

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in regular session on Monday, August 9, 2021, at the Downers Grove Village Hall. The meeting was live streamed to the public on the Village of Downers Grove YouTube channel.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The President called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced that it was the regular monthly meeting of the District 58 Board of Education. Members present: President Darren Hughes; Vice President Gregory Harris; and Members Kirat Doshi, Melissa Ellis, Emily Hanus, Steve Olczyk and Tracy Weiner. Members absent: none. Also in attendance were Kevin Russell, Superintendent; Jayne Yudzentis, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; James Eichmiller, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Learning; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Sonali Patil, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary.

2. FLAG SALUTE

President Hughes led the flag salute.

3. CLOSED SESSION

Member Harris moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to move to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to

- the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1);
- the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5);
- the setting of price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; 5 ILCS 102/21(c)(6);
- the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10);
- litigation...when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11);
- discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings

Act, 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).

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

Member Weiner moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to reconvene in open session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

The Board convened to closed session at 6:05 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 7:25 p.m.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Written Communications

1. Email from Cari Allendorf regarding upcoming school year ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
2. Email from Katie Hamilton regarding COVID-19 mitigation measures ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
3. Email from Barb Allen regarding IDPH guidelines ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
4. Email from Michelle Geary regarding masks for fall ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
5. Email from Matt Klimek regarding make masking optional ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
6. Email from Lori Cardenas regarding masks ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
7. Email from Wes Riesmeyer regarding mask-optional for students ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
8. Email from Victoria Jacknow regarding mask wearing and COVID compliance ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
9. Email from Kim Loster regarding optional masks for school ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
10. Email from Leslie Sadowski-Fugitt regarding masks until students can be vaccinated ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
11. Email from Nicole Cochran regarding masks for kids in DG58 ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*

12. Email from Laura Kernaghan regarding mask requirements ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
13. Email from Amanda and Kurt Sabor regarding support of optional masks for District 58 ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
14. Email from Jessica Disborough regarding mask policy ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
15. Email from Chad Meador regarding mask wearing in elementary school ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
16. Email from Nathan Haselhorst regarding support of IDPH/CDC COVID recommendations ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
17. Email from Joe Leo regarding questions posed at 7/12/21 meeting ~ *response from Assistant Superintendent of Business Todd Drafall.*
18. Email from Sara Steiner regarding mask options for the 2021-2022 school year ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
19. Email from Jennifer and Josh Hearne regarding support for optional mask policy ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
20. Email from Greg Radun regarding masks for this year ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
21. Email from Jill Goodman regarding return to school safety ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
22. Email from Nicole Richman regarding District 58 masking policy ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
23. Email from Heather Jurkowski regarding masks ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
24. Email from Kim and Craig Lueken regarding masking ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
25. Email from Sara Roussin regarding mask guidance ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
26. Email from Matt Dziejcz regarding masks ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
27. Email from Maggie Kurcz regarding potential change in policy for upcoming school year ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
28. Email from Dave and Sahar Slocum regarding school year 2021-2022.
29. Email from Tara Griffin regarding masks optional ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
30. Email from Mitch Martin regarding mask policy ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
31. Email from Doris O'Meara regarding masks ~ *response from Board President*

- Darren Hughes.*
32. Email from Kelley Sease regarding masks option ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
 33. Email from Marc Sease regarding mask mandate concerns ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
 34. Email from Danielle Rios regarding masks ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 35. Email from Linda Bodem regarding mask policy ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 36. Email from Katie Klimek regarding masking policies for District 58 ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 37. Email from Susan Sharkey regarding Fairmount 2021-22 school year ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 38. Email from Meghan Landers regarding parental choice regarding masks.
 39. Email from Julie Wojtowicz regarding option to mask ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 40. Email from Rachel Ittner regarding mask requirement for elementary schools ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
 41. Email from Karen Schmidt regarding in favor of mask optional ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 42. Email from Carrie Antonopoulos regarding masking in District 58 for 2021-2022 ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
 43. Email from Elly Kafritsas regarding masking to start the school year ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 44. Email from Shannan Peterson regarding e-learning on snow days ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 45. Email from Karen Schmidt regarding back to school survey ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 46. Email from William Neustadt regarding Longfellow School.
 47. Email from Katie Kestner regarding masking policy for DG58 upcoming school year ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 48. Email from Amy Garrigues regarding mask protocol ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 49. Email from Joanne Vought regarding masks at school ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 50. Emails from Samantha Aycock regarding masks ~ *responses from Board Member Emily Hanus and Board President Darren Hughes.*
 51. Email from Tracy Willard regarding masking our children ~ *response from Board President Darren Hughes.*
 52. Email from Christina Tung regarding DG58 mask policy ~ *response from*

- Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
53. Email from Kelly Becker regarding masking ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 54. Email from Jennifer Watson regarding sale of Longfellow.
 55. Email from Doug Wy regarding don't sell Longfellow.
 56. Email from Sara Roussin regarding mask guidance ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 57. Email from Meghan Landers regarding parental choice regarding masks ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board President Darren Hughes.*
 58. Email from Kevin Dennis regarding proof we can still move ahead.
 59. Email from Allison Dale regarding feedback regarding District 58 COVID policies ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 60. Email from Tara Griffin regarding mask optional ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 61. Email from Kim Loster regarding masks in school ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 62. Email from Heather Jurkowski regarding ISBE resolution and order for quarantine ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
 63. Email from Heather Jurkowski regarding universal masking in schools ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*

Freedom of Information Act Requests

1. Freedom of Information Act request from Preston Dedi, Chicagoland Construction, regarding bid results for ASC renovation ~ *response from Director of Buildings and Grounds Kevin Barto.*
2. Freedom of Information Act request from Eagle Analytics regarding property tax extension worksheets ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*
3. Freedom of Information Act request from Robert Eric Nelson regarding copier and printer contracts ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*
4. Freedom of Information Act request from Product Analyst Team regarding employee contact information ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*
5. Freedom of Information Act request from Painters District Council No. 30 regarding documents related to contract and bid for miscellaneous painting at 13 schools ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*

5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

A. Superintendent

Dr. Russell reported that many school districts, including District 58, have received inquiries regarding critical race theory (CRT). District 58 does not teach CRT. The District will continue to meet with anyone who has questions

about the curriculum. The District's strategic plan calls for equity in the schools, which means ensuring that all students have access to high quality learning and programming.

The Governor has mandated mask wearing in schools due to the Delta variant of COVID-19. District 58 will follow these mandates, because ignoring them puts the District at risk of losing accreditation, state funding, and insurance coverage. Universal masking will result in significantly fewer students quarantined throughout the year, which aligns with the District's priority to increase in-person learning to the greatest extent possible.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul and Assistant Superintendent for Special Services Jessica Stewart provided a preview of the 2021-2022 learning plan that will be presented in greater detail at the August 18 special board meeting. When school opens, masks will be required for all individuals indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Mask exemptions will be granted for medical reasons. Layered mitigations will be put in place with the goal of avoiding close contact situations that result in quarantine. Schools will operate a normal instructional schedule at pre-pandemic levels, including middle school sports and the phasing in of extracurricular activities. There will not be a fully remote learning option; however, the District is committed to daily connection between student and teacher when students are in quarantine. The District will also implement voluntary no-cost COVID-19 testing and weekly screening for students and staff.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports and the investment report for the month ending July 31, 2021. Director of Buildings and Grounds Kevin Barto gave an update on construction projects around the District. Contractors are wrapping up summer work, though a couple projects are off schedule. The District assesses each site to make sure it is safe to bring students back to school, and will ensure there are plans to safely navigate remaining construction sites. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall reported that the year-to-date report shows higher revenue than typical because the property tax distribution payment came in July rather than in June, and corporate personal property replacement tax (CPPRT) receipts were higher than usual.

Mr. Drafall also presented an update on the Longfellow sale and lease of office space. He provided a comparison of the cost of maintaining Longfellow versus the cost of leasing office space in the next seven years, concluding that the average annual savings of leasing office space over continued ownership of Longfellow over six full fiscal years is \$27,600. Furthermore, the maintenance required to continue use of Longfellow would require \$3.35 million in educational program reductions. Renovation of Longfellow would require an additional \$5.5 million. The District has drafted a new Resolution for Sale with a lower price, an earlier closing date that is after the expected

move out date, and provided quotes for asbestos abatement and demolition to attract more potential bidders.

C. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing special to report in regard to the Treasurer's Report.

D. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet in July.

E. Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee did not meet in July.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

President Hughes gave a report on the August 6, 2021 Financial Advisory Committee meeting. The committee discussed the tentative budget and the 35% fund balance policy. The receipt of ESSER funds will increase expenditures, requiring setting aside significantly more funds to meet the policy requirements. The District will meet the spirit of the policy to have sufficient cash on hand in the spring. The committee also discussed the Longfellow sale, ASC renovation, and office space sublease, and reviewed the year-to-date report.

G. District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team did not meet in July.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

The Health and Wellness Committee did not meet in July.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marshall Schmitt, Pierce Downer attendance area, stated that the administration has rushed to sell Longfellow without analyzing whether to keep Longfellow in the short term, and the Board has a fiduciary duty to oversee the work of the administration.

Porus Dadabhoy commented that masks have become a cultural issue, but the District should follow the health department and governor's mandates. He also commented on how culturally responsive teaching has been misrepresented as critical race theory.

Joe Leo, Pierce Downer attendance area, sent a memo to the Board with revised cost estimates for keeping Longfellow versus leasing office space.

Mary Ann Eimersonn asked whether it is fair to take action on the Longfellow sale when so many people did not attend the meeting due to the tornado warning.

Kathleen Ramsey asked the Board to consider other perspectives beyond

mainstream media. Other states do not have mask mandates and parents should be allowed to make the choice.

David Rose, Pierce Downer attendance area, stated that environmental sustainability is the ultimate deferred maintenance problem. He commented that Longfellow provides the opportunity to retain the building and dedicate the property to learning about sustainability.

Meghan Landers, Whittier attendance area, stated that the governor has taken away parental rights to make medical decisions for their children. She advocated for small group instruction, ample mask breaks, and support for children's emotional needs.

Ryan Garrity, Kingsley attendance area, stated that masks have not been proven to work for over six hours and that children are not superspreaders of COVID.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes – July 12, 2021

Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021 regular meeting as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Harris, Hanus, Hughes,
Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

8. CONSENT AGENDA

There being no request for individual consideration of any items on the consent agenda, the President stated that a motion would be in order relative to items on the consent agenda, consisting of the Personnel Report and Financial Statements (consisting of the List of Bills and Summary) as presented in the packet materials. Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the following items:

A. Personnel

- The appointment of one administrator, 14 certified staff employees, two educational support staff employees, and two custodial maintenance employees.
- The resignation of one administrator, two certified staff employees, and one educational support staff employee.
- The family medical leave of absence of one certified staff employee.
- The retirement of four certified teachers.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on August 9, 2021, as

well as the revolving and imprest issued in July 2021 as shown on the list submitted under the date of August 9, 2021 in the total amount of \$2,977,544.06 and direct that they be so entered in the minutes and orders drawn for their payment in accordance with the following summary and that the President and Secretary be authorized to certify the list to the School Treasurer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 58
SUMMARY PAGE AUGUST 9, 2021
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES

EDUCATION FUND

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$1,697,162.08
Revolving Fund - July 2021	\$176,333.74
Imprest Checks - July 2021	\$1,065.35

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$249,935.14
Revolving Fund - July 2021	\$1,787.14
Imprest Checks - July 2021	\$0.00

DEBT SERVICE

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - July 2021	\$550.00

TRANSPORTATION FUND

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$35,815.12
Revolving Fund - July 2021	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - July 2021	\$0.00

IMRF

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$0.00
--------------------------------	--------

FICA/MEDICARE

List of Bills – August 9, 2021	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - July 2021	\$0.00

SITE & CONSTRUCTION FUND

List of Bills - August 9, 2021	\$814,895.49
Revolving Fund – July 2021	\$0.00

WORKING CASH FUND

List of Bills - August 9, 2021	\$0.00
--------------------------------	--------

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY FUNDS

List of Bills - August 9, 2021	\$0.00
--------------------------------	--------

MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND

List of Bills - August 9, 2021	\$0.00
--------------------------------	--------

SINKING FUND

List of Bills - August 9, 2021
Revolving Fund - July 2021

\$0.00
\$0.00

Total

\$2,977,544.06

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

(Copy of Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements
attached to official minutes)

9. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

A. Amended School Calendar 2021-2022

Member Ellis moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the 2021-2022 Amended School Calendar as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

B. Proposed Tentative Budget for 2021-2022 - Approval of Tentative Budget

Member Ellis moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the 2021-2022 tentative budget as presented, and make it available for public inspection at the ASC office and on the District 58 website.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

C. Proposed Tentative Budget for 2021-2022 - Establish Date of Budget Hearing

Member Weiner moved and Member Ellis seconded the motion to establish the date for a public hearing on the 2021-2022 Tentative Budget on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

D. Resolution for the Sale of Property

Member Olczyk moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve the attached resolution to sell Longfellow to the highest qualified bidder, at the minimum sale price of \$3,000,000 as established in the resolution.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

E. Sublease of Administrative Office Space at 2300 Warrenville Rd.
Member Hanus moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve the attached sublease for administrative office space at 2300 Warrenville Road as presented, pending legal review.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: Member Ellis Motion carried

F. Bid: ASC Renovation
Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to award the ASC renovation bid to Construction Inc. of Lombard, Illinois for a total cost of \$364,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: Member Ellis Motion carried

G. Surplus Equipment: Floor Machines
Member Ellis moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to designate a Sea Ray floor machine and a Service Master floor machine as surplus equipment.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

H. Bid: Snow Removal
Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to award the 2021-2022 snow removal bid with Alternates #2 and #4 to DGO Premium Services.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hughes announced the following dates:

Tuesday, August 17, 7 a.m. Policy Committee Meeting
ASC

Wednesday, August 18, 6 p.m.	Special Board Meeting Village Hall
Monday, August 30, 3:45 p.m.	District Leadership Team Meeting O'Neill Middle School
Friday, September 10, 7:00 a.m.	Financial Advisory Committee ASC
Monday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting Village Hall

11. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes – July 12, 2021
 Member Ellis moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021 closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
 NAYS: None Motion carried

12. ADJOURNMENT

Member Harris moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Ellis, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk and Weiner
 NAYS: None Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Darren Hughes, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary