

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, May 8, 2023, 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 6:49 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; Faith Behr, Interim Community Relations Coordinator; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SCHOOL REPORT**

Lester Student Council officers Lizzie Rifenburg, Sam Trani and Maddie Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance and then reported on their fundraising and charitable activities supporting organizations including Sharing Connections, the People's Resource Center of DuPage, Watts of Love and Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Lester PTA President Kristen Avery and President-Elect Kristen Wicklund shared the various activities hosted by the PTA, including the Variety Show, Fall Fun Run, World's Fair, Science Olympiad and Family Reading Night. The PTA also funded five \$1,000 scholarships to Lester alumni.

Principal Katie Novosel and Assistant Principal Lauri Smith shared highlights of Lester life, such as the classroom Buddies program and the monthly focus on positive behaviors, which are recognized at monthly lunchtime celebrations. IAR and MAP assessment data showed expected growth in ELA and higher than expected growth in math. Lester's school improvement goals are 1) implementing evidence-based writing practices in all instructional environments, and 2) encouraging a culture and climate rooted in positive psychology.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

#### Written Communications

1. Email from parent regarding staff/student issue ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*

#### Freedom of Information Act Requests

1. Freedom of Information Act request from Vince Espi, LocalLabs, regarding mission and vision statements ~ *email verification request from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*

### 4. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

#### A. Superintendent

Dr. Russell thanked the Lester teams for attending and sharing about Lester School, and congratulated Members Hanus, Olczyk and Doshi on their reelection to the Board. He then reported on the following topics:

- **Personnel:** 77% of families have completed registration. Families who have not yet registered are encouraged to do so as soon as possible so the District can finalize its staffing allocations.
- **Curriculum:** The recommended K-5 writing curricular resource, *Schoolwide*, is currently on display at the District Office and the Downers Grove Public Library before the Board votes on its approval at the June meeting. Spring benchmarking has begun and students will be administered the MAP and aimsweb assessments in math and reading.
- **Finance:** DuPage County has sent out property tax bills, which include the tax increases for the referendum bonds and the tax levy increase that is capped at 5% by the legislation known as PTELL.
- **Technology:** Preparations have begun for summer projects, including preparing iPads, setting up new Chromebooks, installing wireless access points and projector maintenance.
- **Student Services:** Families who use specialized transportation are urged to complete transportation requests as soon as possible so that they can be submitted to our transportation providers by June 1.
- **Facilities:** The Chicago Tribune published an article about lead testing in public schools that featured District 58. A law was passed in 2017 that requires public schools to test the water for lead. District 58 has complied and continues to test the water and perform remediation beyond what the law requires.
- **Public Relations:** This week over 50 eighth graders were honored by the District and the Education Foundation for their service and citizenship at the Select 58 awards ceremony. Staff Distinguished Service Award winners will be honored at a ceremony on May 15.
- **Other:** Strategic Planning sessions are scheduled for May 15 and 16. Approximately 100 stakeholders have volunteered their time to help shape the direction of the District.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports and the investment report for the month ending April 30, 2023. Assistant Superintendent for Business Todd Drafall noted that the Year-to-Date report shows the District is at the low cash point of the year, as expected. The Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2022-2023 amended budget at the June meeting. The amended budget reflects the sale of referendum bonds and increase in capital expenditures. Mr. Drafall introduced Mike Huffman of Huffman Keel Partners, the District's recommended contractor to serve as owner's representative during the coming referendum construction projects.

C. Treasurer's Report

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

D. Policy Committee

Member Weiner reported on the April 18, 2023, Policy Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the draft updates in PRESS Issue 111, many of which implement Faith's Law, which contains guidelines for educator conduct and requirements for reporting abuse and neglect, including more rigorous background checks for new hires, as well as District updates to policies 5330 and 7:270 as follows:

- 2:100 – Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers – Faith's Law update
- 4:40 – Incurring Debt – 5-year review
- 4:60 – Purchases and Contracts – Faith's Law update
- 5:30 – Hiring Process and Criteria – Faith's Law update
- 5:90 – Abused and Neglected Child Reporting – Faith's Law update
- 5:125 – Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct – language update
- 5:150 – Personnel Records – Faith's Law update
- 5:260 – Student Teachers – legal references updated
- 5:285 – Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers – 5-year review
- 5:330 – Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves – removes a chart regarding vacation days because it is not aligned with District collective bargaining agreements and employee handbooks
- 6:135 – Accelerated Placement Program – removes language only applicable to high school districts
- 6:210- Instructional Material – 5-year review
- 6:230 – Library Media Program – omits optional language regarding adopting ALA Library Bill of Rights
- 7:270 – Administering Medicines to Students – adds language regarding school district supply of undesignated opioid antagonists
- 8:20 – Community Use of School Facilities – legal references updated
- 8:70 – Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities – 5-year review

Member Weiner moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve for first reading the policies updated in PRESS Issue 111, as presented, as well as the updates to Policies 5:330 and 7:270, and place them on the May 8 Board agenda for final adoption.

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

E. Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

President Hughes reported on the April 28, 2023, Financial Advisory Committee meeting. The committee discussed the five-year financial plan, the owner's representative recommendation, and plans for food service expansion. The committee expressed its support for the five-year financial plan.

G. District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team has not met since the last Board meeting.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

The Health and Wellness Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The President stated that a motion would be in order relative to the 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 assignment of 12 certified staff employees, five support staff employees, one technology staff employee, and two custodial/maintenance staff employees.
- The family medical leaves of absence of six certified staff employees.
- The resignation of three certified staff employees and five support staff employees.
- The retirement of two support staff employees.
- Instructional assistant stipends as listed on the Personnel Report.

- A 5% increase (\$54.44/hourly) in occupational therapist salaries for 2023-2024.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on May 8, 2023, as well as the revolving and imprest issued in April 2023 as shown on the list submitted under the date of May 8, 2023, in the total amount of \$1,611,094.09 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 MAY 8, 2023  
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES

EDUCATION FUND

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$547,477.97
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$49,899.93
Imprest Checks - April 2023	\$5,811.51

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$181,752.94
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$1,806.24
Imprest Checks - April 2023	\$0.00

DEBT SERVICE

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$0.00

TRANSPORTATION FUND

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$391,139.45
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - April 2023	\$1,502.57

IMRF

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$0.00
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FICA/MEDICARE

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$0.00

SITE & CONSTRUCTION FUND

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$298,703.48
Revolving Fund - April 2023	\$0.00

CAPITAL - REFERENDUM

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$133,000.00
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WORKING CASH FUND

List of Bills - May 8, 2023	\$0.00
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**FIRE & LIFE SAFETY FUNDS**

List of Bills - May 8, 2023 \$0.00

**MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND**

List of Bills - May 8, 2023 \$0.00

**SINKING FUND**

List of Bills - May 8, 2023 \$0.00

Revolving Fund - April 2023 \$0.00

Total \$1,611,094.09

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)

**7. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

**A. Five-Year Financial Plan**

Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the 2024-2028 Financial Plan as presented.

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

**B. Owner's Representative Recommendation**

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the contract for Construction Service Owner's Representative with Huffman Keel Partners of Madison, WI, at a cost of \$1,311,000.

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

**C. Honorable Dismissal of Part-time Education Support Staff**

Member Doshi moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to adopt the Resolution regarding the Honorable Dismissal of Part-time Educational Support Staff as presented.

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

D. Chromebook Purchase

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the purchase of 600 Acer 311 Chromebooks with included Google device licenses for a total cost of \$142,800.00.

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

E. Surplus Items: Computer Charging Carts and Clipper Carpet Machine

Member Ellis moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to designate as surplus equipment five computer charging carts and a Clipper carpet machine.

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

F. Approval of Resignation Agreement

Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the Resignation Agreement with teacher Kathryn Nickell.

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

G. Henry Puffer 10-Year Life Safety Survey

Member Weiner moved and Member Ellis seconded the motion to approve the application to ISBE for the 10-year life safety survey at Henry Puffer.

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

H. Kingsley Playground Donation Agreement

Member Ellis moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the Donation Agreement with Kingsley PTA in the amount of \$11,216.60 for the construction of an accessible playground at Kingsley School.

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

**8. CONSTRUCTION CONSENT AGENDA**

The President stated that a motion would be in order relative to the items on the construction consent agenda as presented in the packet materials. Member Ellis moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the following items:

- A. Henry Puffer Playground Equipment Purchase
- B. BID: Henry Puffer Playground Installation
- C. Geotechnical Recommendation

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

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Hughes announced the following dates:

Monday & Tuesday, May 15 & 16, 6 p.m. Strategic Planning Workshop  
O'Neill Middle School

Monday, June 12, 7 p.m. Regular Board Meeting  
Village Hall

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

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

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Darren Hughes, President

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Melissa Jerves, Secretary