
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS,
HELD AT District Administration Building, 203 West Hillside Road, Naperville, IL 60540
October 17, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M., CLOSED SESSION 5:00 p.m.

Call to order

President Kristin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Board members present: Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Tony Casey, Joe Kozminski, Charles Cush, Donna Wandke, and Amanda McMillen.

Administrators present were:

Dan Bridges, Superintendent,

Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer

Jayne Willard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning

Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability

Others present: Hextell and Czachor from PMA

Closed Session

Kristine Gericke moved, seconded by Charles Cush to go into Closed Session at 5:00 pm. for consideration of:

1. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (21) Discussion of minutes lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 09/19/2022, 10/03/2022.
2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District.
3. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (7) The sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts.
4. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) 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.

Meeting Opening

Donna Wandke made a motion, seconded by Joe Kozminski to return to Open Session at 7:03 pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: McMillen, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Gericke, Cush, Kozminski, and Cush. No: None. The motion carried

Welcome and Mission

Kristin Fitzgerald welcomed all and read Naperville Community Unit School District 203's Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Tony Casey, Charles Cush, Joe Kozminski, Amanda McMillen and Donna Wandke.

Student Ambassadors present: Joanna Cho and Sarayu Suresh

Administrators present: Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer, Allison Boutet, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, Chuck Freundt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Chala Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, Lisa Xagas, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Alex Mayster, Executive Director for Communications, Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Jayne Willard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Ellsworth Elementary School

Superintendent welcomed Ellsworth Eagles. Principal Kimberly Rutan had her students introduce themselves after which they led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Good News

TEAM NEF parents, teachers, students, staff, and community members ran and walked to raise funds for the Naperville Education Foundation and Naperville 203 schools as Charity Heroes in the Healthy Driven Naperville Half Marathon & 5K on Sunday. Around 250 participants helped raise \$65,000. Thank you to everyone who participated and donated.

Naperville 203 community and staff members enjoyed an evening to celebrate Hispanic and Latin American contribution to our community last Thursday, October 13, at Jefferson. Thank you to Ebony Baker, Danielle Lusby, and Rachel Brodeur for organizing this wonderful celebration of Hispanic/Latinx culture and heritage.

The Marching Huskies had the honor to headline a Friday parade through Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World! During the trip, the students had a fantastic time exploring three of Disney's parks, riding rides, and even taking a behind the scenes tour at Universal Studios. The Marching Huskies represented Naperville North and District 203 well, exhibiting professionalism, excellence, and kindness.

Public Comments

President Fitzgerald gave the parameters for public comment. She will designate the next speaker so that they have the appropriate time to prepare. Issues raised in public comment will be taken under advisement by the Board of Education but will not be discussed in this meeting. Because the questions raised in public comment address district operational matters, the Superintendent is designated by the Board to coordinate responses and will apprise the Board accordingly. All public comments have been added to Board Docs. President Fitzgerald reminded the community that as outlined in Board Policy 2.230, individuals addressing the Board should conduct themselves with respect and civility toward others. Individuals are free to express their criticism regarding Board policy or decisions by the Board but should refrain from personal attacks.

A student and a community member gave public comment regarding the upcoming decision on removing Latin 1 from the curriculum.

President Fitzgerald noted that the Board of Education appreciates your advocacy. Acknowledged all who spoke and who have emailed public comments. As a reminder, the BOE has designated the Superintendent to respond to public comments.

Monthly Reports

- Treasury Report- The Board received the August Treasurer's Statement
- Investments- The Board received the August Investment Report
- Insurance-The Board received the August Insurance Report
- Budget-The Board Received the August Budget Report

Board Questions/Comments:

None.

Action by Consent:

- 1. Bills and Claims** from WARRANT NO. 1046748 THRU WARRANT NO.30029828 TOTALING \$23,112,952.57 FOR THE PERIOD OF September 20, 2022 to October 17, 2022.

- 2. Adoption of Personnel Report**

	Effective Date	Location	Position
RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED			
Valerie Ruiz	10/13/2022	MJHS/JJHS	Physical Education Teacher
APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Payton DeZur	10/14/2022	MJHS/JJHS	Physical Education Teacher
Stephanie Jurkiw	10/24/2022	PSAC	School Social Worker
LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Tristin Vrchota	10/10/22-12/22/22	Meadow Glens	Learning Behavior Specialist
RETIREMENT-NON-UNION CLASSIFIED			
Terri Stevens	12/31/2022	PSAC	Manager - Assessment Data
RETIREMENT-CLASSIFIED			
Mary Beth Hess	1/2/2023	Mill Street	Special Education Assistant
Jane Moser	12/31/2022	Print Shop	Document Services Support
RESIGNATION-CLASSIFIED			
Ornela Campbell	10/14/2022	ARECC	Special Education Assistant
Sam Schaefer	11/18/2022	Madison	Head Custodian
EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED FULL-TIME			
Luke Newtoff	10/5/2022	Mill Street	Special Education Assistant
Yanina Betahian	10/10/2022	ARECC	Special Education Assistant
Tatum Tilton	10/10/2022	Ranchview	Special Education Assistant
EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED PART-TIME			
Helen Will	10/10/2022	NCHS	H.S. Financial Secretary

- 3. Minutes 09/19/2022, 10/032022**
- 4. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #6 Masonry**
- 5. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #7 Roofing**
- 6. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #8 Doors and Hardware**
- 7. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #9 Aluminum Storefronts, Windows, and Glazing**
- 8. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #10 Plumbing**
- 9. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #11 HVAC**
- 10. Steeple Run Addition Bid Package #12 electrical**

Kristin Fitzgerald made a motion to approve Warrant #1046748 thru Warrant #30029828 totaling \$23,112,952.57 for the period of September 20, 2022 to October 17, 2022 and the remaining items on the Consent Agenda, seconded by Amanda McMillen. Those voting yes: Gericke, Kozminski, McMillen, Wandke, Casey, Fitzgerald, and Cush. No: None. The motion carried.

Communications

Student Ambassador Reports:

Joanna Cho NNHS:

- It has been a very quiet yet busy past month, as we have reached the semester's midpoint.
- Our homecoming was a great success, and we had the first homecoming assembly in two years.
- Girls tennis won their DVC and their sectional, and girls cross country and golf won their DVCs.
- As for activities and events, the radio play, *She Kills Monsters* ran from September 30 to October 1
- October 11th, the PE department hosted a 5k that included the run, yoga, and a guest speaker.
- The year, so far, has proceeded most similar to what school was like pre-Covid
- We are looking forward to another great month of school

Sarayu Suresh NCHS:

- We had a very successful Homecoming last month with over 2 thousand people attending.
- Right now, we are at the end of the fall sports season, with the boys' Soccer team winning the DVC Championship this season.
- Our football team won the crosstown classic against North.
- We also have the band, orchestra, and choir fall concerts coming up this week.
- The marching band Classic was yesterday. T
- The juniors took the PSAT last week.
- A topic that has been on students' minds is the phasing out of Latin classes at Naperville Central, since the class is not meeting the minimum enrollment threshold. The plan is to continue holding the class for students already enrolled in Latin this year, and getting rid of classes over the next 4 years. There have been mixed reactions to this. Some students do not care, but many vocal students have rallied to save Latin, and feel frustrated that one of their favorite classes will not continue to be offered.
- As many seniors start applying to colleges, Naperville Central has provided resources to help. One is a College Application support option during SOAR, which students have found helpful However spots are limited, which is frustrating.
- Overall, the year has been quiet and feels a lot like a normal year.

Written Communications

Freedom of Information Requests:

Tribble Freedom of Information Act Request-Staff email Information
Illinois Policy Freedom of Information Act Request-School population Information
Rizzo Freedom of Information Act Request-Business Office Information
Rizzo Freedom of Information Act Request- Staff email Information

Superintendent/Staff/School Report

Superintendent Bridges invited all to join him in celebrating Principal appreciation week and Principal appreciation Day on Friday, October 21.

FY2023-2024 Budget Calendar

Superintendent Bridges noted the Budget Calendar is in BoardDocs for review.

Board Questions/Comments:
None.

Enrollment Update

Superintendent Bridges noted the enrollment memo and summary in BoardDocs. This is provided annually for your review.

Board Questions/Comments:

Elementary is up as projected and Junior High and High School are down as expected. Dr. Kofron noted that current projections are influenced by unexpected enrollment decreases due to COVID. I am not sure I understand the comment if we are inserting our current enrollment each year.

Mr. Freundt noted that Mr. Kofron uses 5+ years of data. He drops the two lowest years. Because of this, if he uses Pandemic year data that could skew data.

When we do our budgeting and projecting, it looks like we use the mid to low series numbers, is that what we use for our five year projections?

Mr. Freundt responded that we do go school by school with projections. Districtwide, the mid series is what is typically used. When we go school by school, we may use different series.

Superintendent Bridges added that we would have the five year forecast in November and have that info then.

It seems like elementary stays about the same so we are not getting in the position of not having enough space.

Mr. Freundt remarked there are cases where an addition of 10 or so students per year will eventually make us have to address space.

President's Report

President Fitzgerald noted that the Director of IASB, Tom Bertrand, is stepping down in July. A search committee will be formed and she will keep the Board apprised of the search process.

Board of Education Reports:

Amanda McMillen spoke of the opportunity to attend the Hispanic Week event at JJHS. A great and well organized event.

Board Questions/Comments:
None.

Discussion without Action:

Summer School 2022 Review and Summer School 2023 Plans

Superintendent Bridges welcomed Kevin Wojtkiewicz to give the Summer School Report.

Mr. Wojtkiewicz thanked all summer staff and building directors who made the summer of learning a success.

- We revised our summer learning program to increase access for all students, enhanced the curriculum and instruction to align with the overall curriculum and offered both acceleration and essential skill based classes, and partnered with community agencies to reduce barriers so that all students could participate.
- It was exciting to see Summer Learning be able to return to a six week program with an increase of students and engaging new courses.

- At the elementary level, students enjoyed learning, laughing, problem solving and making new friends. Summer staff was grateful for the additional staffing support, which allows for smaller groups and additional small group time to reteach and help the students reaffirm skills they have already learned.
- Co-teaching in the EL classrooms continued to be a success and all students enjoyed learning about all of the different cultures and experiences each other brings.
- Art and robotics were a welcomed addition to the summer school offerings at the elementary level.
- At the Junior High level, Agriscience, Automotive Concepts and Engineering Basics, Culinary Arts, and Robotics experienced high levels of student participation.
- Business Bootcamp class ran successfully for its second Summer with students creating a business plan, unique marketing and branding, budgets and stock options; as well as a reflective piece on sales.
- Our literacy and math classes continued to offer students acceleration and additional practice with essential standards from their existing grade so students were ready for fall instruction.
- High school classes continued their trend of high enrollment and success. Over 99% of students earned credit in their summer courses. Students, families, and teachers responded favorably to the asynchronous Fridays. Students continued to engage in work on Fridays with support from staff, which provided extra flexibility during summer months.
- 2022 was the final year of the free summer credit offered by the District. Almost 2000 students utilized the free credit over the 2 year period.
- The total District investment in summer learning for 2022 was reflective of the return to 6 week programming, the number of students using the free class option, and students qualifying for free waivers. While revenue was up from previous years, the amount of waivers was also at a 4 year high. Summer related expenses were in line with a typical 6 week experience, however, some additional expenses were incurred in 2022 due to implementing a new K-8 math program as well as higher than normal transportation costs for outsourcing many of our Extended school year routes.
- While, high school math and special education related services continue to be a challenge to staff, we continue to be grateful to the many staff who are committed to our students in the summer and the priority they have placed on the academic and social/emotional wellbeing of our students. Data demonstrates that elementary students mastered the essential standards upon completion of the course at a level comparable to or better than results from 2019, which was the last year of 6 week programming, and the majority of high school students continue to earn a C or better in their summer courses.

Board Questions/Comments about the 2022 report:

Transportation was more expensive. Most of ESY transportation was outsourced.

Mr. Wojtkiewicz noted that a lot of transportation was outsourced as there were not enough bus drivers.

Great to see the numbers of students increasing.

How are you feeling about the four day week and how that impacts the standards based achievement?

Mrs. Willard remarked that is something for us to look at. We like it because it allows families to have a longer weekend. We did start a new math curriculum that was also new to staff. Staff will be looking at MAPS to see what we may need to change. We need additional data.

Why were some students offered free summer school courses?

Superintendent Bridges noted that it was an offer to allow students to extend some learning and make up for any unfinished learning. We also had the funds available to offer that to our students.

How does the number of 2000 students who took advantage of the fee waiver over the past couple of years compare to pre-pandemic?

Mr. Wojtkiewicz responded that we did not offer a free course pre pandemic.

In looking at enrollment for 2019, what are your thoughts for the coming year as to enrollment? Do you think we will continue to increase or will we return to more 2019 levels?

We will look at that in the next portion of the report.

Mr. Wojtkiewicz gave the recommendations for 2023.

- As part of our blueprint commitment, we revised our summer learning program to increase access for all students, enhanced the curriculum and instruction to align with the overall curriculum and offer both acceleration and essential skill based classes, and partnered with community agencies to reduced barriers so that all students could participate.
- Due to the popularity of the elementary Robotics and JH exploratory courses this summer, we propose adding additional sections to meet the demands of the classes.
- We propose maintaining a similar calendar and schedule for each of our summer learning programs based on 2022 feedback from staff. Feedback from high school staff and students was very positive regarding the four days of in person instruction and the Friday asynchronous learning.
- Based on the calendar and the Juneteenth and July 4 holidays, K-8 students will have 21 days of instruction. High school students will have 28 days of instruction and July 3 will be an asynchronous day to coincide with July 4.
- Our curriculum teams will engage in the continuous process of curriculum review and revision where needed. Our summer school staff will begin to develop communication and finalize registration details to be ready for the registration launch on March 1, 2023. Our team will communicate with building leadership so they can identify and communicate to students and families in need of targeted summer school support. We will actively recruit summer school staff with the goal of fully staffing within district. Summer school will begin June 5 and conclude on July 14 for all students.
- When developing the 2023 summer budget, we have taken into consideration the factors that will impact the Board's investment in the 2023 programs. For the 2023 budget, we assume enrollments in all programs will stay the same or increase. On the revenue side, we anticipate additional tuition due to the expiration of the District's free class option as well as additional sections of elementary and JH exploratory classes. Factors impacting our expenses include additional FTE and materials for the expanded course offerings. We expect our additional expenses to be offset by the additional day of for K-8 programs on July 3 resulting in overall expenses similar to 2022 levels. With the anticipation of additional revenue and similar expenses, we believe the Board's investment in summer learning for 2023 should decrease.

Board Comments/Questions about 2023:

Where do the tuition and fees land compared to last summer?

Mr. Wojtkiewicz noted they are the same.

Want to ensure that all schools have high participation. Can we make sure that all schools are encouraging students to attend? Can we continue to recruit those students who are part of an achievement gap group?

Can we look at the revenues vs expenses in transportation? What is your sense about the cost we charge more?

Mr. Wojtkiewicz responded that we are open to any ideas to help with the cost of transportation.

Superintendent Bridges added that we would continue to monitor the costs.

Can we get cost projections from year to year on the same page?

Why are some of the projected expenses going down when others are going up?

How are we expecting transportation to go down?

Mr. Wojtkiewicz we are hoping we can staff all routes with our own drivers.

Any additional questions send to Superintendent Bridges.

Discussion with Action:

IASB Resolutions

Superintendent Bridges gave some updates to the questions asked by the Board of Education at the last meeting. There is additional information in BoardDocs.

Board Questions/Comments:

To be clear I am following the recommendations given by the committee.

Yes.

Charles Cush made a motion to instruct our delegate to vote the wishes of the Board of Education, Tony Casey seconded. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Casey, Kozminski, McMillen, Gericke, and Cush. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

New Courses

Superintendent Bridges recommended that this report as presented. He thanked all students and the community for their comments. No decision is made in isolation. There are many district leaders and staff who followed our process in the Course Audit.

Mrs. Willard will speak about the process and why we made the decision to remove Latin. Charged by the Superintendent and Board to review courses. This is done very collaboratively. We involve High School administrators. We discuss this monthly at department meetings. We discuss new courses and how they are delivered. We also look at any courses that may need to be retired. Dr. Holland meets with High School Principals and Assistant Principals monthly and they are always reviewing courses, needed FTE, Every Fall in September and Winter in January, Assistant Principals meet together and talk about new courses. From this, we determine what the summer curriculum work looks like. We look at numbers and what courses students are choosing. We also look at relevance as we have students attending many different types of post secondary opportunities. We are looking at our benchmarking districts. Educator will stay with us.

Dr. Holland added that she knows the value of our current auditing process. We have to consider what courses will be retired. This is a part of the process. We have to look at the courses that students are choosing. We cannot continue to add courses that directly align to our vision while keeping courses that keep students from choosing. We are focusing on the sense of belonging that the district is focusing on in other classes. The relationships make this decision even harder. We will continue to work to create areas of sense of belonging.

Superintendent Bridges added that we have seen a steady decline over time.

Dr. Friebus-Flaman stated that she wants to reiterate the difficulty of this decision. As my role as the Director of Language Acquisition, it is my passion for bilingualism. We do have to look at what we offer that directly aligns with our College and Career Pathways. This is a hard decision but I have to support in light of the other decisions that have to be made

Mrs. Ray-Asst Principal at NNHS and former Department Chair of World and Classical Languages. We have seen a steady decline. I also support the removal of Latin 1.

Jackie Thornton-principal of NCHS- I could not be more proud of the students who have so passionately used their voice. This has been a challenging process for me because of the language. This was a very hard questioned process. We not only asked about what is the future of the study of Latin. We asked for additional information from colleges and universities.

Board Questions/ Comments:

You shared a process that shows four components of the process. Can you briefly talk about the other three components (enrollment being one of them?)

Mrs. Willard noted we looked at learning standards and the relevancy. This is why we went to the college and career side and asked if it helps students or is not having it a hindrance? We are not seeing it as a trend in the post-secondary readiness act. This is not just about Latin. What are industry trends? There are other spoken languages that give students an advantage.

Thank you who spoke up and went deeper into the conversations around how this decision came to be. Why now?

Mrs. Willard responded this goes back to data and the enrollment numbers.

Superintendent Bridges added this has been a deliberate process over time. We have looked at tend data over time.

Mrs. Willard talked about what some triggers are that begin the process. We look at this throughout the whole year with department chairs.

What made this decision need to be presented now?

Mrs. Willard noted that there were many variables including student enrollment.

Superintendent Bridges added that where we are with the PWR Act, we have to make difficult decisions to allow additional courses to align with the college and career pathways.

I appreciate the additional comments. Realize we have to make decisions for the whole district. I have been really torn on this one. Administration and team have brought good work and data. What I struggle with are some things that are not captured in the data. Comments like students who say they have built community, found their people and found a passion.

Student comments around community and the culture are not found other places. Latin did help me understand English better and become a better writer and communicator. This is really the logical side and the emotional side coming together. I appreciate all the data and the work that has been put into this decision. This is not a recommendation that has been made lightly.

Still wrestling and on the fence about it. There is something to be said for keeping it around.

This has taken a lot of time in our thoughts over the last two weeks. I appreciate all the administrators sharing how they have made these decisions. The students and the sense of community and cohort seems to be such a strong bond. My hope is that we could create that across all classes. We want all of our students to have this sense of community. How can we bring thinking and creativity to making sure all students have a sense of belonging?

Mrs. Willard noted the work of creating a sense of belonging at the High School are innovative. We want that sense of belonging to be felt school wide.

Superintendent Bridges added that this focus is really district wide. In SIP plans, each school has been asked to create a goal around a sense of belonging. Our audit process is not about only removing but looking at where we have holes or gaps.

Thank you to students, parents, staff and Administration and Board members. It is critical that no students who are currently in the program will be effected. Important that our staff members are maintained. The teacher is making the difference for the students. I appreciate the transparency of the process. I have struggled with course removal many times and have been thrilled by courses that have been added.

I have appreciated the viewpoint of students. Appreciate hearing from staff and feel confident that the committee has taken into account what the optimal number of students. I appreciate the thoughtful process and the difficulty of it.

Thank you to the teacher and students. It is because of the teacher that the students feel so welcomed in the classroom. Appreciate the report of staff members. We have to look at what happens when we keep growing. We have language to use as a connector and the spoken language is a connector in making us global citizens. Grateful that we have a focus on dual language. Helps me understand the work of the committee,

Is there an opportunity to have two motions?

Superintendent Bridges responded that the recommendation of Administration is for the math and career internship

Second recommendation is to remove Latin.

Amanda McMillen made a motion to approve Algebra 2 Modeling and Problem Solving and the Career Internship as presented, Charles Cush seconded. Those voting yes: Casey, Wandke, Gericke, Cush, McMillen, Kozminski, and Fitzgerald. Those voting no: None. Motion carried.

Tony Casey made a motion to remove Latin 1 beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, seconded by Kristine Gericke. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Casey, Wandke, Gericke, McMillen, and Kozminski. Those voting no: Cush. The motion carried.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Upcoming Events

Superintendent Bridges-Career Exploration date on Friday at Career Motive8. Board Members are welcome but please wear your credentials. This event will be held at Naperville Yard.

November is a different look for us as we only have one meeting and it is on the second Monday. November 14, 2022.

Adjournment

Amanda McMillen moved seconded by Charles Cush to adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Cush, Casey, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, McMillen, and Gericke. Those voting no: None. The motion carried.

Approved: November 14, 2022

Kristin Fitzgerald, President, Board of Education

Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of Education