



SCHOOL DISTRICT 69 • SKOKIE / MORTON GROVE

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Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
May 17, 2022
6:30 p.m. Closed Session
Maier Administration Center Conference Room
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Maier Administration Center Board Room
Visitors, please sign in

MINUTES

- 1. Roll Call (7:00 p.m.)
2. Pledge of Allegiance/Student Recognition
3. Staff Recognition
4. Changes/Deletions to the Agenda
5. Statements from Visitors
6. Communications
7. FOIA Requests
8. Board Committee Reports
9. Administrative Reports
10. New Business
11. Old Business
12. Consent Agenda
1. Payment of bills dated April 30, 2022 in the amount of \$735,935.35.
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Personnel

4. Establish Time and Place of Regular Board of Education Meetings (2022-23) 20
 Approve the 2022-23 schedule of regular Board meetings.
5. 2022-23 Food Service Contract Extension
 Approve a one-year extension of the Food Service Management Company contract with OrganicLife for 2022-23, at an increase of 6%.
6. 2022-23 Student Transportation Contract Extension
 It is recommended that the Board approve a one-year student transportation contract extension for the 2022-23 school year with Lakeview Bus Line, Inc., at an increase of 9.25%, or approximately \$100,000.
7. Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Hours of Educational Support Personnel
 Approve the "Resolution Authorizing the Reduction in Hours of Educational Support Personnel" as presented by the Superintendent, and authorize the President and Secretary to sign the resolution and related letter on behalf of the board.
8. Approve the Destruction of Closed Tape Audio
 It is recommended that all recordings of closed sessions prior to November 2020 be destroyed following the Superintendent's review of the closed session verbatim transcripts for which proper minutes have been approved.
13. Comments from Visitors
 The President will recognize members of the audience who wish to make comments to the Board regarding any topics related to School or District business. The Board will take all comments under advisement without discussion. If a member of the public raises an issue or concern that requires follow-up, the Board President or Superintendent will do so in a timely manner.
14. Future Meeting Dates
 1. Regular Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, June 21, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. – Maier Administration Center Board Room
15. Closed Session
 It is recommended that the Board move into closed session to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; student disciplinary cases; and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.
16. Adjournment

Reasonable accommodations are available upon request. Individuals requiring special accommodations should contact the administrative assistant to the Superintendent, Skokie-Morton Grove 69, at 847-675-7666 at least three hours prior to the meeting to allow for accommodations to be made.

As a limited public forum and pursuant to Board policy, persons wishing to address the Board during public comment times must speak to the whole Board regarding school or district issues. Each individual is limited to five minutes during each public comment section. The Board welcomes public input at the designated time during board meeting. It is important, however, to remember that school board meetings are meeting of the board held in public.

Skokie-Morton Grove District 69 Board of Education

May 17, 2022

Staff Recognition (Marigolds in Bloom)

Staff Recognition

School District 69 has skilled and caring staff members who work tirelessly to build the excellence, passion, and character of our students. Throughout the year, the Board of Education honors outstanding achievement of staff members who are “Marigolds in Bloom”.

Meaning of the Marigold

Gardeners often “companion plant” marigolds next to their vegetable gardens because the marigold protects the fruits and vegetables allowing them to grow big, strong and healthy. Within schools and organizations there are people that are just like marigolds. These people encourage, support, and nurture. They see problems as opportunities. They are genuinely concerned for the well-being of others, and they bring energy and positivity to the organization. The staff members being recognized this month have demonstrated “marigold” behaviors - encouraging, supporting and nurturing all those around them.

Marigolds in Bloom

A staff member submitted the following:

I would like to nominate Dr. Joel Schwartz as a “Marigold in Bloom”. Although Joel is not a teacher in District 69, he has been working with our students for the past 8 years. I first met Joel through the [Reach for the Stars National Science Foundation Program](#) at Northwestern University in 2014. Joel was a doctoral student and I was fortunate enough to have received a grant from the National Science Foundation that allowed Joel to work with my students for an entire school year. When the grant program ended, Joel continued his studies, received his PhD in Astrophysics, and continued with his postdoc in Montreal. We kept in touch frequently during that time, and lucky for us, Joel returned to Chicago after his postdoc. When he returned to the Chicago area, he let me know that he would be happy to help out with our newly formed robotics team (thank you CFC!)

Fast forward to the 2019-20 school year... Joel continued to help out with our robotics teams and also helped to run our tournaments. He set up the scheduling and scoring programs and helped to run the very first Niles Township tournament which D69 hosted at Edison. He also ran the final tournament held at Lincoln Hall just a few days before the Covid-19 shutdown began.

During our remote learning period, Joel often joined my classes, engaging students in discussions about many topics. When word got out that he would be a guest speaking about the Mars Perseverance Rover, I had many students who were not in my class try to enter my Zoom that day! I can't even begin to describe the impact Joel has had on the students at Lincoln. Not only is he an expert in his field, but he has the ability to share his expertise in a way that intrigues middle school students (and their teacher).

This year we resumed our in person robotics competitions, and once again, Joel stepped up. Not only did he help run the tournament at Lincoln, but he volunteered to help the new STEM teacher at McCracken run their very first tournament. They are also so grateful for "Dr. Joel". We hope that Joel stays in the Chicago area for a long time and that he will continue to use his incredible expertise to motivate and help our students in the future. We are SO lucky to have Joel with us. I hope you will agree.

Additionally, Linda Lockhart, Edison Speech Pathologist, is being recognized as a marigold. Linda began her career in D69 at Madison School, and transitioned to Edison this year. The transition was seamless because she already knew and had a relationship with many of our students and families.

Ms. Lockhart's positive attitude and passion for student success is contagious. It is great to see Ms. Lockhart at the start of the day greeting students outside at the parent drive or wishing them a great afternoon during dismissal. As an avid coffee lover, you may see her walking around from one appointment to another with her cup of coffee in hand.

As a member of the special services and MTSS leadership teams, she has taken the lead in understanding and helping modify our current MTSS system and helping staff comprehend her role as a speech pathologist and how she can support students. During our Spring benchmarking window, Linda, without any hesitation, volunteered to modify her schedule to help administer small group testing to students who needed a safe and supportive small group. She also took the lead in helping recreate additional systems to provide students with a familiar face during fluency testing so that students can focus on doing their best while supporting their speech and SEL needs.

As a speech pathologist, Ms. Lockhart has continuous communication with families including her regular IEP/MTSS meetings. During those formal meetings, Ms. Lockhart is always prepared and makes sure to include a step-by-step agenda that includes a student's picture, positive notes and areas of growth as needed. Her meetings are

always thorough, which speaks to the effort she has taken to build relationships and get to know the students she serves. She does not shy away from having passionate and difficult conversations with colleagues and administrators about students when it comes to what is best for kids.

Skokie-Morton Grove 69 Board of Education

May 17, 2022

School and District Updates

District Updates

Staff Appreciation: District 69 staff were celebrated during Teacher Appreciation Week. All staff received a free spirit wear item from the District. Each building scheduled special treats and events throughout the week. We are so fortunate to employ so many fabulous teachers who are dedicated to serving our students and families. We also recognize the amazing contributions of our support staff who work to support our teachers, students, and families. We thank them for all they do!

Kiwanis Club of Skokie Valley: The Community Schools team is grateful for the generous donation of \$1,300 from the Kiwanis Club of Skokie Valley to provide daily healthy snacks to students, as well as Summer Exploration Program scholarships.

Skokie Chamber's State of the Village Luncheon: On April 29, the Community Schools team was honored to present during the State of the Village Luncheon on the team's successful Health Services Voucher Pilot Program which provided cost-free dental, vision, and mental health service vouchers to 44 under- and uninsured students. This project was made possible by a \$10,000 grant from the Skokie Community Foundation and will be continued next school year due to 9th Congressional District of Illinois Community Project funding.

9th Congressional District of Illinois Community Project Funding: Community Schools was awarded a competitive grant for \$375,000 for the 22-23 school year. On May 9th, Representative Jan Schakowsky presented the District with a \$375,000 check to support Community School programs including 3 focus areas to improve outcomes for children and their families: 1) Community school health and wellness resources, 2) Technology, and 3) Increased out of school time offerings.

The Early Childhood Alliance (ECA) Update: The ECA's Early Childhood Resource Specialist, Rosa Inés Méndez, will be leaving her role at the end of May. The Steering Committee is currently working on a transition plan. Some of the recent successes of the ECA include: 1) An Early Childhood Fun Fair attended by over 60 families, 2) The formation of an Increasing Enrollment Task Force, and 3) The distribution of up to \$750 in financial assistance to 50 families.

Total School Cluster Grouping: Teacher teams have begun the process of analyzing student data and cluster grouping students for next school year placements. The TSCG model is a specific research-based, total-school application of cluster grouping combined with differentiation, focused on meeting the needs of advanced learners and improves teaching, learning and achievement of all students.

Food Service Update: With the transition back to normal USDA program operations in the 22-23 school year, all schools will be bringing back point of sale (POS) systems and

processes during lunch service throughout the month of May. The lunch items will all be loaded at \$0, the goal is to allow students to practice the POS process prior to implementing with fees. In 2022-23, the District will no longer be able to provide free meals to all students. Families will need to qualify for free or reduced lunches, or pay the cost of the meal.

School Nutrition Program: On April 25 - 27, ISBE conducted an Administrative Review of the District 69 School Nutrition Program. The audit consisted of a review of required administrative records and breakfast/lunch observation at Edison Elementary School. The District 69 School Nutrition Program was found to adhere to meal access, reimbursements, and general program compliance. Over 60 administrative items were reviewed, two areas were noted where a correction plan is required, a plan of correction was submitted to ISBE.

Madison Arrival/Dismissal: Madison staff have reviewed and revised their arrival/dismissal procedures. The Village of Skokie Traffic Engineering staff has provided feedback and suggestions that have also been implemented. New signage has been posted by the Village along Madison. Madison staff has been assigned to specific locations along the Madison driveway to help with traffic flow, crossing students, and exiting the driveway. A communication plan was implemented that included emails to families as well as paper flyers handed out at arrival/dismissal. The Madison administration has also been in frequent communication with the Madison Street Condominium Association. District staff requested permission from the Village of Skokie to restrict Madison traffic from turning east onto Madison off of Lincoln for 20-30 minutes in the morning and 20-30 minutes in the afternoon. This would prevent cars from parking on the south side of the street and crossing, which seems to create the biggest safety issues during arrival/dismissal. The Village has denied this request. District staff has also requested that left turns be restricted from Madison Street into the driveway for 30 minutes in morning and 30 minutes in the afternoon. This would avoid traffic snarls that occur and create additional safety concerns. The Village has denied this request.

Transportation Update: Summer programming is being finalized and transportation requests will be assessed to determine bus needs and routing throughout the summer.

The Business Office is planning a full review of the current 9 bus routes at each school with the goal of submitting a proposal for the 22-23 school year to include: route changes, number of routes, number of stops per route & locations, number of students per bus, action plan for combining routes in case of bus driver shortages, and efficiencies created by any changes proposed.

Transportation Contract Extension: The current three-year transportation contract with Lakeview Bus Service ended on July 31, 2018. Illinois School Code allows the Board of Education to extend the contract in single year increments without publishing a new transportation bid. This will be the fifth one-year extension. Lakeview initially proposed an increase of 12.25%, but reduced it to 9.25% after further negotiation. This will result

in approximately \$100,000 increase for next year. The increase should be offset by a reduction in additional charges related to COVID protocols that are no longer needed.

The District was initially planning to move special education transportation to NTDSE for next year; however, without those routes Lakeview is unable to provide regular transportation. Thus, the administration is recommending that the Board approve a one-year contract extension to continue with Lakeview for both special education and regular transportation for the 2022-23 school year. The administration plans to go out to bid for transportation services next year.

Food Service Contract Extension: On June 20, 2017, the Board approved an initial contract with OrganicLife with the option to extend for four additional one-year periods. Due to the pandemic, the State is permitting districts to extend for a sixth year. Organic Life has proposed a 6% increase which is aligned with the range of 4%-7% increases for other area districts. The administration recommends that the Board approve a one-year extension for the 2022-23 school year, and go out for bid next year.

Audit Adjustments and Interfund Transfers: In preparation for a planned interfund transfer from the Transportation, Education and O&M funds to the Capital Projects fund for the purposes of construction at Lincoln, it was discovered that the auditor's adjustments in FY20 were not posted to the general ledger. The administration worked with both the auditor and township treasurer to ensure that the appropriate adjustments were made to the general ledger. The result is that the Capital Projects fund has sufficient balance to cover the remaining payments for Lincoln, and an additional interfund transfer is not necessary. The final step is to amend the FY22 Budget to reflect these changes.

Temporary Summer Help: For the past several years, the District has hired temporary summer employees to assist with custodial and technology functions in preparation for the next school year. For summer 2022, the administration has budgeted to hire up to six summer employees at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.

Lincoln Construction: Lincoln Junior High construction is substantially complete. The lights along the drive have been recently installed. Additional outdoor lighting remains to be completed along with punch list items that have to wait until summer when students are gone.

School Updates

PreK

Pre-K finished Spring benchmark assessments this month. The team will have the opportunity to review the growth our students have made during an upcoming team meeting. We will also utilize this data to facilitate programmatic planning and class placement through the Total School Cluster Grouping (TSCG) process.

In addition, Pre-K will explore various themes this month, including insects, fairy tales, nursery rhymes, and community helpers. The last week of school will focus on summer safety. Caregivers should also be on the lookout for our final at-home family engagement

project learning about community helpers. Students will have the opportunity to read, write, play, sing, and talk about the community helpers they see in their neighborhood.

Last but not least, the Pre-K Team is looking forward to seeing caregivers at our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Madison

During the last week of April, Madison celebrated Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) week. Throughout the week, students engaged in literacy themed activities and spirit days. At scattered times during the day, an announcement was made for everyone to “drop everything and read,” and classes enjoyed read-alouds from a variety of guest readers. The highlight event of the week was the Pajama Night family reading event where families were invited to come to school in their pajamas to hear guest readers and participate in other activities.

Madison celebrated all of our staff during Teacher Appreciation Week because everyone participates in helping our students learn. Throughout the week, we had raffles and special treats, and staff members received several appreciation gifts with the District 69 and Madison logos. The staff also really appreciated the expressions of thanks they received from students and families. PTO will continue the celebrations by providing lunch for everyone on the May 18th early release day.

We also completed our spring benchmark assessments, and now we are preparing to make class placements for next year. We will again be using the Total School Cluster Grouping (TSCG) process to create balanced classes that facilitate differentiation of instruction and ensure all students have peers at their same levels. Teachers will begin assigning classes for returning students during the May 18th early release day.

Edison

Students recently completed spring benchmark assessments. This data is shared with families via the Infinite Campus parent portal. Teachers are using this data to look at student growth over time and to help inform future instruction. This data is also utilized as part of our Total School Cluster Grouping (TSCG) process, which helps to create specific clusters of students, enabling teachers to differentiate instruction to meet students’ needs. During the early release on May 18, teachers will begin the TSCG process, creating the sections and class assignments for the 2022-2023 school year.

Edison is hosting the 41st District 69 Chess Tournament on Saturday, May 14. The district is also taking the opportunity to run a student registration event alongside the tournament to help support families in completing the process for next school year. The district will be hosting several additional registration events in May and June to support the community with the registration process.

In collaboration with the PTO, Edison will be hosting a 5th grade celebration on Friday, May 20. A group of students have been meeting for the last few months to gather input from their classmates and plan the event. Their goal has been to create an inclusive event

to help students celebrate their time at Edison and create social opportunities for students who have missed out on peer connections due to the pandemic.

Lincoln

Earlier this month, Lincoln hosted The Night of the Spartan. Community partners, the PTO, and Lincoln staff create a fun night with food and games. Students participated in organized basketball games, relay races, minute-to-win-it games, and karaoke. All events earned students raffle tickets for prize drawings. Family members were invited to join in the fun as well. A huge thank you to Mr. Antonio Rice and Mx. Olivia Tsotsos for organizing and running an amazing event!

In helping transition students from Edison to Lincoln, 5th grade students were given a guided tour of our new Lincoln. The tour highlighted the most common rooms and spaces, and also answered some of the most commonly asked questions about junior high school. Families were also invited to explore the new building this spring.

Lincoln also celebrated all of our amazing staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. Staff were treated to themed days, with snacks, flowers, and mystery prize bags! The staff also appreciated the survey responses and individual messages from students and families acknowledging their hard work.

Skokie-Morton Grove District 69 Board of Education

May 17, 2022

COVID-19 Update

Prepared by the Admin Team

Background

Due to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19, the administration provides a monthly report with updates on how the health situation is impacting school operations.

IDPH, CCDPH, and Restore Illinois Metrics

The Villages of Skokie and Morton Grove were previously included in [Region 10-Suburban Cook](#) and a positivity rate was provided on the IDPH website. This data has been replaced by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) established [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) based on the combination of three metrics:

- new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days,
- the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and
- total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

Based on the CDC metrics, Cook County's Community Level has risen from "Low" to "Medium".

Skokie Health Department

The Skokie Health Department is currently reporting the following data for the Week of May 2-8, 2022:

- 376 Confirmed Cases
- 2.00% positivity rate
- 54 average cases/day
- 554 per 100,000 transmission rate (above 99.99 is High)

Confirmed COVID Cases

At the April 19, 2022 Board meeting, we reported that, since the start of school, the number of confirmed COVID cases were as follows:

- 443 students and
- 81 staff members

One month later, we are reporting that, since the start of school, the number of confirmed COVID cases is:

- 536 students and
- 109 staff members

Mitigation Updates

Cases are on the rise in Skokie/Morton Grove, Cook County and the State, and proportionally we have experienced an increase in cases. The Skokie Health Department requires universal masking for 10 days following 3 or more confirmed positive cases within a classroom (PreK-Grade 5) within 7 days. At Lincoln, because students change classes throughout the day, universal masking at the grade level is implemented when cases at the grade level hit 15%.

Close contacts are required to mask for 10 days following exposure as well as to participate in test to stay. If a student is unable to consistently mask for 10 days and/or participate in our saliva based test to stay program, then the child is excluded from school per the Skokie Health Department.

Due to the increased number of cases, the number of identified close contacts has also risen to levels not seen since the Omicron surge in January. In February and March, there were just over 100 students in each month who were identified as close contacts. In April, 570 students were identified as close contacts. For the first half of May, 507 have been identified as close contacts. The building COVID response teams are busy managing communication, monitoring for symptoms, and implementing “test to stay” which is managed by District staff.

The COVID Response Team has also implemented a “flip to remote” instruction for individual classrooms based on a high number of cases. The Team has also implemented semi-universal masking based on connections between cases. For example, Kindergarten and 2nd grade students were required to mask when changing classrooms for math and WIN for a period of ten days in response to connected cases.

Per the Skokie Health Department, we continue to contact trace which does mean that we are continuing assigned seating at lunch, attendance on buses, and other structures that help us to track who students are interacting with.

The District’s COVID Response Team continues to review our mitigation protocols and adjusts them based on a variety of factors including:

- Changes in CDC, ISBE, IDPH and Skokie Health Department guidance
- Adjustments to executive orders and/or other laws
- CDC Community Levels data
- Number of cases, level of transmission, and positivity rates in our schools and local community.

Health Department Requirements

The Skokie Health Department has not adjusted their guidance since last month’s Board report. The existing COVID exclusion practices and contact tracing remain in effect per the Health Department.

Paid Administrative Leave (HB1167)

On April 5th, Governor Pritzker signed HB1167 into law. The bill provides paid administrative leave for every employee of a public school district who meets the following criteria:

- fully vaccinated or has received the required doses to become fully vaccinated within five weeks of the effective date of the Act.
- required, or whose child is required, to be excluded from school because of a positive COVID-19 test result or close contact with a person who had a confirmed case of COVID-19.

- has been required by the school or school district policy to be excluded from school district property due to COVID-19 symptoms.

As the District began working to restore sick leave for employees who had to use sick days during the 2021-22 school year, we learned of a limitation in the new law. The benefit only applies to staff whose children are school aged (K-12) and not those whose child was excluded from Daycare or PreK due to testing positive or being identified as a close contact. The consequence is that our staff who have young children are unable to have their sick leave restored. The administration recommends that the District include children aged 0-5 years old who were excluded from PreK or daycare due to being a close contact and/or tested positive for COVID, and restore sick days to those staff members required to care for them. This would only apply to this school year, retroactive to the start of the year and would not apply to next school year. If there is a need, it can be reviewed again next fall.

Next Steps

The COVID Response Team continues to carefully monitor the mitigation strategies we are implementing, and makes necessary adjustments. The COVID Response Team is also preparing for the transition from pandemic to endemic.

The District, along with the Skokie Health Department, continues to encourage all eligible students, staff, and families to complete the full series, including boosters (if eligible), of COVID vaccination.

Skokie-Morton Grove District 69 Board of Education

May 17, 2022

Crossing Guard Program (Village of Skokie)

Background

The Village of Skokie has historically coordinated the crossing guard program for school children, including making recommendations about which intersections should be staffed with a guard. The Village of Skokie has paid the full cost for one crossing guard per school building that is physically located within the Village of Skokie. Schools with more than one crossing guard were billed for the cost of each additional crossing guard.

Timeline

In Fall 2019, Village staff met with township superintendents to discuss contracting with a third party to provide crossing guard services. The Village cited concern about unemployment, workers compensation and liability costs that they were fully responsible for. At that time, the township superintendents expressed concern about working with a third party and sought time to learn more about the experiences of other municipalities with third party providers. Additionally, the township superintendents agreed to assume a portion of the unemployment, workers compensation, and liability costs. Accordingly, the Village developed a formula and began assessing districts for this additional cost.

On August 30, 2021, the Village sent each district a letter stating that a) the Village had determined there would be a 5% increase in hourly rate; b) the Village would be transferring their costs to each school district effective with the next school year; and c) the Village would begin the process to contract out crossing guard services.

In November, the township superintendents met with Village staff. The village shared their concerns about staffing shortages, the impact when police officers have to be deployed to cover crossing positions, and difficulties with managing the overall program. Village staff also expressed concern about the Village of Skokie's ability to financially support the program.

The parties agreed to engage in an overall review of crossing to determine if all of the current crossings were necessary. The goal was to help reduce costs as well as to address the staffing shortage by reassigning guards from underutilized corners. Further discussion about the financial responsibilities would be discussed after that review.

In January, the school districts received written communication from the police with the findings of their review of crossings. In total, there was a reduction of 6 crossings impacting three districts which took effect in February 2022. The districts were notified

that the Village was drafting an RFQ and invited them to participate in the drafting of that document.

In April, the districts were provided with the results of the RFQ process and details of the Andy Frain contract. All of the school districts support moving to a third party contract, and have no concerns with the vendor or the scope of their services.

The school districts have continued to express concern about the Village's decision to shift the full cost of the program to the individual school districts. While the School Code permits school districts to utilize funds to pay for crossing guards within 1.0 mile of a school, it does not require school districts to do so. In fact, across the area there are a variety of financial arrangements for crossing guards that range from municipalities fully funding the program to cost share arrangements to schools fully funding the program. The Village of Morton Grove fully funds the crossing guard program and District 69 incurs no costs for the guards that the Village of Morton Grove provides for Edison School.

Safe passage to school is not solely the responsibility of school districts. In fact, the Village of Skokie, in addition to providing a portion of funding, has a history of reviewing the crossing guard program to determine if guards are still needed, making recommendations for guarded intersections, and implementing requirements for particular crossings (e.g. 2 guards for Lincoln/Oakton).

Like the Village, school districts have experienced increased costs and budget limitations - being asked to do more with less. Reducing costs is just as important to the schools as it is to the Village, and allows schools to direct dollars towards educating students, especially in light of the adverse impact the pandemic has had on the children of Skokie. Outsourcing the crossing guard program results in the cost savings that all entities seek, and has the added benefit of eliminating the headaches of managing the program for the Village.

Maintaining the status quo provides all parties with a cost savings while maintaining collective support for an important public safety concern and our community's children. In a good faith effort the schools are also willing to move to a 50-50 cost share arrangement. Under that arrangement the Village experiences even greater savings and all districts financially contribute to the program.

Current Program Cost

The Village of Skokie provided the following summary of costs for the 2021-22 crossing guard program.

	2021-22 Costs
Total Program Cost	\$385,042
Village of Skokie	\$188,267
School Districts	\$196,775

Note: In Fall 2021, District 69 was billed \$63,517 for the 2021-22 school year; however, with the reduction in crossings the District received a corrected invoice reflecting the reduction in guards. The new total cost for District 69 in 2021-22 is \$50,869 for the 2021-22 school year.

Projected Cost for 2022-23 (Village Proposal)

	2021-22 Costs
Total Program Cost	\$273,291
Village of Skokie	\$0
School Districts	\$273,291

The projected cost for District 69 for the 2022-23 school year is \$50,733 resulting in a savings of \$136.

Note: In information shared with the districts by the Village, the Village projects District 69 savings as \$12,784. However, that is based on the initial 2021-22 bill and not the corrected 2021-22 bill reflecting the reduction in guards this year.

Projected Cost for 2022-23 (School District Proposals)

The township superintendents proposed two options to Village of Skokie staff that were rejected. Option 1 maintains the current cost sharing arrangement and results in savings for all parties. Option 2 provides a greater amount of savings to the Village and all districts financially contribute to the program.

Both options address the Village of Skokie’s concerns about managing the program and the strain on officer resources to cover guard absences. Both options also reduced the Village’s costs of the program. Both options maintain the longstanding partnership and commitment from the Village to support public safety.

Option 1 Status Quo

Village pays one guard per K-8 school (12 total guards)

	2021-22 Costs	Savings
Total Program Cost	\$273,291	
Village of Skokie	\$149,067	\$39,200
School Districts	\$124,224	\$72,551

Option 2 50-50 Cost Share

	2021-22 Costs	Savings
Total Program Cost	\$273,291	
Village of Skokie	\$136,635	\$51,632
School Districts	\$136,635	\$60,140

Because, based on Skokie Police Department recommendations, District 69 students require four (4) crossing guards for safe passage to school, District 69’s cost under either option is the same \$24,844 (with a savings of \$26,025).

Village of Skokie Response

Village staff rejected the schools’ above proposals. Staff offered to split the difference with individual districts who experience an increase next year as part of a phase out plan. Staff informed the schools that the Village would not accept any proposal that did not end with the Village no longer financially contributing to the program.

Lincoln/Oakton Crossing Decision

The four crossings that, based on Skokie Police Department recommendations, are required for District 69 students safe passage to school are:

- Lincoln/Oakton (2 guards)
- Lincoln/Madison (1 guard)
- Lincoln/Mulford (1 guard)

Under the Village proposal, the school district would be fully financially responsible for the cost of 4 guards. The Skokie Police have recommended that Lincoln/Oakton continue to be staffed and that it requires 2 guards.

In November, District 69 staff observed the Lincoln/Oakton crossing for a period of two weeks. Approximately 20% of the crossings were District 69 students. This is a very busy corner with many crossings; however about 40% of the crossings were District 219 students and another 40% general public.

Separately from the other discussions, the District requested that the Village share the cost of this crossing with us, since the majority of crossings are the general public. However, the Village has stated that they will not assume any of the cost. If the District chooses not to pay, then the Village will simply not staff the corner.

The District 69 Board will need to discuss whether or not to staff Lincoln/Oakton, if a cost share arrangement is not worked out.

Next Steps

The Village of Skokie has tabled approval of the contract with Andy Frain, which was originally slated for May 2, 2022. On May 2, 2022 Board members from District 68 and 69 made public statements and District 73.5 sent a letter to Trustees expressing their opposition to shifting the full cost of the program to school districts. The Mayor redirected the districts to work it out with the Village Manager. He stated that it was a negotiation and could be worked out at that level.

Village staff have requested a counter proposal to their offer to split the cost of any increase for next year, with the full program cost shifting to schools following next year. Staff have also indicated that they will only negotiate the timing of a cost shift, and ultimately ending their financial responsibility is non-negotiable .

Reducing costs is just as important to the schools as it is to the Village, and allows schools to direct dollars towards educating students, especially in light of the adverse impact the pandemic has had on our children. Outsourcing alone accomplishes a cost reduction for both the Village and the schools, creating a win for our whole community. The Village shifting the full cost to the schools results in diverting funds from educational programs and services.

Skokie-Morton Grove 69 Board of Education

May 17, 2022

Personnel Report

New Hires – Approve the positions of:

1. Bethany Kim, Teacher at Edison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
2. Eden Noy, Special Education Co-Teacher, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
3. Ellen Bakal, Co-Teacher at Edison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
4. Guadalupe Palaguachi, Teacher at Edison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Keri Travis, Special Education Co-Teacher at Lincoln, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
6. Kristy Arrington, K-2 Special Education Instructional Teacher at Madison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
7. Laiba Anis, Teacher at Edison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
8. Latasha Chatman, Physical Education Teacher at Madison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
9. Mitchell Tsukinari, Special Education Life Skills Teacher at Edison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
10. Rebecca John, Teacher at Madison, effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
11. Kevin Moloney, Temporary Summer Tech Support at the District Office, effective May 23, 2022.
12. Dominique Stallings, Out of School Time Manager at Madison, effective June 1, 2022.

Resignations – Approve the resignations of:

1. Miguel Luna, Assistant to Community Schools at the District Office, effective July 8, 2022.
2. Amy McDonald, Speech Language Pathologist at Madison, effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Leave of Absence – Approve the leave of absence of:

1. Emily Leininger, 3rd Grade Teacher at Edison, effective beginning at the start of the 2022-2023 school year through the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.



SKOKIE - MORTON GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 69

5050 MADISON STREET • SKOKIE, IL 60077 • (847)-675-7666 • FAX (847) 675 -7675 • WWW.SD69.ORG

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Section 2.03 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.03), notice is hereby given that the regular meetings for the Board of Education of Skokie-Morton Grove School District 69, Cook County, Illinois shall be held on the following dates and at the following location during the next twelve months.

August 16, 2022	February 21, 2023
September 20, 2022	March 21, 2023
October 18, 2022	April 18, 2023
November 15, 2022	May 16, 2023
December 13, 2022 (Rescheduled to 2 nd Tuesday)	June 20, 2023
January 17, 2023	July 18, 2023 (if needed)

All meetings are to be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Maier Administration Center Board Room, 5050 Madison Street, Skokie, Illinois 60077.

Note: When a larger audience for the Board meeting is anticipated, a notice will be posted and the meeting moved to the cafeteria of Edison Elementary School.