

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
March 17, 2022

Scott Filipek, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on March 17, 2022 to accept a motion to adjourn into closed session at 6:19 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: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11); Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).



Public Hearing on the Reduction in Force



Regular Meeting

Scott Filipek, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on March 17, 2022. 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, Scott Filipek, Gina Faso, Rich Olejniczak, Anisha Ismail Patel, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent of Business/CSBO; Dr. Brian Kaye, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Dr. Becky FitzPatrick, Assistant Superintendent for the Department of Student Services; Dr. Peg Lasiewicki, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology; Ryan Schulz, Director of Facilities Management; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; staff; and community.

Recognitions and Presentations - None

Community Input

- Elizabeth Paczosa addressed the Board regarding transparency in curriculum, DEI, and gender identity.
- Laura Duplantier addressed the Board regarding the Integrated Services Program.

Several comments were received electronically. All comments are given to the Board in full and posted on the website.

Consent Agenda

**Motion:** A. Patel moved and G. Scapillato 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; (D) Regular and Closed Session Meeting minutes of February 24, 2022; (E) Special Committee of the Whole Kindergarten Meeting and Closed Session Meeting minutes of March 8, 2022 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.

Communications:

The following reports were given:

- NSSEO – Mr. Filipek reported on the past two meetings. Recently at NSSEO, a Thomas Middle School student was highlighted as the Shining Star as he was transitioning back from Timber Ridge to Thomas Middle School. Also, the Timber Ridge ribbon cutting ceremony was a great event. Mr. Olejniczak and Ms. Patel also attended.
- IASB – Ms. Patel reported that the IASB Dinner Meeting will be held on April 20 at Lincoln Middle School in Skokie with a presentation from Ralph Martire. She noted that she completed the four-part IASB Book study on Crucial Conversations.

- ED-RED – Mr. Olejniczak reported that the ED-RED dinner meeting will be held on April 25. He shared updates on several bills, and reminded the Board to complete their Statement of Economic Interests by May 2.
- A Board Governance Framework – Mr. Filipek read an excerpt from the Board Governance Framework regarding meetings of the Board.
- Other Board Communication – Mr. Filipek spoke about the Board Coffee that was held the previous weekend, and reminded the public that this is a time they can come to speak informally with Board members. Mr. Olejniczak congratulated Music for Youth on their recent concert. Mr. Filipek noted that he was in attendance and also congratulated the group. Mrs. Patel mentioned that the Arlington Heights Chamber of Commerce celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a gala, and she thanked the local business community for their support of District 25.

The following reports were received:

- ABC25 – Ms. Faso reported that the GetBurbed Challenge will be held on Saturday, April 30. She encouraged people to run at the event or to be a virtual runner, and noted that 100% of the money raised goes back to the classroom to support teachers with innovative instruction. ABC25 is also looking for volunteers for the 2022-2023 school year.
- ATA – Ms. Berg shared information about the clubs, teams, and activities at South Middle School.

There were no reports from the following:

- PTA

Student Learning – No Report

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance

Municipal Advisor Agreement

Ms. Mallek reported on the Municipal Advisor Agreement that needs to be put in place in preparation for the passing of the bond sale referendum.

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and G. Scapillato seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Municipal Advisor Agreement with Raymond James & Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$180,000.

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.

### Annual Report on Tax Exempt Bonds

Ms. Mallek reported that this is an annual item that needs to be shared with the Board. She reviewed the analysis that she completed.

### Student Fees for 2022-2023

Ms. Mallek reported on the proposed fees for technology, transportation, food service, student fees, additional fees, and the Children's Circle tuition. She noted that student fees are waived for students qualifying for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

### Facilities Management

#### Summer Construction Bid Awards

Mr. Schulz shared a summary of the three bids recommended for approval by the Board of Education. He explained that we utilize a construction manager depending on the scope of the work and the district's needs in getting materials, and the work completion timeline.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and B. Cerniglia seconded the motion that the Board of Education award Bid Package #1, Base Bid while rejecting Alternates 1, 2, & 3 for General Trades to Monarch Construction in the amount of \$959,200 for 2022 Capital Improvements and immediately assign the contract with the Contractor to Nicholas & Associates, Inc., as construction manager.

And that the Board of Education award Bid Package #2, Base Bid while rejecting Alternates 1, 2, & 3 for HVAC to DeKalb Mechanical in the amount of \$890,000 for 2022 Capital Improvements and immediately assign the contract with the Contractor to Nicholas & Associates, Inc., as construction manager.

And that the Board of Education award Bid Package #3, Base Bid while rejecting Alternates 1, 2, & 3 for Electrical to Shoreline Electric in the amount of \$120,000 for 2022 Capital Improvements and immediately assign the contract with the Contractor to Nicholas & Associates, Inc., as construction manager.

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.

### Personnel and Planning

#### Honorable Dismissal of Part-Time Clerical Assistants (Contract Tracers), Resolution A

Dr. Kaye reported that District 25 takes great pride in the high quality staff working in our schools. As our needs change related to contact tracing, he needs to recommend the honorable dismissal of employees for the rest of the current school year.

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and G. Scapillato seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt Resolution A authorizing the Honorable Dismissal of Part-Time Clerical Assistants (Contract Tracers).

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.

Honorable Dismissal of Probationary Teachers, Resolution B

Dr. Kaye reported that District 25 takes great pride in the high quality staff working in our schools. As we plan for the next school year, we are still determining staffing needs, and therefore need to recommend honorable dismissal of employees.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt Resolution B authorizing the Honorable Dismissal of Probationary Teachers.

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.

Dismissal and Reassignment of Probationary Teacher, Resolution C

Dr. Kaye reported that District 25 takes great pride in the high quality staff working in our schools. As we plan for the next school year, we need to recommend honorable dismissal of an employee and reassignment to a part time position.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt Resolution C, Authorizing Dismissal and Reassignment of Probationary Teacher.

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.

Dismissal of First, Second, and Third-Year Probationary Teachers for Reasons Other than Reduction-In-Force, Resolution D

Dr. Kaye recommended approval of Resolution D related to the dismissal of an employee.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt Resolution D authorizing the Dismissal of First, Second, and Third-Year Probationary Teachers for reasons other than Reduction-In-Force and not re-employ the teachers for the 2022-2023 school year.

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.

Superintendent Report

Freedom of Information Act Report

Dr. Bein reported that the following FOIAs have been received and responded to.

- Natalie White requested information on SSCIP communication and information; a response was provided on March 1, 2022.
- Ewa Wojcik requested information on vaccine clinic costs; a response was provided on March 2, 2022.
- Ted Novak requested information on various bonds; a response was provided on March 3, 2022.
- Nathan Ulery requested information on correspondence and information with CCDPH; a response was provided on March 7, 2022.

- Nathan Ulery requested information on communications regarding Covid mitigations; a response was provided on March 7, 2022.
- Jonathan Fagg, ABC7 Chicago, requested information on challenges to library books; a response was provided on March 7, 2022.
- Katie Rausch requested information on data from a survey used as a data point to assess Ivy Hill; a response was provided on March 7, 2022.

### Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Bein, Dr. FitzPatrick, Dr. Lasiewicki, Ms. Mallek, and Dr. Kaye updated the Board on the five goals for the Strategic Plan. Information provided by the Action Team work was shared. As the process moves into the “Do” phase of the “Plan/Do/Study/Act” process, they also shared some of the steps they will be working on and how some aspects will be measured.

Board members had questions and there was discussion on an interest in understanding more of the actual steps staff is taking; seeing more data points as we project growth or achievement of goals; and the college and career ready goal and the importance of utilizing broader measures to assess it as well as the importance of supporting the career pathways. A Board member noted that District 25 has submitted a proposal to share the Strategic Plan’s equity focus at the Joint Annual Conference, and encouraged the staff to connect with the District 214 Director of Diversity and collaborate with District 214 on community-focused work. Board members asked additional questions about the measures and action steps. A Board member expressed appreciation for the staff’s work and noted the trust and faith the Board has in the administrators doing the work.

### Board Meeting Structure

Dr. Bein asked the Board to revisit some areas of how Board meetings are structured. The Board determined that meetings for 2022-2023 will be scheduled on Tuesdays from 7:00 pm - 11:00 p.m. The Board will set a goal of finishing meetings by 10:00 p.m, but will have a “hard stop” at 11:00 p.m. The Board discussed putting time frames on agenda items as an estimate of how much time an item is planning to take.

The Board discussed the current process of accepting electronic comments. This was put in place in response to the pandemic-related restrictions in attendance and/or remote meetings. The Board asked if comments can be collected, but not read at meetings, but still available for Board review and posting on the website. Dr. Bein will check with legal counsel.

Ms. Patel described a format for a Policy Committee and other Board members agreed in the importance of the Board working on policies with rigor and focus. Dr. Bein will work with the Board to organize a Policy Committee.

The May 23, 2022 Board meeting will be relocated to South Middle School due to the Retirement Reception being scheduled at that meeting.

### Academy Program Review

Dr. Bein shared data with the Board that was collected from District 25 families who had children invited to the Academy Program. Some information shared included that 80% of families decided to have their student participate in the Academy when invited. Families responded that the best part of the Academy program was the teacher (42.5%) and the biggest challenge from the Academy Program was the multi-grade level classrooms (37.5%). Parents responded that if a remote program was needed in the future, they prefer those students be able to interact remotely with their actual classroom (37.6%).

Dr. Bein shared that we have utilized different formats for remote learning over the past few years, and would revisit this data should we need to offer remote learning in the future.

### Full Day Kindergarten

The Board had a detailed discussion about the combination of capital projects and construction for full-day kindergarten. They reviewed the costs associated with each, and how the costs included the five-year capital projects; the addition of classrooms in six elementary schools; the 85% capacity plan; the decision to not disrupt other programs; and the interest in not needing to go back to the voters in the next five years.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and A. Patel seconded the motion that the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to implement Full Day Kindergarten in District 25 by August 2024 by taking the following actions:

- Pursue voter approval to issue the needed School Building Bonds to cover related construction costs and 5-year Capital Projects costs; and,
  - Build additional classroom space at Dryden, Greenbrier, Olive-Mary Stitt, Patton, Westgate, and Windsor Elementary Schools so that Full-day Kindergarten can be provided at each student's home school; and,
  - Collaborate with staff and families to recommend to the Board of Education the program design, instructional resources, personnel, and transportation details.
- Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, no; A. Patel, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/1.

Resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing \$75,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of the District at the general primary election to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

The Board, again, reviewed the costs associated with this motion, and discussed their commitment to bringing the topic to the community for input through the ballot question.

The Resolution and related minutes are attached as "Appendix A".

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and C. Conley seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the

proposition of issuing \$75,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of the district at the general primary election to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

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.

### Second Reading of Policies

A Board member raised suggestions for possible changes to policies 3:40 and 4:175. The Board discussed them and decided to leave the language as submitted.

#### Press 108:

3:40	Superintendent
4:60	Purchases and Contracts
4:160	Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
4:175	Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
6:60	Curriculum Content
7:310	Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and C. Conley seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the policies and exhibits as presented by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

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.

### Community Input

- Melissa Cayer addressed the Board regarding leasing buildings to private schools; flexible school options; early childhood options throughout Arlington Heights; Harper College; and Tax Increment Finance districts.

### Future Agenda Items

#### Topics with Dates to be Determined

The Equity Audit will be added to the May 5, 2022 agenda.

### New Topics

A Board member would like to discuss including a plan for addressing capital projects needs in future projections.

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and A. Patel seconded that the Board of Education move into the Closed session at 9:50 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:** C. Conley moved and A. Patel seconded that the Board of Education adjourn closed session at 10:10 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:** C. Conley moved and A. Patel 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 10:11 p.m.

Submitted,

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D., Superintendent  
for  
Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: April 21, 2022

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President  
Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: April 22, 2022

Date minutes posted on District website: April 22, 2022

Community Input Received Electronically

First and Last Name	Public Comments from the March 17, 2022 AHSD25 Board Meeting
Anne McCarte	<p>I'm writing because I was surprised to see Question 5 in the Remote Academy survey suggest that this program might be offered again in the future, and I didn't feel the survey allowed me to express my feedback fully.</p> <p>My second grader participated in Remote Academy during a ten-day quarantine in 2021. She participated enthusiastically, and the Academy teacher was wonderful in engaging very young children on multi-hour zoom calls. The students drew pictures, shared their work with their classmates, and listened to read-alouds. They did some work with currency. My daughter had no complaints about this program.</p> <p>That said, the board should understand that the curriculum of this program bore absolutely no resemblance to the work my daughter missed in class over those days. This program was not a substitute for take-home assignments from her teacher nor for zooming-in to her existing classroom. Upon my daughter's return to class, we were provided with some worksheets that I assume represented some of the work she missed. I would have preferred to have access to those worksheets during the quarantine period.</p> <p>Within my family and friends, I also know of four other elementary-aged students who participated in the Academy program during 2021, some of them for weeks at a time as the virus slowly worked its way through the home and the child's close-contact quarantine period repeatedly reset. Their experiences seemed to jibe with mine. The children were engaged – they enjoyed the program. The program provided structure to the day, which was valuable both for parent and child. But the Remote Academy curriculum did not mirror the classroom instruction in any way. The students missed weeks of relevant Tier 1 instruction. Two of the students missed weeks of their assigned Tier 2 interventions. Upon their return to class, they were provided with a stack of worksheets to work through over the coming evenings and weekends to help the children catch up to their peers.</p> <p>Given these experiences, I don't feel Remote Academy is a justifiable use of the district's resources. If funding continues to be available for the program, it should instead be directed toward meaningful services for students who need them – perhaps extra tutoring for students who miss their assigned Tier 2 interventions. When students must quarantine due to a COVID diagnosis, the teacher should send home work like they would with any other illness. Could the Seesaw assignments that have already been developed over the last three years during periods of remote learning be leveraged for this purpose? Please reconsider "zoom school" being a preferred approach for educating sick or excluded elementary students. The goal should be ensuring students are prepared to re-engage with the standard curriculum upon their return to class. Remote Academy does not satisfy this goal.</p>
Peggy Glaubke	<p>I'm writing today in response to the survey sent to me regarding Remote Academy. I'm surprised the survey had no option for open feedback and consequently writing to you in hopes of major reform moving forward.</p> <p>The teachers were the best part of Remote Academy and rose to the challenge of educating three different grade levels over Zoom for an extended period. They were kind, engaging, and fun to work with. However, by no means was this an even exchange for the education that was occurring in the classroom. There was no differentiation. The kindergarteners and 2nd graders had the same literacy instruction. 5th grade math was the same as 3rd grade math. When I realized my children were not receiving grade-appropriate literacy and math instruction, I asked multiple classroom teachers to send home the work being missed (particularly for my first grader who was already flagged as being behind in reading). When I was told that the teachers were</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comments from the March 17, 2022 AHSD25 Board Meeting
	<p>not allowed to send home any work, I was devastated. As a parent, I was frustrated that I couldn't help my children stay current with the work that was already copied and sitting in the classroom. As an educator and member of a teacher's union, I felt mortified for the D25 teachers who were forced to tell me they couldn't help my children – their students – learn while stuck at home.</p> <p>I understand firsthand how the evolution of this pandemic impacted the workload of a teacher. I also know that trying to catch up students who missed two to three weeks is extremely challenging. If you have parents who are willing and able to help their children learn at home, why are you robbing them of that opportunity? The education and wellbeing of students should always be the center of every decision made, and this policy is quite frankly insulting to all the families this district serves.</p> <p>I feel like my children were punished for my being honest with the school about their health. If I hadn't openly told the school my children were quarantining, they could have had work sent home. The current policies of this district are forcing parents now to consider withholding information about their children's health in exchange for grade-appropriate material being sent home. Please reconsider your plan with Remote Academy moving forward to allow quarantined students the same opportunities that are afforded to the rest of the students in the classroom.</p>
Deborah Shiffman	<p>Dear Board, Please provide an explanation to address many questions many parents have regarding our board's local control. Please clarify what powers you hold as a school board in regards to preventing the enforcement of medical devices and medical treatments in the future. I'd like to hear from you, how are you going to ensure that transparency and accountability are #1 in our district? Thank you</p>
Tracy Falconer	<p>Did you ever wonder why no one ever tests positive for an old variant after a new one comes along? How do old covid tests manage to pick up a new variant that didn't exist when the test was made? Why do people get boosters for something that didn't work twice already? When was the last time you heard of a child dying from a heart attack, before the covid vaccines?</p> <p>It's hard to believe how millions of people lived through the past two years and concluded the government should have more power over their lives. What started as a battle against the pandemic to protect the people became a battle against the people to protect the pandemic. The question of who has given our board the authority over our children remains unanswered. No matter what your "authorities" told you to do, you took an oath and it was up to you to put pressure on your "authorities" to stop pressuring you and the community. What are the conclusions you have drawn to ensure nothing like this happens again? The more you avoid this conversation, the worse it looks.</p>
Margaret Waz	<p>Section "8:10 Connection with the Community" in the SD25 Board Policies (<a href="https://www.sd25.org/cms/lib/IL01904427/Centricity/Domain/42/Policy%208-10%20May%202020.pdf">https://www.sd25.org/cms/lib/IL01904427/Centricity/Domain/42/Policy%208-10%20May%202020.pdf</a>) talks about implementing a district public relations program that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Help the community feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their schools.</li> <li>- Earn the community's good will, respect, and confidence.</li> <li>- Promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the school and the community.</li> </ul> <p>I'd like to have a voice in preventing politically motivated curriculum focused on race, power, and promoting social justice from infiltrating our schools. Also, can my kid just learn math instead of learning teachers'/students' sexuality and using made-up pronouns?</p>

First and Last Name	Public Comments from the March 17, 2022 AHSD25 Board Meeting
Marta Denisiuk	I'm not here to judge anybody individually, I just want to say that based on what I've seen in the last few months, D25 Board as a whole has lost a tremendous amount of trust and respect. The message you are giving is either there was nothing wrong with the mask scandal or you are completely powerless if you can't hold the parties responsible for poor advice accountable. You don't really think there was something you could have done better? Not admitting to your mistake is only further damaging your reputation and good intentions.
Tiffany Sieroslawski	Dear Dr. Bein and School Board of District 25, I want to sincerely thank you for your truly thoughtful questions and complex considerations regarding keeping the Integrated Services Program at Westgate School. As a proud member of the Westgate team, your willingness to collaborate made me feel heard, respected and most of all, excited, as I feel the best is yet to come! It is a pleasure working with a board that supports and inspires its teachers and students. Thank you for all you do for the school community.
Jason Timpe	As a parent of a special needs child, I just want to echo and support the statements of both Kelly Darby and Dr. Bein about the unique culture of Westgate and the importance of maintaining the environment to support these children. As the name implies, the integrated special education services are woven into the fabric of the school at every level, to the point where my son is able to participate in the Cub Scout Pack hosted by the school, and even there I feel he is supported. This could not happen if it weren't for the fact that acceptance and understanding are a part of the culture Westgate for everyone from the teachers and staff, to the parents, and even the children. I believe that removing this program from Westgate would do a great deal of harm, and so I would not support this measure. From listening to the Special Committee of the Whole Board meeting, it does sound like the board would not do this, but there was a statement about wanting to hear from the parents on this topic, so I wanted to share my opinion. Thank you.
Marzena Mikulski	<p>In regards to the "Reporting Student Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation" act (which I find extremely disturbing in relation to public education), I totally agree with this teacher (quoted below; found on social media) who talked to his school board about the confusion agenda being pushed on kids in relation to gender and sexual orientation, which make the young, undeveloped minds want to explore it, not even knowing what it is. This is how this young teacher responds about the children being lectured about the ["they"] pronouns:</p> <p>"We've got kids that can't read and write, and we're gonna teach them incorrect grammar? I mean it's ridiculous, ok? Who gave permission to talk about this? Look, there's two genders. If you're born with the penis and you have testicles - that's just anatomy - you're a male. If you have a vagina and ovaries, you're a female. A man cannot menstruate, a man cannot lactate and breastfeed a child. You cannot give birth if you're a man. If you wanna be an adult and do whatever you want with your life, I'm ok with that. Don't push this ideology on children. I'm not gonna work in a district that's ok with that. You need to make a clear statement on how many genders are there because parents, there're already pulling their kids out of public school. They're doing homeschool options, they're going online. It's gonna increase as this liberal ideology comes into our schools. This isn't a political indoctrination camp, ok? It's public education. We wanna teach education."</p> <p>I only hope that the SD25 Board of Education realizes the damage these mind control programs, which have very little to do with education, are causing to our children.</p>
Bogdan Zapart	Mask optional is one of many issues including critical race theory (a.k.a. social emotional learning and social justice), curriculum transparency, gender confusion and identity, and pornography in school libraries. It got to a point where teachers a) have to hide their moral beliefs in fear of being accused by a student of offending them and b) risk their jobs trying to signal dangers the confusion agenda being pushed on kids is causing. It got to a point where the parents (who bring up concerns trying to take part in their children's education), not the curriculum, are the problem. What is our District doing to prevent these kinds of situations?
Mairin Gradek	I would like to express my disappointment that both Thomas and South are no longer having an 8th grade dance. All activities were to return to prepandemic expectations. 2 years of students

First and Last Name	Public Comments from the March 17, 2022 AHSD25 Board Meeting
	<p>missed out on an important social learning experience. The 8th grade dance doesn't have to be fancy or require students spend money. It is the social practice of getting ready for an event, in a much smaller, more safe environment of only their 8th grade peers. They can test out the waters of a dance in 8th grade before the bigger pressures of high school. The graduation classes that missed this opportunity were at a disadvantage once a high school dance was thrust upon them. The picnic just doesn't afford the same learning opportunities. I have heard that parents are planning their own dance off school grounds. While I applaud them for trying to give their children this experience, I see this as more exclusive and not in the best interest of all students. Please consider reimplementing the 8th grade dance. Use your parent volunteers to get it all done as it had been in the past.</p>
<p>Agnes Piersa</p>	<p>The document that was on the last board meeting's agenda:  <a href="https://go.boarddocs.com/il/sd25/Board.nsf/files/CBPJZT4F909A/\$file/Public%20Act%20102-0543%20220224.pdf">https://go.boarddocs.com/il/sd25/Board.nsf/files/CBPJZT4F909A/\$file/Public%20Act%20102-0543%20220224.pdf</a>  is pretty disturbing to me. We know that the plan that began with masks was not intended to end there. It scares me to think about what public schools have become. The sexualization of our children is disgusting. The data codes related to gender identity and sexual orientation are pretty alarming. This encourages children to question their own identities. To protect our children, many of us are deciding on other school choices. Interestingly enough, D25's implementation of the new strategic plan took place when most parents were way more concerned about the pandemic than anything else going on in our district. Submission through masking was just the beginning and it made me notice things that I haven't really paid attention to before. I am strongly opposing D25 plans for full-scale control and ideological indoctrination. How would you contribute the growth of our children by implementing the above topics?  Thank you.  Agnes Piersa</p>
<p>Elizabeth Paczosa</p>	<p>I am writing as a concerned parent with 2 out of 3 children attending Ivy this year. As the end of the year approaches, parents need to be informed where you are in your DEI implementation and what will be added/ taken out of current curriculum. This has been an ongoing question that has not had any answers. I believe we should have a transparent Curriculum, for parents to study to make an informed decision what they would like to opt out of if necessary. We need some sort of answer, doesn't need to be the end all be all but keeping parents in the dark raises many concerns. Please update your parents on what their children will be learning and what coursework you plan to implement. We need to know if private schooling would be a better fit.  Thank you.</p>
<p>Anna Bratko</p>	<p>Back in August 2021, the attorney Sara Boucek spoke at the board meeting addressing board members' questions related to masks. A lot of things have changed since then, a lot of things are unclear, and I think the community deserves to hear from the district lawyer again. After all, we have the right to know what legal advice our tax money is paying for.</p>

# Appendix A

# Appendix A

MINUTES of a rescheduled regular public meeting of the Board of Education of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 South Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois, in said School District at 7:00 o'clock P.M., on the 17th day of March, 2022.

\* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by the President and upon the roll being called, Scott Filipek, the President, and the following members were physically present at said location: Brian Cerniglia, Anisha Ismail Patel, Rich Olejniczak, Greg Scapillato, Gina Faso, Chad Conley.

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: None.

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: None.

The President announced that the Board of Education would next consider the adoption of a resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing School Building Bonds to the voters of the District at the general primary election to be held on June 28, 2022.

Whereupon Member Scapillato presented and read by title a resolution as follows, a copy of which was provided to each member of the Board of Education prior to said meeting and to everyone in attendance at said meeting who requested a copy:

RESOLUTION providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing \$75,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, at the general primary election to be held on the 28th day of June, 2022.

\* \* \*

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the "*School Board*") of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois (the "*District*"), has considered the existing school facilities and the improvements and extensions necessary to be made thereto in order that the same will adequately serve the educational needs of the District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board does hereby find and determine that it is necessary and in the best interests of the District that the School Board be authorized to improve the sites of, build and equip additions to and alter, repair and equip existing buildings, including, without limitation, building classrooms for full-day kindergarten and replacing windows, flooring, roofing, plumbing, electrical equipment and HVAC systems (the "*Project*"), at an estimated cost of \$75,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the School Board does hereby find and determine that the Project is needed to provide a quality educational program; and

WHEREAS, there are insufficient funds on hand and available to pay the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, before the School Board can provide the Project and borrow money and issue bonds for such purpose, a proposition therefor (the "*Proposition*") must be submitted to the voters of the District and be approved by a majority of the voters of the District voting on the Proposition at an election to be held in and for the District; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the District that the Proposition be submitted to the voters of the District at an election to be held and conducted in accordance with the general election law:

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It and It Is Hereby Resolved by the Board of Education of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

*Section 1. Incorporation of Preambles.* The School Board hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

*Section 2. Need for Project.* It is necessary and in the best interests of the District that the School Board be authorized to provide the Project, and that it is necessary and in the best interests of the District that money be borrowed and in evidence thereof bonds of the District be issued therefor to the amount of \$75,000,000.

*Section 3. Submission to Voters.* The Proposition shall be submitted to the voters of the District in accordance with the general election law at the general primary election to be held on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2022, between the hours of 6:00 o'clock A.M. and 7:00 o'clock P.M. on said day (the "Election").

*Section 4. Voting Precincts and Polling Places.* The Election shall be held in the voting precincts and at the polling places established by the County Board (the "County Board") of The County of Cook, Illinois (the "County"), for voters of the District at the Election.

*Section 5. Election Notice.* The County Clerk of the County (the "County Clerk") shall give notice of the Election, including the Spanish, Chinese and Asian Indian translations thereof as deemed by the County Clerk to be required by law (the "Notice"), in accordance with the general election law by (i) publishing the Notice once not more than 60 nor less than 10 days prior to the date of the Election in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the District, and (ii) posting a copy of the Notice at least 10 days before the date of the Election at the principal office of the County Clerk.

*Section 6. Local Notice.* The Secretary of the School Board shall post a copy of the Notice at the principal office of the District.

*Section 7. Newspaper of General Circulation.* It is hereby found and determined that the *Daily Herald* is a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the District as required by Section 12-5 of the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended (the "*Election Code*").

*Section 8. Form of Notice.* The Notice shall appear over the name or title of the County Clerk and shall be substantially in the following form:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the general primary election to be held on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2022, the following proposition will be submitted to the voters of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois:

Shall the Board of Education of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, improve the sites of, build and equip additions to and alter, repair and equip existing buildings, including, without limitation, building classrooms for full-day kindergarten and replacing windows, flooring, roofing, plumbing, electrical equipment and HVAC systems, and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

The polls at the election will be open at 6:00 o'clock A.M. and will continue to be open until 7:00 o'clock P.M. of that day.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

Karen A. Yarbrough  
County Clerk, The County of Cook, Illinois

*Section 9. Form of Ballot.* The ballot to be used at the Election, including the Spanish, Chinese and Asian Indian translations thereof as deemed by the County Clerk to be required by law, shall be in substantially the following form, with such necessary alterations, changes, deletions and insertions as may be required by Articles 24A, 24B or 24C of the Election Code if an electronic, mechanical or electric voting system is used at the Election:

(Face of Ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

PROPOSITION TO ISSUE \$75,000,000 SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

(INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Mark a cross  
(X) in the space opposite the word  
indicating the way you desire to vote.)

Shall the Board of Education of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, improve the sites of, build and equip additions to and alter, repair and equip existing buildings, including, without limitation, building classrooms for full-day kindergarten and replacing windows, flooring, roofing, plumbing, electrical equipment and HVAC systems, and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?	YES	
	NO	

(Back of Paper Ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Official ballot for voting on the proposition to issue School Building Bonds of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, at the general primary election held on June 28, 2022.

Precinct Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Polling Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Facsimile Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk, The County of Cook, Illinois

*Section 10. Election Judges.* The Election shall be conducted by the election judges appointed by the County Board to act in the precincts at which the Proposition will be submitted to the voters of the District.

*Section 11. Filing of Resolution.* After the adoption hereof and not less than 68 days prior to the date of the Election, the Secretary of the School Board shall certify a copy hereof to the County Clerk in order that the Proposition may be submitted to the voters of the District at the Election.

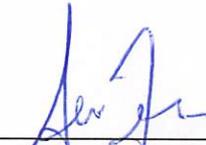
*Section 12. Canvass of Election.* The Election shall be held and conducted and the returns thereof duly canvassed, all in the manner and time as provided by the general election law.

*Section 13. Severability.* If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

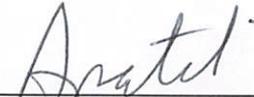
*Section 14. Repealer and Effective Date.* All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed, and that this Resolution be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

Adopted March 17, 2022.



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President, Board of Education



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Secretary, Board of Education

Member Scapillato moved and Member Conley seconded the motion that said resolution as presented and read by title be adopted.

After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt said resolution.

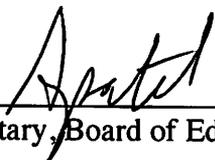
Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Scapillato, Olejniczak, Patel, Filipek, Cerniglia, Faso, Conley.

The following members voted NAY: None

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted and did sign and approve the same in open meeting and did direct the Secretary to record the same in the records of the Board of Education of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, which was done.

Other business not pertinent to the adoption of said resolution was duly transacted at the meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education

STATE OF ILLINOIS            )  
                                          ) SS  
COUNTY OF COOK            )

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES AND RESOLUTION**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education (the “Board”) of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois (the “District”), and that as such official I am the keeper of the records and files of the Board.

I do further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete transcript of that portion of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on the 17th day of March, 2022, insofar as the same relates to the adoption of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing \$75,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, at the general primary election to be held on the 28th day of June, 2022.

a true, correct and complete copy of which said resolution as adopted at said meeting appears in the foregoing transcript of the minutes of said meeting.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board on the adoption of said resolution were conducted openly, that the vote on the adoption of said resolution was taken openly, that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location where said meeting was held and at the principal office of the Board at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that at least one copy of said agenda was continuously available for public review during the entire 48-hour period preceding said meeting, that a true, correct and complete copy of said agenda as so posted is attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Act and said Codes and with all of the procedural rules of the Board.

I do further certify that the geographic or common name of the District by which the District is commonly known and referred to is Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois.

There is hereby certified to the County Clerk of The County of Cook, Illinois, for submitting to the voters of the District at the general primary election to be held on the 28th day of June, 2022, the proposition set forth in said resolution, which said resolution was duly adopted by the Board on the 17th day of March, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature, this 17th day of March, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Patel", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary, Board of Education

STATE OF ILLINOIS        )  
                                      ) SS  
COUNTY OF COOK         )

**FILING CERTIFICATE**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting County Clerk of The County of Cook, Illinois (the "*County*"), and as such official I do further certify as follows:

1. That on the \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2022, there was filed in my office a duly certified copy of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing \$75,000,000 School Building Bonds to the voters of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, at the general primary election to be held on the 28th day of June, 2022.

duly adopted by the Board of Education of School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois (the "*District*"), on the 17th day of March, 2022, and that the same has been deposited in the official files and records of my office.

2. That included in the certification of said resolution were the form of public question (the "*Question*") to be placed on the ballot, which ballot shall be prepared in English, and in Spanish, Chinese and Asian Indian as I hereby deem to be required by law, at the general primary election to be held on the 28th day of June, 2022 (the "*Election*"), and the date on which the Question was initiated by the adoption of said resolution.

3. That the Question will be submitted to the voters of the District at the Election.

4. That notice that the Question will be submitted to the voters of the District at the Election, including the Spanish, Chinese and Asian Indian translations thereof as I hereby deem to be required by law (the "*Notice*"), will be given as required by Section 12-5 of the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, by (a) publishing the Notice once not more than 60 nor less than 10 days prior to the date of the Election in

the *Daily Herald*, being a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the District, and (b) posting a copy of the Notice at my principal office at least 10 days before the date of the Election, as set forth in Section 5 of said resolution, and that the Notice will be substantially in the form set forth in Section 8 of said resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of the County, this \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2022.

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County Clerk, The County of Cook, Illinois

(SEAL)

**[FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED AND POSTED BY THE COUNTY CLERK AND  
POSTED AT THE DISTRICT'S PRINCIPAL OFFICE]**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the general primary election to be held on Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2022, the following proposition will be submitted to the voters of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois:

Shall the Board of Education of Arlington Heights School District Number 25, Cook County, Illinois, improve the sites of, build and equip additions to and alter, repair and equip existing buildings, including, without limitation, building classrooms for full-day kindergarten and replacing windows, flooring, roofing, plumbing, electrical equipment and HVAC systems, and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

The polls at the election will be open at 6:00 o'clock A.M. and will continue to be open until 7:00 o'clock P.M. of that day.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

Karen A. Yarbrough  
County Clerk, The County of  
Cook, Illinois