

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in regular session on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at the Downers Grove Village Hall. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, in-person meeting attendance was limited to 50 people and 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 7:01 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, Emily Hanus, Steve Olczyk, Jill Samonte 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; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; James Eichmiller, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Learning; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Catherine Hannigan, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary. Four visitors attended in person.

2. FLAG SALUTE

President Hughes led the flag salute.

3. SPOTLIGHT ON OUR SCHOOLS

A. Tax Levy

Assistant Superintendent for Business Todd Drafall gave a brief presentation on the tax levy process. Property taxes, both residential and commercial, are the District's largest revenue source. While there has been steady growth in new property, tax cap legislation limits District 58 to \$1.4 million that it can borrow to fund capital improvements without a referendum.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Written Communications

1. Email from Charley Gallovitch regarding return to learn.
2. Email from Susan Sharkey regarding Fairmount first grade ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
3. Email from Lauren Loeb regarding last night's board meeting ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
4. Email from David Gust regarding e-learning vote 9/28 ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*

5. Email from Marnie Ungeran regarding back to school ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
6. Email from Kim Bywater regarding concerns with Acellus ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
7. Email from Katrina Roeser regarding suburban Chicago school district coronavirus testing program ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board Member Emily Hanus.*
8. Email from Kurt Kramer regarding re-opening schools ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
9. Email from Kate Hahn regarding Indian Boundary YMCA.
10. Email from Christie Nutt regarding concerned parent ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
11. Email from Marnie Ungeran regarding news article.
12. Email from Abby Brooks regarding question.
13. Text message from Ellen Jørstad Stein.
14. Text message from Addie Pampalone.
15. Email from Ross Taylor regarding 9/28 board meeting.
16. Email from Vicky O'Boyle regarding remote learning comments.
17. Email from James Milkert regarding questions regarding the remote to learn plans ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
18. Emails from Amy Dunlap regarding proposed hybrid plan ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
19. Email from Sydney Musselman regarding time is of the essence ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
20. Email from Beth Hicks regarding Return to Learn plan feedback ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
21. Email from Dan Steidl regarding hybrid opening.
22. Email from Katrina Roeser regarding change before end of trimester.
23. Emails from Deanna Smetana regarding short-term absences ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
24. Email from James Milkert regarding cleaning of desks ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
25. Email from Marnie Ungeran regarding reopen schools full time now.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

1. Freedom of Information Act request from Robert Degre, ADAC, regarding special education data.
2. Freedom of Information Act request from Tanner F. regarding transportation contracts.

5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

A. Superintendent

Dr. Russell provided the Board with information and updates, including:

- **Facilities:** The Pierce Downer roof was installed in 2001 and a recent assessment confirmed that it has reached the end of its useful life and additional short term repairs will no longer be cost effective. To begin the

replacement process, a proposal for roof design and engineering services is before the Board.

- **Public Relations:** Dr. Russell provided an update on the Return to Learn plan. October 20 brings a return to in-person learning for many students. 84% have selected a hybrid schedule, while 15% will be fully remote.

- **Curriculum and Instruction:** Dr. Russell answered some of the most common questions he has received:

1. *Why not wait until the end of the trimester to switch?* There will never be a perfect time to change, and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) guidance emphasizes in-person instruction. The District delayed its original October 5 target date to allow more time to meet with staff to plan both the hybrid option and a robust remote option for those families who need it.
2. *Why do some teaching assignments need to change?* It is simply impossible to offer both onsite (adhering to social distancing guidelines) and remote instructional models without moving some students and staff.
3. *Why weren't all of the details mapped out prior to Board approval?* While a framework was approved by the Board, plans could not be finalized without firm commitments from families. Plans have been developed with feedback from staff and families, which helps deliver quality experiences for students.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul presented further information about asynchronous instruction in the hybrid model, MAP testing, and grading and progress reports. The District has decided to conclude the marking period on October 15, at the transition point between instructional models. Recognizing that a typical reporting period is 12 weeks and there have been only six weeks of instruction, families will receive a progress report instead of a traditional report card. Middle school letter grades will be non-binding, and the District will collaborate with District 99 regarding appropriate high school placement.

Families have been concerned about what asynchronous instruction will look like in the new models. Both hybrid and fully remote students will receive the same amounts of synchronous and asynchronous instruction; the only difference is that remote students will receive their synchronous instruction via Zoom. Preschool will have 90 minutes of synchronous instruction and 60 minutes of asynchronous instruction, primarily utilizing a choice board of activities. Kindergarten students will receive 150 minutes of synchronous instruction and no asynchronous instruction. Grades 1-6 will receive 150 minutes of synchronous instruction and 150 minutes of asynchronous, which is being created so that most students can complete it independently at each developmental level. Middle school students will follow the same eight-period schedule each day, receiving their synchronous instruction either onsite or via Zoom. Asynchronous learning will resemble typical homework.

The MAP assessment window concludes October 15. Grades 2-8 took the

assessment remotely, and the District will be cautious in interpreting the data due to the unique circumstances. Individual data will be sent to families on Oct. 26; district-level data will be shared at the Curriculum Workshop.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports and the investment report for the month ending September 30, 2020. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall reported that revenue has caught up to some extent compared to last month due to the receipt of property taxes. However, revenues will continue to trail last year due to the loss of OKEEP tuition and reduced interest income.

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 September.

E. Legislative Committee

Member Kirat Doshi reported on the September 23, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting. The committee discussed proposed resolutions from the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) and will make recommendations to the Board on whether or not to support each one. Member Emily Hanus will represent the District at the Delegate Assembly in November. The committee also began planning a virtual Legislative Breakfast, an annual event bringing together local legislators and neighboring school districts to discuss issues affecting education.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

The Financial Advisory Committee did not meet in September.

G. District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team did not meet in September.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

Vice President Gregory Harris reported on the October 8, 2020 Health and Wellness Committee meeting. The District's PPO and high deductible/health savings account plans have the majority of participation, and both will have surpluses due to fewer large claims in the past year, and changes in how people have used their healthcare due to the pandemic. The committee has recommended a rate decrease of 5% for the high deductible plan, and no change to the rates for the other plans.

6. DISCUSSION

There were no discussion items on the agenda.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alison Brechtel, Herrick teacher, stated her concerns regarding the safety of chemicals used to disinfect school spaces to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Director of Buildings and Grounds Kevin Barto responded that all chemicals used are EPA-approved as safe when used according to package directions and have been inspected and reviewed by third-party environmental consultants hired by the District.

Melissa Rausch, Whittier attendance area, commented that the process of returning to onsite learning is being rushed and there has been a lack of clear communication regarding shortening the trimester.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2020

Member Weiner moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

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

B. Approval of Minutes – September 28, 2020

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 special meeting as presented.

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

9. 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. Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the following items:

A. Personnel

The appointment of four certified staff, one educational support staff employee, and one custodian; the medical leaves of absence of two certified staff; the leave of absence of one educational support staff employee; the resignation of one educational support staff employee and one custodian.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on October 14, 2020, as well as the revolving and imprest issued in September 2020 as shown on the

list submitted under the date of October 14, 2020 in the total amount of \$667,827.28 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 OCTOBER 14, 2020
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES

EDUCATION FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$325,964.24
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$16,926.56
Imprest Checks - September 2020	\$18,172.47

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$167,357.79
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$24,260.20
Imprest Checks - September 2020	\$0.00

DEBT SERVICE

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$0.00

TRANSPORTATION FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$67,910.02
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - September 2020	\$148.00

IMRF

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
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FICA/MEDICARE

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
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SITE & CONSTRUCTION FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$0.00

WORKING CASH FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$47,088.00
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FIRE & LIFE SAFETY FUNDS

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
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MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
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SINKING FUND

List of Bills - October 14, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - September 2020	\$0.00

Total \$667,827.28

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

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

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

A. Recommendation to Approve Medical Insurance Rates
Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the changes to the medical insurance rates as presented.

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

B. Amendment to the District-sponsored 403(b) Plan to Include a 457 Plan
Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve changes to the employer-sponsored employee self-funded retirement system by adding a 457 plan and adding Plan Member Services as a vendor to the 403(b) plan.

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

C. Amendment to First Student Transportation Contract
Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the amendment to the 2020-2021 contract with First Student as presented.

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

D. Amendment to Sunrise Transportation Contract
Member Weiner moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to approve the amendment to the 2020-2021 contract with Sunrise Transportation for special education transportation as presented.

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

E. Pierce Downer School: Roofing Design & Engineering Consulting Services
Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to accept roof design and engineering consulting services with Inspec Inc. at a fee of 6.25% of the lowest responsible construction bid.

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

F. Bid: Snow Removal
Member Weiner moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to award the snow removal bid with Alternates #1 and #3 to Tim's Snowplowing, Inc., doing business as The Service Innovators (TSI).

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

G. Surplus Equipment: Band Saw and Tractor
Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to designate a band saw and John Deere 525 tractor as surplus equipment.

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

H. Adoption of Policies 2:220, 2:220-E9, 5:10, 5:100, 5:220, 5:330, 7:10, 7:180, 7:185, 7:340 and 7:345
Member Doshi moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to adopt Policies 2:220, 2:220-E9, 5:10, 5:100, 5:220, 5:330, 7:10, 7:180, 7:185, 7:340 and 7:345 as presented.

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

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hughes announced the following dates:

Tuesday, October 20, 7 a.m.	Policy Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 3:45 p.m.	Legislative Committee Meeting
Monday, October 26, 7 p.m.	Curriculum Workshop Indian Trail School

12. 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 placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10);
- 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, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

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

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

The Board convened to closed session at 9:23 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 9:41 p.m.

13. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes – September 14, 2020

Member Doshi moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

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

B. Approval of Closed Session Minutes – September 28, 2020

Member Doshi moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2020 closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

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

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Darren Hughes, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary