

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2024

Dr. Anisha Jogee, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order on March 12, 2024 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); Student disciplinary cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9); The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5); 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 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2024. 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, Rich Olejniczak, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: None

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 for the Student Learning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology; Sandy Voss, Director of Food and Nutrition Services; 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

Congratulations to the following students for participating in the PTA Reflections Art program. Megan Worthington, AHCPTA President and Shelly Daley, Reflections Chairperson, recognized the students along with Board members.

#### Dryden

Mikayla Carlson  
Nadia Heckard  
Mila Johnson

#### Greenbrier

Shreyan Bera  
Elizabeth Hess  
Molly Hess  
Dominic Zanini  
Maya Zbrzezny

#### Ivy Hill

Darina Bogoeva  
Samarah Chaharbakhshi  
Anna Davis  
Riaan Rajesh  
Rivika Rajesh

#### Olive-Mary Stitt

Thomas Andrews  
Adelyn Swartz

#### Patton

Elle Boylan  
Blayke Bucciarelli  
Henley Donaldson  
Ava Duski  
Tess Finnegan  
Isla Fox  
Addie Hendrickson  
Skylar Lichterman  
Sara McCarty  
Cassidy McKown  
Dylan Milewski  
Aashvi Parekh  
Ananya Parekh  
Kaitlyn Peterson  
Joe Scapillato  
Austin Sudol  
Logan Sudol  
Nadia Wojtaszek  
Olivia Wojtaszek

#### South Middle School

Addie Daley

#### Westgate

Matthew Cohodes  
Gannon Daley  
Alexandra Dziedzic  
Blaine Eichstaedt  
Savannah Halliday  
Hope Manola  
Ellie Martin  
Thomas Pifer  
Vincent Pifer  
Scarlet Zapart

#### Windsor

Katarina Macho-Cierna  
Rilla Puckett  
Suniaia Amala Soni  
Suneri Soni

### Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Dr. Jogee attended and presented at the COSSBA national conference in February. She provided an overview of the conference. Next year's conference will be held in March.
- ED-RED – Mr. Michael provided an overview of the legislation and bills reviewed at the March 1 virtual meeting.
- IASB – Dr. Jogee reported that several Board members attended the North Cook Division dinner meeting. The teacher shortage was the topic at the meeting.
- NSSEO – Ms. Nierman reported that a Bingo night will be held on March 13 to help raise funds for NSSEO.

Community Input - None

### Communications from District Partners

- ABC25 – Ms. Faso noted that the Fun Fair will be held on June 1 at South Middle School. She talked about the fundraiser for the Fork Farm Initiative, and a video about the initiative was shown.
- ATA – Ms. Berg highlighted the recent events at South Middle School, as well as other schools in the district. Dr. Bein added that the South Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade Girls Volleyball team is going to the state tournament. The South and Thomas Science Olympiad teams are also going to be participating at state.

Mr. Olejniczak entered the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

### There are no reports from the following:

- PTA

### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak 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 February 13, 2024; (F) Board bills.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Dr. Kaye introduced Ms. Andrea Luessow who will be the Director of Student Learning starting with the 2024-2025 school year.

Student Learning – No Report

Student Services – No Report

### Business and Finance

#### Student Fees, 2024-2025

Ms. Mallek provided information on the various student fees for 2024-2025. There will be an increase in the paid bus rider transportation fee of 7% due to an increase in the cost of the bus transportation contract. There will be no increase for breakfast or lunch fees. Costs are being adjusted for some of the items under additional fees. These fees are charged for items that are purchased in bulk by the district and then sold to students. There will be an increase for KG – 5<sup>th</sup> grade fees because of an increase in consumable supplies. There will be a \$35 fee for all Early Childhood students.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Student Fees for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

### Joint Purchasing Cooperative Resolution Omnia Partners

Ms. Mallek provided the background to the Board on the purchasing cooperative. The district has been a member of the National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance and the U.S. Communities cooperative that are now combined doing business as OMNIA Partners. OMNIA Partners is a national cooperative purchasing program that requires us to sign off on their "Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement". As a member, the district can access competitively bid and awarded vendor contracts for numerous items.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Omnia Partners Joint Purchasing Cooperative.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

### Furniture Replacement Proposal

Ms. Mallek provided a report to the Board regarding furniture replacement, which is part of the Strategic Plan Stewardship of Resources goal. She noted the process that was used including a staff survey; the Kindergarten Committee; visiting schools; and reviewing furniture samples. She explained why the district decided to use a purchasing cooperative bid over an individual district bid. Classroom furniture needs were shown, including storage. She reviewed the Omnia contract pricing, and noted that over \$600,000 would be saved in doing one large volume purchase instead of a multi-year purchase.

Dr. Jogee left the meeting at 7:50 p.m. and returned at 7:55 p.m.

Board members asked questions and there was discussion on the furniture that was purchased during the pandemic; and how this impacts the five-year forecast.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the furniture replacement plan and authorize a volume purchase under the OMNIA purchasing cooperative through Frank Cooney.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

### Bank Depository

Ms. Mallek stated that this is typically voted on during the Board organization meeting every two years. PMA Asset Management supervises and directs the investments for Wheeling Township Schools and requires UMB Bank, N.A., be added to the list of depositories.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and R. Olejniczak seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the amended bank depositories.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

#### Construction Finance Update

Ms. Mallek and Mr. Schulz provided a summary of the financial status of the projects funded by the referendum. The \$75M referendum bonds include \$42.7M for Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) and \$32.9M for capital projects. Ms. Mallek provided the cost estimates, and reviewed the FDK additions and renovations through March 2024. The total cost of the bids including professional fees for FDK is \$57.3M.

The Patton gym project was not included in the original scope, so with the addition of the gym, we are over budget \$1.5M, but we are \$1M less than what the high-end budget was. The capital projects costs and summary of all costs were reviewed. The total costs through Summer 2024 is \$69.7M, and all projects through Summer 2026 is \$78M. Construction finance proceeds includes the bond proceeds, the interest on bond proceeds, a school maintenance grant, and the DCEO grant. We have all of the costs covered for FDK and capital projects.

Board members asked questions and there was detailed discussion on the full day kindergarten and capital projects construction costs; and the crossing of the scopes of work for the purpose of reducing costs due to the economy of scale.

#### Extension of Bus Transportation Contract

Ms. Mallek noted that the district is in our ninth year with Cook County School Bus Inc. for bus transportation services, and we requested a proposal to extend the contract. We have negotiated with Cook County for a one-year renewal with an 8% increase for 2024/25, or a two-year renewal with a 7% increase for 2024/25 and a 5% increase for 2025/26. The additional cost will be \$143.4K for one year or \$221.5K for two years based on maintaining the similar number and types of routes as current.

Their proposal identifies the rationale for the bus company's proposed increases. After conferring with other districts who are also seeing double digits increases and a conversation with the bus company, Ms. Mallek is recommending the Board approve a two-year extension with them. If we renew for one year at 8%, we would have to receive an increase below 3.1% for 2025/26 to be more cost effective than renewing for two years now. We have been pleased with the services of the bus company during this current contract.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Extension of the Bus Transportation Contract with Cook County School Bus Co for 2024-25 and 2025-26 as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

#### Facilities Management – No Report

### Personnel and Planning

#### Approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Full Day Kindergarten and Elementary Physical Education

Dr. Kaye noted that as a result of the Board's decision to implement Full-Day Kindergarten and increase the amount of elementary physical education per week beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Arlington Teachers' Association presented a demand to bargain the impact on their working conditions. Administrators and the Arlington Teachers' Association met on December 20, 2023, to bargain the impact, and reached a tentative agreement that is memorialized in this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The length of this MOU is through August 15, 2026, or the end of the current negotiated professional agreement through the end of the 2025-2026 school year. He highlighted items in the MOU that were agreed upon. A Board member asked about the expansion of lunchtime for teachers traveling between buildings.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding "FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION" as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

#### Resignation Agreement 1

Dr. Kaye reviewed the resignation agreement.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Resignation Agreement 1 with Gail Rategan as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

#### Resignation Agreement 2

Dr. Kaye reviewed the resignation agreement.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved and K. Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Resignation Agreement 2 with Heather Rehm as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

### Superintendent Report

#### Freedom of Information Act Report

- Sheri Reid, Data Acquisition Specialist at SmartProcure, requested information on vendors; a response was provided on February 16, 2024.
- Karen Garcia, Data Acquisition Specialist at SmartProcure, requested information on employees; a response was provided on February 22, 2024.
- William Boodro requested information on invoices related to work paid for by referendum dollars; a response was provided on March 6, 2024.

### Set Date for Board Organization Meeting

Dr. Jogee noted that Boards of Education in Illinois are required to set the Board Organization meeting date. It is recommended that the Board has the Organization Meeting as part of the April 9 regular Board meeting. At that meeting, the Board will select officers and set Board meeting dates for 2024-25. The Board also needs to determine if the meetings will remain on Tuesdays, or move back to Thursdays. The Board determined that the Organization meeting will be April 9 during the regular Board meeting. Board members discussed the day of the week to hold Board meetings next year, as well as the conflict with District 214 Board meeting dates. The Board determined that meetings will continue on Tuesdays. Suggested dates will be brought back to the Board at the Organization Meeting.

### First Reading of Policies

Dr. Bein noted that the majority of the policies do not have a significant change. These were reviewed at the Policy Committee meeting and two of the three committee members voted to move these forward for a First Reading. Policy 2:52, *Board Member Role at Graduation*, was reviewed. Policy 2:150, *Committees*, includes previous language recommended by IASB. All of the policies will come back at the April meeting for a Second Reading.

2:20	Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification
2:52	Board Member Role at Graduation
2:120	Board Member Development
2:150	Committees
2:200	Types of School Board Meetings
2:220	School Board Meeting Procedure
2:220-E2	Exhibit – Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting
2:220-E6	Exhibit – Log of Closed Meeting Minutes
4:10	Fiscal and Business Management
4:30	Revenue and Investments
4:60	Purchases and Contracts
4:130	Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
4:160	Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
5:30	Hiring Process and Criteria
5:190	Teacher Qualifications
5:200	Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:210	Resignations
5:220	Substitute Teachers
5:250	Leaves of Absence
5:330	Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
6:15	School Accountability
6:30	Organization of Instruction
6:50	School Wellness
6:60	Curriculum Content
6:230	Library Media Program

7:60 Residence  
7:70 Attendance and Truancy  
7:160 Student Appearance  
7:190 Student Behavior  
7:270 Administering Medicines to Students  
7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program  
7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention  
8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Community Input - None

Future Agenda Items

Topics with Dates to be Determined

- Student Representatives on the Board – Dr. Jogee asked if the Board wants this as a future topic for discussion. Board members discussed the alignment with other goals that work with students’ needs; highlighting non-sport achievements; leadership development for students; and going out into the community and talk with each schools’ student council. Dr. Bein made a suggestion regarding student voices in the district. The Board determined that this does not need to be a Board presentation.
- e-Learning Review - TBD

New Topics – None

**Motion:** R. Olejniczak moved and K. Michael 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; R. Olejniczak, yes; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O’Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: April 9, 2024

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President  
Board of Education

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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: April 10, 2024

Date minutes posted on District website: April 10, 2024