

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 6:30 PM Central

Lakeview Junior High School
701 Plainfield Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516

Steve Dlugo: Absent
Megan DuPass: Present
Brian Liedtke: Present
Adam Sage: Present
Darren Spiegel: Present
Tiffany Watson: Present
Doug Wiley: Present
Present: 6, Absent: 1.

I. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board President Brian Liedtke.

II. Pledge

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Brian Liedtke.

III. Recognition of Visitors

In-person visitors included Director Tom Tiede, Dr. Kim Liles, Principal Jake Little, Interim Principal Mark Pagel, Assistant Principal Carrie Fitzgerald, and Katie Matthews. Online attendees included Dr. Sean Rhoads, Kristin Platt, Sheri Sulima, Jessica Rost, Cheryl Novotny, Keith Roberts, Annie Diver, Joy DeFors, Jessica Sage, Jennifer Shearer, Elizabeth Uribe, Tara Herndon, and Meghan Aleo.

IV. Scheduled Time to Address the Board

There were no scheduled speakers for the March 11, 2026 Board of Education meeting.

V. Consent Agenda

V.A. Monthly Meeting Minutes

V.B. District's Monthly Financial Statements

V.C. Monthly Board Bills Payable

V.D. New Items

V.D.1. Approve the Hire of Anne Rossi as a Long-term Substitute for Maternity Leave.

Ms. Rossi is currently a paraprofessional at Elizabeth Ide but will be stepping in as a long-term sub for an Interventionist with an anticipated start date of March 16.

V.D.2. Approve the Hire of Kelly Kastner as a Long-term Substitute for Maternity Leave.

Ms. Kastner brings extensive experience as an elementary teacher, including being a highly requested sub this year in Center Cass. She will be covering a 2nd grade maternity leave beginning on or around March 16.

V.D.3. Approve the Retirement of Kim Liles, Principal, Lakeview Junior High, effective June 30, 2030.

Dr. Liles' retirement will be effective in June 2030, where she will complete her career as Lakeview Junior High Principal. The Board and Dr. Wise expressed how very grateful they were for Kim's service to District 66.

V.D.4. Approve the Resignation of Alexis Gustas, Special Education Teacher, Prairieview

V.D.5. Approve the Resignation of Megan Rynne Tack, Paraprofessional, Prairieview

V.D.6. Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Woodridge 75th Street TIF District

Nothing has changed in terms of the agreement since the last Intergovernmental Agreement. This copy was formatted and final. The TIF was already approved by Woodridge, so the IGA just provides additional protections beyond the law.

V.D.7. Approve the Defined Renewal Agreement for SY 26-27 in the amount of \$7,000. This software is for our Problem Based Learning and STEM programming.

V.D.8. Approve the Tzu Chi Contract for 2026-2029.

Rates were increased slightly. This is a good partnership that brings in additional revenue every year for use on select weekends.

V.D.9. Approve the Contract with Education Elements for a Curriculum Needs Assessment Audit in the amount of \$21,850.

This audit is necessary to help the New Assistant Superintendent for Learning and the Goal 1 Strategic Plan Subgroup in gaining an outside perspective on our instructional program.

V.D.10. Approve the DYC Dissolution Agreement

V.D.11. Approve the BACC Handbook/Rates

V.D.12. Approve the Extended Leave Request.

V.D.13. Approve the Assistant Superintendent of Learning Job Description.

VI. Approve Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Tiffany Watson and seconded by Adam Sage, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Yea, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 7, Nay: 0

VII. Communication

VII.A. Spartan Showcase Lakeview Artifacts

Dr. Liles shared artifacts from the upcoming Spartan Showcase that included student creations such as variations of art, architecture, gaming, design, stories, and other innovations.

VII.B. FOIA Requests

There were 2 FOIA's requested, both that the District complied with.

VIII. Principal Reports

VIII.A. Elizabeth Ide Elementary

Elizabeth Ide Interim Principals reported that Spring conferences at the end of February provided valuable opportunities for teachers and families to share progress, celebrate student growth, and strengthen home-school connections through open, focused conversations. As Trimester 2 concluded on March 6, teachers finalized grades, with report cards to be sent home on March 13, highlighting the ongoing growth and progress of students. The school is looking forward to a strong start to Trimester 3 and a successful end to the 2024-2025 school year. The Ide Winter Wonderland event was a joyful and well-attended evening that brought the community together with high energy and smiles. A special thank you was extended to the volunteers whose efforts made the event a seamless success, highlighting the strong partnership and support within the Ide community. The staff does an incredible job creating classrooms where students feel supported, encouraged, and excited to learn each day.

VIII.B. Prairieview Elementary

Principal Little shared that this winter, the staff has been focusing on "Modes of Engagement" to foster student curiosity, choice, and exploration, moving away from passive learning toward active exploration across various projects and initiatives. Students are engaging in hands-on activities like podcast production, biomedical engineering, and peer teaching, supported by targeted programs like the after-school Triple A to build confidence and skills. These efforts reflect a shift toward student-centered learning and mindset development, with ongoing collaboration and innovative approaches to enhance student growth. He went on to express that it's a joy to support students' creative pursuits, from judging the Girl Scout Troop's Cocoa Cup Classic to participating in clubs and intramurals like chess and choir, which continue to thrive thanks to dedicated staff. These after-school programs enrich the learning community and provide valuable opportunities for student engagement beyond the classroom. While warmer weather allows outdoor activities, it also brings challenges like mud, which staff members diligently manage to keep the campus safe and clean. Additionally, Team 66 enhanced the learning environment with Valentine's Day community service activities and a successful Paint Night, showcasing strong student and parent engagement.

VIII.C. Lakeview Junior High

Lakeview noted that Mrs. Burrow's 7th grade ELA students showcased their creativity and understanding by designing board games based on their novels, promoting critical thinking, collaboration, and leadership. The project allowed students to demonstrate their knowledge in a fun, interactive way, engaging in meaningful discussion and peer learning. Overall, it was a successful and memorable example of students being fully engaged in "explorer mode." Rebecca Winthrop's visit

provided valuable insights on fostering "explorer mode" and navigating the impact of artificial intelligence in education, emphasizing the importance of curiosity, critical thinking, and social-emotional development. Students actively engaged in meaningful discussions about AI's role in their future, showcasing their thoughtful perspectives. The event, made possible by the Board of Education, enriched our community by connecting students and staff with leading educational voices. Lakeview's Pack the Place event demonstrated the incredible strength and compassion of the school community, uniting to support alumni Ben Julkowski and his family during his battle with leukemia. The event was a heartfelt showing of generosity and solidarity, exemplifying the caring spirit that makes our community so special.

IX. Director Reports

IX.A. Director of Student Services

Center Cass School District 66 will offer a Targeted Summer School Program in Summer 2026 for about 140 students, focusing on reading, math, and social-emotional learning to address learning gaps and boost confidence. Staffed by approximately 14 educators, the program will feature small-group, evidence-based instruction during June 8-22 at Elizabeth Ide Elementary, with transportation provided to support student participation and prevent summer learning loss. Staff members from the Student Services Department attended the SASSED Spring Institute 2026, gaining insights on best practices and innovative strategies for supporting diverse learners, which will be shared in upcoming meetings to enhance student supports district-wide. Additionally, as staff transitions into new roles, the department is proactively reviewing and aligning processes related to key support roles to ensure clear expectations, effective coordination, and strong implementation of district systems for addressing students' academic and social-emotional needs.

IX.B. Director of Learning

Dr. Liles reported that Elizabeth Ide and Prairieview are already in the third trimester, with classrooms continuing to showcase high student engagement and meaningful learning experiences. At Lakeview, Encore courses will shift into the fourth quarter soon, and despite the approaching end of the school year, there is still plenty of learning and growth to come for students. The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) and Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing windows are underway, with eighth graders having recently completed the ISA. Lakeview students will take the IAR on March 23, 24, and 26, while Prairieview students will begin after Spring Break. Staff members were highly appreciative of Dr. Rebecca Winthrop's visit, finding it reaffirming that the district's move to Competency Based Learning aligns well with students' needs. Upcoming School Improvement Days in March and April will focus on class lists for 2026-2027, ongoing Competency Based Learning tasks, and completing the Learner Characteristics PD.

IX.C. Director of Technology

Director Roberts announced that the district has implemented Google Gemini within Google Workspace for Education, primarily used by junior high students, with safeguards such as under-18 access controls and policies ensuring data privacy and appropriate use. Additionally, efforts are underway to develop curriculum-specific Gemini controls and to update the Skyward online registration process for easier parent navigation and cleaner data collection. Also shared was the district is conducting a network infrastructure audit in preparation for a 2027 E-Rate Category 2 project to identify gaps and ensure readiness. Additionally, with Board support, efforts include purchasing

more student devices for young learners at Elizabeth Ide and rolling out new Konica Minolta copiers district-wide, with most replacements being 1:1. Olivia Mitchell has joined as the new Help Desk Technician, quickly supporting students and staff while managing help desk tickets and assisting across buildings. Meanwhile, the district is administering the Illinois Science Assessment and upcoming Illinois Assessment of Readiness, with the Technology Department ensuring devices and infrastructure are prepared for a smooth testing process.

IX.D. Director of Transportation/Buildings and Grounds

Director Tiede shared that as the weather begins to improve, preparations for the upcoming school year are already underway, including updates to routing software and planning for student movement between grades. Meanwhile, extracurricular activities are increasing, with sports, clubs, and upcoming field trips adding to the vibrant campus life. Overall, this busy season promises many exciting opportunities ahead. Bids for Phase 1 of the parking lot renovations came in under budget, with approval pending for the low bid contractor to complete the work over summer 2026. Additionally, renovations for Gym #1 at Lakeview are progressing, and two Eagle Scout projects are enhancing campus areas at Lakeview and IDE. The district has also hosted numerous events and activities, keeping custodial staff busy and appreciated for their ongoing efforts.

X. Superintendent Report

X.A. District Dashboard

The District Dashboard is available online on the District website. There are no changes to report for the month.

X.B. Goal 3 Admin Sub Committee Meeting Update

Dr. Wise, along with Director Tiede, Board Member Sage, Board Member Wiley, provided updates on parking lot renovations, Lakeview roof improvements, Lakeview gym enhancements, and the possible recreation of space within the Prairieview and District Office area to provide adequate and equitable space for student and employee use. Each project is progressing on schedule and under budget. In addition, information was shared about outdated District vehicles which have outlasted their usable life (15-20 years) and need to be replaced. Lastly, they informed the Board of the next round of technology replacement for machines over 4 years old, which included a grade level of Chromebooks, two grade levels of iPads, and the oldest teacher laptops.

X.C. Goal 4 Admin Sub Committee Meeting Update

Vice President Watson, Dr. Wise, and the Administration highlighted their meeting with parents and staff on policies and handbooks. The committee received excellent feedback on communication, Lakeview Activity Code, artificial intelligence, and academic feedback. Handbook revisions will be brought to the Board of Education at an upcoming meeting for approval. Many thanks to the parents who have contributed over the years. Board Member Dlugo provided valuable feedback in the committee meetings as well.

X.D. Goal 2 Admin Sub Committee Meeting Update

Dr. Rhoads, Assistant Principal Fitzgerald, Board Member Spiegel, and Dr. Wise communicated updates on student growth of SEL and Learner characteristics, attendance, and participation in activities. The committee discussed ways to improve rollouts and changes from a variety of angles, including parent communication. The committee thanked Dr. Liles, LV Office Staff, and Jessica Sage for collecting fees and creating a new process for next school year. Lastly, the committee congratulated Dr. Rhoads, Maggie Kane, Katie Finucane, and Meghan Aleo for being recognized as Those Who Excel by the State Board of Education.

X.E. Steering Committee Update

Board President Liedtke and Board Member DuPass met with the District Steering Committee on the extracurricular schedule and stipends. The District will be analyzing the time put into each activity to ensure that time spent and compensation matches.

X.F. IGA - Woodridge 75th St. TIF - School Districts

A copy of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Woodridge - TIF, is included in the board book. There have been no modifications to the agreement since it was approved by the Village.

X.G. Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2026-2027

Dr. Wise is working to coordinate BOE meeting dates with the Strategic Goal Meeting dates, attempting to schedule the meetings on alternating nights.

X.H. Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement - Phase 1

A motion will be made to accept the bid for the Lakeview Parking Lot Project, scheduled to begin this summer.

X.I. Transportation Revenue

Many Board members felt that, since the District is not required to provide transportation and other districts charge for transportation-related items, that the Board should consider ways to bring in revenue to assist in this area. Most Board members favored the concept of increasing an existing fee, instead of creating a new one, to bring in revenue to assist in the overall budget, giving the District flexibility in the use of those dollars to assist with field trip-related expenses. This is not related to daily transportation, and thus would not impact the District's ability to submit for transportation reimbursement. They asked Dr. Wise to bring a recommended fee schedule for the 26-27 school year for approval at the April Board meeting.

X.J. Fee Schedule

The fee schedule can be found in the Boardbook. The Board asked Dr. Wise to bring a recommended fee schedule for the 26-27 school year for approval at the April Board meeting.

X.K. Administration Renewal and Contracts

This was an Executive Session discussion.

XI. Public Comment

XII. Action items

XII.A. Motion to approve the Bid for the Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement - Phase 1 in the amount of \$623,300 to Maneval Construction Co.

Motion to approve the bid for the Lakeview Parking Lot Replacement - Phase 1, in the amount of \$623,300 to Maneval Construction Co. This motion, made by Doug Wiley and seconded by Adam Sage, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XII.B. Motion to Enter Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session. This motion, made by Tiffany Watson and seconded by Megan DuPass, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XIII. Executive Session - Enter Executive Session to discuss student discipline, the appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity, and/or litigation 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) or collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning safety schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5ILCS120/2(c)(3).

XIII.A. Motion to Re-enter Open Session

Motion to re-enter Open Session. This motion, made by Darren Spiegel and seconded by Adam Sage, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XIV. Action Items

XIV.A. Motion to Approve Katie Matthews as the Assistant Superintendent for Learning.

Motion to approve Katie Matthews as the Assistant Superintendent for Learning for the 26-27 School Year. This motion, made by Adam Sage and seconded by Darren Spiegel, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XIV.B. Motion to Approve the Renewal of Employment and Contracts for Carrie Fitzgerald, Jake Little, Kim Liles, Tom Tiede, Keith Roberts, and Sean Rhoads.

Motion to approve the renewal of employment and contracts for Carrie Fitzgerald, Jake Little, Kim Liles, Tom Tiede, Sean Rhoads, and Keith Roberts. This motion, made by Megan DuPass and seconded by Tiffany Watson, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea, Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Doug Wiley and seconded by Darren Spiegel, Passed.

Steve Dlugo: Absent, Megan DuPass: Yea, Brian Liedtke: Yea, Adam Sage: Yea, Darren Spiegel: Yea,

Tiffany Watson: Yea, Doug Wiley: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

The March 11, 2026 Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Gannon, recording secretary

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education