CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS





Maintaining Excellence: Moving Forward



OCTOBER 22, 2025

At the March 19, 2024, General Primary Election, CCSD 46 successfully passed a \$6 million limiting rate referendum. A testament to the community's commitment to sustaining and enhancing the quality education in the district, CCSD 46 now focuses on the next steps.

In the fall of 2024, Core Planning Group meetings were held to begin the process to modernize four of our school media centers. This revitalization of our media centers will create enhanced learning environments for CCSD 46 students. Core Planning Group members helped determine the criteria to be used for adjacencies and functionality

of the spaces. Looking at the big picture, they worked to decide what was necessary in any building and create consistencies while also acknowledging the specific age

range of the students. The Core Planning Group established guiding principles and design criteria that were carried on to the next segment of the design process.

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MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE: MOVING FORWARD [continued]

With the Core Planning process completed, in the early months of 2025 User Groups were created at each of the four buildings that will be under construction in the summer of 2026 - Meadowview, Prairieview, Frederick, and Park Campus. Working with the guiding principles handed down from the Core Planning Group, the User Group, made up of building specific stakeholders and building principals, worked to identify any special needs to consider in addition to a basic kit of parts which was determined by the Core Planning Group.



Prairieview School User Group examine color options for the prairie grassland biome



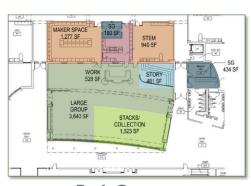
Meadowview School



Frederick School



Prairieview School



Park Campus

Over the subsequent months, basic layouts of the reconfigured spaces developed into final design mockups. The User Groups, architects, furniture representatives, and a steering committee met several times each month to develop each school's "Biome" - a distinct design concept for each school which incorporates the long-standing school mascots and in some cases the school names - and work through locations of library stacks, soft seating, large and small work areas, maker spaces in each building, and STEM labs in the 5-8 buildings.

[Continued]



MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE: MOVING FORWARD [continued]

In an earlier update to the Board of Education, Mr. Verdun shared that based upon the scope of the project and age of several of the schools, it is recommended to spread the media center redesign project over two summers to accommodate any remediation which may be needed in the buildings. Acknowledging this schedule, school started a week earlier this year and will end in May 2026. Construction at Meadowview, Prairieview, Frederick, and Park Campus will begin at the end of this school year. This change allows for an extra week of construction during the summer of 2026. Next school year, 2026-2027, will begin and end as usual, but the 2027-2028 school year will start a week later than usual, allowing for an extra week of construction during the summer of 2027, during which the Avon, Woodview, and Grayslake Middle School media centers will be redesigned.

We are very excited to share these plans and begin to work with Bear Construction in conjunction with Wold Architects to make these designs into the beautiful, inviting spaces envisioned by our staff, student, and community stakeholder groups.

Follow along with the progress of Maintaining Excellence: Moving Forward on our webpage: https://d46.org/maintaining-excellence/



Biomes: Sand/Sea - Frederick, Floral Meadow - Meadowview, Prairie Grassland - Prairieview, Forest - Park Campus



Mr. Matt Verdun from Wold Architects answers questions from GMS student representatives at the October 15 Board of Education meeting



UPCOMING EVENTS



OCT 23 Bus Driver Appreciation Day

OCT 23 Family Reading Night - Prairieview School

OCT 24 Athletic Photos Grayslake Middle School 3:30-5:00 pm

OCT 27-31 Red Ribbon Week

OCT 27 Fall Choral Concert - Grayslake Middle School 6:30 pm

OCT 29 Picture Day Retakes - Grayslake Middle School

OCT 30 Picture Day Retakes - Woodview School

OCT 30 Halloween Parade - Early Childhood Center

OCT 31 Halloween

NOV 02 Daylight Saving Time Ends

NOV 05 Board of Education Meeting - Frederick School 6:00 pm

NOV 07 Institute Day - No Student Attendance

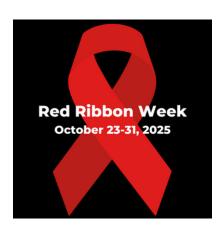
NOV 11 Veterans Day

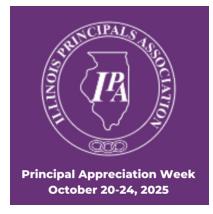
NOV 11 Virtual Parent Night: Childhood Victories

NOV 12 Half Day Early Dismissal (AM Pre-Kindergarten Attends)













CONTACTING SCHOOL OFFICES

New school office email addresses

You may have noticed a new feature on the school websites: new email addresses for our school offices. You should now use the appropriate school office email address when sending info about absences, dismissal changes, or other student concerns. This email will be disseminated to all office staff rather than an individual, so everyone is aware of your important message!

Be sure to add this email to your contacts:

Avon Center School AVoffice@d46.org

Meadowview School MVoffice@d46.org_

Prairieview School PVoffice@d46.org

Woodview School WVoffice@d46.org_

Frederick School FSoffice@d46.org

Grayslake Middle School GMSoffice@d46.org

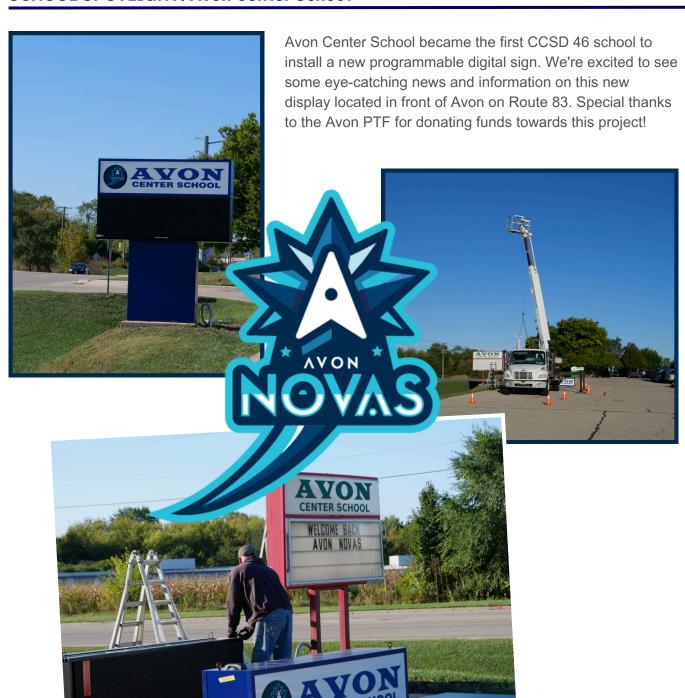
Park Campus PCoffice@d46.org

Early Childhood Center ECCoffice@d46.org

These links can also be found in the footer of all school webpages, on the About Us page, in the Our District drop-down menu, and on the school directory.



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: Avon Center School



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Walk & Talk with Mayor Davies

Over the summer, members of the CCSD 46 Community Engagement Committee met with Grayslake's recently elected mayor, Elizabeth Davies, for a walk through Central Park. CCSD 46 Board Member Kristy Miller joined representatives from several schools' PTO/PTF organizations and met Mayor Davies at Gelatin Park for a casual stroll through Central Park, past the Community Garden, and on to the new Village Center Nature Trail, which was still under construction.

Members of the CEC were pleased to hear some of the history of the Gelatin factory and learn about the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The group began brainstorming ideas for place-based PTO/PTF events and initiatives, and was happy to discuss ways to generate civic pride among our community, especially for students.









Mayor Davies schedules chats with the community at least once a quarter - watch for another opportunity to connect with her in February.



DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP: Building Healthy Digital Habits With Your Family

In today's connected world, technology and media are part of nearly everything we do, from learning and creating to relaxing and staying in touch. Helping children develop positive digital habits is an important part of their overall well-being. As parents and guardians, we play a key role in guiding kids to use devices in healthy, balanced ways.

Talking about digital well-being isn't a one-time conversation; it's an ongoing process that grows and changes as your child does. By setting clear expectations, modeling mindful behavior, and making time for offline activities, families can help children learn to use technology with purpose and awareness. Simple practices such as creating device-free times or spaces, taking tech breaks, and discussing what they watch or play can make a big difference in helping kids build a balanced and healthy relationship with technology.

To support your family in having these discussions, we have included helpful resources below, such as family technology planners, family activity cards, and some things to consider when deciding on the right amount of screen time.

Check out these 5 tips 24



Create screen-free times and zones.

Help kids take breaks from tech by limiting screen time in bedrooms, during study time, or at the dinner table



Try parental controls.

Set content limits that make sense for your family. Alongside conversations about healthy media habits, use features such as content filtering, privacy settings, and time limits offered by the apps and platforms your family uses to help manage access and exposure to media.



Establish clear family rules.

Decide together what kind of media and tech is OK – and when it's OK to use it. A family media plan can help get everyone on the same page.



Watch and play together.

Choose quality, age-appropriate media to enjoy with your kids. Visit commonsensemedia.org to find shows, games, and more.



Help kids identify healthy behaviors.

Practice talking about feelings – both physical and emotional – during screen and non-screen activities.

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DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP: Building Healthy Digital Habits With Your Family

Family Tech Planners

Entertainment and tech have the potential to spark meaningful conversations. And tech planners are a great way for kids to have a shared understanding of how your family makes the most out of entertainment and tech time. Use these planners to have conversations about technology use as a family, and to create a plan for when and how technology tools will be used.

- Age 2–8: English | Spanish
- Age 9–12: <u>English</u> | <u>Spanish</u>

Family Activity Cards

These family activity cards are designed to spark fun and meaningful conversations about topics such as online safety and kindness, healthy relationships, responsible AI use, and identifying credible information. Each card includes a fact, a prompt, and a follow-up question based on simple verbal games with a twist. Since every family has different rules and expectations around media and technology, you can choose the cards that fit your family best. The goal is to encourage open dialogue, curiosity, and empathy while helping both kids and adults share their perspectives and learn together.

- Grades K-2: English | Spanish
- Grades 3-5: English | Spanish
- Grades 6-8: English | Spanish

Screen Time

If you're not sure how much time on screens is too much, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- There's no right or wrong number of hours. Your kid's age and developmental stage, a general balance of activities, the content itself, your individual child's needs, and the context are all factors.
- For all kids, it's important to engage in a balance of on- and off-screen activities and interpersonal interactions.
- Involving kids in the discussion around balance, screen use, and stopping places/times helps establish buy-in, limit conflict, and build self-regulation.
- Model and teach offline strategies to deal with difficult emotions, like anxiety and boredom.
- Stay curious about and familiar with what kids are watching, doing, and playing.
- Model the behavior you want to see, and talk about your own screen use with kids.



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 <u>BOE webpage</u>.

Upcoming Meetings: November 5 (One meeting in November)

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

GENERAL MEETING: October 15, 2025

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

Vice President Kristy Braden 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 meeting began with a presentation from Grayslake Middle School's Way of the Panther student group. Mr. Marcus Smith, Principal, introduced the student participants, who then shared the initiatives they are currently working on, including the No Place for Hate campaign, school assemblies, and Friday Night Out planning, career fair planning, community garden and outdoor classroom, student Chromebook turn-off and expectations, student ALICE update, and orientation planning for incoming 7th graders. The students aim to make Grayslake Middle School an even more welcoming and inspiring place to learn.

Mr. Chris Wildman, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, then presented information on the tentative 2025 property tax levy. He reviewed the levy timetable, which includes the public hearing and Board approval scheduled for November 19. Mr. Wildman reported that the estimated 2025 levy reflects a Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 2.9%, with new construction estimated at \$948,149. The 2024 final extension was \$42,651,785, and the estimated 2025 extension is \$44,031,779. When including Debt Service and SEDOL IMRF, the 2025 total extension is estimated at \$45,098,190. The proposed levy represents a 3.2% increase over last year's extension (or 5.7% when including Debt Service and SEDOL IMRF). The full presentation is included in the Board packet.



Board reports were then presented, as well as the Superintendent's report.

Mrs. Kristy Miller shared that a former D46 student will be interning with her and contributing to the Pathways Program, a nationally recognized initiative that allows students to take courses preparing them for internships and future careers in the workforce or governance. As part of this work, the intern will create a Food Shed Map that connects the district's outdoor learning spaces with the larger regional Food Shed, which will then be shared with students.

Mrs. Tamika Nash attended the Community Conversations event on October 7th with Mayor Elizabeth Davies and shared that the next meeting will take place in February. She also noted that a new pickleball facility has opened in Grayslake on Atkinson Road. Mrs. Nash welcomed the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Lake County Pearls, expressing appreciation for their collaboration with the district on the Juneteenth Walks and highlighting the scholarship opportunities they offer.

Our student representatives from Grayslake Middle School shared an update on the after-school activities and intramurals at GMS, information about the daily student announcements in the new Pawcast format, and information on Panther Block, a program designed to support students' math and reading skills. GMS has also held assemblies, Spirit Week activities, and Student of the Month recognition. The students also congratulated GMS Reading Specialist Dr. Yvonne Schmid on successfully defending her dissertation.

During the Superintendent's Report, Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, shared updates on instructional support and professional development. In-classroom studies and coaching are underway for the new math resources, including Illustrative Math for grades K-5 and Amilify for grades 6-8. For literacy, K-5 teachers are using Scholastic and receiving additional support. The district is working with the Lake County ROE for enhanced literacy assistance for grades 6-8. During the recent half-day, the majority of staff focused on supporting students' language development, particularly multilingual learners. Mrs. Gluck thanked Mrs. Amber Bowgren for her expertise. Mrs. Gluck also noted that the PSRP staff used their half-day to complete their compliance requirements.

Dr. Heather Lorenzo, Director of Special Services, shared that the district is currently undergoing Cyclical Monitoring. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) oversees this process to ensure that school districts across the state are effectively providing educational programming for students with disabilities in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). Each district is assigned to one of six cohorts and participates in this comprehensive, year-long monitoring process once every six years.

Dr. Lynn Glickman, Superintendent, highlighted the new electronic sign installed at Avon Center School and thanked the PTF for helping to fund the project. She also noted that next week is Principal Appreciation Week and expressed her gratitude to all principals for their dedication and contributions to the district.



Vice President Braden 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 destruction of closed meeting audio recordings from June 2019-January 2024. The motion carried.

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

- Motion to approve Board Policies 119 Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve the Resolution of the Proposed 2025 Tentative Tax Levy and Schedule the Public Hearing on the 2025 Tax Levy and Issue a Notification to the Public Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve the Resolution authorizing and providing for the issue of not to exceed \$17,250,000 General Obligation Debt Certificates (Limited Tax), for the purpose of improving the sites of and altering, repairing and equipping school buildings and facilities, authorizing an Installment Purchase Agreement, and authorizing the proposed sale of said Certificates to the purchaser thereof. Motioned by and seconded by for the approval of the Resolution authorizing and providing for the issue of not to exceed \$17,250,000 General Obligation Debt Certificates (Limited Tax), for the purpose of improving the sites of and altering, repairing and equipping school buildings and facilities, authorizing an Installment Purchase Agreement, and authorizing the proposed sale of said Certificates to the purchaser thereof Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve the contract award for Construction Management Services Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve the Reduction in Force of the Operations and Maintenance Assistant Position Approved 6-0

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

Media Center Design Update

Mr. Matt Verdum of Wold Architects and Engineers provided an update on the upcoming Media Center construction project. He reviewed the design process and presented the final building plans for Frederick, Meadowview, Prairieview, and Park Campus. The project is scheduled to go out to bid in November, with bid awards expected in December and Phase I construction planned to begin in the summer of 2026.



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

Durham Contract Extension

Mr. Chris Wildman, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented information regarding the district's transportation contract renewal with Durham School Services, the district's contracted transportation provider. Pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/29-6.1, boards of education may renew student transportation agreements for periods they deem appropriate. The district previously renewed its contract with Durham for the 2024–2025 and 2025–2026 school years, which included rate increases of 5% and 6%, respectively. A two-year extension of the agreement has now been negotiated for the 2026–2027 and 2027–2028 school years, providing for annual rate increases of 4% each year. This extension aligns with the renewal terms established by Grayslake Community High School District 127, ensuring consistency across local districts.

IASB Delegate

The Board discussed selecting a Delegate to represent the district at the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Conference. It was noted that during a prior meeting, Dr. Mack had agreed to serve as the Delegate. At this meeting, Mrs. Nash agreed to be the alternate. As Dr. Mack was not present, the discussion was tabled and will continue at the next Board meeting on November 5.

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. No comments were made. The Board adjourned the general meeting at 7:25 pm and entered into closed session.

The next scheduled Board of Education general meeting on November 5, 2025, will be held at 6:00 pm and live-streamed online. Please visit <u>d46.org/board-of-education</u> for more information.

Stephen Mack, EdD, President

Term: 2025-2029

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

Hillary Halverson, Member

Term: 2025-2029 Member Since: 2025 Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5648 Email: halverson.hillary@d46.org

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

Kristy Miller, Member

Maureen Heun, Member

Term: 2025-2029 Member Since: 2025 Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5678 Email: heun.maureen@d46.org

Jim Weidman, Member

Term: 2025-2029 Member Since: 2013 Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5669 Email: weidman.jim@d46.org





