

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2023

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on January 10, 2023 to accept a motion to adjourn into closed session at 6:18 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); 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); Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8); Student disciplinary cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).



Regular Meeting

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 10, 2023. 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, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Rich Olejniczak, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent of Business/CSBO; Dr. Becky FitzPatrick, Assistant Superintendent for the Department of Student Learning; Dr. Brian Kaye, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Chris Fahnoe,

Director of Technology; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

### Recognitions and Presentations

Dr. Jogee, on behalf of the Board, and Dr. Bein congratulated the Arlington Heights All-Star student-athletes on their participation in the Special Olympics Basketball Skills Competition. Dr. Bein noted that they were impressed with how hard the athletes practiced and also the sportsmanship that they displayed at the event. Dr. Bein introduced and thanked head coaches, Allison Keough and Colleen Higgins, and the rest of the coaches. A video about the All-Stars was shown. Carol Golemo gave the Board a collage of pictures from the day of the event.

Dean Borodic  
Aidan Bowers  
Adam Buzinski  
Grace Canady  
JT D'Angelo  
Lily Franchi  
Andrew Huang  
Devin Jutla

Eliza Kim  
Grace Pedota  
Leah Perez  
Ava Reveles  
Owee Sasane  
Guiseppe Scaravalle  
Brady Simpson  
Regan Staehlin

### Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Dr. Jogee noted that the Board toured a few of the schools in December.
- ED-RED – Mr. Olejniczak noted that the annual dinner will be held on January 23. He also spoke about a few legislative topics in the state, as well as some from other areas of the country. Ms. Mallek spoke about Bill 1574 which requires districts to fill student requests for halal and kosher meals.
- IASB – Dr. Jogee reported that Thomas Bertrand, the IASB Executive Director, is retiring in June, and has done an excellent job leading IASB both locally and nationally.
- NSSEO – Mr. Filipek reported that the Superintendent search is wrapping up and candidates will be brought to the NSSEO Board within the next month. He will keep the Board informed. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Miner School on December 2 for a swing sunscreen sponsored by a local business.

### Community Input - None

### Communications from District Partners

- ABC25 – Ms. Faso reported that the GetBurbed Challenge will be held on April 15, 2023. The community can vote for their favorite t-shirt design for the race.

ABC25's first membership activity will be a hands-on forensic science STEM assembly to be held on January 16.

- ATA – Ms. Berg talked about the top six awesome things going on in District 25, and showed photos from the events. South and Thomas Student Council representatives raised over \$1,900 for Lemons of Love, an organization that helps families living with cancer. She showed a video from the Thomas *Be the Good* event which raised over \$3,300 for families in need.

There were no reports from the following

- PTA

### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and B. Cerniglia seconded the motion that the Board of Education pull the Policy Committee meeting minutes of December 13, 2022 from the Consent Agenda. Going forward, the Policy Committee meeting minutes will be moved to the Policy Committee meeting for review and approval.

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

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and B. Cerniglia 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) Board Bills; (F) Public Hearing on the Tax Levy Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2022; (G) Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2022.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; C. Conley, yes; G. Faso, yes; S. Filipek, yes; A. Jogee, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, abstain. Motion carried 6/0, with 1 abstention.

### Student Learning

#### Summer U Funding

Dr. Bein noted that the Board had questions regarding Summer U funding. ESSER funding was used during 2021 and 2022 for review courses, which were free for students. Academic review class enrollment for Summer U was provided for 2017 through 2022. Review courses had a fee through 2019, and enrichment courses still had a fee through 2022. The Multilingual Learner summer course is tuition free as a grant is used to pay for it. There was an increase in both overall enrollment as well as the percentage of student enrolling in review classes instead of enrichment classes in 2021, and that number declined in 2022. Dr. FitzPatrick discussed the Return on Investment for Summer U, and shared testing data comparisons.

The impact of providing free Summer U would be a positive impact on student maintenance of learning, and extended enjoyment programming for families if this includes enrichment courses & summer band. The administration does not predict that there would be an impact on other programming.

If the Board considers adding Summer U and Summer Band to the budget there is nothing that the administration would recommend deleting since these are optional experiences. They could be added to the budget and taken from reserves, as long as enrollment is steady. If enrollment spiked, we would have to revisit the funding. If enrichment classes were to be added to the budget, the anticipated total cost of Summer U would be approximately \$113,000 annually.

Dr. FitzPatrick discussed John Hattie's meta-analysis research on the effect sizes of education. Based on his research, summer school is likely to have small positive impact on student achievement.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on how we help families in need attend Summer U; and the background on John Hattie's research about the impact on attending summer school. The staff was thanked for the information. Though the Board values summer school, based on what the Board has seen there are other areas of financial concern; and no further action should be taken by the administration.

#### Library Media Program and First Reading of Policy 6:230

Dr. Bein stated that this topic will be discussed in different parts. Information regarding the district's library media centers will be presented and then Policy 6:230, *Library Media Program*, will be discussed.

Dr. FitzPatrick introduced Ms. Katie Paulson, Library Media Center Coordinator; Rebecca Fahnoe, Thomas Library Media Specialist; and Beth Kovacic, Dryden Library Media Specialist. The mission of the Library Media Program was reviewed. The LMC is the information hub of the school, and each collection is current; contains a variety of formats; meets student and curricular needs; provides access to diverse points of view; and supports recreational reading.

Ms. Paulson described the vision of the Library Media Program in detail. Personnel in the LMC include a certified Library and Information/Media Specialist, LMC Teaching Assistant, Technology Facilitator, Building Support Technician, and Volunteers. She discussed the roles of each, and noted that the school librarian wears several hats.

The district has 109,359 books in the collection, and the result is that there is a large variety of texts to choose from. She discussed collection development, and noted that the collection is also weeded or deselected throughout the year.

Ms. Kovacic discussed community partnerships, which include author visits made possible by a partnership with the PTA, bookstores and the Arlington Heights Memorial Library (AHML). The AHML provides library cards and borrowing privileges to all staff, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade bookmobile visits, summer reading presentations, and resource bags.

Elementary instruction is based on the District 25 LMC standards. Elementary schedules were discussed. Elementary programming includes content-aligned research, content-aligned read alouds, book list activities, Book Clubs, One Book, One

School, and Coding Week. Reading Contests, Family Reading nights, and Book Fairs are provided in collaboration with the PTA.

Ms. Fahnoe discussed middle school programming, which includes schoolwide and extracurricular activities. Many students find that their sense of belonging is within the walls of the library. Extracurricular activities are offered both before and after school, and include Artists who Love to Read, Battle of the Books, and Lunchtime Book Clubs.

Dr. FitzPatrick shared that research data from more than 34 statewide studies suggest that students tend to earn better standardized test scores in schools that have strong library programs. Also, a growing body of research has consistently shown positive correlations between high-quality library programs and student achievement.

Board members asked questions and there was detailed discussion on the book objection process; specific books that were objected, but not removed; if a parent can approve books in the LMC; the expansion of using media and cyber security, and what we are doing to ensure the overall safety of the students and our electronic assets; collection development; the American Library Association Library Bill of Rights; not discussing specific books in the collection, but the policy; and first amendment rights and District 25 being a public entity.

Dr. FitzPatrick explained the book objection process, and Dr. Bein added that the LMC Directors and Coordinator have completed an updated procedure, but it has been on hold. Dr. Bein stated that we are currently participating in a cyber safety audit and Mr. Fahnoe will be presenting on that when it is completed. Dr. Bein noted that books should be read in full, and a portion of a book should not be isolated. The district staff chooses a large selection of books, and are experts in creating a collection that meets a wide range of interests. The Board has a list of book objections. The first time the district received a book objection was in the 2021-22 school year. Eight families have objected to 18 books since the 2021-22 school year.

Board members thanked the staff for the LMC programming that the schools provide.

Policy 6:230, *Library Media Program*, was discussed in detail by the Board and Dr. Bein. Dr. Bein noted that a library provides a choice for checking out materials. Parents have three ways of monitoring student choices. They can (1) talk to their child about not checking out specific titles; (2) review books that the child brings home before they read them; or (3) review the child's library account to know what the child is checking out.

Board members discussed intellectual freedom, equitable access, and censorship; a parent's right to object to a book for their child, and if the child checks it out it will be denied; allowing for community members to challenge what they have access to; the safety of the student population; and cyber safety on everything, as resources in the LMC include all resources, and not just books. A Board member suggested that the attorney may need to be a part of this discussion.

Board members discussed District 214's Library Media Policy. In District 214, parents can object to a specific book, and the system will flag it. There were some instances where the system did not operate properly, so we have a concern about our liability if that happens. There was also discussion regarding parent and child conversations at home, and how the child would feel when they are told that they cannot check out a book.

Mr. Conley left the meeting at 9:09 p.m. and returned at 9:11 p.m.

A Board member made several suggested changes to Policy 6:230, which was given to the Board members. Board members discussed various viewpoints.

It was noted that the Board attorney attended tonight's Policy Committee meeting. Dr. Bein and the Board were thanked for the important conversation, and Dr. Bein was asked what direction is needed from the Board. Dr. Bein stated that we should have an attorney assist the Board with the policy. There was discussion if the Board should proceed with the policy discussion in a Policy Committee meeting or a regular Board meeting. It was determined that the discussion would continue during the First Reading of Policies later in the agenda.

Mr. Filipek left the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance

Resolution Directing The Cook County Clerk To Abate The Increase In The 2022 Real Estate Tax Levy Due To Section 18-233 Of The Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/18-233)

Ms. Mallek noted that Public Act 102-0519 requires that any property tax refund to individual taxpayers be re-extended by the County Clerk on behalf of the district in the most current levy. The aggregate refunds paid by District 25 during the preceding 12-month period was \$827,235, and it will be automatically added to the district's 2022 property tax extension unless the Board takes action to abate it. No additional tax dollars due to the refund recapture were anticipated in the five-year financial forecast after tax levy year 2021. As such, abating this amount would not negatively impact the five-year financial forecast. We also realize our community just approved a large tax increase to support full-day kindergarten. In recognition of this, and so not to put an additional tax burden on our taxpayers, the administration recommends that the Board abate this levy adjustment for the 2022 tax extension. Board members agreed with the recommendation. The resolution will be brought back for approval at the next meeting.

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning – No Report

## Superintendent Report

### Freedom of Information Act Report

- Colleen Mladic requested information on the advanced math placement process; a response was provided on December 9, 2022.
- Ewa Wojcik requested information on a Board policy for books; a response was provided on December 19, 2022.
- Frank Patterson from Academy Research Group requested information on current employees; a response was provided on December 19, 2022.
- Gosia Olszanski requested information on communications regarding creative commons or wikimedia commons; a response was provided on December 19, 2022.
- Jenny Olickal requested information on procedures for links on school websites; a response was provided on December 20, 2022.
- Holly Connors requested information on notes from a meeting; a response was provided on December 21, 2022.

### First Reading of Policies – PRESS 110

Dr. Jogee noted that the Board attorney attended today's Policy Committee meeting, and Dr. Bein explained the attorney's different suggested procedures for future policy committee meetings. Board members discussed the options for the policy committee reporting to the Board. The Board attorney noted that best practice is that the Policy Committee bring a recommendation to the full Board when two or three committee members agree.

After discussion, the Board determined that a majority decision on the Policy Committee could be brought forward as a Recommendation, but the dissenting opinion should be noted for the Board. Based on this, Policy 6:230 will be brought to the Board, but in smaller amounts since it is a larger discussion. The district will have an attorney at the Board meeting for this discussion.

Dr. Bein highlighted the policies on which the Policy Committee had questions or comments. Board members discussed the following policies:

- 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management
- 5:190 Teacher Qualifications
- 5:250 Leaves of Absence
- 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
- 5:320 Evaluation
- 6:15 School Accountability
- 6:130 Program for the Gifted
- 7:70 Attendance and Truancy

### Press 110:

- 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest
- 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- 2:210 Organizational Board of Education Meeting

2:250	Access to District Public Records
2:265	Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy
3:10	Goals and Objectives
4:10	Fiscal and Business Management
4:140	Waiver of Student Fees
4:165	Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
5:20	Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:120	Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
5:170	Copyright
5:190	Teacher Qualifications
5:220	Substitute Teachers
5:250	Leaves of Absence
5:260	Student Teachers
5:280	Duties and Qualifications
5:320	Evaluation
5:330	Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
6:15	School Accountability
6:20	School Year Calendar and Day
6:65	Student Social and Emotional Development
6:130	Program for the Gifted
6:250	Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
6:255	Assemblies and Ceremonies
6:270	Guidance and Counseling Support
6:340	Student Testing and Assessment Program
7:10-E	Exhibit: Equal Educational Opportunities with the School Community
7:50	School Admissions and Student Transfers to and from Non-District Schools
7:70	Attendance and Truancy
7:100	Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students
7:180	Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
7:250	Student Support Services
7:285	Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program
7:290	Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention
7:340	Student Records

#### Community Input

- Jenn Borrell addressed the Board regarding the Library policy.
- Ilya Fishman addressed the Board regarding library books.

#### Future Agenda Items

##### Topics with Dates to be Determined

- Recapture Levy Abatement (Jan 10 and Jan 24)
- Student Achievement/Assessment (following spring assessment)
- RULER Update/Presentation (TBD)



Dr. Bein reviewed topics that will be presented at upcoming Board meetings.

New Topics

A Board member would like to have more information on student access and cyber security including security breaches and monitoring that the district utilizes.

**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; A. Jogee, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 10:33 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: January 24, 2023

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President  
Board of Education

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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: January 25, 2023

Date minutes posted on District website: January 25, 2023