

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
February 28, 2023

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on February 28, 2023 to accept a motion to adjourn into closed session at 6:17 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); Student disciplinary cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9); 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); The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).



Regular Meeting

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on February 28, 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. Brian Kaye, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and

Planning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology; Shab Poloz, Director of Equity; 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 students who participated in the Arlington Heights Council of PTA Reflections art program. Nicole Barbieri, AHCPTA President; Megan Worthington, AHCPTA President Elect; and Heather Lepold, Reflections Chairperson, recognized the students. PTA leaders, parents, guardians, and the district administration and staff were thanked for their support of the program.

#### Dryden

Mikayla Carlson

#### Greenbrier

Elise Christiansen

Lila Davis

Christina Harisiadis

Jonah Katz

Kurt Peterson

Ashwini Srikanth

Maya Zbrzezny

#### Ivy Hill

Harshan Rajkumar Anusha

Aarav Singh

#### Patton

Ameline Burney

Amy Chang

Joanna Luo

Sara McCarty

Cassidy McKown

Aashvi Parekh

Ananya Parekh

Suhani Parekh

Joe Scapillato

#### Westgate

Addie Daley

Gannon Daley

Gabriel Dziedzic

Maxwell Lange

Ainsley Warner

Beck Warner

#### South Middle School

Jadynn Cantu

Ameera Fatina

Grant Heaton

#### Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Dr. Jogee noted that the Board was invited to attend Dr. Schuler's reception in February, which was a nice celebration.
- ED-RED – Mr. Olejniczak noted that several Board members attended the legislative dinner meeting in January. Ms. Mallek reported on the proposed TIFF legislation, and summarized the proposed differences.
- IASB – Mr. Scapillato reported that he and Dr. Jogee participated in an IASB winter book study. The book was "High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How We Get Out" by Amanda Ripley, and provides useful information about conflict, and the benefit of different perspectives.

- NSSEO – Mr. Filipek reported that one of the Shining Stars for February is a District 25 student who has gone back to his home school. He is very happy to be back, and we are very proud of him. The NSSEO Board interviewed several qualified candidates for the Superintendent position. The new Superintendent will be announced at the March 7 Special Board meeting, and then a celebration will be held at the April Board meeting.

### Community Input

- Sam Pappas addressed the Board regarding curriculum and book restrictions.
- Sheila Cruz addressed the Board regarding the January 10 Board meeting and books.
- Cathy Jo Horan addressed the Board regarding the January meeting and library books.
- William Boodro addressed the Board regarding the addition at Dryden Elementary School and costs.
- Jerry Berger addressed the Board regarding words of thanks and reconciliation.
- Melissa Cayer addressed the Board regarding the referendum and construction.

### Communications from District Partners

- PTA –Ms. Barbieri thanked the Board for allowing the PTA to congratulate the Reflections participants during tonight’s Board meeting. She also thanked all of school PTAs. They have received over sixty high school scholarship applications, which they believe is a council record. The PTA is looking forward to a busy spring.
- ABC25 – Ms. Faso reported that a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Ivy Hill won the GetBurbed t-shirt design, and a preview is available on the GetBurbed website. Everyone in the community is invited to participate in the event, and all the proceeds go to the foundation to raise funds for innovative learning initiatives.
- ATA – Ms. Berg talked about various events that are happening in the district, including Black history month and multicultural events. She also spotlighted the top five things at Greenbrier Elementary School.

### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and C. Conley 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) Fixed Asset Disposal Report; (E) Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2023; (F) Hold Closed session minutes of July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, and November 15, 2022 through December 31, 2022 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (G) Release Closed session minutes of November 7, 2022 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (H) Destruction of Audiotapes January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 per Board Policy 2:220-E1

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.

### Superintendent Report

#### Freedom of Information Act Report

- Thomas Jankowski requested information on an Open Meetings Act decision; a response was provided on January 20, 2023.
- Nathan Mihelich, Illinois Retired Teachers Association, requested information on district retirees; a response was provided on January 27, 2023.
- Laura Quesada, Contract Administrator at Reyes Coca-Cola Bottling requested information on a beverage agreement; a response was provided on January 27, 2023.
- Ryan Vaskovsky requested information on student resources for math; a response was provided on February 6, 2023.
- Rob Propst, Senior Account Executive at Waste Management, requested information on waste and recycling services information; a response was provided on February 15, 2023.
- Sheri Reid, Data Acquisition Specialist at SmartProcure requested information on district purchases; a response was provided on February 16, 2023.
- Brad Guretz requested information on summer reading lists; a response was provided on February 17, 2023.

#### Teacher Partnership with Bellwood School District 88

Dr. Bein introduced Dr. Victoria Hansen, Superintendent of Bellwood School District 88. She thanked the AH Chamber of Commerce DEI group for partnering with us to support the experience. She noted that she and Dr. Hansen have spent time in both districts. Teachers who teach together learn together. The purpose of the program is to learn together by co-teaching in different environments; utilize an equity lens to identify similarities and differences that impact the teaching experience; share ideas; and elevate who we are as a district.

Dr. Hansen thanked Dr. Bein, the Board, and the community. District 88 includes 2,300 students in seven schools across six different communities in Proviso Township. Student and staff demographics from both districts were provided. She noted that District 88 is eager to learn from District 25.

The motto of the program is “We’re All in This Together Today to Transform Tomorrow”. The logo, uniting both districts together, was shown. Jillian Thomas, District 88 Communications Coordinator, and Adam Harris, District 25 Head of Communications and Storytelling, were thanked for the logo. Both districts share many similarities, which were reviewed.

The program will kick off in April 2023 with six teachers from each district. There will be pre-reading on equity and courageous conversations, and best practices in instruction; a partnering and professional development day; three days co-teaching in each district, and a celebration and reflection day.

The next steps of action research will include to gather input from participants on the impact of the experience; consider expanding the experience; present outcomes to the Boards of Education; support teacher participants in providing professional development to their teacher colleagues; and apply to present at statewide and national conferences.

The Board asked questions and there was discussion on staff that will be participating in the program; courageous conversations; if other districts have similar partnerships; and the importance of diverse perspectives.

Dr. Hansen thanked the Board, and noted that we do this so all of our children can learn from these experiences. The Board thanked Dr. Bein and Dr. Hansen. Dr. Bein noted that all of Administrative Council will be going through courageous conversations training for the 2023-24 school year.

Student Learning – No Report

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance

Extension of the Bus Transportation Contract

Ms. Mallek explained the history of the contracts with the Cook County School Bus Company. Because the district is in our eighth year with the bus company, we are only able to extend our contract on a year-to-year basis. We have negotiated with Cook County for a 10.5% increase for 2023-24, based on maintaining the similar number and types of routes as 2022-23. The proposed increases are based on their continued need to increase their pay rates to attract additional drivers and remain competitive for next year; increases in insurance premiums; and a need to replace some buses to maintain our required average age of our fleet. Ms. Mallek has contacted neighboring districts, and they are also seeing double digit increases. The district has been pleased with the services of Cook County Bus Company. Ms. Mallek stated that districts that are going out to bid are not getting competitive bids and if they are, they are all higher. Districts must go with the lowest responsible bid, but there is not always the same level of quality. The Board asked questions and there was discussion on having a three-year contract instead of one-year.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and B. Cerniglia seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Extension of the Bus Transportation Contract with Cook County School Bus Co for 2023-24.

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.

Facilities Management

2023 and 2024 Facilities Capital Improvement Projects Approval

Ms. Mallek noted that the five-year rolling capital plan was presented at the December Board meeting. Approving the motion would allow the district to incur the design and architecture costs for 2023 and 2024. Mr. Schulz has scheduled projects for economies

of scale. Several of these projects will possibly be bid along with the building addition work. The district will come back to the Board for bid awards in the future. A Board member stated that some Board members were able to attend the Village of Arlington Heights Board meeting where two of the school additions were unanimously approved.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and S. Filipek seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the intended 2023 and 2024 Facilities Capital Improvement Projects as presented.

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.

### Personnel and Planning

#### SEIU Contract Approval

Dr. Kaye thanked all of the members of the negotiation teams. They meetings started in October 2022 and they met three additional times. The negotiations were respectful and cordial. This will be a five-year contract, which is fiscally responsible, and allows us to track expenditures of this group. Wage information for the five years were reviewed. Dr. Kaye highlighted a few changes including the middle school day shift, shift assignments, floater custodian, and vacation. The Board thanked everyone that was on the negotiations teams, including Board members Mr. Cerniglia and Mr. Scapillato. Dr. Kaye was thanked for the information.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and B. Cerniglia seconded the motion that the Board of Education ratify the Negotiated Agreement between Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education and Service Employees International Union, Local 73 as presented. 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.

### Community Input

- Sam Pappas addressed the Board regarding IAR testing.
- Sheila Cruz addressed the Board regarding the District 88 and District 25 partnership and student assessments.
- Melissa Cayer addressed the Board regarding SEIU dues.

### Future Agenda Items

#### Topics with Dates to be Determined

- Cyber Security – March 14, 2023
- Student Achievement/Assessment (following spring assessment)
- RULER Update/Presentation – May 2023
- Policy Legal Update – March 14, 2023

### New Topics - None

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and C. Conley seconded that the Board of Education adjourn closed session at 10:15 p.m.

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

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

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

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 10:22 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: March 14, 2023

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President  
Board of Education

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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: March 22, 2023

Date minutes posted on District website: March 22, 2023