

# CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS

FEBRUARY 18, 2026



## 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

**CCSD 46  
CALENDAR**  
2026-2027 HIGHLIGHTS

**AUGUST 19**  
First Day of School  
Grades K-8, Half-Day Attendance

**AUGUST 24**  
First Day of School  
Early Childhood Center

**MAY 28**  
Last Day of School  
If no emergency days are used

**SCHOOL BREAKS**

**FALL BREAK**  
November 25-27

**WINTER BREAK**  
December 21-January 3

**SPRING BREAK**  
March 22-26

**OTHER CLOSINGS & HALF-DAYS**

SEPTEMBER	DECEMBER	MARCH
07 - Labor Day	09 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends	10 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
09 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends		19 - No School
21 - No School	<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>APRIL</b>
	13 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends	14 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends
	18 - ML King, Jr. Day	
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MAY</b>
08 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends	10 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends	12 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
09 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends	11 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends	31 - Memorial Day
12 - Indigenous Peoples' Day	12 - Staff Institute Day	
14 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends	15 - Presidents' Day	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
02 - Staff Institute Day		
03 - Election Day		
11 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends		

Empowering Learners | Creating Equity | Cultivating Community

The 2026-2027 CCSD 46 School Calendar was recently approved at the February 11th Board of Education meeting. Important dates to note:

- August 19, 2026 - First day of School for grades K-8 (Half-Day attendance)
- August 24, 2026 - First day of School for the Early Childhood Center
- November 25-27, 2026 - Fall Break
- December 21-January 3, 2026 - Winter Break
- March 22-26, 2027 - Spring Break
- May 28, 2027 - Last Day of School (if no emergency days are used)

Visit the CCSD 46 website for more information and to download the full 2026-2027 school year calendar.  
<https://d46.org/calendar>

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### FEBRUARY

- 24 Two-Way Dual Language Information Session - Avon Center School 6:00 pm
- 25 Board of Education Meeting - Frederick School 6:00 pm
- 27 Early Childhood Center Preschool Screening
- 27 Route 83 Showdown - GNHS 7:00 pm (Doors open 6:30)

### MARCH

- 03 Spring Band Concerts - Frederick School 6:00 pm/7:30 pm
- 03 Two-Way Dual Language Information Session - Prairieview School 6:00 pm
- 04 Choral Concert/Contest Preview - Grayslake Middle School 6:30 pm
- 05 Band Concert/Contest Preview - Grayslake Middle School 6:30 pm
- 05 Band/Choir Concert 7th/8th - Park Campus 7:00 pm
- 05 Community Art Fair @ Grayslake Library, Reception: PV, FS, GMS 6-7:00 pm
- 08 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 09 Community Art Fair @ Grayslake Library, Reception: AV, WV 6-7:00 pm
- 10 School Night Out Fundraiser: Twisted Burger to benefit Frederick School
- 10 Two-Way Dual Language Information Session - Park Campus 6:00 pm
- 10 Community Art Fair @ Grayslake Area Public Library, Reception: PC 6-7:00 pm
- 11 Half Day Early Dismissal (AM Pre-Kindergarten Attends)
- 12 MPAC Event: Glow Dance Party! Prairieview School 6:00 pm
- 12 Community Art Fair @ Grayslake Area Public Library, Reception: MV 6-7:00 pm
- 13 5Essentials Parent Survey Closes



### TWO-WAY DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM BEGINS FOR 26-27 KINDERGARTEN



Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, CCSD 46 is offering a Two-Way Dual Language program for incoming kindergarten students. The program, to be held at Prairieview and Avon Center School, is open to any CCSD 46 incoming kindergarten student. All families interested in the program should plan to attend one of the upcoming informational sessions, which highlight the program design, instructional practices, student selection process, and program commitment details. Families should also check the box "Interest in two-way dual language" during the Online Registration process. By checking the box, you will receive information regarding the student selection process for two-way dual language.


#### **Upcoming Informational Sessions:**


February 24, 2026 - 6:00 pm, Avon Center School

March 3, 2026 - 6:00 pm, Prairieview School


March 10, 2026 - 6:00 pm, Park Campus

**CCSD 46**  
Two-Way Dual  
Language Program



**Ready  
to learn  
MORE?**

<https://d46.org/twdl>





### **REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN!**

Online Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now open! CCSD 46 offers a \$25 Early Bird discount for families that complete the online application and submit payment before May 22nd, 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 the Early Childhood Center 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.





### 5ESSENTIALS SURVEY

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Organizing Schools for Improvement

Since February 3, 2026, students in grades 4-8 and teachers across Illinois have had an opportunity to participate in the eleventh annual statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent/guardian, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.

On behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education, the 5Essentials Survey is administered online by UChicago Impact at the University of Chicago. The survey gathers data related to five indicators that can predict important student outcomes, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. These five indicators that affect and predict school success are:

- Effective Leaders
- Collaborative Teachers
- Involved Families
- Supportive Environments
- Ambitious Instruction

Prior research in more than 400 schools has shown that schools that were strong on at least three of these "5Essential" indicators were 10 times more likely to improve student learning gains in math and reading than those that were weak on three or more Essentials.

If at least 20 percent of parents complete this survey for a school, a parent supplement will be generated. The parent data will be used by the district as a measure of continuous improvement. Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child. For parents, the Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be available through March 13, 2026. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin.

Your participation in the parent portion of the survey will help us understand the conditions at your child's school and guide improvement. Your identity and survey responses will be kept completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your child.

For students in Grades 4-8, the Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be administered during school. This survey should take approximately 25 minutes to complete. Please see the additional information regarding the Student Survey for more details.

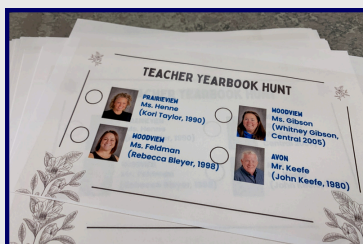
For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' Reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact UChicago Impact Survey Support at 1-866-440-1874 or [impact-surveys@uchicago.edu](mailto:impact-surveys@uchicago.edu).



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: SCHOOL NIGHT OUT EVENTS

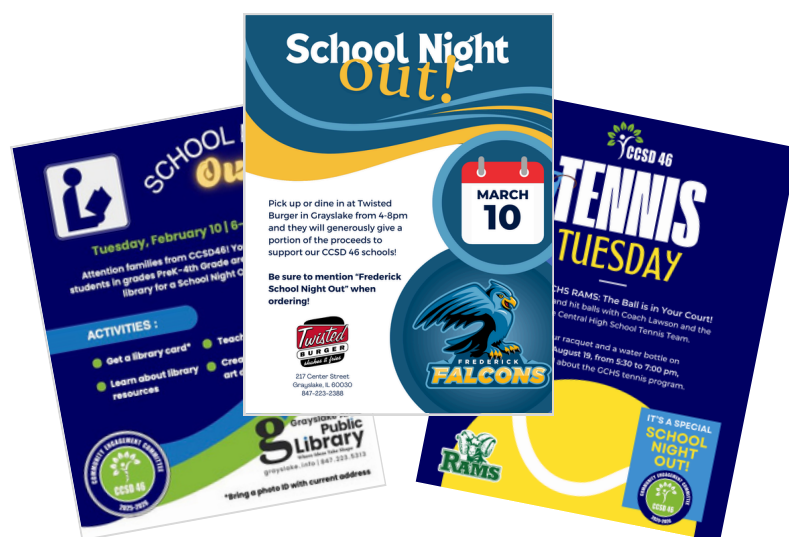


The CCSD 46 Community Engagement Committee, in conjunction with school PTO/PTF organizations, coordinates School Night Out Dinner events throughout the year as a way to help fund the school organizations in their goals of providing enriching and engaging events for students and families. In addition to these fundraising opportunities, the CEC has held several non-fundraising focused free community-building events to provide educational and social engagement opportunities in the “School Night Out” (SNO) format.



One such event was held on Tuesday, February 10th, at the Grayslake Area Public Library. The event featured library card sign-ups for both Grayslake and the Round Lake area libraries, along with fun activities throughout the library, including button making in the Makerspace, a Hiveclass for sports, fitness, and wellness, educational history videos, and even a chance to find a CCSD 46 teacher in the library’s yearbook archive!

Keep an eye on the district calendar for upcoming SNO dates and join us in supporting our local schools and community partners. Whether it's for a fundraiser or a free community-building event, we look forward to seeing our CCSD 46 families come together at our next School Night Out!





### CCSD 46 COMMUNITY ST. BALDRICK'S FUNDRAISER

#### SAVE THE DATE!

**March 11, 2026, is the 11th Annual  
St. Baldrick's Event at Grayslake Middle School**



Grayslake Middle School is once again hosting its annual St. Baldrick's Foundation fundraiser to help fight and cure childhood cancers. For the 11th year, the event will feature a hair cut/shave assembly event for students during the day, and will be open to the public after school. Participants can shave their heads or cut off at least 8 inches of hair to be donated to Children With Hair Loss, a non-profit organization that covers young heads to heal young hearts. During the assembly, an emphasis is placed on how students can contribute their skills, talents, and personal passions to make the world a better place.

Other activities taking place include an enormous raffle event is held with hundreds of donated items, gift cards, local area restaurant and business offers, as well as sporting event tickets, and more. Tickets are available for purchase, and this event is also open to the community during after-school hours, and a food drive and supply collection for Avon Township Community Food Pantry.

Sponsor a team, or donate directly to the GMS/D46 Community effort by visiting the St. Baldrick's website: <https://www.stbaldricks.org/events/grayslake2026>.

If you have items you would like to donate, or know of a business willing to donate a prize for the St. Baldrick's Fundraiser raffle, please contact Amy Corey at [corey.amy@d46.org](mailto:corey.amy@d46.org).





### NOTE FROM FOUNDATION 46

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Nominations are now open for the Foundation46 Tom Meskel Commitment to Education Award. Submissions are due by February 28, 2026. 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/>

### FOUNDATION 46 ANNOUNCES BARNFEST 2026

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Foundation 46 is proud to announce that the upcoming Barnfest 2026 ‘Denim & Diamonds’ Celebration Fundraiser is set for April 25, 2026, from 6:00-10:00 pm at Jesse Oaks Food & Drink in Gages Lake, IL.

This **adults-only** event will feature live music, food, drinks, dancing, a mechanical bull, games, and more! Tickets include admission to the event and a buffet dinner. All 21+ aged family members and friends are welcome to attend!

Foundation 46 supports CCSD 46 students and provides grants to teachers for outstanding projects to benefit our school community.

**Tickets are on sale now!**

<https://go.rallyup.com/2026foundation46barnfest>



## ROUTE 83 SHOWDOWN: A True Community Event!



**Friday, February 27, 2026**  
**Doors Open at 6:30 PM | Tip-off at 7:00 PM**  
**Grayslake North High School**



**The Route 83 Showdown is back and bigger than ever!**

Join us on Friday, February 27, at the Grayslake North High School gym as Frederick AND Grayslake Middle School teachers and staff take on the Grayslake Police Department and Grayslake Fire Department in a high-energy night of basketball, community pride, and friendly competition!

Doors open at 6:30 PM with tip-off at 7:00 PM, beginning with a ceremonial tip-off by the Mayor of Grayslake, Elizabeth Davies. Show your support by wearing school colors or spirit wear and bring your loudest cheers as our teams battle it out on the court.



This family-friendly event will feature a student three-point shootout, a principal race in inflatable costumes, concessions, and a 50/50 raffle!

Tickets are just \$5 per person, so grab the family, invite your friends, and help pack the stands for a fun night celebrating our schools, first responders, and the Grayslake community.

To register, click on the link below or scan QR code on the flyer:

<http://go.rallyup.com/2026showdown>



## STUDENT PRIVACY AND LIFETOUCH

CCSD 46 has received the following statement from our contracted school photography company, Lifetouch.

### Public Statement from Ken Murphy, Lifetouch Group CEO, on recent rumors around student privacy.

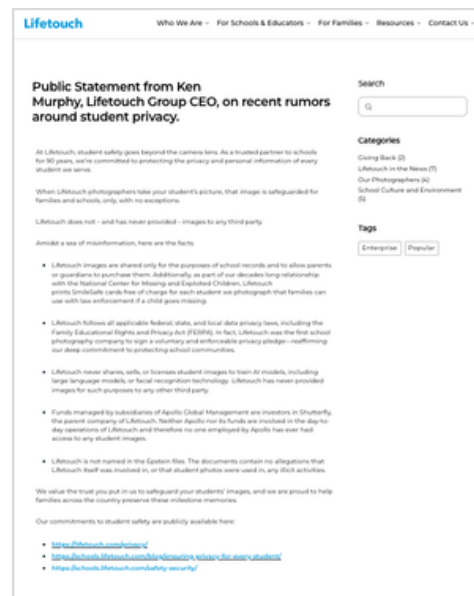
At Lifetouch, student safety goes beyond the camera lens. As a trusted partner to schools for 90 years, we're committed to protecting the privacy and personal information of every student we serve. When Lifetouch photographers take your student's picture, that image is safeguarded for families and schools, only, with no exceptions. Lifetouch does not – and has never provided – images to any third party.

Amidst a sea of misinformation, here are the facts:

- Lifetouch images are shared only for the purposes of school records and to allow parents or guardians to purchase them. Additionally, as part of our decades long relationship with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Lifetouch prints SmileSafe cards free of charge for each student we photograph that families can use with law enforcement if a child goes missing.
- Lifetouch follows all applicable federal, state, and local data privacy laws, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). In fact, Lifetouch was the first school photography company to sign a voluntary and enforceable privacy pledge—reaffirming our deep commitment to protecting school communities.
- Lifetouch never shares, sells, or licenses student images to train AI models, including large language models, or facial recognition technology. Lifetouch has never provided images for such purposes to any other third party.
- Funds managed by subsidiaries of Apollo Global Management are investors in Shutterstock, the parent company of Lifetouch. Neither Apollo nor its funds are involved in the day-to-day operations of Lifetouch and therefore no one employed by Apollo has ever had access to any student images.
- Lifetouch is not named in the Epstein files. The documents contain no allegations that Lifetouch itself was involved in, or that student photos were used in, any illicit activities.

We value the trust you put in us to safeguard your students' images, and we are proud to help families across the country preserve these milestone memories.

Our commitments to student safety are publicly available on [Lifetouch's website](https://www.lifetouch.com/safety).





# 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: March 18 (one meeting in March), April 8, April 22**

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

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### **GENERAL MEETING: February 11, 2026**

The CCSD 46 Board of Education held a general meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, in the Falcon Room in 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 meeting began with a presentation by the Park Campus Leader of the Pack, which is comprised of 7th and 8th-grade students. The students reported on activities and accomplishments from the past year focused on supporting school events, building community, and promoting a positive school climate. Accomplishments included:

- Donut Days
- Holiday parties for grades K–4
- Paw Print orders and school store operations
- Friday Night Out (FNO) events
- Hunger Games mentoring
- Library helpers
- Spirit Days
- School assemblies
- Concessions for after-school events
- Participation in the Avon Food Pantry on February 21

Leader of the Pack students fulfill Paw Print Café orders once a month. Paw Prints are earned when students are recognized for positive behavior or nominated as Student of the Week. Students select prizes, which are prepared and delivered to classrooms by Leader of the Pack students. Park Campus students also participated in activities promoting inclusion and respect for all students. Each grade level engaged in reading a children's book and completing related activities as part of the school's "No Place for Hate" efforts.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Park Campus Student Representative Ella Nelson reported that staff and students across grade levels have been actively engaged in meaningful learning experiences. Students in grades K-4 participated in World Reading Day activities, including virtual author visits and cross-curricular projects such as a fourth-grade economics store. Students also engaged in "No Place for Hate" lessons and discussions to promote inclusivity and understanding.

Student Representative Bennett Peck shared that grades 5-8 continued academic work across content areas, including literary analysis, climate models in science, real-world math applications, research writing, and a turtle egg incubation project. Seventh graders completed a Mars research paper, and eighth graders finalized Holocaust projects, highlighted by a guest speaker who shared her personal experience.



Board members each provided a summary of the sessions they attended at the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Conference in November. Members reported that the sessions were informative and provided valuable insights to support their governance work. Dr. Stephen Mack served as the district's Delegate and attended the Delegate Assembly, where representatives from school districts across Illinois voted on proposed resolutions.

Mrs. Kristy Braden shared a legislative update on state funding for schools and categorical mandates. The proposed legislation aims to achieve fully funded schools by 2027.

Mrs. Kristy Miller attended the Village of Grayslake hearing regarding proposed community planning initiatives.

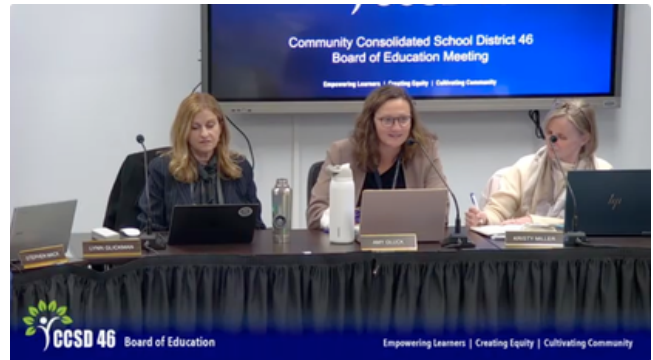
Dr. Stephen Mack offered condolences on behalf of the District for the passing of former CCSD 46 student Jonathan Williams.

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Superintendent, shared that the administration met with Wold Architects and Engineers to begin planning summer 2027 construction for the remaining three media centers.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Amy Gluck shared that District 46 was selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), known as "The Nation's Report Card." This congressionally mandated project assesses 4th, 8th, and 12th-grade student knowledge in subjects such as math, reading, and science. NAEP provides a consistent, national benchmark of student achievement across states but does not produce individual scores or affect student grades. This year, 45 8th-grade students from Grayslake Middle School were chosen to participate.



Mrs. Gluck also noted that there will be no school on Friday, February 13, as staff will participate in a Lake County Institute Day hosted by the Lake County Regional Office of Education. Three schools in the county will host the event, which includes keynote speakers and breakout sessions, and 17 District 46 staff members will serve as presenters.

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

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

- Motion to approve the Proposed 2026-27 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  
Approved 7-0
- Motion to approve the Contract Award for 3 Rooftop Units (RTUs) at Prairieview with PremiStar  
Approved 7-0
- Motion to approve Press Plus Policies 120 and remove Policy 2:150 for further consideration  
Approved 7-0

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

- **Policy Committee Feedback**

Mrs. Miller shared feedback from the check-in question discussed at the January 28 Policy Committee meeting. The Committee affirmed that PRESS provides valued fidelity and expertise to the District. Members agreed that policies should be followed as written to ensure legal compliance. The Policy Committee will consider minor wording revisions when appropriate.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

- **Scale Server Environment Purchase**

Ms. Amanda Pelsor, Director of Innovations, shared that the District's current server environment is centralized in one building and is scheduled for refresh within the next one to two years. Ongoing upgrades to security cameras, access control, and intercom systems require additional server capacity. The approved intercom project included approximately \$30,000 for building-level servers due to capacity limitations. Continuing this approach would result in multiple single-purpose servers while still requiring a full system refresh. Administration worked with the District's Managed Service Provider, Forward Edge, to develop a solution that meets both short and long-term needs. The proposed Scale Computing solution consists of three interconnected server nodes located at different sites across the District that operate as a shared pool of resources. This design eliminates system-specific servers and provides district-wide redundancy, reducing single points of failure and improving system reliability. The proposed solution consolidates planned expenditures into a single strategic investment, reduces ongoing maintenance and monitoring demands, and improves the District's security posture. The three-node hybrid scale cluster, including installation, totals \$82,386. This replaces approximately \$30,000 in server costs from the approved intercom project, resulting in a net additional cost of \$52,386.

- **Grayslake Planning Supplemental Discussion**

The Board discussed the recent Village of Grayslake planning meeting regarding the possibility of future residential development. Board members expressed concerns related to financial incentives for new development, the potential impact on schools, and the limited emphasis on schools in Village communications. It was suggested that the District consider establishing a formal governance mechanism to support ongoing collaboration and communication.

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 public comments were made. The Board adjourned the general meeting at 7:26 pm and entered into closed session.

The next scheduled Board of Education general meeting on March 18, 2026, will be held at 6:00 pm and live-streamed online. Please visit [d46.org/board-of-education](https://d46.org/board-of-education) for more information.



# CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION



**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

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**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

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**Maureen Heun, Member**

Term: 2025-2029

Member Since: 2025

Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5678

Email: heun.maureen@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: 2025-2029

Member Since: 2013

Phone: 847-223-3540, ext. 5669

Email: weidman.jim@d46.org



FREDERICK/GMS PTO PRESENTS

# ROUTE 83 SHOWDOWN GAME DAY

\$5 ADMISSION FEE | CONCESSIONS | RAFFLES | 3 POINT SHOOTOUT



FREDERICK &  
GMS STAFF

VS

GRAYSLAKE  
FIRE & POLICE



SCAN THE  
QR CODE  
TO REGISTER



FRIDAY, FEB 27TH  
6:30 DOORS 7PM TIP-OFF  
GRAYSLAKE NORTH HS GYM