

**Regular Board Meeting
Board of Education School District No. 6
Lake County, Illinois
2800 29th Street, Zion IL 60099
June 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

Roll Call

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m., and held the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Absent: Jazmine Crump, Netya Perez Rivera and Jacqueline San Diego.

Administration and staff present: Julious Lawson, Superintendent, Samantha Snyder, CSBO, Erik Youngman, Director of Teaching and Learning, Mike Scofield, Director of Technology, Ryan Hawkins, Special Education Supervisor, Kimberly Monk, Director of Student Services, and Kimberly Hall, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education Secretary.

Approval of Agenda

President Taylor for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Robert Surano.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, and Margie Taylor.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Celebrations and Recognitions

Dr. Lawson recognized Mike Scofield, Director of Technology, who is retiring after 16 years with the District and wishing him well on his upcoming retirement.

Public Hearing: 2025-2026 Amended School Budget

Samantha Snyder, CSBO, presented the 2025-2026 Amended School Budget to the board and public. Highlights of the presentation included the amendment process, fund expenditures exceeding budgeted amounts in Evidence Based Funding (EBF), and administrative costs exceeding 5%. There were no public comments regarding the 2025-2026 Amended School Budget.

President Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn *Sine Die at 6:12 pm*.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None.

Motion carried.

Public Participation

Kassandra Alvarado. Midwest Prevention Coordinator from Selah Freedom, a faith-based anti-human trafficking non-profit organization that provides programs to schools, parents and youth.

Brianna Matthews, staff member, spoke about her participation in the SEL and Math committees, requesting honest feedback, transparency, communication, and clarity on directives.

Damian Watkins, staff member, addressed the board about being a first-year teacher this year and being reassigned to a new position for next year due to the grade level changes.

Approval of Consent Agenda

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which involves one roll call vote for all recommendations including the minutes for the May 18, 2026, Regular Board Meeting.

It is the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following resignations.

- **De Leon, Mary**, resignation from the position of 3rd Grade Teacher for West Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year
- **Fender, Irene**, resignation from the position of Secretary for West Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year
- **Harmon, Valisa Rias**, resignation from the position of Technology Teacher for West Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year
- **Kopystynsky, Michaela**, resignation from the position of Interim Assistant Principal and Summer School Principal effective July 17, 2026

It is the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the employment of the following personnel for the positions and dates of employment as indicated, subject to successful completion of the medical examination and forms, as required by Section 24-5 of the Illinois School Code, successful completion of a criminal background investigation as required by Section 1-21.9 of the Illinois School Code, a Child Abuse Registry check, and submission of all forms, documents, and certifications required by law and/or requested by the District:

- **Josephine Bentil**, for the position of Social Worker at Beulah Park Elementary School, previously held by a contracted employee, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Certified: MA+30, Step 1, \$64,410.73
- **Cebrian, Juan Aguirre**, for the position of Digital Citizenship Teacher at Shiloh Park School, previously held by Richard Reed, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Certified: MA, Step 4, \$57,494.57
- **Donofrio, Ryan**, for the position of 1st Grade Teacher at Beulah Park Elementary School, previously held by a contracted employee, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Certified: BA, Step 3, \$45,450.98
- **Dorr, Wesley**, for the position of Special Education PALS Self-Contained teacher at Zion Central Middle School, this is a new section, effective for the 2026-2027 school year.
Certified: MA, Step 1 \$53,696.34
- **Flores, Rebeca**, for the position of Music Teacher at Elmwood Elementary School, previously held by a contracted employee, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Certified: BA, Step 1 \$43,998.48
- **Kahn, Mark**, for the position of Music Teacher at Beulah Park Elementary School, previously held by Jonathan Harper, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Certified: BA, Step 1 \$43,998.48
- **Miranda, Magdalena**, for the position of Paraprofessional at Zion Central Middle School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year
Classified: Step 8, \$22.50 per hour
- **Osorio, Areadna**, for the position of Human Resources Administrative Assistant, previously held Marlene Ortega, effective July 1, 2026
Classified: \$47,000
- **Samuels, Beth**, Assistant Principal for East Elementary School, additional stipend for the remainder of the 2025–2026 school year only
Stipend: \$3,000.00
- **Thomas, Catie**, for the position of 3rd Grade Dual Language Teacher at West Elementary School, effective for the 2026-2027 school year.
Certified: BA, Step 1 \$43,998.48

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano and Margie Taylor.
Nays; None.

Motion carried.

President's Report

President Taylor reviewed the July calendar and the next regular meeting will be July 27th at 6:00 pm. There were no updates regarding the taxing bodies. The SEDOL updates were in the weekly update provided by Dr. Lawson. There is no information on the next TIF meeting. The finance committee did not hold a meeting this month.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lawson presented the monthly school reports which included the end of the school year information.

Department Presentations

Erik Youngman, Director of Teaching and Learning, presented on NWEA MAP Spring Overview, including math and reading achievement, spring achievement in 2026 compared to 2025, dual language, and common math and reading assessments. Principals identified the positives and target improvement areas for their schools. He also reviewed the targeted next steps including strengthening high-quality Tier-1 instruction, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). Dora Salinas, Multilingual Coordinator, identified positives for the Dual Language students. Also reviewed with the board were the renewals of NWEA MAP and LinkIt!

Old Business

PRESS Policy Updates

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Second Reading Of PRESS Policy Updates: 2:200, 2:220, 2:250, 2:260, 2:140-E, 4:165, 5:30, 5:50, 5:250, 5:330, 6:65, 6:100, 6:145, 6:170, 7:20, 7:50, 7:100, 7:185, 7:220, 7:230, 7:240, 7:280, 7:300, and 8:90 as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Ken Fielding, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.
Nays; None.

Motion carried

New Business

2025-2026 Amended School Budget

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Amended School Budget as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, Denise Lear and Margie Taylor.
Nays; None.

Motion carried

School Supplies

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the purchase of student school supplies for 2026-2027 school year as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano and Margie Taylor.
Nays; Ken Fielding and Denise Lear.

Motion did not carry. This item has been tabled until the July 27th meeting.

Lenovo Laptop Purchase

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the purchase of 130 replacement Laptop PCs, from CDWG for a cost of \$191,410 as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor and Ken Fielding.
Nays; None.

Motion carried

2026-2027 Board Meeting Dates Revised

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Revised Board Meeting Dates as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Robert Surano.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

SPED Embrace Software

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the three-year renewal from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029 of the Embrace Software agreement for \$16,200.95 (year 1), \$16,775.87 (year 2) and \$17,371.94 (year 3) as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

SPED Cartwheel Mental Health Services

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the three-year renewal of the Cartwheel agreement for \$31,125 (year 1), and \$35,793 (years 2 and 3) as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Lake County Health Department Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the renewal of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Lake County Health Department for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years of the evidence-based curriculum “Making Proud Choices” for 8th grade students as mandated by the State of Illinois as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Ken Fielding, Robert Surano and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

LinkIt! Data and Assessment

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the renewal of LinkIt! by purchasing online access for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$40,798 as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Ken Fielding, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

NWEA MAP Assessments

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the renewal of NWEA MAP Growth online access for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$35,325 as presented.

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor and Robert Surano.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

SPED Contracted Services

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the contract for Express Employment Professionals and Express Healthcare Staffing for a social worker position as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; Denise Lear.

Motion carried

Closed Session

President Taylor asked for a motion to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of:

- A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals, who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear to enter into Closed Session.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None

Motion carried and the Board entered Closed Session at 7:21 p.m.

There being no further business, the Board exited Closed Session at 8:51 p.m. and resumed Open Session.

Other Business

Administrator Contracts 2026-2027

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the recommendation to approve the Administrator Contract for Christine Worth, Assistant Principal Shiloh Park School, for the 2026-2027 School Year as presented.

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Administrator Contract 2026-2027

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the recommendation to approve the Administrator Contract for Beth Samuels, Principal Beulah Park Elementary School, for the 2026-2027 School Year as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Robert Surano.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Administrator Contract 2026-2027

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the recommendation to approve the Administrator Contract for Keayon Senter, Principal Shiloh Park School, for the 2026-2027 School Year as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, and Margie Taylor.

Pass; Denise Lear.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Leadership Support Specialist

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the position of Leadership Support Specialist as presented.

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Instructional Support Specialist

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the position of Instructional Support Specialist as presented.

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor, and Robert Surano.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the board motioned to adjourn.

Ayes; All in favor. **Nays;** None.

Roll Call: Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, and Margie Taylor.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Dated: _____

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education