

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Monday, March 10, 2025 (5:30 PM)

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on March 10, A.D., 2025, at 5:30 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: Micah Miller, President
 Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

 Erica Austin
 Sarah Blissett
 Ken Gilmore
 Debra Iams
 Buffy Lael-Wolf
 Anthony Mares

 Jennifer Gill, Superintendent
 Phong Duong, Student Representative

CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Roll Call

President Miller called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Approval of Executive Session

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves adjournment to Executive Session to consider the following items:

- 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9, 10)
- 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 2.3 Contract Negotiations - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- 2.4 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Ken Gilmore)** Moved, Member **(Anthony Mares)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session to consider the following matters: 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9, 10), 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 2.3 Contract Negotiations - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 2.4 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 6 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller

Those voting “no”: None

Adjournment to Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m. and reconvened at 6:36 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present as Ms. Iams joined the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Miller asked those in attendance to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4.1 Approve the Agenda for March 10, 2025

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves the agenda.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Anthony Mares)** Moved to approve the agenda. Member **(Erica Austin)** seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion, ‘That the Board of Education approves the agenda.’

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting “aye”: Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting “no”: None

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

5.1 President’s Comments

Mr. Miller read the following statement:

Public comments will occur during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. The Board will not allow interruption during the meeting. If you are interested in addressing the Board, fill out the required Public Participation form and submit it to Ms. Hammers.

5.2 Student Report

There was no student report at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

6.1 Superintendent’s Report

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed for Maddie Schneider, a former student in District 186.

Statement Regarding School Safety

Superintendent Gill made a statement regarding school safety. She noted the importance of working cohesively to address individual safety incidents and continued improvement of current practices, protocols, and policies. She detailed increased safety programming and infrastructure put in place over

recent years, including increasing crisis teams, social-emotional learning opportunities, and professional development opportunities surrounding resiliency and restorative practices, as well as adding behavior analysis and braided behavioral support services personnel in the elementary schools and other key buildings. Administrators have also been added at the high school level to ensure students are provided needed support in academics and attendance. Additionally, students have been provided with additional career pathways and Peace Rooms. She noted that student voice groups are regularly assembled so administrators can learn about the supports students would like to see in their schools.

Superintendent Gill then listed examples of environmental enhancements that have been implemented during the last 6 years. These include daily metal detecting in the middle and high schools, as well as at large events, upgraded security cameras, enhancement of the secured entrances at all schools, emergency response badges, increased security personnel, Safe to Help hotline, active shooter trainings, the addition of a full-time head of security, secured monitoring of student technology use, and a robust alternative program. She noted that the District leadership team and Board of Education are open to collaborating to ensure the best outcomes and possible learning environment for students and staff.

Mr. Miller then provided comment regarding Lanphier High School. He addressed the limitations set forth under Senate Bill 100. He overviewed steps the Board of Education has taken to increase school safety. He urged the Superintendent to increase the amount of time she spends at Lanphier High School and, from that, provide the Board with a list of recommendations for the school. He asked that teachers and administrators in the building be provided with a means to provide feedback, that students with criminal records be provided extra support, and that a community forum be organized to allow Lanphier families to provide feedback.

Ms. Blissett echoed Mr. Miller's call for a community forum. She noted that widespread community support will be needed to help the school. She asked that community members email her with any ideas they have to help the school and offered to organize and lead a community forum. She spoke to media coverage that focuses on fights at the building while ignoring the positive stories associated with the vast majority of students.

Ms. Austin expressed support for the Superintendent and the need for the entire community to come together in support of Lanphier. She noted that change can only occur with work from the entire community. She encouraged individuals to volunteer to mentor or contribute in other ways to support the school.

Superintendent Gill praised the work that Lanphier's principal, Alicia Miller, is doing to right the school.

Celebrate 186

Superintendent Gill provided the bi-weekly Celebrate 186 presentation. Copies of the presentation filed with the Official Minutes are available [here](#). The report covered the following topics.

Lincoln Magnet School & Ball Charter School 7th Grade Basketball

Superintendent Gill congratulated the Lincoln Magnet School/Ball Charter School co-oped 7th grade boys basketball team on their recent 4A state championship. Members of the team and their coaches were recognized with certificates of achievement.

Presidential Scholarship to Southeast Missouri State

Simon Lanter, a Springfield High School senior, has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship to Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO). Superintendent Gill reported that to be awarded the scholarship, students need to either have a 3.9 cumulative high school GPA or a 3.75 GPA with a score of 31 on the ACT or 1390 on the SAT, apply to SEMO, and complete the President's Scholarship application. She congratulated Simon on his award.

Rube Goldberg Competition - Engineering in the Classroom

Fifth-grade Students from Southern View Elementary, Graham Elementary, and Black Hawk Elementary Schools recently participated in the Rube Goldberg "Engineering in the Classroom" Program. The students put their problem-solving skills to the test at Lincoln Land Community College, where they competed against other 5th-grade students using creativity, teamwork, and engineering concepts to build complicated machines designed to complete simple tasks. She congratulated Black Hawk Elementary for taking home 5th place in the competition.

Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

Superintendent Gill reported that Springfield High School student Meher Garg recently participated in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium organized by the US Department of Defense and the National Science Teachers Association. The symposium took place at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Meher presented her research, "Human Glioblastoma Cancer Stem Cells Differentiation by Retinoic Acid: A Potential Therapeutic Strategy." She placed in the top 4 for the oral presentation category and has advanced to Nationals. The Nationals competition will take place in Washington, D.C., at the end of April. Meher is one of five student delegates from Illinois to advance to Nationals.

Butler Elementary School Visits Lawmakers

Students from Butler Elementary School's 4th grade class recently met with the Illinois House Majority leaders and other State Representatives to share research they have done on the impact of plastics on the environment. Superintendent Gill noted that the students chose to do the project in their free time with guidance from their teacher, Mrs. Shapiro.

Lincoln Magnet School History Fair

Lincoln Magnet School students competed at the Regional History Fair at Illinois State University. Several of their projects qualified for the State History Fair on May 1, 2025, at the Bank of Springfield. Superintendent Gill wished the students luck as they advanced to the State competition.

Grant Middle School Drumline

The Grant Middle School Drumline will participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Springfield on March 15, 2025. Superintendent Gill also reported that four members of the school's band placed in the State Music Contest.

Business Office Staff Salute

Superintendent Gill gave a shout-out to Cheron Ward in the Business Office for her work to save the District money with its vendors. She noted that since assuming her new position in the Purchasing Office, Ms. Ward has negotiated additional discounts with some of the District's vendors.

Friend in Deed

Superintendent Gill thanked the Friend in Deed organization for providing the District's homeless families with boxes of food for Spring Break. She noted that the food is a great help to families in need.

Kindergarten Preview Night

Kindergarten Preview Night will take place on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at all District elementary schools. The event is open to families and children turning 5 on or before September 1, 2025. Families can find their boundary school by visiting the school locator on the District's website or by calling 217/525-3011.

Career Fair

The District will host a career fair on Thursday, March 13, 2025, in the lobby of the Administrative Center, 3063 Fiat Avenue, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and again from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On-site interviews for future qualifying paraprofessionals will be conducted during the fair.

Our Schools Our Future

Superintendent Gill shared photos and an update from Spartan Field, McBride Track, and Springfield High School. She noted that the first event at the new track and field will be the McBride Invite on April 5, 2025. Field events will begin at 8:00 a.m., with track events set to start at 9:45 a.m. She provided photos of the new track, which is near completion. She then shared photos of the new locker room that is part of the Spartan Field renovation. She pointed out that the new locker room space is almost identical to the locker room space at Memorial Stadium.

Next, Superintendent Gill shared photos of the Springfield High School construction, including the Upper Commons space and the new competition gym. Crews will be working over the next two weeks to "dry in" the competition gym.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

7.2 New Business

IASB Monthly Liaison Report

Ms. Lael-Wolf provided the monthly Illinois Association of School Board's (IASB) Liaison Report. She reported that IASB is focused on the upcoming elections, on-boarding newly elected school board members, and Board self-evaluations. She noted that spring division meetings have been ongoing, with the Lincoln Division, which serves Springfield and the surrounding area, having taken place earlier in March. The Division Governing Meeting will take place in April. Board members are eligible to run for election to the Governing Committee. Any Board member interested in serving in this capacity should contact Patrick Allen at IASB.

PUBLIC COMMENT

8.1 Public Comment

Mr. Miller asked if there was any public comment. He then read the following statement:

The Board of Education and I encourage public comment and public participation in Board meetings. However, it is inappropriate for any person to name a student or an individual employee, including designating an employee by job title rather than name, in open session. If any public commenter wants to address issues related to an individual student or a District 186

employee, that commenter is invited to contact the Board office or a member of the cabinet prior to public comment.

It is not the intention of the Board to discourage public comment in any way; rather, it is the intention of the Board to address issues regarding individual students and employees in an appropriate manner. We thank you for respecting the privacy of our students and employees by following this rule.

District 186 streams board meetings on YouTube, and all content posted there is subject to YouTube's content guidelines.

Springfield Public Schools District 186 continues to encourage public comment. Statements made by speakers during public comment do not represent the views or opinions of the Board of Education or Springfield Public Schools District 186.

The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Nicolette Harris regarding school safety and the need to work together to address it.
- Aaron Graves regarding school safety
- Patty Purdy regarding school safety
- Tiffany Williams regarding fine arts

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

There were no presentations to the Board at this time.

BUSINESS REPORT

10.1 Business Report

Board members were provided with copies of the Business Office Report for March 10, 2025. Copies filed with the Official Minutes are available for public viewing [here](#).

Steve Miller, Director of Business Services, reported that the evening's report provides a recap of outstanding payments due the District from the State of Illinois as of February 28, 2025, and the cash roll forward for the Capital Projects Fund as of January 31, 2025.

Outstanding State payments for the fiscal year 2025 total approximately \$593,000 as of February 28, 2025. The Other State Programs line of the Education Fund is due \$25,000. A total of approximately \$568,000 is also due in Early Childhood Block Grant funding.

Investments in the Capital Projects Fund show a beginning balance in January 2025 of approximately \$59.3 million. Total revenues in the investment fund's dividends and interest were approximately \$284,000. Bond draws and expenses for the period came to approximately \$2.1 million. This yielded an ending balance as of January 31, 2025, of approximately \$57.5 million.

Next, Mr. Miller reported that the District received approximately \$1.2 million in sales tax receipts in January 2025. These were from the October reporting period. He noted that since 2019, the District has received approximately \$64.9 million in sales tax revenues with a twelve-month average collection of

approximately \$1.14 million. These funds are used to pay the principal and interest of bonds sold for capital projects.

As for the County Facilities Sales Tax saving's account, as of January 31, 2025, the District had a balance of approximately \$6.8 million. The next payment of approximately \$9.3 million is due on June 1, 2025. At that time, the District is projected to have a surplus of approximately \$2.1 million in the account. A total of approximately \$12.5 million will be paid in the next two bond payments.

10.2 FY24 Audit Presentation

Board members were provided with copies of the FY24 audit. Copies filed with the Official Minutes are available for public viewing on [this page](#) of the District's website.

Scott Deunser, a partner and CPA at WIPFLI, provided an overview of the fiscal year 2024 audit. He noted that the District's Annual Financial Report is more indepth than is statutorily required. He then overviewed the three sections of the report.

Mr. Deunser reported that the District received a clean opinion and had a net position as of June 30, 2024 was approximately \$54 million. He indicated this increased over the previous year. He noted that this is an indication of the District's overall financial health. The District's Fund Balance as of June 30, 2024, was approximately \$180 million. Mr. Deunser then reported that the last section of the financial report contains statistical information.

Next, Mr. Deunser discussed the school-related economic climate that may financially impact the District in the coming year including the end of ESSER funding, inflation, and the overall political climate. He also noted that the State's TRS pension liability is of some concern.

Mr. Deunser then directed the Board's attention to the Management Letter's information about internal controls. He noted that there were no findings related to internal controls.

Mr. Miller asked Mr. Deunser to provide an assessment of the District's overall health in terms that the general public can understand. Mr. Deunser reported that the District's Fund Balance is average with some deficit spending in the Operating Fund. He noted that the healthy Fund Balance provides a good offset for the deficit spending which he suggested shouldn't continue. He noted that the deficit spending has not been a regular occurrence for the District and when taking the District's financial history into account, it is unlikely to continue in coming years.

10.3 First Student Contract Extension

Steven Miller reported that due to some recent legislative changes, the District is able to extend it's contract with First Student. Previously, school districts in Illinois had to put the bussing contracts up for bid every five years. The legislative changes extended that to ten years.

He noted that the contract extension will be an increase of 13% in FY26 and an increase of 4.5% in each subsequent year for up to four years. The length of the extension may be, at most, five years in length. He indicated that one of the other bus companies that had shown interest has pulled out from consideration. Mr. Miller stated that as a part of the negotiations with First Student, specific reports related to on time performance will be required going forward.

President Miller expressed concern over the first year 13% increase and busses running on time. There was then discussion about the on-time ratio, penalties related to the ratio, how First Student is addressing this, the consistency of the GPS tracker, the impact of unfunded State mandates on the contract extension's first year increase, the age of the fleet, and the likelihood of the cost for bus services drastically increasing if it were put out for bid rather than the contract being extended.

Mr. Mares asked that a representative from First Student be asked to come to an upcoming meeting to answer questions related to the extension.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Approval of Consent Action Items

Approval of consent action items as listed in the agenda.

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 11.2 through 11.7 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Anthony Mares)** Moved, Member **(Debra Iams)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 11.2 through 11.7 as described in the corresponding resolutions'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting "aye":	Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting "no":	None

11.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of February 18, 2025

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 reviews the minutes of the regular session and the executive session of the previous Board Meetings; and

WHEREAS, copies of these sets of minutes were distributed to the Board in the board packet prior to this meeting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the aforementioned sets of regular session and executive session minutes and directs the Secretary to include them in the official records of the Board of Education meetings.

11.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves payroll and bills payable as shown in the attached report.

11.4 Tabulation of Bids and Recommendation for Purchase and Payment

Bid #25-07 — Asbestos Abatement Work Phase 3 - Springfield High School

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED to accept the low acceptable bid for the following bids and to approve payment of same upon completion:

Bid #25-07 — Asbestos Abatement Work - Phase 3 Springfield High School

11.5 Tabulation of Bids and Recommendation for Purchase and Payment Bid #25-08 — Franklin Middle School - Gym Floor

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED to accept the low acceptable bid for the following bids and to approve payment of same upon completion:

Bid #25-08

11.6 Approval of an ISBE Learning Partner Agreement for Matheny-Withrow with Partnership for Resilience

Contract Proposal

Matheny-Withrow Elementary School is identified as a Comprehensive School in need of school improvement from the 2024 School Report Card. The school is proposing to engage in a new learning partnership with the Partnership for Resilience (P4R) to support school improvement efforts. The Partnership for Resilience works to improve academic, health, and social outcomes for children by fostering trauma-responsive schools alongside effective family, school, health, and community partnerships. The Partnership for Resilience currently supports our district's Springfield Resilience Initiative (SRI) in partnership with SEA. Matheny is an SRI school and is choosing to extend the partnership for additional school training and supports. Additional SRI schools in our district include Ridgely, Fairview, Feitshans, Harvard Park, WMS, and SLA. The SRI partnership focuses on trauma-informed and responsive practice professional development and support at these schools. The specific proposed contract for Matheny-Withrow will include the following work:

Help organize the overall structure, activities, and work plan for the Initiative's first two years of operation.

Provide coaching to the Matheny Elementary School Steering Team to help develop meeting goals and agendas.

Give Matheny-Withrow Elementary School access to its body of training curricula and evaluation tools to be adapted to its needs.

Assist with the development of baseline training and action planning sessions.

Provide other ongoing assistance to advance the goals of the Matheny-Withrow Elementary.

Support the school's efforts, including the design of PLCs and school resilience team coaching.

Cost: \$35,212

Resolution: WHEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 has developed Work Plans for School Improvement; and

WHEREAS, Matheny-Withrow Elementary School has identified a need for support in organizing structure, activities and training to improve academic, health and social outcomes for children in a trauma-responsive school; and

WHEREAS, Partnership for Resilience is an approved IL School Improvement partner that can provide these supports;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an agreement with Partnership for Resilience for a total amount of \$35,212 to be paid from Title I School Improvement 1003(a) funds.

11.7 Approval of an Agreement with Illinois Department of Central Management Services Regarding iBid Online Auction

This agreement will allow the District to use the iBid Online Auction to sell surplus items.

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) offers the iBid Online Auction system; and

WHEREAS, District 186 would benefit from access to the system to sell surplus items; and

WHEREAS, the fees for iBid are two percent of the gross sales and a one-time fee for credit card set up fee of \$275;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with CMS for use of the iBid system.

ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS

12.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the Personnel recommendations, as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Sarah Blissett**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the Personnel recommendations, with one change.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting "no": None

12.2 Approval of a Contract Extension with First Student

BE IT RESOLVED to accept the Student Transportation Service Contract Extension for the FY26, FY27, FY28, FY29, and FY30 school year with First Student as the contractor.

The contract extension will be an increase of 13% in FY26 and an increase of 4.5% in each subsequent year, up to 4 years. The length of the extension may be, at most, 5 years in length.

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED to accept the Student Transportation Service Contract Extension for the FY26, FY27, and FY28 school years with First Student as the contractor and the option to extend the contract for two additional years, FY29 and FY30

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Sarah Blissett**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'BE IT RESOLVED to accept the Student Transportation Service Contract Extension for the FY26, FY27, FY28 school years with First Student as the contractor and the option to extend the contract for two additional years, FY29 and FY30'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 1. The motion **Carried 6 - 1**.

Those voting "aye": Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting "no": Austin

12.3 Approval of Amendment to Life Safety Survey

Health Life/Safety project for Lawrence Education Center estimated starting summer of 2025.

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield School District #186 hereby accepts and approves the amended certified estimate from the Architect in the amount listed for building repairs at the school listed below.

Lawrence Education Center \$2,177,400.00

Remove and replace deteriorated domestic water piping, sanitary piping, toilet fixtures, and underground sanitary piping, including the removal and replacement of concrete floors, chase walls, and toilet room exhausts in the toilet rooms and kitchen. Install a sprinkler system in all areas of the building. Provide new hot water supply piping. Replace temperature controls. Abate and replace floor tile in four small rooms. Replace fluorescent light fixtures with LED light fixtures to comply with current energy code.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Micah Miller)** Moved, Member **(Anthony Mares)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield School District #186 hereby accepts and approves the amended certified estimate from the Architect in the amount listed for building repairs at the school listed below.

Lawrence Education Center \$2,177,400.00

Remove and replace deteriorated domestic water piping, sanitary piping, toilet fixtures, and underground sanitary piping, including the removal and replacement of concrete floors, chase walls, and toilet room exhausts in the toilet rooms and kitchen. Install a sprinkler system in all areas of the building. Provide new hot water supply piping. Replace temperature controls. Abate and replace floor tile in four small rooms. Replace fluorescent light fixtures with LED light fixtures to comply with current energy code.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting "no": None

12.4 Approval of a Resolution to Accept a Settlement Agreement and Reciprocal Release Obtained by Selective Insurance

Resolution: WHEREAS, on April 23, 2024, a lawsuit was filed against the District and individual Defendants in the United States District Court in Central Illinois (Case No. 24 CV 03093); and

WHEREAS, the District is insured by Selective Insurance Company of America ("Selective"); and

WHEREAS, the District provided information regarding the claim to Selective as required and Selective participated in litigation and settlement negotiations on behalf of the District; and

WHEREAS, Selective has resolved all issues related to the outstanding lawsuit and obtained a voluntary dismissal against the District; and

WHEREAS, in order to settle the matter, Selective requires approval by the District's Board of Education before the settlement may be finalized; and

WHEREAS, although the District admits to no fault, it approves the recommendation and settlement agreement obtained and paid by Selective (attached hereto as Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of District 186 hereby approves the settlement agreement negotiated and recommended by Selective Insurance Company of America, which requires Selective to pay all claims and amounts related to the litigation and allows for the dismissal of the pending action in its entirety.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Micah Miller)** Moved, Member **(Anthony Mares)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'WHEREAS, on April 23, 2024, a lawsuit was filed against the District and individual Defendants in the United States District Court in Central Illinois (Case No. 24 CV 03093); and

WHEREAS, the District is insured by Selective Insurance Company of America ("Selective"); and

WHEREAS, the District provided information regarding the claim to Selective as required and Selective participated in litigation and settlement negotiations on behalf of the District; and

WHEREAS, Selective has resolved all issues related to the outstanding lawsuit and obtained a voluntary dismissal against the District; and

WHEREAS, in order to settle the matter, Selective requires approval by the District's Board of Education before the settlement may be finalized; and

WHEREAS, although the District admits to no fault, it approves the recommendation and settlement agreement obtained and paid by Selective (attached hereto as Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of District 186 hereby approves the settlement agreement negotiated and recommended by Selective Insurance Company of America, which requires Selective to pay all claims and amounts related to the litigation and allows for the dismissal of the pending action in its entirety.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Gilmore, Iams, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller
Those voting "no": None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

13.1 Next Regular Meeting — Monday, March 24, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

13.2 Upcoming District Events

March 17-21 - Spring Break for Regular Calendar

April 4 - Teacher Institute Day

April 18 & 21 - No School - Holiday

April 7-25 - Spring Break for Balanced Calendar

Shout-Outs

Superintendent Gill gave a shout-out to the Springfield Public Schools Foundation for their successful Annual Dinner and Art Auction which took place on Saturday, March 8, 2025.

Ms. Iams commended Superintendent Gill on her dedication to the District and all of her hard work on its behalf.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Miller declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, March 24, 2025. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Micah Miller, President

Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Dated: March 24, 2025