

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 2022

Brian Cerniglia, Vice President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on August 9, 2022 to accept a motion to adjourn into closed session at 6:20 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); The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).



Regular Meeting

Brian Cerniglia, Vice President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. on August 9, 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, Gina Faso, Scott Filipek, Rich Olejniczak, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: Dr. Anisha Jogee

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; Diane Kaffka, 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; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

### Recognitions and Presentations - None

#### Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Mr. Scapillato attended the District 25 Summer Band Concert, and noted that it was an amazing event. He also attended the New Teacher welcome on Monday, and spoke about the positive aspects of welcoming new teachers to District 25.
- ED-RED – Mr. Olejniczak talked about recent diversity, equity and inclusion lawsuits, and noted that Dr. Kelly Roberts, the Superintendent of Zion School District, and her son were both shot at the Highland Park parade. Mr. Scapillato attended an ED-RED SEL webinar.
- NSSEO – Mr. Filipek reported that Dr. Judy Hackett is retiring at the end of this school year. There will be a Bingo and silent auction night on October 12 to support NSSEO. A wellness walk will be held in September at Kirk School.

There were no reports from the following

- IASB

#### Community Input

- Karen Smith addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- Sheila Cruz addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- Joanne Carroll addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- Chickie Kyska addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- William Boodro addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- Anita Pacheco addressed the Board regarding how the referendum was communicated.
- Art Ellingsen addressed the Board regarding the referendum and sex education standards.
- Roger Berg addressed the Board regarding the referendum.

#### Communications from District Partners

- ABC25 – Ms. Faso reported that the ABC25 team is getting ready to kick off the year, and teacher grant applications will open up by the end of August. She asked parents to please join ABC25 when they register their child.
- ATA – Ms. Berg noted that teachers started coming into their classrooms last week to get ready for the new school year. She showed some behind-the-scenes photos of how teachers prepare for the new school year, and noted that everyone is excited for the new school year. She taught at Summer U this summer, and students participated in lots of fun activities.

There were no reports from the following:

- PTA

### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and S. Filipek 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 Reports for April, May, and June (C) Invoices; (D) Fixed Asset Disposal Report; (E) Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2022; (F) Superintendent Professional Organizations and Professional Development Leave

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

### Student Learning

#### Instructional Materials 2022-2023

Dr. FitzPatrick presented the list of instructional materials for the 2022-2023 school year. This list complies with policy, and due diligence has been exercised in selecting materials that meet the needs of students and are developmentally appropriate. Many teachers supplement these core resources with various instructional resources to meet the needs of their students. The district has confidence in our teachers to utilize their professional judgment on content and age-appropriateness when supplemental texts or resources are used in classrooms to enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught. The list will be posted on the website moving forward and updated on an annual basis. Board members asked questions and there was discussion regarding having the material list for all subject areas; and the process for a parent to review materials.

#### Student Services – No Report

### Business and Finance

#### ESSER Funding Update 2022-23

Ms. Mallek and Dr. FitzPatrick updated the Board on the ESSER Funding for 2022-23. The information is being brought to the Board before the amendments are submitted. Dr. FitzPatrick reviewed the ESSER funds general rules and District 25 considerations. The ESSER I funds have already been spent, and the costs were reviewed. ESSER II funds were also reviewed. The rules were similar to ESSER I, but there was no requirement for supplemental educational services for eligible private school students. Our final claim was filed and is completed.

ESSER III funds were explained, with 20% of the funds being used to address learning loss. Ms. Mallek reviewed the expenditures in detail, which are available up to September 30, 2024. Tutoring participation was significantly lower than was budgeted. The tutoring feedback received from families was that it was challenging to have after school tutoring because of other family activities. The district will use the funds for items that have the most impact that we can during the school day.

In summary, most of the efforts were focused on Summer U; intervention; tutoring; expanding and maintaining 1:1 technology; literacy and math materials; professional

learning to enhance instruction; and certified staff support for the remote academy. A Board member asked questions and there was discussion regarding the future of the interventionists.

#### Consolidated District Plan for 2022-2023

Ms. Mallek noted that it is an annual requirement that we bring the consolidated plan to the Board prior to receiving funding amounts. Approval is a procedural requirement, but it does not impact any actual dollars.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Consolidated District Plan for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as presented. Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

#### Presentation of the 2022-2023 Tentative Budget

Ms. Mallek presented information on the tentative budget for the 2022-2023 school year. She reviewed the revenue budget assumptions, noting that revenue from property taxes is based on a 99% collection rate, and that the CPI was 1.4% in 2021 and is 5.0% in 2022. Interest income is 1.5%, which is up from 0.4%. Taxes for referendum bonds are not included at this time. The district will go back to the typical food service program, and will not have contracts with any outside districts. State funds are stable and we are still anticipated obtaining the ESSER III and IDEA funds. The overall working cash fund anticipates a \$60M bond sale. If it is removed the total revenue budget increases 1.1%. She discussed major changes over the prior year revenue budget, which includes food service sales, bond proceeds, and grants.

The budget assumptions for expenditures were reviewed. Ms. Mallek explained that salaries are based on the current collective bargaining agreements or tied to CPI, and health insurance costs increased six percent. There is no pension shift incorporated at this time, and there will be a decrease in the IMRF employer pension rate in January 2023. The budget includes \$1.6M to support the Technology Plan, \$1M for the new math curriculum adoption, and a limited budget for COVID. There will be a decrease in food service food and supplies, and an increase in bus and taxi transportation. The district will continue the district vehicle replacement, and there will be an increase in the insurance premiums. Contingency funds include five certified staff, six non-certified staff, \$100,000 non-staff in the Education Fund, and \$50,000 in the Capital Projects Fund.

Ms. Mallek showed a summary of the fund balance, which includes the bond sale. The district has spent less on capital projects, personnel and benefits, supply chain, and employee issues. The district is recommending to use some of surplus from last year to help pay for some capital projects.

Ms. Mallek shared the budget timeline in accordance with legal requirements. The presentation and budget book will all be posted on the district website starting August 10.

August 9, 2022	Presentation of Tentative budget
By August 26, 2022	Publish Notice for Public Hearing
September 27, 2022	Public Hearing and Final Budget Adoption

A Board member asked about evidence-based funding being fully funded and if the district will be eligible for more money. Ms. Mallek stated that we are a Tier III district, and 99% of any additional funding will go to Tier I and II districts.

#### Proposed Referendum Bond Sale

Ms. Mallek provided some background to the Board, and introduced Ms. Elizabeth Hennessy from Raymond James, who presented updated information regarding the proposed referendum bond sale. Ms. Hennessy provided an update on the history of the market since 2019. Interest rates had gone up rapidly, but are starting to come down. Rates are under 3% for 30-year bonds. She showed the outstanding debt service in non-referendum bonds, and reviewed the debt limit.

The district is proposing \$75M in capital projects starting this year through 2027. The full day kindergarten additions will kick off so programming will open in August 2024. She reviewed the infrastructure improvements. Given the expected expenditure schedule and the federal tax law requirement to spend 5% of proceeds in first six months and 85% within three years, the district can issue \$60M in August of 2022 and the remaining \$15M in Spring of 2025. The debt service bond chart was shown, and is the best estimate at the moment. She showed and explained the timeline for bonds in detail.

A Board member asked about details of the reimbursement of capital, and which expenditures would be included. Ms. Hennessey was thanked for the presentation.

#### Resolution expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to be reimbursed from proceeds of an obligation to be issued by the District

Ms. Mallek noted that the resolution allows the district to go back sixty days from the date of adoption of the Resolution up through receipt of bonds proceeds for any expenditures that are paid out, and to reimburse our fund balance for those costs. The district would need to issue the bonds within eighteen months after the date the expenditure was paid, or the asset placed in service date in order for it to be reimbursed.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the “Resolution expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to be reimbursed from proceeds of an obligation to be issued by the District.”

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

### Crossing Guard Locations for 2022-2023

Ms. Mallek reviewed the crossing guard locations for 2022-2023, and explained that this is an annual item given to the Board for approval. The district performed school crossing location counts which did not result in any other recommended changes to crossing guard locations. The Maude and Patton location remains unstaffed, and we are actively looking for staffing. A Board member asked and there was discussion regarding the intersection of Thomas and Belmont, as well as the Maude and Patton location.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and S. Filipek seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve crossing guard locations as presented for the 2022-23 school year. Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

### Serious Safety Hazard Resolution for 2022-2023

Ms. Mallek stated that the School Code provides that districts annually review the conditions and certify to the State that the conditions remain unchanged. There are no changes from last year and the district has not received any requests for any new hazard locations.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and S. Filipek seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to Continue Serious Safety Hazard Busing for the 2022-23 school year. Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

### Facilities Management

#### Traffic Study

Dr. Bein noted that this is a referendum-related item. Mr. Schulz stated that this traffic study is required for the Village of Arlington Heights review as part of their planning and zoning approval process. The study will be done in September and October when school is back in session. Eriksson Engineering will be reviewing a large amount of information to get ready for their final report, and we will have drone footage to help tell the story at the buildings.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education award Traffic and Parking Studies to Eriksson Engineering in the amount of \$58,900 for six elementary school additions.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

### Personnel and Planning – No Report

Superintendent Report  
Freedom of Information Act Report

- Gerardo Mendez, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting requested information on Capital Improvements bid ; a response was provided on May 25, 2022.
- Tricia Trester requested information on personnel credentials; a response was provided on May 25, 2022.
- Karen Garcia, Smart Procure requested information on staff information; a response was provided on June 9, 2022.
- Tracy Falconer requested information on incidents of racial injustice and segregation that took place in District 25; a response was provided on June 27, 2022.
- Wojciech Tarchala requested information on books in the district's LMCs; a response was provided on June 29, 2022.
- Dariusz Gatko requested information on institutions and organizations that have donated books/instructional material to D25; a response was provided on July 5, 2022.
- Nathan Mihelich, Illinois Retired Teachers Association, requested information on certified staff retirements; a response was provided on July 5, 2022.
- Wojciech Tarchala requested information on books reviewed as part of the D25 Equity Audit; a response was provided on July 7, 2022.

Referendum Review

Dr. Bein updated the Board on the results of the June 28, 2022 primary election. The official certificate of results was reviewed. It was a unique experience that the final results were not available on the election day. Four precincts were not counted that day, and early voting and mail in ballots also needed to be included. The official results were available on July 19.

The board and public will be informed during every stage of the construction. Dr. Bein reviewed next steps regarding working with architects, the village, the plan commission, and the design commission. The district will bring the documents to sell the \$60M in bonds to the Board at the August 23 meeting. We expect to begin a phased-in plan of construction in the spring of 2023, and will look at the instructional aspect of full day kindergarten in the fall of 2023. By January of 2024 when families will begin to register, they will know what the program will look like. Construction will occur outside of the building during the school year, and then inside the buildings during the summer, spring break, and winter break. School construction will be on a schedule, and the Board will be updated.

A Board member asked if the Board would be informed about dates when the village meetings that the district's construction will be discussed, and Dr. Bein said that they would.

### Pandemic-Related Procedures

Dr. Bein noted that we will return to a very typical school year, and all of this information will go out to families later this week. She reviewed the IDPH/ISBE required procedures for a positive case of Covid-19. She also noted that the district is required to offer a remote option, but families are not required to utilize it. She explained the procedure during the student's exclusion dates. Students may request homework on school day three of their absence, and the student would submit missed work per teacher direction. Some classrooms may list information in learning platforms or a teacher website.

Dr. Bein showed the transmission level chart, which included recommendations for low, medium and high transmission. Changes per recent updates include no longer providing letters on individual cases; discontinuing the dashboard because the information is incomplete; testing by parents/guardians; and daily cleaning returning to high-touch surfaces. She stated that flexibility is important. The district will notify families if an outbreak is definitely attributed to school, or if a significant outbreak occurs, and if changes may be needed. A person may wear an appropriate mask at any time, and a person may request a desk shield.

A Board member asked how lunches will be handled this year, and Dr. Bein stated that all procedures are back to typical procedures.

### Community Input

- Anita Pacheco addressed the Board regarding communicating to nearby residents regarding future construction.
- Joanne Carroll addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- William Boodro addressed the Board regarding the referendum.
- Sheila Cruz addressed the Board regarding reviewing the curriculum.
- Art Ellingsen addressed the Board regarding Committee of the Whole meetings, and community communication via email.
- Roger Berg addressed the Board regarding the referendum process.

### Future Agenda Items

#### Topics with Dates to be Determined

- Gun safety concerns, and possibly have the police department provide a school safety report. There will be a meeting with the School Resource Officers in hopes that we will present to the Board in September.

### New Topics

A Board member asked about details of the district sex education program, as well as how parents can opt out of it. Dr. Bein said that nothing in the District 25 curriculum is changing this school year, and it will continue to be provided to 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The district is already aligned with the national health standards at these grades, and no other changes will be made. A communication will be going out this week to the families.



**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and S. Filipek 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; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:39 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: August 23, 2022

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President  
Board of Education

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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: \_\_\_\_\_ August 24, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_

Date minutes posted on District website: \_\_\_\_\_ August 24, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_