

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Education of  
School District No. 44  
LaSalle County, Illinois, held  
at Northlawn Junior High School Library at 6:00 p.m. on the Twenty-Third  
day of April, 2026**

The President called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked that roll be called. Upon the roll being called, the following members were physically present: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. Tanya Jacobs arrived at the meeting at 5:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Zakia Scheuer and seconded by Tom Krieger to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of: Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of personnel, litigation and review of closed session minutes. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously. At 5:01 p.m. the President declared the meeting to closed session.

A motion was made by Angela Risley and seconded by Jan Urbance to return to open session. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously and at 6:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to open session.

**Board Celebrations:**

- Our student-athletes were honored for their dedication and sportsmanship during recent track meets. A special highlight was shared for Noah, who proudly represented SES 44 at the state bowling competition, placing 25th.
- The spirit of leadership was also on full display as student leaders from Centennial visited Kimes to work collaboratively with younger students on their "Buddy Flies" project during Family Day. Mrs. Weber's 7th-grade ELA class gifted custom-written books to their first-grade buddies. It was a great week of mentorship and community.
- We extend a special thank you to the Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC) for their vital role in supporting our diverse learners and fostering deep community engagement during the celebration of the Thai Water Festival, Songkran.
- Zakia Scheuer extended her gratitude to the PTO and parents for their support of the successful Krispy Kreme fundraiser, which resulted in the distribution of 456 dozen donuts.
- President Flores thanked the staff for planning numerous wonderful activities during state assessments and expressed his appreciation to the students for their hard work and determination throughout the testing period.

Open Forum: No one spoke in the open forum.

A motion was made by Zakia Scheuer and seconded by Angela Risley to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Angela Risley and seconded by Tom Krieger to approve the Insurance Broker as presented. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Zakia Scheuer and seconded by Angela Risley to approve the Northlawn Junior High Assistant Principal Contract as presented. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Michael Holcomb and seconded by Jan Urbance to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye' were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously.

**Employment of:**

|                 |            |                                |            |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Jenna Anderson  | Centennial | Cares II Teacher               | 08/10/2026 |
| Jackson Ford    | Northlawn  | 6th Grade Soc. Studies Teacher | 08/10/2026 |
| Macie Jo Howard | Kimes      | Pre-K Teacher                  | 08/10/2026 |
| Brittany Janz   | Northlawn  | Assistant Principal            | 07/01/2026 |
| Emily Kestner   | Centennial | 2nd Grade Teacher              | 08/10/2026 |
| Audrey Rajski   | Centennial | 2nd Grade Teacher              | 08/10/2026 |
| Jessica Smith   | Northlawn  | Cares III Teacher              | 08/10/2026 |

**Resignation of:**

|                   |               |                            |            |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Isaiah Dembo      | Northlawn     | Special Ed Aide            | 04/30/2026 |
| Carole Hall       | Northlawn     | Cafeteria Cashier          | 05/20/2026 |
| Melanie Hoffmeyer | Kimes         | Behavior Interventionist   | 04/12/2026 |
| Bryan Jimenez     | District Wide | Technology Assistant       | 04/10/2026 |
| Mary Beth Lamanna | Kimes         | Behavior Interventionist   | 04/17/2026 |
| Randy McCloskey   | Northlawn     | 8th Grade Basketball Coach | 03/30/2026 |
| Rebecca Towne     | Northlawn     | 7th Grade Volleyball Coach | 04/08/2026 |

**Leave of Absence of:**

|               |            |                   |            |
|---------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Holly Cashmer | Centennial | 4th Grade Teacher | 04/17/2026 |
| Jamie Galyen  | Centennial | Title Aide        | 04/15/2026 |

**Transfer of:**

|             |           |                   |            |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|
| Jodee Baker | Northlawn | 5th Grade Teacher | 08/10/2026 |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|

1. Open and Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the March 19, 2026 and the April 13, 2026 Special Board Meeting
2. Payment of bills, district travel and financial statements
3. 2026-2027 SES Chromebook Handbook
4. NJHS Athletic Code of Conduct
5. NJHS Coach's Handbook

### **Centennial Update**

Principal Steve Bruck, Assistant Principal Kamm Reilly, and the 4th grade team presented an update on Centennial's mission to create opportunities for students. A highlight of the session was a student presentation by Cash Cliff and Wes Moore regarding the 4th Grade Women's History Project.

- Students choose an influential woman in history, conduct expert research, and create both a Google Slides presentation and a representative "Pringles can" figure.
- The project fosters technology literacy, creativity in design, public speaking experience, and collaborative work in art class.

### **Staff Appreciation (May 4–8, 2026)**

- The district is preparing to observe Staff Appreciation Week with an intentional focus on celebrating every staff member at SES 44.
- Plans include district-provided lunches for all schools, flexible work sessions during a Wednesday improvement day, and the launch of the #SES44Proud social media campaign.

### **Budget & Operational Updates**

- A formal amendment process is underway to increase fund expenditures beyond the original budget. This includes a 30-day public inspection period and a formal hearing scheduled before final action in June.
- The district will maintain the current E-Learning model for next year. This ensures instructional continuity during weather closures while providing the consistent schedule necessary for our PreK-8 families.
- The administration initiated a discussion to transition away from live streaming in favor of robust written reports. This shift aims to protect district resources and avoid the significant capital investment required for professional-grade broadcasting equipment.

### **26-27 Staffing Update**

The administration presented a comprehensive staffing plan designed for balanced distribution across buildings, featuring:

- A new full-time physical education teacher at Kimes.
- A full-time multilingual aide to support diverse learners.
- An interim Director of Curriculum (120-day term) to lead instructional initiatives and provide administrative coaching.

## FOIA Update

- Sheri Reed Smart Procure Purchase Records
- Carla Catods Employee Research Data LLC
- Justin Wening 3 years of PD Contracts

A motion was made by Zakia Scheuer and seconded by Jan Urbance, that the Board adjourn the Board of Education Meeting of the Streator Elementary Board of Education District 44. A roll call vote was taken and those voting 'Aye" were: Stephanie Flores, Michael Holcomb, Tanya Jacobs, Tom Krieger, Angela Risley, Zakia Scheuer and Jan Urbance. The motion carried unanimously and at 6:40 p.m. the President declared the meeting adjourned to May 19, 2026.

---

President

---

Secretary