

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

School Board Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2023

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on September 26, 2023 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); 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); 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).



Public Hearing on the Budget



Regular Meeting

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. on September 26, 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, Gina Faso, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Kevin Michael Elizabeth Nierman, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: Rich Olejniczak

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

Recognitions and Presentations

Dr. Kaye stated that earning tenure in District 25 is a meaningful achievement and he congratulated the tenured teachers on their tireless effort and enduring commitment to teaching. Dr. Jogee, on behalf of the Board, and Dr. Bein presented certificates and congratulated the newly tenured teachers.

Tiffany Repsher	Greenbrier	Cheryl Demeter	South M.S.
Olivia Weismann	Greenbrier	Olivia Leiby	South M.S.
Courtney Clawson	Ivy Hill	Kevin Osmani	South M.S.
Nicole Dombrowski	Ivy Hill	Carolyn Schneider	South M.S.
Justyna Kubek	Ivy Hill	Thomas Kennebeck	Thomas M.S.
Kathleen LaRoe	Olive-Mary Stitt	Sara Betsoleiman	Westgate
William Comiskey	South M.S.	Anna Bauer	Windsor

Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – None
- ED-RED – Mr. Michael reviewed topics that were covered at an ED-RED webinar that he attended on September 8. A Board member asked a clarifying question on new laws and the district's policies.
- IASB – Dr. Jogee reported that the Board was recently notified that we are one of 45 districts in the State that will receive the School Board Governance Recognition this year. The recognition will be highlighted at next months' IASB division dinner meeting. We will also recognize this achievement at our November Board meeting, and IASB will acknowledge the District 25 Board at the annual conference in November.
- NSSEO – Ms. Nierman reported that NSSEO sponsored an hour for students at the Mt. Prospect festival last weekend. NSSEO is also looking for substitutes, so please apply.

Community Input

- Sheila Cruz addressed the Board regarding books on a sensitive topic.
- Mark Pareti addressed the Board regarding child safety in middle schools.
- Frank Bauer addressed the Board regarding electric school busses.

- Patrick Sheridan/Wally Skwarek addressed the Board regarding social emotional equity.

The Board meeting was paused at 7:33 p.m. and resumed at 7:43 p.m.

Communications from District Partners

- PTA – Dr. Bein provided the PTA report on behalf of Ms. Worthington. The PTA Launch event kicked off the 2023-2024 school year. There have been many exciting PTA events and activities happening at each of our schools, including back to school bashes, pool parties, and fall fests. On October 16 the local PTA units will attend the annual Region meeting where each of our PTA's will be celebrated, and many will receive awards for their hard work and innovative programming.
- ABC25 – Ms. Faso thanked the people who attended the ABC25 event at the Arlington Ale House. There will be another outreach event on October 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library in the Hendrickson Room. Grants are due on October 15. To date, three out of the nine schools have achieved the membership goal.
- ATA – Ms. Berg provided a spotlight on Windsor Elementary School including Camp Windsor, Pioneer Day, and Weather Experts. She also described events occurring in other district schools. She thanked Dr. Bein for making potato pants for a class at Ivy Hill Elementary School.

Consent Agenda

Motion: G. Scapillato moved and E. Nierman 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) Special, Regular, and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2023; (E) Special Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2023; (E) Hold Closed Session Minutes of January 24, 2023 through May 23, 2023 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (F) Release Closed session minutes of January 10, 2023 and June 13, 2023 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (G) Hold Audiotapes of September 23, 2021 through October 7, 2021, and November 11, 2021 through December 16, 2021 per Board Policy 2:220-E1; (H) Destruction of Audiotapes July 15, 2021 through September 2, 2021, and October 12, 2021 per Board Policy 2:220-E1.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

Student Learning

Advanced Learning Opportunities and Procedures Review

Dr. FitzPatrick provided a history of Advanced Learning in District 25. Ms. Paulson, Advanced Learning, LMC and Creative Arts Coordinator, introduced Dr. Scott Peters, Senior Research Scientist with NWEA, who provided his report to the Board.

Dr. Peters stated his task and the challenges he received from stakeholders, which included a lack of other services beyond acceleration and in earlier grades; that parents feel like if you don't make it into advance classes there isn't anything else; the defensibility of identification criteria; and too much time and energy devoted to testing. Math and reading data were reviewed in detail, and he discussed the district's current advanced learning opportunities. He noted that on average, District 25 students are about 20 percentile-rank points higher scoring than the nation, but they are also very diverse. District services are appropriately designed for this higher baseline, but services are limited before grades 4 or 6. Unmet needs likely still exist with students whose scores indicate they are ready for even more advanced content.

Dr. Peters summary recommendations included several options for the district to consider. Those findings are shared in his report. Dr. FitzPatrick noted that the Department of Student Learning, in collaboration with the Department of Student Services and Director of Equity and Multilingual Program, will review and consider the report recommendations, embark on short and long-term action planning, and report back to the Board regarding any updates to district advanced learning opportunities and procedures, with the initial goal of updating identification criteria for advanced math and ELA courses by the Spring of 2024.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on identification changes and systems; engaging students; options going forward, and next steps; and who is part of the decision-making group. Dr. Peters was thanked for his detailed presentation and Dr. FitzPatrick's team was thanked for being proactive.

Student Services – No Report

Business and Finance 2023-2024 Budget

Ms. Mallek noted that the tentative budget was presented at the August 15, 2023 Board meeting and has been posted on the website. She reviewed the changes since the tentative budget was presented. A Board member asked a clarifying question regarding the CPPRT.

Motion: G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt the 2023-2024 Budget as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

Administrator Compensation Report Public Act 96-0434

Ms. Mallek noted that this must be presented to the Board before it is posted on the website by October 1.

Administrator and Teacher Salary & Benefit Report 2023

Ms. Mallek explained the difference between the Administrator Compensation Report Public Act 96-0434 and this agenda item, Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit

Report 2023. Both reports must be presented at a school board meeting before posting it on the district website by October 1.

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning

Sixth Day Enrollment

Dr. Kaye reviewed enrollment data from Thursday, August 24, 2023. The total enrollment from Early Childhood to 8th grade is 5,270, which is a decrease of 20 students from last year, or less than a 1% decrease in the district. Typically, we see enrollment rise throughout the school year as families move into the district. The district, with support from the Board, has a strong focus on keeping class size numbers as low as possible at the elementary level to provide a stronger learning environment and continue to differentiate instruction, while still being fiscally responsible.

This year there were an additional 108 first graders that did not attend Kindergarten in District 25. We expect an increase in Kindergarten enrollment with full day Kindergarten being offered starting in 2024. Dr. Kaye reviewed enrollment at each school and noted that three schools are showing an increase. The largest decrease is at Olive-Mary Stitt because they graduated a large class last year. Early Childhood enrollment is the same as last year, and will increase steadily throughout the school year as students age into the program. Enrollment history for K-8 students, which includes out of district placements, was reviewed.

Dr. Kaye reviewed the updated Kasarda demographic projects from both January and May 2022, and noted that the district plans to work with him next year after we begin full day Kindergarten. Dr. Kaye thanked the work of Dr. Bein and Cabinet members. Arlington Heights continues to remain a destination district for families.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on Dr. Kasarda's projections prior to 2014; when Kindergarten registration begins; and reasons for the reduction in enrollment. Dr. Kaye was thanked for the presentation.

Superintendent Report

Freedom of Information Act Report

- Sheila Cruz requested information on substitute teacher meeting materials; a response was provided on August 14, 2023.
- Sheri Reid, Data Acquisition Specialist from SmartProcure requested vendor information; a response was provided on August 31, 2023.
- Frank Bauer requested information on the school bus contract; a response was provided on September 8, 2023.
- Janine Asmus requested information on school librarians; a response was provided on September 18, 2023.
- Karen Garcia, Data Acquisition Specialist at SmartProcure, requested information on district employees; a response was provided on September 18, 2023.

First Reading of Policies – PRESS 112

Dr. Bein noted that the following policies and exhibits are presented to the Board for a first reading. These are recommended to the Board of Education following a review and input by the Policy Committee. Dr. Bein highlighted changes to Policies 4:45 and 6:210.

Mr. Michael left the meeting at 9:26 p.m. and returned at 9:28 p.m.

Press 112:

- 2:170 Procurement of Architectural Engineering, and Land Surveying Services
- 4:45 Insufficient Fund Checks and Debt Recovery
- 4:100 Insurance Management
- 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
- 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct
- 2:80-E Exhibit – Board Member Code of Conduct
- 5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline
- 6:240 Field Trips and Recreational Class Trips
- 7:275 Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment
- 8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Entities
- 8:95 Parental Involvement

Misc.:

- 6:210 Instructional Materials
- 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities

Board Protocols Review

Dr. Jogee noted that the Board met in a Special meeting to review the Governance Framework. Together with Dr. Perry Hill, IASB Field Representative, Board members agreed upon a set of Board Protocols to replace the previous document. Dr. Bein noted that Dr. Hill was tasked with taking our 12-page document to a two-page document. The Board was engaged, and reviewed ways of how the Board would continue to function at a high level. Dr. Bein highlighted items from the two-page Board Protocol document. Dr. Bein noted that one Board member suggested an edit to #5, Speaking with One Voice.

Motion: G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt the Board Protocols and replace the Board Governance Framework with this current document.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, abstain; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 5/0, with 1 abstention.

Superintendent Search Update

Dr. Jogee provided an update on the work that has been done so far on the Superintendent Search. She thanked Mr. Harris, Ms. Mallek, and Ms. O'Brien for their

collaboration. There have been a variety of communications that have been shared throughout our community. There are two more community forums, and the community-wide survey is still open for input. To date there have been 600 responses to the online survey. She encouraged everyone in our community to share their input.

Ms. Mallek shared information with the Board on comparative districts that will be used to determine the appropriate compensation range for the next Superintendent. The search firm will provide the compensation for these and the Board will discuss an appropriate range.

Mr. Cerniglia left the meeting at 9:36 p.m. and returned at 9:39 p.m.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on how the comparative districts were selected, and the percentage of responses for the online survey. Dr. Jogee was thanked for the extra work that she is doing for the search.

Community Input - None

Future Agenda Items

Topics with Dates to be Determined

- Special Meeting - Combined Board meeting with Arlington Heights Park District - October 24, 2023
- RULER Update/Presentation - November 14, 2023
- Acceptable Use Policy - Fall, 2023
- Student Representatives on the Board - TBD

New Topics - None

Motion: G. Faso moved and E. Nierman seconded that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:48 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien
Recording Secretary

Approved: October 10, 2023

President
Board of Education

Secretary
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: October 11, 2023

Date minutes posted on District website: October 11, 2023