

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25  
1200 S. Dunton Ave.  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

School Board Meeting Minutes  
April 22, 2025

Greg Scapillato, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 7:03 on April 22, 2025. The meeting was held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 S. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Roll call was noted and the Pledge of Allegiance said.

Board members present: Brian Cerniglia, Gina Faso, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Rich Olejniczak, and Greg Scapillato

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Brian Kaye, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Becky FitzPatrick, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Kendra Perri, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology; Andrea Luessow, Director of Student Learning; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

Recognitions and Presentations

Congratulations to the winners of the Battle of the Books from Thomas Middle School. Thank you to Sponsors, Becky Fahnoe of Thomas and Kelly O'Kelly of South.

Ethan de Leon  
Andrew Ivan  
Steven Munagala

Harshan Rajkumar Anusha  
Prakash Siva Subramanian  
Nolan Vander Klay

Congratulations to the Thomas 7th Grade Girls Volleyball Team that qualified for the State Tournament. Thank you to their coaches, Todd Slowinski and Sureiya Peshek.

Karina Boduch  
Marlow Das  
McKenna Fox  
Izabela Iwanicki  
Alexa Lockhart

Adrianna Marinescu  
Kavinaya Muthukumar  
Finley O'Brien  
Mathea Ong  
Claire Perkins

Amelia Redel  
Daniela Storelli  
Krishna Vullakula

Congratulations to the students who qualified for the State Wrestling Tournament. Thank you to South coaches Jay Bingaman and Dan Burdi; and Thomas coaches Anthony Greco and Ben Hamilton.

South Middle School  
Gabriel Zybowski

William Dugan  
Everett Jancich  
Dino Klikas  
Lucas Siena

Thomas Middle School  
Kanoa Canada

#### Communications from District Partners

- PTA – Mr. Scapillato read Ms. Bhansali's report. The Pack the Piggies fundraiser was held again this year, and families, students and administration were thanked for their participation. Jody Schaaf was thanked for facilitating the fundraiser. The PTA is looking forward to honoring the scholarship winners on Friday.
- ABC25 Foundation – Ms. Faso reported that the Top Golf fundraiser was very successful. She thanked the sponsors, community, and teachers that participated. A video about the event was shown. The funds that were raised go to the teachers at the schools via grants.
- ATA – Ms. Berg thanked the outgoing Board members, and welcomed the new Board members. She provided a spotlight on the many happenings at the schools.

#### Acceptance of Canvass Election Results

Mr. Michael read the Resolution for the Canvass of the Election and Motion to Elect Board Members (those receiving the highest number of votes in the April 1, 2025 Election).

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of School District 25, Cook County, Illinois, that the attached Abstract of Votes of the election held on April 1, 2025 to elect four members for full four-year terms to said Board of Education is a true and correct canvass of the Certificate of Results of each precinct thereof as submitted to this Board by the election authority, the Cook County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Abstract of Votes shall be signed by each member of this Board of Education.

THAT IT IS HEREBY FOUND AND DETERMINED that Deborah Tranter, Greg Scapillato, Melissa Buchberger, and Anisha Ismail Jogee received the highest number of votes cast for the four full four-year terms, and each has been elected a Member of the Board of Education of Arlington Heights School District 25.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and G. Faso seconded that the Board of Education adopt the "CANVASS OF ELECTION RESULTS" Resolution as presented.  
Roll Call: B. Cerniglia, yes; G. Faso, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; R. Olejniczak, yes; and G. Scapillato, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

Mr. Scapillato, on behalf of the Board, read sentiments from Board members about outgoing members, Ms. Faso and Mr. Olejniczak. Dr. Kaye thanked them for their volunteer service to the school community. Ms. Faso and Mr. Olejniczak were given awards for their years of service.

Ms. Faso and Mr. Olejniczak left the Board meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Oath of Office

Mr. Scapillato administered the Oath of Office to incumbent Dr. Jogee, and new Board members, Ms. Melissa Buchberger and Ms. Deb Tranter. Dr. Jogee administered the Oath of Office to incumbent Mr. Scapillato. Ms. Buchberger thanked her family, friends, and the community that has given their support. Dr. Jogee thanked her mom and family, former and current Board members, district students, staff, and community. Mr. Scapillato thanked his family, the community, voters, former and current Board members, students, and staff. Ms. Tranter thanked her family, friends, work colleagues, and community members.

Dr. Jogee left the meeting at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:08 p.m.

Ms. Buchberger left the meeting at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:09 p.m.

Roll Call

Board members present: Melissa Buchberger, Brian Cerniglia, Dr. Anisha Jogee, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Greg Scapillato, and Deb Tranter.

Appointment of President Pro Tem and Secretary Pro Tem

Mr. Scapillato asked for nominations for the appointment of President Pro Tem.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved to appoint K. Michael to serve as President Pro Tem. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed

As President Pro Tem, Mr. Michael presided over the meeting and asked for a motion to appoint a Secretary Pro Tem.

**Motion:** A. Jogee moved to appoint B. Cerniglia to serve as Secretary Pro Tem. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed.

Election of Officers and Appointment of Recording Secretary

Mr. Michael asked for nominations for the office of president.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved to appoint G. Scapillato as president for a one-year term commencing today, April 22, 2025. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed.

Mr. Scapillato is declared and elected as president.

**Motion:** E. Nierman moved to appoint A. Jogee as vice president for a one-year term commencing today, April 22, 2025. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed.

A. Jogee is declared and elected as vice president.

**Motion:** G. Scapillato moved to appoint K. Michael as secretary for a one-year term commencing today, April 22, 2025. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed.

K. Michael is declared and elected as secretary.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved to appoint Lana O'Brien as recording secretary for a one-year term commencing today, April 22, 2025. Upon asking if there were any more nominations, and being none, nominations were closed.

Ms. O'Brien is declared and elected as recording secretary.

#### **Board Meeting Dates**

Mr. Scapillato asked for a motion to set the meeting dates and times for the 2025-2026 calendar year.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the school board meeting dates, times and locations for 2025-2026 as presented.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

July 15, 2025  
August 19, 2025  
September 30, 2025  
October 21, 2025  
November 11, 2025  
December 16, 2025

January 20, 2026  
February 17, 2026  
March 17, 2026  
April 21, 2026  
May 19, 2026  
June 16, 2026

#### **Bank Depository**

Ms. Mallek reminded the Board that the district is part of a treasury that is run through District 214. All of the feeder districts participate, and it is voted on by the Board every two years. The specific names of the treasurer are no longer included in the resolution, but just the titles.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution appointing the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers of the School District and the bank depositories for the period July 1, 2025 through July 1, 2027.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Board Communications:

- Board Member Updates – Dr. Jogee noted that she attended the ABC25 Foundation fundraiser, and spoke about some of the schools that she recently visited. Ms. Tranter recently attended two music programs at schools; a 5<sup>th</sup> grade World of Work field trip; and also shared positive comments about the Instructional Coaches.
- ED-RED – Mr. Michael reported that he attended the April 4 virtual meeting. He spoke about the guest speaker and bills that are being worked on. Legislative updates were reviewed. Dr. Jogee noted that she and Dr. Kaye attended the ED-RED Advocacy Days in Springfield April 8-9, and shared highlights from the event.
- IASB – Dr. Jogee noted that Dr. Kaye, Mr. Michael and she attended the COSSBA Conference in March. She and Mr. Michael provided highlights from the sessions that they attended.
- NSSEO – Ms. Nierman provided information on the NSSEO Governing Board structure. The Superintendent administrative meeting, which will be named the NSSEO Superintendent's Council, is planned for approximately ten meetings during the 25-26 school year. The Governing Board Meetings may be reduced from a monthly meeting to afford Superintendents and their Governing Board representatives time to discuss the needs of NSSEO, both before a member district Board meeting, and the scheduled NSSEO Governing Board meeting, at which the representative will be asked to vote the will of their Board on agenda items that govern the cooperative. The Governing Board draft calendar will be brought to the May 7 NSSEO Governing Board meeting. Dr. Kaye added that Member districts would like to have consistent communications.

Community Input

- Ed Lapinski addressed the Board regarding his disappointment with the district.
- Kevin Chaplin thanked the Board for their efforts to bring equality and equity to our community.

Consent Agenda

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve those items on the Consent Agenda as follows: (A) Personnel Report and Addendum to Personnel Report; (B) Treasurer's Report (C) Invoices; (D) Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025; (E) Board bills.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, abstain; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 6/0 with one abstention.

Ms. Perri introduced Aubrey DeMuth, who will be an Associate Principal at South Middle School for the 2025-2026 school year.

## Student Learning

### Professional Learning

Dr. FitzPatrick and Ms. Luessow presented the professional learning report to the Board. The District 25 professional learning plan ensures that educators receive targeted support aligned with curriculum goals and student needs. Professional learning plays a critical role in supporting educator growth and improving student outcomes. The District 25 Professional Learning Plan is a comprehensive, multi-tiered system that includes mandated trainings, instructional coaching, job-embedded learning, and optional differentiated opportunities such as D25 University and microcredentials. These efforts are grounded in research and aligned with district goals to support academic readiness and a thriving school culture.

The new faculty onboarding program includes an orientation week before school starts, as well as modules during the school year. They reviewed the state-mandated training for teachers and school trainings for public schools. School Improvement Days are held throughout the year, and were discussed in detail. The district also provides Instructional Coaching, which is job-embedded professional learning. It builds confidence and encourages innovation, which benefits our students.

They also highlighted the multi-year District 25 Program Review Process, which integrates professional learning throughout every phase of curriculum development and implementation. They explained how District 25 invests in teachers, monitors the effectiveness of professional learning through staff feedback and student outcomes, and continuously improves offerings to meet evolving needs. When professional learning is collaborative and tied to student outcomes, it is successful.

Dr. FitzPatrick and Ms. Luessow were thanked for their detailed presentation. Board members can provide Dr. Kaye with questions, which will be discussed at the May Board meeting.

### Student Services – No Report

### Business and Finance

Music for Youth Contract – this agenda item is being pulled from this meeting, and will be on a future Board agenda.

Mr. Cerniglia left the meeting at 9:40 p.m. and returned at 9:41 p.m.

### NSSEO Budget for 2025-2026

Ms. Mallek stated that the anticipated tuition budget for NSSEO is \$3,513,105, which is a 6% increase over 2024-25. Of this, \$243,515 represents the IDEA funds designated to NSSEO required to be spent on staff development as well as administrative costs. Similar to past years, we are budgeting for 41 students with a known enrollment of 37. The budget includes four contingency students for placements or move-ins that may occur mid-year. The private placement tuition budget will decrease by \$3,230, or 0.4%, over 2024-25 based on returning students and a \$140,000 contingency. The total anticipated tuition budget will be \$4,236,587, or a 4.9% increase over 2024-25.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the NSSEO Amended Budget for 2024-25 and the NSSEO Budget for 2025-26. Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

Presentation of the 2024-2025 Tentative Amended Budget

Ms. Mallek stated that the district is proposing an amended budget for 2024-2025 to reflect a few adjustments based on best practice and to avoid unnecessary notes in our audited financial statements. She reviewed the adjustments, and stated that the changes in the amended budget are highlighted on the Amended Budget Summary. An amended budget must follow the same process and legal requirements as the original budget. This will be brought back at the June meeting for a vote.

Facilities Management – No Report

Personnel and Planning – No Report

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Update

Dr. Kaye shared updates with the Board on various items. He provided highlights regarding Mary Stitt's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on April 14 at Olive-Mary Stitt School. He also stated that he will be celebrating years of service with each building. He congratulated the Department of Student Learning on receiving the Illinois ASCD Whole Child Award.

Freedom of Information Act Report

- Kalah Love, First Impression Officer of Postal Source, requested information on mailing equipment; a response was provided on March 14, 2025.
- Gerardo Mendez, Construction Analyst for Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting, requested information on capital improvement bid tabulations; a response was provided on March 17, 2025.
- William Boodro requested information on utility bills and architect invoices; a response was provided on March 20 2025.
- ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me requested information on financial records; a response was provided on March 25, 2025.
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- Anges Czarnik requested information on DEI and environmental justice; a response was provided on March 31, 2025.
- Lori Demko, Sr. Content Specialist at ConstructConnect, requested information on bid results; a response was provided on April 16, 2025.

### Strategic Plan

Dr. Kaye introduced Mr. Perry Soldwedel, who presented an updated Strategic Plan report to the Board, and provided highlights regarding the process that will be undertaken. Topics he discussed included strategies, accountability, a public scorecard and internal dashboard, and the timeline. A draft will be completed in January 2026, brought for Board approval in the spring, and the district will work on the plan the rest of the year to be ready for the 2026-27 school year. Mr. Soldwedel was thanked for his presentation.

Community Input – This agenda item was skipped because of the late time.

### Future Agenda Items

#### Topics with Dates to be Determined

### New Topics

Mr. Scapillato asked if the Board would be open to discussing these topics at a future meeting, and Board members agreed.

- Combined Local Government Board Meetings
- Finance Committee
- Committee Names

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education adjourn into closed session meeting at 10:25 p.m. to discuss: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Student disciplinary cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9); The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or



administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board returned to open session at 12:14 a.m. on April 23, 2025.

**Motion:** K. Michael moved and A. Jogee seconded that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 7/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 12:14 a.m. on April 23, 2025.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien  
Recording Secretary

Approved: May 13, 2025

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President  
Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection: \_\_\_\_\_ May 14, 2025

Date minutes posted on District website: \_\_\_\_\_ May 14, 2025