and guidance, which is why construction management firms are needed. Ms. Khan stated that she was impressed with both companies due to their diversity and the work that they have done.

9. Work Session - Contracts Over \$25,000.00 (Board Policy 4:60 - Purchases and Contracts)

A. Contract Renewal - Plant Operations - ABC Service Contract

Ms. Waldau, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the three-year contract renewal with Automatic Building Controls, LLC in the amount of \$973,232.08, and requests 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 2023-2024 through 2025-2026 fiscal years.

B. Contract Renewal - Early Learner Initiatives - One Hope United

Ms. Majstorovic, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Ms. Cox, Director of Early Learner Initiatives, presented the proposal and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommends approval of the one-year contract renewal with One Hope United in the amount of \$357,500.00, and requests authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the FY24 Preschool for All Grant Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

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 8:06 p.m. by Ms. Noland second by Ms. Martin. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 9:14 p.m. by Ms. Martin second by Ms. Noland, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes 0. The motion was carried by a vote of 7-0.


10. Adjournment – Ms. Kerr

Motion by Ms. Martin, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2023 at 9:17 p.m. Upon roll call yes votes: Ms. Martin, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Ms. Khan, Ms. Schwartz, Ms. Thommes, and President Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 23rd day of October, 2023.



President



Secretary