

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25
1200 S. Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

School Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2021

Scott Filipek, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on May 6, 2021 to accept a motion to adjourn into closed session at 6:47 p.m. The meeting was held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 S. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

The meeting was noticed for closed session to discuss: Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees/Independent Contractors/Volunteers of the District, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); Review closed session minutes, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21); Collective negotiating matters, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); Performance of the occupant of a public office 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3); Safety of employees, staff, students, the public, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).



Regular Meeting

Scott Filipek, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order 7:35 p.m. on May 6, 2021. The meeting was held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 S. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Roll call was noted and the Pledge of Allegiance said.

Board members present: Brian Cerniglia, Chad Conley, Gina Faso, Scott Filipek, Rich Olejniczak, Anisha Ismail Patel, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Dr. Becky FitzPatrick, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Dr. Brian Kaye, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology and Assessment; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Story Telling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

Recognitions and Presentations

- Mr. Filipek noted that this week is Teacher Appreciation Week and on behalf of the Board, thanked all of the teachers for everything they do each day.

Community Input

- Monica Tietz addressed the Board regarding ethics, and the Board officer elections.
- Karen Jones addressed the Board regarding actions the schools have been taking regarding DEI, and the Board officer elections.
- Melissa Cayer addressed the Board regarding Consent Agenda supporting documents in BoardDocs.

Dr. Bein read comments that were received electronically before the submission deadline. All comments are given to the Board in full and posted on the website.

- Miranda Hobbes commented on the Board officer elections.
- Jacquelyn Loeppert commented on the Board officer elections.
- Michele Hilgart commented on the Board officer elections.

Communications:

The following reports were given:

- NSSEO - Ms. Faso reported that at last night's meeting, two out of the three Shining Stars were from District 25, and it is very exciting to watch what the children have achieved.
- IASB – Ms. Patel noted that she attended a Women Leadership Summit this morning that included Superintendents and Board members across the state. She stated that 50% of Board members in the state are female. She shared that District 25 has not had a female Vice President or President in over twenty years.
- ED-RED – Ms. Mallek reported that there has not been a meeting since the last Board meeting. A Board member asked about House Bill 2789 that passed out of the House and is in the Senate. Ms. Mallek noted that ED-RED is waiting to see where it goes, but it may be approved by the end of May. The bill requires the IDPH to mandate metrics for all school districts in the state, as well as putting COVID testing in all of the schools. District 25 is already COVID testing. If people have an interest in the bill, they should contact their legislator.
- Board Governance – Mr. Filipek read the Board meeting agenda paragraph in the Board Governance Framework. He explained changes to the agenda and roll call votes.

The following reports were received:

- ATA – Ms. Drevline thanked the PTA for everything they have done for teachers and staff this week. She stated that it has been an honor to be the ATA President for the past seven years, and that the teachers are all wonderful. She introduced the new ATA Executive Board, which includes Kate Renno, Rights & Responsibilities; Alyssa Maloney, Secretary; Joe Kim, Treasurer; Casey Whitaker, Vice President; and Allison Berg, President. Mr. Filipek noted that the Board of Education looks forward to working with the new ATA Board.

There were no reports from:

- PTA
- ABC25

Committee of the Whole Reports

Student Learning – No Report

Student Services - No Report

Business and Finance

ESSER Funding Plan

Ms. Mallek and Dr. FitzPatrick provided information on the federal funding programs and priorities. Ms. Mallek reviewed the annual funds the district receives, including their general rules, District 25 considerations, and funding amounts. Title I funding is used to improve academic achievement of the disadvantaged and provide support for at risk students. The funding is divided among qualifying schools based on their numbers of low-income students, and the district must provide supplemental educational services for eligible private school students. Title II funding is used for professional development to increase student achievement. There is a non-public share, and the district meets with the private schools annually to determine if they plan to participate. Title III funding is used to help ensure the English Learners attain English language proficiency and meet state academic standards. The district usually uses this for Summer U transportation. There is a non-public share. The district does not always get Title IV, which is to provide student support and academic enrichment.

Dr. FitzPatrick reviewed the ESSER, or stimulus funds, including the general rules and District 25 considerations. The CARES Act (ESSER I) funds totaled \$200,439, and were used to purchase 1:1 technology, microphones and speakers. ESSER II funds are available through September 30, 2023, and total \$675,717. They are being used for Interventionist personnel costs; literacy resources; Summer U personnel costs and materials; and executive functioning professional development. The ESSER III funds totaling \$1,516,831 will be available July 1, 2021 or later, and are available through September 30, 2024. District 25's anticipated priorities include Interventionist personnel costs; 2022 Summer U personnel costs and materials; tutoring opportunities; literacy and math resources; a SEL facilitator stipend; and unallocated funds, based on students' needs in the future. The district will monitor needs and adjust as necessary. Ms. Mallek noted that these funds are going to directly service students as much as possible.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion regarding Summer U 2021 and 2022; MAP testing; math resources; and meeting all students' needs. Dr. FitzPatrick stated that on the May 28 Data Day, teams at schools will meet regarding students' performance on different assessments; how they are functioning in the classroom; and the benefit from different interventions. Dr. Bein added that all remote students have gone through MAP assessments, so there will be data on them as well. Dr. Bein noted that there is no longer a waitlist for Summer U support classes.

Enrollment is normally approximately 500 students, but there is closer to 750 this summer. Board members thanked Ms. Mallek and Dr. FitzPatrick for the presentation.

Third Quarter Budget Update 2020-2021

Ms. Mallek shared highlights from the third quarter budget update for the 2020-2021 school year. She reviewed the revenues and expenditures in each fund. For 2020-21, a total deficit of \$6.58 million was budgeted. Based upon the results of the first three quarters, it is likely we will end the year with more revenue than budgeted, mainly due to the federal reimbursement for the summer food program. Also, the balance due at this point from the State is much less than years past due to the new funding formula. There is an unknown on the revenue side in regard to property tax collections. As a result of the delayed due date for spring tax payments, we have collected only 82% of the budgeted spring tax collections. There is no revenue for transportation because there are no paid bus riders. There is also no building rental income. We do not anticipate spending the entire expenditure budget. The budget did not include pandemic costs, but we hope to receive funding from FEMA for this. The largest factors bearing on the final budget results at this point will be the property taxes and expenditures. Based on this, we anticipate ending the year with less of a deficit than budgeted. A Board member asked a question regarding the life safety fund. Ms. Mallek was thanked for her presentation

NSSEO Budget for 2021-2022

Ms. Mallek noted that the NSSEO budget was presented at the previous Board meeting and there were no changes.

Motion: A. Patel moved and C. Conley seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the 2021-22 NSSEO Budget as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning – No Report

Superintendent Report

Board Meeting Format Update

Dr. Bein noted that at the February 25 meeting the Board reviewed several meeting format ideas. Dr. Bein requested the Board's input on two items. The Board expressed an interest in having informal opportunities, such as a coffee with the Board, for the public to meet with two Board members at a time. The Board also encouraged Dr. Bein to invite administrators and staff to these opportunities. Dr. Bein suggested Saturday dates each quarter and asked the Board if these dates and times work, or if they would like a different format. Board members had several recommendations. Dr. Bein will use their suggestions and email them a document to sign up for dates.

Additional Committees were discussed, including the Diversity Advisory Team that Dr. Bein plans to restart. A Board member recommended that all Board members rotate through the meetings, which Board members supported. Some districts have a Policy Committee, but Dr. Bein noted that District 25's procedures seem to be working, and Board members agreed. A Board member asked about a Technology Committee. Dr. Bein noted that the district has an Instruction Technology Committee and a Hardware/Software Committee. Board members would like to have more Technology updates, and Dr. Bein noted that it could be done.

Second Reading of Policies

Dr. Bein noted that the policies have not changed from the first reading.

- 3:92 Administrator Benefits Plan
- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

Motion: A. Patel moved and C. Conley seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the second reading of policies as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Consent Agenda

Motion: A. Patel moved and G. Faso seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve those items on the Consent Agenda as follows: (A) Personnel Report and Addendum to Personnel Report; (B) Treasurer's Report; (C) Invoices

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Dr. Kaye, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Planning introduced two new administrators, Allison Yoder, Assistant Principal at Westgate and Student Services Coordinator; and Lauren Hammer, Thomas Middle School Student Services Coordinator.

Community Input

- Melissa Cayer addressed the Board regarding adding the supporting documents in BoardDocs for the Consent Agenda; a suggestion regarding the house bill regarding health metrics; and the bottles of water at Board meetings.
- Brittany Polihronis addressed the Board regarding improving inclusion for students in special education, and the priority of IEPs.
- Melissa Cayer suggested that the district and village hold a State of the Village event for the community.

Future Agenda Items

- Ms. Faso requested having 2021-2022 quarantine procedures as a future topic.

Motion: B Cerniglia moved and R. Olejniczak seconded that the Board of Education move into the Closed session at 9:04 p.m.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion: R. Olejniczak moved and C. Conley seconded that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien
Recording Secretary

Approved: May 20, 2021

President
Board of Education

Secretary
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: May 21, 2021

Date minutes posted on District website: May 24, 2021

Community Input Received Electronically

First and Last Name	Public Comments– May 6, 2021 Board Meeting
Miranda Hobbes	Thank you for recognizing that vote totals are disproportionately driven by the amount of votes purchased by ATA and IEA. Your rejection of Anisha’s bid for Vice President gave me confidence that our Board is not controlled by the teachers union, even though several of its members clearly are.
Jacquelyn Loeppert	Disappointment is not a strong enough word to describe what I feel about the board’s actions showing their lack of commitment and sincerity to the diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative. The complete dismissal of Anisha as a nominee for vice president has shown where the board of mostly white men stands. She has shown more commitment to serving the community on the board and to serving the community in a multitude of ways beyond her role as a school board member than anyone else. She had significantly more votes than any other candidate. She is a doctoral student and experienced educator with a Master’s degree. Clearly these all make her a highly qualified candidate to be the Vice President of the school board. Microgressions such as this show a lack of commitment to making real changes and a commitment to keeping things the status quo. It was a great misstep of moving forward and shows a complete lack of servant leadership by the other board members. The community wants more leadership by example. The young women and children of color in our community deserve a better representation of leadership. Thank you Greg for nominating Anisha and trying to bring the change many of us voted for.
Michele Hilgart	I just wanted to express my sincere disappointment at the board's decision to overlook Anisha Patel as Vice President of the board. After a rocky year, with Mr. Cerniglia at the helm, the community overwhelmingly voted Anisha back into her position acknowledging her role and perspective throughout the difficult decisions made this past year. In fact, Anisha received more votes in this past election than any other candidate. Further, this decision is glaringly incongruous with the community’s clear support for diversity, equity and inclusion, and the board's recent re-commitment to this initiative. To have overlooked these factors and appointed Mr. Cerniglia into the role demonstrates a clear disregard for voice of your constituents and leaves us all to question what factor(s) drove your votes.
The following comments were received after the submission deadline and not included in the May 6, 2021 Board meeting.	
Sam L. Pappas	I would like to see more emphasis on "merit" in the school's policy and day to day activities. It is an important quality that all school administrators, teachers, staff, and students should strive for and emphasize, but is often overlooked or disregarded. In simple terms, "merit" can be defined as "the quality of being particularly good or worthy, especially so as to deserve praise or reward". It should form the foundation and basis for school hiring, governance, and teaching. It is a universal quality that can be achieved by all people from all backgrounds and should be cherished and respected.