

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Monday, June 3, 2024 (5:30 PM)

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on June 3 A.D., 2024, 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

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 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Sarah Blissett)** Moved, Member **(Buffy Lae-Wolf)** 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 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 7 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Bissett, Gilmore, Lael-Wolf, Mares
Those voting "no": None

Adjournment to Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m. and reconvened at 6:43 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present as Ms. Austin, Ms. Iams, and Mr. Miller joined the meeting at 5:31 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 June 3, 2024

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. Alternatively, those wishing to participate via the telephone may email their name, phone number, and topic of discussion or agenda item number to boe@sps186.org.

Mr. Miller shared comments regarding student behavior, alternative education options, the impact of state laws on disciplinary practices, and staff concerns that have been brought to his attention. He reported that he has asked the Superintendent to provide additional information regarding the impact of laws on current disciplinary practices.

5.2 Recognition of Washington Middle School Track and Field Athletes

The Board of Education congratulated the following WMS Athletes for success at the IESA State Track and Field Meet.

4x400 Relay – 1st Place
4x200 Relay – 1st Place
James Houlihan

Kevron House
Jeremiah Williams
Amani Wright
Coach: Charles Ruble

5.3 Recognition of the Jefferson Middle School Boys Track and Field Team

The Board of Education congratulated the Jefferson Middle School Boys Track Team for taking 2nd place at the IESA State Track and Field Meet.

Keishon Fields-Daniels – 4th Place 110 Hurdles, 6th Place 200, 2nd Place 4x100
Shawn Hall – 2nd Place 100, 4th Place 200, 2nd Place 4x100
McKenzie Johnson – 5th Place 100, 7th Place Long Jump
Tramail Kirkwood – 2nd Place 4x100
Roger Page – 6th place Shot Put
Michael Perkins – 2nd Place 4x100
Kingston Cooper – 2nd Place 4x100

Coaches:
Marcus Bates
Dominique Acres

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

6.1 Superintendent's Report

Celebrate 186

Superintendent Gill provided the bi-weekly Celebrate 186 presentation. Copies of the presentation have been filed with the Official Minutes. The report covered the following topics.

High School Construction Groundbreakings

Superintendent Gill reported that groundbreaking events were recently held at Southeast and Springfield High Schools for construction work. She noted that Southeast High School's track and football complex will receive upgrades and renovations. Springfield High School will receive an addition and renovation.

Class of 2024

Superintendent Gill congratulated the graduating seniors from each of the District's high schools. She reported that graduation ceremonies began the evening of Friday, May 31, 2024, with the Lawrence Education Center ceremony. Lanphier, Southeast and Springfield High Schools had ceremonies on Saturday, June 1, 2024. She shared photos from the ceremonies.

Summer Meals

Superintendent Gill provided information on the District's summer meal program. She noted that information about the program, including locations, dates, and times, is also available on the District's website.

2024-2025 Registration

Superintendent Gill reported that online registration is now open for the 2024-2025 school year at www.sps186.org. She encouraged families to register their students and make school physical appointments now.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

7.2 New Business

Ms. Lael-Wolf provided the monthly IASB Liaison June Talking Points. She reported that the IASB's publication, "A School Board's Guide to Identifying, Recruiting, and Mentoring Future School Board Members" is now available. Additionally, the organization's Governmental Relations Department will begin work to create the End of Session Report from the most recent Illinois General Assembly session. Lastly, she noted that IASB's PRESS and PRESS Plus Issue 115 will be completed in June. A webinar will be held explaining the changes.

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. The Illinois School Records Act, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act offers very clear protections regarding student information. Out of an abundance of caution, in order to protect student privacy, speakers must refrain from presenting information about specific instances of student discipline as this can be identifiable for the student.

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.

There were no public commenters at this time.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

9.1 Consolidated Plan Presentation

Board members were provided with a presentation on the Consolidated District Plan. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available [here](#).

Nicole Moody, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, provided the presentation. Dr. Moody reported that the plan is a summary of the District improvement plans and actions, required by the Illinois State Board of Education to be Board-approved prior to the release of federal funding. She noted that the plans are the work done to improve teaching practices and student learning outcomes.

Dr. Moody reported that the process for developing the plan includes a school improvement needs assessment process. School needs are tied to SMART goals at each school. High-quality, targeted professional development is then designed to support the improvement efforts identified from the assessment.

Next, Dr. Moody shared SMART Goal 1: "By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 80% of schools will learn and work in an academically, culturally, emotionally, physically, and socially safe and trauma-responsive environment. This will be accomplished with a targeted emphasis on SEL through BBSS practices, as indicated by at least a 70% on the BBSS Fidelity Tool." She provided additional information about culture and equity end-of-year data.

Dr. Moody then shared SMART Goal 2, "By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 32% of students will be at the 61st percentile or above on NWEA MAP math" and information about proficiency goals.

SMART Goal 3 related to the literacy portion of the plan was shared. The goal is "By the end of the 2023-2024 school year, 33% of students will be at the 61st percentile or above on NWEA MAP reading" and information about proficiency goals. Lastly, data related to District MAP trends was shared.

There was then discussion regarding creating multi-year plans, changes to the goals for the upcoming school year, the administration of the school self-assessments, and school-wide expectations.

BUSINESS REPORT

10.1 Business Report

Board members were provided with the Business Office Report for June 3, 2024. 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 April 30, 2024, as well as the cash roll forward for the Capital Projects Fund as of March 31, 2024.

Mr. Miller reported outstanding payments due the District from the State of Illinois for fiscal year 2024 totaling approximately \$39,500 as of May 30, 2024. Of that, the Driver's Education program totaled approximately \$30,700 and the State Free Lunch and Breakfast Food Service totals approximately \$8,800.

Mr. Miller then provided information on the Capital Projects Fund revenues and expenditures incurred during April 2024. He noted that the information also includes a report of sales tax revenues and separate bond transactions within the capital improvements. Capital Projects cash roll forward review shows a starting balance of approximately \$150.4 million. The month of March had sales tax receipts of approximately \$949,500. These were attributed to the January reporting period. Bond draws and expenses for the period came to \$0. Dividends and interest for the period resulted in approximately \$470,400, yielding an ending balance of approximately \$151.87 million.

There was some discussion regarding projected funding.

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 11.6 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 11.6 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 May 20, 2024

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 #24-09 — Springfield High School Additions and Renovations Bid Release 3

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

Bid #24-09 — Springfield High School Additions and Renovations Bid Release 3

11.5 Tabulation of Bids and Recommendation for Purchase and Payment

Bid #24-15 — Fuel for Buses

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

Bid #24-15 — Fuel for Buses

11.6 Approval of the Consolidated District Wide Plan

This is our annual approval of the Consolidated District Plan that merges all of our federal funds into one plan. This plan is developed from our district wide improvement plan and by several departments.

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education requires all school districts to develop a consolidated plan for federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the consolidated plan has been reviewed and submitted to the Board of Education;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 approves the Consolidated District Plan.

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 (**Buffy Lael-Wolf**) Moved, Member (**Erica Austin**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the Personnel recommendations, as presented.'

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 Student Discipline

Resolution: That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Erica Austin**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution: 'That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent.'

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, June 3, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Miller declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, June 17, 2024. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Micah Miller, President

Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Dated: June 17, 2024