

CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS

JANUARY 22, 2025



2025-2026 School Year Calendar Changes

The CCSD 46 Calendar Committee recently finished work on the school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. As always, the committee makes every effort to align with the Grayslake District 127 high school calendar for the convenience of our families. This proposed calendar was presented at the January 15th Board of Education meeting and will be voted on at the January 29th meeting.

Construction on the Media Centers at all of our schools is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2026. In order to create a longer summer to accommodate a construction schedule, students will end the 25-26 school year a week earlier than usual. This change to our usual school calendar caused the following:

- The 25-26 school year will begin a week earlier than usual. We have been communicating this information through our district newsletter since August 2024.
- Students will attend school on Presidents Day, February 16, 2026 and will learn about the presidents that are honored on Presidents' Day.



In this edition:

- 2025-2026 School Year Calendar
- Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year is NOW OPEN
- Student Chromebook Care
- Note from Foundation 46
- Board of Education General Meeting Review

Other important changes:

- The length of day for the first and last days of school will change from full day student attendance to half-day student attendance.
- Monthly late start days will change to half-day student attendance days. Students will attend in the morning and be released on the regular half-day/early dismissal schedule. This change provides our staff with additional professional development time and aids in important school improvement efforts.
- Fall parent/teacher conferences, held November 24-25, will now be half-day student attendance on each day, with extended conference hours on Monday from 1:00-8:00 pm and Tuesday from 1:00-4:00 pm. This change provides an opportunity for families who are traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday to schedule conferences for Monday evening.

Continued

2025-2026 PROPOSED SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR (continued)

We are currently investigating community childcare/camp options with our local partners to aid our families who need additional assistance. The calendar was presented at the January 15th Board of Education General Meeting and will be up for approval at the January 29th meeting.

A video recording of the 1/15/25 meeting is available on the District's [YouTube channel](#).

Important calendar dates:

AUG 11-12 - Staff Institute Days

AUG 13 - Half-Day/Early Release First Day of School for Grades 1-8

AUG 14 - First Day of School for Kindergarten

AUG 18 - First Day of School for Early Childhood Center

SEP 1 - Labor Day Legal Holiday - No School

SEP 10 - Half-Day/Early Release

SEP 23 - No Student Attendance

OCT 2 - No Student Attendance

OCT 8 - Half-Day/Early Release

OCT 13 - Indigenous Peoples Day Legal Holiday - No School

NOV 7 - Institute Day - No Student Attendance

NOV 12 - Half-Day/Early Release

NOV 24-25 - Half Day/Early Release - Fall Parent Conferences

NOV 26 - No Student Attendance

NOV 27 - Thanksgiving Day Legal Holiday - No School

NOV 28 - No Student Attendance

DEC 10 - Half-Day/Early Release

DEC 22-Jan 5 - Winter Break

JAN 14 - Half-Day/Early Release

JAN 19 - MLK Day Legal Holiday - No School

FEB 11- Half-Day/Early Release

FEB 13 - Institute Day - No Student Attendance

MAR 11 - Half-Day/Early Release

MAR 19 - Half-Day/Early Release

MAR 20 - No School

MAR 23-27 - Spring Break

APR 3 - No Student Attendance

APR 8 - Half-Day/Early Release

MAY 13 - Half-Day/Early Release

MAY 22 - Half-Day/Early Release - Last Day of School (if no emergency days are used)

MAY 26 - Memorial Day Legal Holiday - No School

JUN 1 - Half-Day/Early Release - Last Day of School (last possible day)

UPCOMING EVENTS

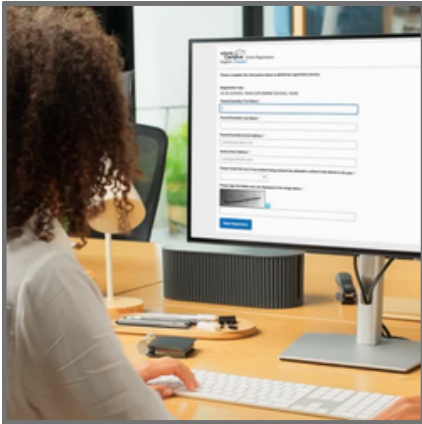


- JAN 28** - School Night Out Fundraiser at Culver's benefitting Prairieview School PTO
- JAN 29** - Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM Frederick School
- FEB 04** - School Night Out Fundraiser at Emil's on Center benefitting GMS PTO
- FEB 05** - District Newsletter
- FEB 11** - School Night Out Fundraiser at Culver's benefitting Avon Center School PTF
- FEB 12** - Late Start Day
- FEB 12** - Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 PM Frederick School
- FEB 14** - Teacher Institute Day - No student attendance
- FEB 14** - Valentine's Day
- FEB 17** - Legal Holiday: Presidents' Day - All Schools Closed
- FEB 18-20** - Parent/Teacher Conferences



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN!

By Amanda Pelsor, Director of Innovation



We are excited to announce that Online Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open! CCSD 46 offers a \$25 Early Bird discount for families that complete the online application and submit payment before June 3rd, the last day of school.

Please remember that for registration to be complete for the upcoming school year the Online Registration application must be submitted with necessary supporting documents and payment or a payment plan must be received. Schedules and transportation assignments will not be released in August until registration is complete.

Pre-K students must complete the Early Childhood Screening and qualify for one of the early childhood programs *PRIOR* to completing the registration application. For more information regarding the Early Childhood program, please contact Sue Hobson at (847) 543-6204.

Returning Family Registration

If a child in your family has currently or previously been enrolled in CCSD 46, you can access registration through your Infinite Campus [parent portal](#). If you do not have an account or have forgotten your password, please contact your child's school.

Online registration is completed as a family. If you are enrolling new students from your family or your student is moving buildings, they are still considered continuing students, and all students in the family are completed through the same application.

New Family Registration

If you have never had a student enrolled in a CCSD 46 school, you will complete a [New Family Registration](#) form.

More information about registration can be found on the district website's [Registration](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) pages.

TIPS FOR CLEANING AND CARING FOR YOUR STUDENT CHROMEBOOK

By Amanda Pelsor, Director of Innovation

As Chromebooks are an essential part of our students' learning experience, it's important to charge them every night and keep them in good condition. Proper care and regular cleaning help ensure these devices remain functional and last throughout the school year. Below are some helpful tips for maintaining your student's Chromebook.

Cleaning Your Chromebook

Turn It Off First

Before cleaning, ensure the Chromebook is powered off and unplugged from any charger.

Use a Microfiber Cloth

To clean the screen and exterior, use a soft, lint-free microfiber cloth. This prevents scratches and removes dust or smudges effectively.

Avoid Harsh Cleaners

Do not use bleach, ammonia-based cleaners, or abrasive materials. For tougher spots, lightly dampen the cloth with water or a solution of 70% isopropyl alcohol and gently wipe the surface.

Caring for Your Chromebook

Keep It in Its Case

Always store the Chromebook in its provided protective case when not in use. This helps prevent accidental drops, scratches, and other damage.

Avoid Overloading the Screen

Do not place items like pens, papers, or chargers on the keyboard before closing the Chromebook. This is a common cause of screen damage.

Charge It Regularly and Safely

Chromebooks should be charged every night to ensure they are ready for learning. Plug and unplug the charger carefully, and avoid bending or twisting the charging cable. Always charge the Chromebook on a flat, stable surface.

Store It Properly

When not in use, store the Chromebook in a secure, dry location away from food, drinks, and extreme temperatures.

Report Issues Promptly

If your student notices a problem with their Chromebook, encourage them to report it to their teacher immediately to prevent further damage.

By following these tips, students can keep their Chromebooks in top shape and ensure they are ready for learning every day. Thank you for helping us maintain these valuable tools!



NOTE FROM FOUNDATION46

Nominations are now open for the Foundation46 *Tom Meskel Commitment to Education Award*. In 2014, Foundation46 established an annual tradition to honor a community member who exemplifies a deep commitment to enriching and advancing education over a lasting period of time. The award recognizes an individual within the CCSD 46 community who embodies the belief that “it takes a village” to nurture and support the education of children.



Named for the late Tom Meskel, an educator, volunteer, school board member, and an unmatched advocate for education, the Tom Meskel Commitment to Education Award symbolizes the dedication to educational excellence and the vital presence of community collaboration.

Foundation46 is looking for someone in our community who:

- Demonstrates a deep belief that it takes a village to support and nurture the educational journey of children.
- Has shown consistent long-term dedication to fostering a collaborative, community-centered approach to education.
- Embodies the values of shared responsibility for educational growth and the success of future generations.

Visit the Foundation46 website to learn more about the nomination process and view the remarkable contributions to our educational community made by past award recipients at <https://www.foundation46.org/programs-2/tom-meskel-commitment-to-education-award/>



WINTER WEATHER CONCERNS



When weather is snowy, children in grades K-4 should remember to wear the 5 Points, which are snow pants, boots, gloves/mittens, winter coat, and hat. Children wearing the 5 Points can play in the fields and on the playground equipment for recess time. The blacktop provides a play area for children who are not dressed for the snow.



Children in grades 5-8 are reminded to also dress for the weather. Students should consider the 5 Points (snowsuits/pants, boots, coats, hats, and gloves) due to the conditions when walking to/from school or the bus stop. This should eliminate any calls home because of wet clothes.



Please be aware that frostbite can occur with exposure to extreme cold. Keep children warm with loose-fitting, layered, warm clothes. Don't forget hats and gloves for older children and adults too.

Please use caution when walking on sidewalks that are close to buses or cars. In the wintertime, icing can occur which makes for slippery conditions.

Please keep all of our children safe by making sure your sidewalks are clear and please enlist the help of neighbors without school-age children to keep their sidewalks and bus stops clear.

While snowballs are fun to make, they are not allowed to be thrown on school grounds or at the bus stop.



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: January 29, February 12, February 26

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

GENERAL MEETING: January 15, 2025

The CCSD 46 Board of Education held a general meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Falcon Room of Frederick School.

President Stephen Mack called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the approval of the agenda, visitors to the meeting are invited to address the board for the first of two public comment opportunities. No comments were made.

The Grayslake Middle School Boys Basketball Team, led by Coach Hoellerich, were introduced by GMS Principal, Mr. Marcus Smith. The team was being recognized by the Board of Education for their outstanding season and Conference Championship. Coach Hoellerich spoke about sportsmanship and the team's determination to become conference champions. President Mack and Vice President Braden presented the team members with ribbons.

Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, provided an overview of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) data by grade level and NWEA MAP achievement growth during a presentation on Student Academic Growth and Achievement Data. She highlighted that two schools, Meadowview and Park East, received the Exemplary designation, while the remaining schools were designated Commendable. The IAR assesses students in grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Across the district, perforation levels predominantly fell into Level 4 (Meets Expectations) and Level 5 (Exceeds Expectations).

[continued]



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board reports were presented as well as the Superintendent report. During the Board reports, Mrs. Kristy Miller shared insights from the sessions she attended at the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Conference, which focused on funding and artificial intelligence. Mrs. Jessica Albert announced that Foundation46 will host its annual Barnfest on April 26th. Nominations for the *Tom Meskel Commitment to Education Award*, which is awarded at Barnfest, are now available. She also shared that Frederick and Grayslake Middle School participated in a Science Olympiad invitational this past weekend. She also provided an update on the sessions she attended at the IASB Conference and her role in the Delegate Assembly. Dr. Stephen Mack shared details about the sessions he attended at the IASB Conference, which focused on English Learners (EL) and artificial intelligence (AI). He also participated in the Presidents' Round Table.

Dr. Lynn Glickman welcomed students from Grayslake Central High School who were in the audience for the Board meeting. She also reflected on the damage Grayslake Middle School experienced a year ago. Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, announced that there will be no school on Monday, January 20th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. She also shared that staff members have been provided with materials to honor Dr. King during class time. Mrs. Gluck further reported that 46 student in grades 5-7 have qualified for the Fast-Paced Talent Search through the College of Lake County (CLC). These students will be invited to participate in thought-provoking courses in areas such as math, verbal reasoning, technology, languages, the arts, and STEM.

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, and Accounts Payable Report. The motion carried.

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

- Approval of the Certified and PSRP Seniority Lists for 2024-2025
Approved: 6-0

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

- None



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

- **Board Policies 117**

During the Policy Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting, the committee reviewed the recommended IASB policy changes. They proposed slight revisions to the following policies:

2:120 Board Member Development: add equity and inclusion training for Board members

8:10 Connection with the Community: add a requirement to report progress to the community

- **Vision 2030 Resolution**

Dr. Glickman and several other administrators presented Vision 2030, which was developed through a comprehensive engagement effort that included input from over 1,000 stakeholders across Illinois. Participants included locally elected school board members and local educators. The blueprint was spearheaded by key educational organizations, including the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA), Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), Illinois Principals Association (IPA), Illinois Association of School Business Officials (Illinois ASBO), and Illinois Association of Regional School Superintendents (IARSS). Building on the success of the earlier Vision 2020 initiative—which led to major advancements like the Evidence-Based Funding Formula, Illinois Balanced Accountability Model, and Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Act—Vision 2030 seeks to further transform Illinois' K-12 educational system.

- **Proposed 2024-2026 School Calendar waiving legal holidays as required under Public Act 096-0640: Veterans Day (November 11), President Lincoln's Birthday (February 12), and Casimir Pulaski's Birthday (March 2) in order to hold school**

The 2025-2026 school calendar was developed collaboratively by the administration and leaders from the GFT and PSRP unions, collectively known as the Calendar Committee. Efforts were made to align the calendar as closely as possible with High School District 127 to benefit families with students in both districts.

Construction on school Media Centers is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2026. To accommodate the construction schedule, the summer break will be extended by ending the 2025-2026 school year a week earlier than usual. More information on the Proposed 2024-2025 School Calendar are included in this newsletter, as well as on the District's [YouTube channel](#).

These calendar changes were thoughtfully designed to balance the district's construction goals, instructional and professional development needs, and the convenience of families. The calendar will be approved at the January 29th Board meeting.



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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 8:05 pm.

The next scheduled Board of Education general meeting on January 29 will be held at 6:00 pm and live-streamed online. Please visit d46.org/board-of-education for more information.



Stephen Mack, EdD, President
Term: 2021-2025
Member Since: 2016
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5679
Email: mack.stephen@d46.org

Kristy Braden, Vice President
Term: 2023-2027
Member Since: 2018
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5664
Email: braden.kristy@d46.org

Tamika Nash, Secretary
Term: 2023-2027
Member Since: 2019
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5618
Email: nash.tamika@d46.org

Jessica Albert, Member
Term: 2021-2025
Member Since: 2021
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5648
Email: albert.jessica@d46.org

Jason Lacroix, Member
Term: 2021-2025
Member Since: 2017
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5678
Email: lacroix.jason@d46.org

Kristy Miller, Member
Term: 2023-2027
Member Since: 2019
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5691
Email: miller.kristy@d46.org

Jim Weidman, Member
Term: 2021-2025
Member Since: 2013
Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5669
Email: weidman.jim@d46.org

