

# CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS

DECEMBER 4, 2024



## Preparing for Winter Months & Recovery of the Year Award

By Dr. Lynn Glickman, Superintendent, and Chris Wildman, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

As winter approaches, we know that community members may be thinking about the difficulties that we encountered as a system during the bitter cold weather experienced last January. Therefore, we want to reassure you of the proactive steps we have taken to ensure a warm and safe environment for everyone. Following last winter's extreme conditions, significant repairs were needed at GMS, including addressing pipe and sprinkler issues. Although some aging equipment remains in use, boilers have been prioritized for replacement in our long-term facilities plan. During the Summer of 2025, we plan to replace boilers at Grayslake Middle School.



*Marcus Smith, Principal of Grayslake Middle School,  
Scott Gaunky, Interim Director of Operations & Maintenance,  
Dr. Lynn Glickman, Superintendent*

### In this edition:



- Recovery of the Year Award
- Educational Adequacy Project Update
- Board of Education Meeting Review
- Upcoming Events

In October, we transitioned to a new contract with PremiStar for scheduled HVAC support. This Midwest-based company specializes in HVAC, plumbing, and building controls, providing comprehensive maintenance services, including belts, filters, and coil cleaning. This partnership allows us to better support our custodial and maintenance staff while addressing system needs effectively. Under the stewardship of our interim Directors of Operations and Maintenance, Scott Gaunky and Steve Miller, regular maintenance and monitoring of our HVAC systems helps ensure steady and reliable heating throughout the buildings. This work has already been started at all buildings with PremiStar.

[continued]

## **PREPARING FOR WINTER MONTHS/RECOVERY OF THE YEAR AWARD [continued]**

We have established quick-response protocols with BELFOR Property Restoration called RED ALERT® Priority Response Program for any unforeseen heating or water-related incidents, ensuring disruptions are minimized and promptly addressed. Belfor is one of the industry leaders in a wide range of home recovery services, with over 70 years of experience in recovery and restoration.

Last winter was indeed difficult for our Grayslake Middle School community, and we remain indebted to all of the staff, students, and community members who supported each other through it. There were some silver linings to that cloud, though, which included unexpected collaboration and leadership opportunities for both students and staff. We also are glad that our middle schoolers got a taste of what it's like to learn in a college setting, and wonder if the experience intrigued some students who had not previously thought of themselves as being college bound.



We were also very surprised and pleased to have won an award for our significant efforts to bring our students back to GMS! CCSD 46, in partnership with Scott Gaunky of Gewalt Hamilton Associates; BELFOR Property Restoration; and Risk Program Advisors, received the 2024 Recovery of the Year Award in October at the 2024 Midwest Facility Masters Conference. This is a yearly gathering of facility and finance professionals from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. Although this is an award that no one ever wants to have a reason to win, the acknowledgement of our efforts was quite an honor!



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**DEC 10** - School Night Out Fundraiser at Culvers benefitting Meadowview School PTO

**DEC 11** - Late Start Day  
Board of Education Meeting, Frederick School, 6:00 pm

**DEC 17** - School Night Out Fundraiser at Emils benefitting the Avon Center School PTF

**DEC 18** - District Newsletter

**DEC 23 - JAN 05** - Winter Break - No School

**JAN 06** - School Resumes



## **EDUCATIONAL ADEQUACY PROJECT: Media Center Core Planning Group**

by Chris Wildman, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

Exciting changes are on the way for CCSD 46 libraries and media centers! As part of an ongoing commitment to enhancing educational spaces, the district has launched a modernization project for its media centers, with a focus on making these spaces more engaging, flexible, and supportive of modern learning needs.

### **What's Changing?**

A Core Planning Group (CPG), led by Wold Architects, was formed to shape the vision for these transformed spaces. The group of community stakeholders includes district teachers, librarians, administrators, and parents, all working together to create inspiring environments for students. Over the past few months, they have met multiple times and visited other schools to gather ideas.

The plan? To reimagine our media centers as vibrant “hubs” of student activity and learning! The newly designed spaces are expected to feature:

- Collaborative Zones: Spaces where students can work together on projects, brainstorm ideas, and learn from one another.
- STEM and Maker Areas: Each media center will have dedicated Maker Spaces and STEM rooms to encourage hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, and math.
- Flexible Furniture: Moveable furniture that makes it easy to switch up the layout, whether for individual study, small group collaboration, or larger gatherings.
- Recording Studios: Small recording spaces for students to create videos, broadcasts, or podcasts, providing them with real-world skills and exciting creative opportunities.

### **Why the Change?**

The updates are part of the district's initiative to improve learning environments for all students, including modernizing media spaces. The aim is to create environments that meet today's educational standards and prepare students for the future. By modernizing these spaces, CCSD 46 hopes to foster independent learning, spark creativity, and support collaborative projects. These changes also support the district's long-term goals to equip students with the skills they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.



## EDUCATIONAL ADEQUACY PROJECT (Continued)

### What's Next?

The project will be funded through the recent limiting rate increase, ensuring that these enhancements are made available to all students in the district. Wold Architects has proposed a phased approach to minimize disruption, with careful planning to coordinate construction and upgrades.

The design and construction timeline spans over the next few years, starting with finalizing design details and developing an implementation schedule. Updates will be shared at upcoming Board of Education meetings, where the community can learn more about this exciting project.

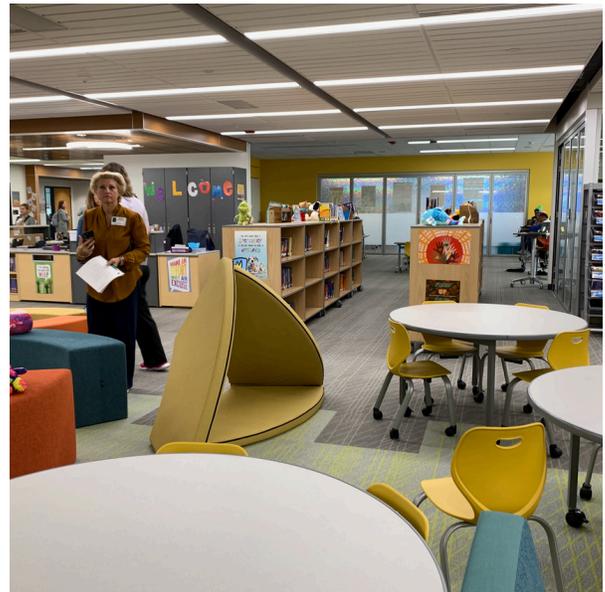


Members of the Core Planning Group visit the Media Center/Maker Space at Spaulding Elementary School in Gurnee

### A New Era for Learning in CCSD 46

These media center updates reflect CCSD 46's commitment to "Empowering Learners, Creating Equity, and Cultivating Community." The modernized spaces will go beyond traditional learning by offering environments that encourage exploration, creativity, and collaboration. We can't wait to see how students will thrive in these new, inspiring spaces!

Stay tuned for more updates as we bring these changes to life in our schools!



Members of the Core Planning Group visit Sunnyside Intermediate School in Berkley, IL

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR INFORMATION



Due to the construction planned at all school buildings during the summer of 2026, the District is beginning the planning process to adjust the school year calendars for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years.

In order to incorporate an **extra two-week period** into the summer of 2026 for the purpose of completing construction projects, the District plans to **start the 2025-2026 school year one week earlier than usual and start the 2026-2027 school year one week later than usual.**

We are working with our high school partners to ensure that our winter and spring breaks continue to align to make vacation planning easier for our district families. We will share specific start/end dates as soon as they have been determined.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

## GENERAL MEETING REVIEW

CCSD 46 Board of Education Meeting Review is a brief summary of events and topics of discussion that occur at general board meetings.

We welcome you to join us at our meetings or watch our live video stream on the CCSD 46 website. We have two opportunities for public comments at our meetings. Board meeting schedules, agendas, video links, and minutes are available on the [BOE webpage](#).

### Upcoming Meetings: December 11 (one meeting in December)

All meetings are held at Frederick School, 595 Frederick Road, Grayslake.

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### TRUTH IN TAXATION MEETING: November 20, 2024

The CCSD 46 Board of Education held a Truth in Taxation Hearing on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the Falcon Room of Frederick School immediately preceding the general Board of Education meeting.

President Stephen Mack called the hearing to order at 6:00 pm.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Mack requested a motion for the approval of the Taxation Hearing Agenda as presented. Mr. Chris Wildman, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, shared the 2024 Tax Levy presentation and stated that the Board of Education will approve the Levy at the regular board meeting following the hearing. The aggregate total to be approved will be \$42,651,732.

The presentation is included in the Board packet linked on the district webpage, <https://d46.org>

There was an opportunity for public comment, but no comments were made. The Taxation Hearing was adjourned at 6:06 pm.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

## GENERAL MEETING: November 20, 2024

The CCSD 46 Board of Education held a general meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the Falcon Room of Frederick School.

President Stephen Mack called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm, immediately following the Truth in Taxation Hearing. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the approval of the agenda was the opportunity for public comment.

Mr. Marcus Smith, Principal of Grayslake Middle School, introduced the student members of the Way of the Panther program. The students shared initiatives they are working on at GMS, including:

- Anti-bullying/No Place for Hate Campaign
- Student-Led Tutoring
- Student Advisory
- Student Absenteeism
- Hallway Pass Solutions
- Accommodation Rooms
- PTO Representation

The students aim to make Grayslake Middle School an even more welcoming and inspiring place to learn.

Board reports were presented as well as the Superintendent report. During the Board reports, Dr. Stephen Mack presented Sue Walker, Executive Assistant and Board Secretary, with a plaque on behalf of Superintendent Dr. Lynn Glickman and the Board of Education, honoring her dedication and contributions to CCSD 46.

Mrs. Jessica Albert announced that Foundation46 will host Barnfest on April 26, 2025.

Mr. Jim Weidman provided a brief update on the Finance Committee meeting.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Lynn Glickman, Superintendent, expressed gratitude to Sue Walker for her contributions to the district. She also highlighted the Veterans Day assemblies held at Frederick School and Park Campus, and various activities and lessons held throughout the district. Dr. Glickman also shared a brief video from the Midwest Facilities Conference and presented Principal Marcus Smith with the Recovery of the Year award for recovery work done last year at Grayslake Middle School. She also thanked the Board of Education on behalf of the administration team, staff, students and families for the Board members' dedication and support of the district.

Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, announced that report cards would be available on Friday, November 22. Families would be able to access them through both the Infinite Campus portal and ParentSquare.

President Mack then requested a motion for the approval of the Consent Agenda, which includes Minutes from previous meetings, the Personnel Report, FOIA Review, Exception Report, Accounts Payable Report, and the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.

## **Action Items** voted on by the Board for this meeting included:

- Approval of the Certificate of Tax Levy  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the Resolution Regarding Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2024  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the Resolution to Levy Certain Special Taxes for Special Education District IMRF Purposes  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the Resolution to Levy Working Cash Tax  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the Resolution to Levy TORT Tax  
Approved: 4-2



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Approval of the Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Property Tax Levy to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Outstanding Limited Bonds of the District  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the 2024 District Audit  
Approved: 6-0
- Approval of the Purchase of Chillers at Frederick and Prairieview  
Approved: 6-0
- Approval of the Sustainability Resolution  
Approved: 4-2
- Approval of the Termination of Employment for Iryna Aksiuchenka as a Probationary Employee of the School District, Effective Immediately  
Approved: 6-0

**Unfinished Business**, which are unresolved issues that were previously brought before the Board to be discussed further included:

- None

**New Business**, which are new issues for the Board to discuss, included the following:

- Student Fees

Per Board Policy, the District is authorized to collect fees for textbooks, consumable materials, extracurricular activities, technology, and other student needs. Each year, the Board of Education approves the fee structure for the upcoming school year prior to registration. Discussion was held regarding the fee adjustment and history, the 2025-2026 recommendations, tuition-based preschool, and facility rental fees. The fees for 2025-2026 school year will be an action item for the December 11, 2024, Board of Education meeting.

As the meeting drew to a close, topics for future agenda items were discussed, and the public once again had an opportunity to address the Board of Education. There were no public comments. The Board went into closed session at 7:41 pm.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

The next scheduled Board of Education general meeting on December 11 will be held at 6:00 pm and live-streamed online. Please visit [d46.org/board-of-education](http://d46.org/board-of-education) for more information.



*Above: Dr. Stephen Mack presents Sue Walker with a plaque of appreciation*

*Left top: Marcus Smith, Principal of Grayslake Middle School, watches as members of the 'Way of the Panther' present to the Board of Education*

*Left bottom: Dr. Stephen Mack, Dr. Lynn Glickman, and Jim Weidman look on as BOE Member Kristy Miller poses a question to the GMS student group*

## **Stephen Mack, EdD, President**

Term: 2021-2025

Member Since: 2016

Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5679

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## **Kristy Braden, Vice President**

Term: 2023-2027

Member Since: 2018

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## **Tamika Nash, Secretary**

Term: 2023-2027

Member Since: 2019

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## **Jessica Albert, Member**

Term: 2021-2025

Member Since: 2021

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## **Jason Lacroix, Member**

Term: 2021-2025

Member Since: 2017

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## **Kristy Miller, Member**

Term: 2023-2027

Member Since: 2019

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## **Jim Weidman, Member**

Term: 2021-2025

Member Since: 2013

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