

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

School Board Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2024

Greg Scapillato, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on May 14, 2024. The meeting was held at South Middle School, 400 S. Highland 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 of the Department of Student Learning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for the Department of Student Services; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology and Assessment; Sandy Voss, Director of Food & Nutrition Services; Shab Poloz, Director of Equity; Ryan Schulz, Director of Facilities Management; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; press; and community.



Public Hearing on the Amended Budget

Mr. Scapillato asked if anyone present was there for the Public Hearing, and noted that in compliance with legal requirements, the tentative amended budget was presented at the previous Board meeting, and has been posted on the district website. Since there were no questions or comments on the budget, Mr. Scapillato adjourned the Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 amended budget.

The Amended Budget Hearing adjourned at 7:05 p.m.



Regular Meeting

Recognitions and Presentations

Congratulations to the Science Olympiad teams from South and Thomas Middle School for their success in competition this year. Mr. Grant thanked the Board for their support of Science Olympiad.

South Middle School

Omkar Bhat  
Jack Brown  
Tyler Clark  
Nichoas Cox  
Cameron Davis  
Nathan Dodon  
Ethan Douglas  
Ameera Fatina  
Peyton Griffiths  
Emma Gruzewski  
Elliot Heiber  
Henry LaBeau  
Maira McGregor  
Maeve Mladic  
Diya Mukhopadhyaya  
Harper Pease  
Jiana Philip  
Boyd Pinney  
Violet Polley  
Nuha Qurashi  
Devin Ramirez  
Tyler Ramirez  
Claudio Rodriguez  
Cal Rybicki

Jonathan Seagram  
Tyler Strauss  
William Thanopoulos  
Charlie Zbierski

Thomas Middle School

Prisha Agarwal  
Sofia Arguelles  
Neha Bilfaqi  
Colton Bing  
Cassandra Botnari  
Brandon Chen  
Nayan Chilakapati  
Matthew Cole  
Emily Corbett  
Swarnendu Ghosh  
Haritha Jagadeesan  
Suganya  
Varun Joshi  
Uma Joshi  
Benjamin Koleczek  
Peter Koleczek  
Aashritha Kukunooru  
Poorvi Lakshmi  
Narayanan

Razi Mahesar  
Ben Malia  
Kedus Melaku  
Alex Mitera  
Alison Monish  
Nuala Murray  
Avi Nanisetty  
Quin Nikolai  
Archi Patel  
Anagha Prasad  
Maximillian Pucilowski  
Sophia Quiroz  
Carson Rosczyk  
Diya Sarkar  
Francesca Scala  
Alessandra Smith  
Luka Tarabrin  
Labhansh Tekade  
Nathan Thomas  
Hazel Varghese  
Krishna Vullakula  
Gavin Wakefield  
Wyatt Wakefield  
Elly Williams

Thank you to their Coaches: Shaun Marusek, Kirsten Calderone, Lynne DeSalvo, Hannah Zimmermann, Allison Buck, Tracy Recklaus, Kim Dyer, Shree Mukhopadhyaya, Karen Mukhopadhyaya, Dave Cooke, Pedro Ramirez, Altaf Khan, Dave Gruzewski, Harlan Heiber, Daniel Burkhardt, Mr. Hartman, Andy Anderson, Thilo Garkisch, and Rachana Dikshit from South M.S.; and Aimee Hall, Kim Malinowski, Jim Grant, Bradford Keeler, Sureiya Peshek, Tina Wilson, Cindy House, Maureen McDermott, Carolyn Taylor, Kaitlin Fajks, Siddhi Shah, and Nicole Crissi from Thomas M.S.

The Board and administration are pleased to recognize the employees who are retiring from District 25. School Principals and Administrators shared a few words about each individual as they were thanked for their service to the Arlington Heights community.

**Dryden School**

Michele Shalton, 16 years

**Ivy Hill School**

Tonia Santangelo, 8 years  
Debra Sutor, 18 years

**Olive-Mary Stitt School**  
Deb Wilson, 18 years

**Patton School**  
Kathleen Corley, 20 years  
John Dolniak, 28 years  
Jean McLoone, 34 years

**South Middle School**  
Mary Beth Delaney, 23 years  
Judith Froemming, 21 years

**Thomas Middle School**  
James Grant, 22 years  
Maureen McDermott, 25 years  
Diana O'Grady, 27 years  
Susan Williams, 27 years\*

**Westgate School**  
Laurie Bousk, 20 years  
Wendy Danley, 33 years

Julie Johnson, 2 years\*  
Karen Jones, 34 years  
Carol Nelms, 24 years  
Sandra Tassi, 38 years

**Windsor School**  
Ken Brogni, 24 years  
Karen Copeland, 27 years  
Ana Fergus, 17 years

**Dunton Administration Building**  
Eileen Ackermann, 25 years\*  
Lori Bein, 10 years  
Carol Fromm, 32 years\*  
Christine Kasprzak, 24 years\*  
Julie Mendelke, 9 years  
Karen Noorani, 44 years

*\*Retired in 2023*

The Board took a break at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:13 p.m.

Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Dr. Jogee attended the Westgate Palooza event, as well as the Patton Walk-a-thon for the Make a Wish Foundation. Ms. Nierman attended the South musical, as well as the South and Thomas Track meet.
- NSSEO – Ms. Nierman reported that Bright Spots will return next year; NSSEO will be starting their Strategic Plan next year; and end-of-year events are being held.

There are no reports from the following:

- ED-RED
- IASB

Community Input

- Erin Whitworth addressed the Board regarding the delayed start of the 2024-2025 school calendar.

### Communications from District Partners

- ABC25 – Ms. Faso reported that they are getting ready for the June 1 Fun Fair at South Middle School, and they are in need of volunteers for the day. Also, please consider registering for ABC25 during the registration process.
- ATA – Ms. Berg read a poem about Dr. Bein, and thanked her on behalf of the Arlington Teachers' Association.

### There are no reports from the following:

- PTA

### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee 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 April 9, 2024.

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 Jeremy Fischer who will be an Associate Principal and teacher at Thomas Middle School for the 2024-25 school year.

### Student Learning

#### Elementary Literacy Curriculum Adoption

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the elementary literacy curriculum adoption as presented.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, no; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/1.

### Student Services – No Report

### Business and Finance

#### Award of Bid for Furniture

Ms. Mallek noted that because we intend to use federal IDEA Flow-Through funds to pay for furniture being replaced in special education and some related service rooms, we solicited a bid for these items to ensure we meet the federal requirements. These items are included in the \$1.63 million approved previously, they are not an additional amount.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education award the bid for furniture to be funded through the IDEA grant funds to Frank Cooney in the amount of \$123,658.30.

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.

Consolidated District Plan, 2024-2025

Ms. Mallek provided a summary of the federal grants. The district has not made any significant changes to how the funds are used.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Consolidated District Plan for Fiscal Year 2024-25 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.

Award of Bid for Food and Nutrition Services

Ms. Voss noted that the bids were solicited for food serving equipment at Patton and food preparation/transport equipment for South & Thomas Middle Schools.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education award the bid for Food Service Equipment to Boelter for \$218,458.41. 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.

Adoption of the 2023-2024 Amended Budget

Ms. Mallek stated that there are no changes to the amended budget since it was presented at the April 9 meeting.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt the 2023-2024 Amended Budget 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.

Award of Copy Paper Bid for 2024-2025

This agenda item is being postponed until the June 11, 2024 Board meeting.

NSSEO Budget for 2024-2025

Ms. Mallek stated that the anticipated tuition budget for NSSEO is \$3,230,413, which is a \$17,141 decrease, or 0.5%, over 2023-24. Of this, \$244,074 represents the IDEA funds designated to NSSEO required to be spent on staff development as well as administrative costs. Similar to 2023-24, we are budgeting for 40 students with a known enrollment of 36. The budget includes four contingency students for placements or move-ins that may occur mid-year. The private placement tuition budget will increase by \$98,000, or 20.5%, over 2023-24 based on returning students and a \$100,000 contingency. The total anticipated tuition budget will be \$3,806,313, or a 2.2% increase over 2023-24.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and E. Nierman seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the NSSEO Amended Budget for 2023-2024 and the NSSEO Budget for 2024-2025.

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

#### Employee Compensation for 2024-2025

Dr. Kaye noted that increases in compensation for the 2024-2025 school year are based on 3.4% CPI, unless otherwise noted. The district is recommending a salary adjustment based on market comparatives for the Registered Nurse group. Because of staffing changes and retirements, the recommended salary increase for all of the groups is 3.17%, which is below the 3.4% CPI increase.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 employee compensation for current Teacher Assistants, Building Support Technicians (BST), Registered Nurses (RN), Educational Support Personnel (ESP), individuals classified as 'Other', Food Service, and Administrators as submitted.

Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, no; G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 6/1.

### Superintendent Report

#### Freedom of Information Act Report - None

### First Reading of Policies

Dr. Bein noted that policies and exhibits are presented to the Board for a First Reading. These policies and exhibits reflect modifications and additions as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards, and were reviewed by the Policy Committee.

Board members discussed and provided their input regarding referencing Policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*, for contact information of the Nondiscrimination/Title IX Coordinator and Nondiscrimination Coordinators on a handful of policies. The consensus of the Board is that the contact information should be listed on each policy.

Dr. Bein stated that a slight language change was made on Policy 5:300, *Schedules and Employment Year*. The policies will be brought back for a second reading at the June 11 Board meeting.

#### Press 114:

2:40	Board Member Qualifications
2:260	Uniform Grievance Procedure
2:265	Title IX Grievance Procedure
2:270	Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited
4:110	Transportation
4:190	Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
5:10	Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

5:20	Workplace Harassment Prohibited
5:35	Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
5:40	Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
5:100	Staff Development Program
5:300	Schedules and Employment Year
7:10	Equal Educational Opportunities
7:10-E	Exhibit – Equal Educational Opportunities Within the School Community
7:20	Harassment of Students Prohibited
7:180	Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Community Input - None

Future Agenda Items

Topics with Dates to be Determined

- e-Learning Review - TBD

New Topics

Mr. Scapillato reminded the Board of the process for adding new topics to the agenda.

Closed Session

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education move into the Closed session at 8:53 p.m. 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 placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); 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).

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 returned to open session at 10:40 p.m.

**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 10:46 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: June 11, 2024

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President  
Board of Education

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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: June 12, 2024

Date minutes posted on District website: June 12, 2024