

CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS

JULY 15, 2026



CCSD 46 Welcomes Dr. Alfonso Carmona



It is an honor and a privilege to write to you as your Superintendent of Schools. For many years, I have watched Community Consolidated School District 46 from afar, admiring

its rich legacy of strong community support, dedicated educators, and remarkable students. Stepping into this role and joining the D46 family is a remarkable opportunity for which I am truly honored. I am deeply appreciative of the confidence the Board has shown in me as I begin this journey.

My educational philosophy is rooted in a simple but powerful belief: every single child deserves an exceptional education that challenges their mind, nurtures their unique talents, and prepares them to navigate a diverse and changing world. What drew me to CCSD 46 is your clear, shared commitment to this exact mission.

As we look toward the upcoming school year, my immediate priority is to listen and learn. I want to honor the excellent work already underway in our classrooms while collaborating to ensure equity, transparency, and accountability across all operations. I believe true leadership is a partnership. I will be launching a comprehensive listening tour this summer and fall. You will see me in our schools, visiting classrooms, and hosting community forums, because the best insights come directly from those who live and breathe D46 every day—our staff, our families, and, more importantly, our students.

I am incredibly excited about the journey ahead and look forward to meeting you all very soon. Please feel free to reach out to my office or connect with me during our upcoming community events. Let's make this a wonderful, transformative school year for our children.

UPCOMING EVENTS



AUGUST

- 11-13 - New Teacher Orientation
- 12 - Infinite Campus Parent Portal Opens
- 12 - Frederick Kick Off Camp
- 12 - Board of Education General Meeting - Falcon Room, Frederick School 6:00 pm
- 17 - Institute Day - No student attendance
- 18 - Institute Day - No student attendance
- 18 - School Supply Drop-Off for Grades K-8
- 19 - First day of school for grades K-8 **Half day/early dismissal schedule
- 21 - Meet the Staff at Early Childhood Center, 9:00 am & 10:30 am
- 24 - First day of school for Early Childhood Center students
- 31 - Back to School Night - Grayslake Middle School 7th Grade 6:15-7:30 pm

SEPTEMBER

- 1 - Back to School Night - Grayslake Middle School 8th Grade 6:15-7:30 pm
- 1 - Back to School Night - Park Campus Grades 5-8 - 6:30-7:00 pm or 7:15-7:45 pm
- 2 - Board of Education General Meeting - Falcon Room, Frederick School 6:00 pm
- 2 - Back to School Night - Frederick School 5th Grade 6:00- 7:15 pm
- 3 - Back to School Night - Frederick School 6th Grade 6:00-7:15 pm
- 3 - Back to School Night - Park Campus Grades K-4 - 6:30-7:00 pm or 7:15-7:45 pm
- 7 - Labor Day - No School
- 9 - Half Day Early Dismissal (AM ECC attends)
- 10 - Back to School Night - Avon, Meadowview, Prairieview, Woodview Schools
- 16 - Board of Education General Meeting - Falcon Room, Frederick School 6:00 pm
- 18 - Preschool Screening
- 21 - No School



CONSTRUCTION NEWS & UPDATES

Construction continues at four of our schools this summer, following the successful passage of our "Maintaining Excellence" referendum in the spring of 2024. This summer, the Media Centers at Meadowview School, Prairieview School, Frederick School, and Park Campus are being transformed into exciting learning spaces, including new study rooms, maker spaces, and STEM labs at Frederick and Park.

Following the demolition of the old spaces, the initial plumbing, electrical, and steelwork began in mid-June. Now in mid-July, we are seeing the spaces begin to take shape with curving arches, the beginnings of genius bars and study rooms, and the installation of new ceilings.



Based on feedback from the user group meetings, which wrapped up in May, plans for the remaining three media centers were shared with the Board of Education on July 8th. Those new spaces will feature the following "biome" themes: Tropical Jungle for Grayslake Middle School, Space Galaxy for Avon Center School, and serene Forest Woods for Woodview School. Construction on those spaces will begin during the summer of 2027.

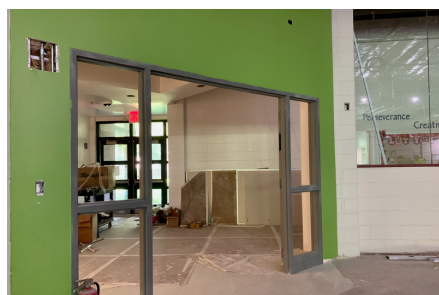
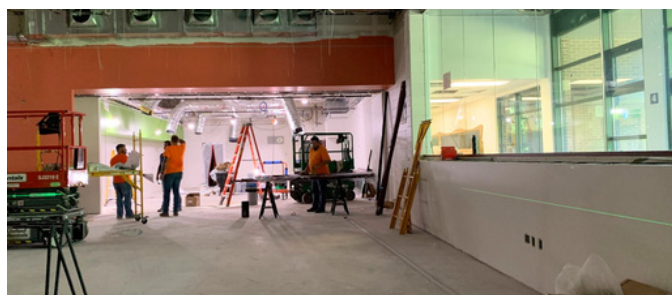
Special note: Our Board of Education meetings will continue to be held at Frederick School in the Falcon Room, as usual. We will have an alternate entrance marked for the meeting room, since it is adjacent to the media center.



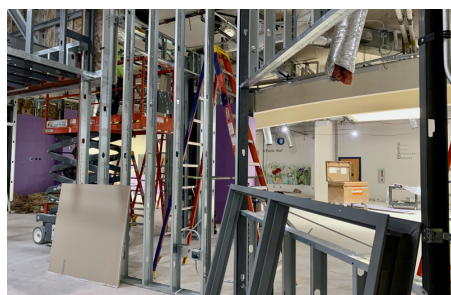
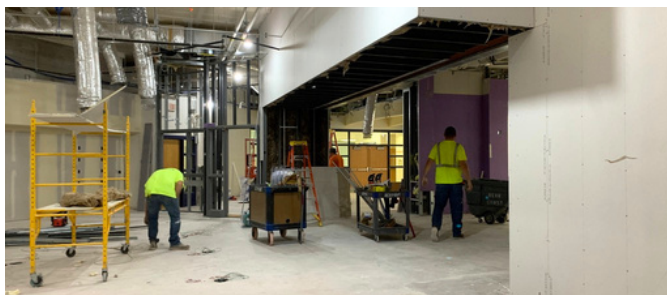
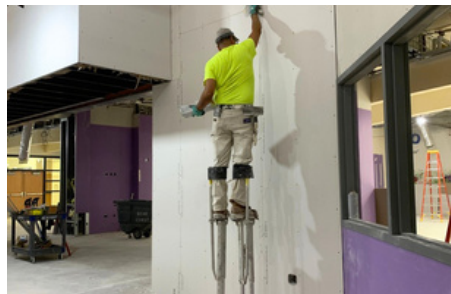
See photos of the progress in this newsletter and follow along as we post on the district website and social media accounts: <https://d46.org/maintaining-excellence/> or @ccsd46 on Facebook & Instagram.



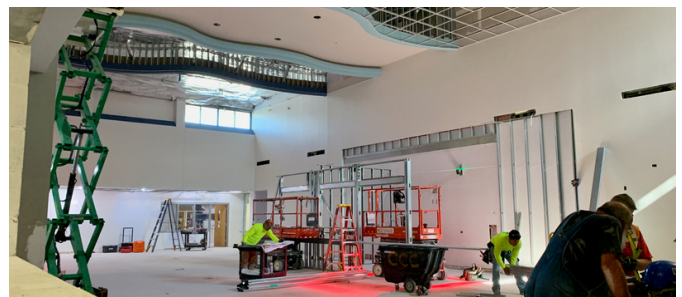
MEDIA CENTER CONSTRUCTION: Meadowview School



MEDIA CENTER CONSTRUCTION: Prairieview School



MEDIA CENTER CONSTRUCTION: Frederick School



MEDIA CENTER CONSTRUCTION: Park Campus



MEDIA CENTER FUTURE PLANS: Avon, Woodview & Grayslake Middle School



Avon Center School - Mascot: Nova, Biome: Space Galaxy



Grayslake Middle School - Mascot: Panther, Biome: Tropical Jungle



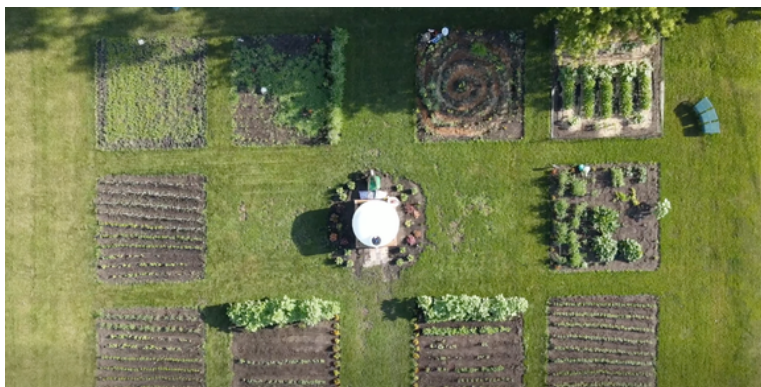
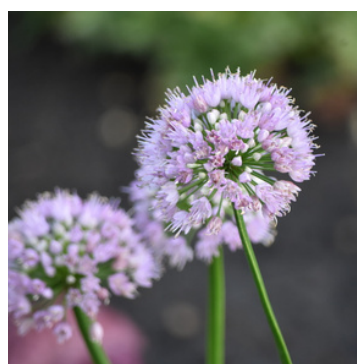
Woodview School - Mascot: Owl, Biome: Serene Forest Woods

KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENTS

Children registered for kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year participated in a kindergarten assessment this summer. The purpose of this assessment is to help provide teachers with information about each incoming student's early literacy and early math skills heading into the school year.



SNEAK PEEK AT THE GMS & WV GARDENS



SUMMER CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

July 7th was an exciting day at Prairieview School as new rooftop mechanicals were installed to replace units that had reached the end of their useful life. A large crane was used to lift the old units off the roof and lift and position the new units into place.

The district is also addressing our facility needs by improving exterior masonry and concrete areas at Avon Center School, Woodview, Meadowview, Frederick, Grayslake Middle School, and Park Campus.

As part of our ongoing commitment to safety and security, we are implementing upgrades to several key aspects of our emergency response systems, including a new intercom system, additional security cameras, and updates to our parking lot lighting.

This work directly supports the district's Strategic Goals: improving financial transparency and updating our facilities to ensure equitable, high-quality learning environments for all students.



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR



School Registration is going on now!

Our goal is to place students in the best possible setting for them to learn by building classes that are balanced in terms of learning needs and styles, gender, emotional and social development, academic achievement, and behavior. Therefore, it is important for us to have our new and returning students register for the 2026-2027 school year as early as possible.

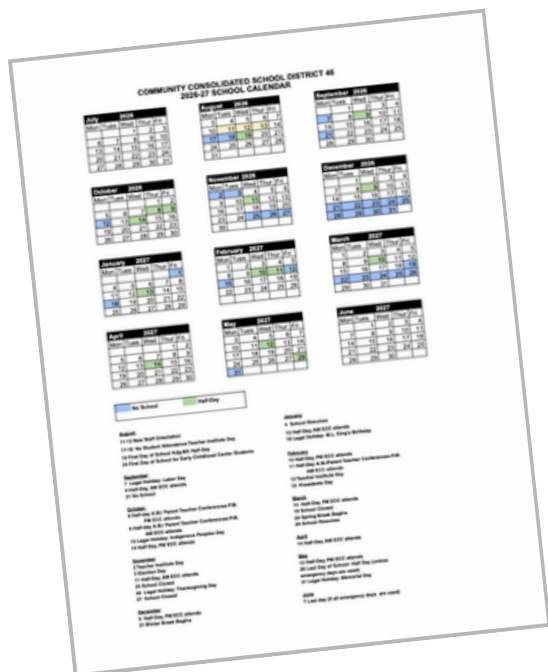
Please be advised that for registration to be complete, the online application must be submitted with all necessary supporting documents, and a payment or payment plan must be received. Student schedules and transportation assignments will not be released in August until registration is complete.

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 CCSD 46 Early Childhood Center at (847) 543-6204.

Visit the CCSD 46 website for more information and to register now: <https://d46.org/registration/>



2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR



The 2026-2027 CCSD 46 School Calendar was approved at the February 11th Board of Education meeting. Mark your calendars for these important dates:

- August 19, 2026 - First day of School for grades K-8 (half-day attendance)
- August 24, 2026 - First day of School for Early Childhood Center
- November 25-27, 2026 - Fall Break
- December 21, 2026-January 3, 2027 - 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>

The next CCSD 46 District News will feature all of the important information for Back-to-School time!



CCSD 46 CALENDAR

2026-2027 HIGHLIGHTS



First Day of School

Grades K-8, Half-Day Attendance



First Day of School

Early Childhood Center



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

07 - Labor Day
09 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends
21 - No School

OCTOBER

08 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
09 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends
12 - Indigenous Peoples' Day
14 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends

NOVEMBER

02 - Staff Institute Day
03 - Election Day
11 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends

DECEMBER

09 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends

JANUARY

13 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends
18 - ML King, Jr. Day

FEBRUARY

10 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
11 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends
12 - Staff Institute Day
15 - Presidents' Day

MARCH

10 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
19 - No School

APRIL

14 - Half-Day AM ECC Attends

MAY

12 - Half-Day PM ECC Attends
31 - Memorial Day

Visit the CCSD 46 website
for more information
d46.org/calendar

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: August 12 (one meeting), September 2, September 16

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

Please note: Although Frederick School's media center will be under construction over the summer, Board Meetings will still be held in the Falcon Room. Alternate entrances will be marked for public access to meetings.

GENERAL MEETING: July 8, 2026

The CCSD 46 Board of Education held a general meeting on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, in the Falcon Room in Frederick School.

President Stephen Mack called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. 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 continued with a presentation by Mr. Matt Verdun from Wold Architects and Mr. Daniel Zivilik, Project Executive with Bear Construction. They shared the proposed designs and floor plans for the Media Center renovations at Grayslake Middle School, Avon Center School, and Woodview School. Renovations at those buildings are scheduled to begin in the summer of 2027 and will be funded through the 2024 6-million-dollar limiting-rate referendum. An update on the current media center renovation projects at Frederick, Meadowview, Prairieview, and Park Campus was also provided. The major construction work has been completed, and the projects remain on schedule to be completed for the opening of school this fall.

The Board and Superintendent reports were then presented.

The Board of Education welcomed Dr. Alfonso Carmona, Superintendent, and Mr. Scott Wold, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, to the District.



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Stephen Mack, Board President, reported that he attended the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Lake Division Dinner Planning Committee meeting. He shared that the upcoming Lake Division Dinner Meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, and Wednesday, February 10.

Mrs. Kristy Miller expressed her appreciation to everyone involved in the Media Center renovation projects, including the District's Operations and Maintenance Department. She also shared that she had the opportunity to visit the Grayslake Middle School Community Garden, and she thanked Dr. Amanda Pelsor for her continued commitment to resource conservation.

Mrs. Kristy Braden thanked everyone who participated in the Pride Parade on Sunday, June 14. She also attended the Ed-RED and Lake County Regional Office of Education Mini Summit in June, where superintendents, board members, and educational leaders gathered to collaborate, network, and participate in breakout sessions focused on current issues affecting public education.

Mrs. Tamika Nash thanked the community for participating in the Juneteenth Freedom Walk held on Friday, June 19. The community event began at the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum and concluded at the Grayslake Public Library, featuring performances, historical exhibits, and keynote speakers. She also expressed her appreciation to the Grayslake Public Library and the Grayslake Heritage Center & Museum for their partnership in making the event a success.

Dr. Alfonso Carmona thanked the Board of Education for the confidence they have placed in him as the District's new Superintendent. He expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the CCSD 46 community and stated that he looks forward to building a strong, collaborative partnership with the Board. Dr. Carmona shared that over the coming months he plans to engage with staff, students, families, and the community, emphasizing the importance of listening, learning, and building meaningful relationships as he begins his leadership in the District.

Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, announced that the District will implement a new Kindergarten Welcome and Screening process on July 14, 15, and 16. All incoming kindergarten students enrolling for the 2026–2027 school year will participate in a 20-minute screening at Woodview School to help support a successful transition into kindergarten.

Mr. Jose Zires, Director of Operations and Maintenance, reported that several District administrators observed a reunification safety training conducted by Round Lake Area School District 116. He shared that CCSD 46 will begin planning a similar training to strengthen the District's emergency preparedness efforts.



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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, Treasurer's Report, and the Disposal of Property report. The motion carried.

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

- Motion to approve Board Policies 121
Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve Door Replacement Project
Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve LED Lighting Project
Approved 6-0
- Motion to approve Portrait of a Learner to the Strategic Plan Process
Approved 6-0

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

- Strategic Plan Update - Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, provided the Board with an update on the District's Strategic Plan, highlighting accomplishments from the 2025–2026 school year and priorities for 2026–2027 across the areas of Curriculum, Technology, Facilities, Finance, and Communications.

Curriculum: Administration reported the successful implementation of new K–8 mathematics resources, continued work on formative assessment practices, initiation of the Grades 5–8 Standards-Based Reporting Professional Development Team, and ongoing efforts to provide equitable access to core instruction. Priorities for 2026–2027 include expanding formative assessment practices, continuing standards-based reporting work, implementing newly renovated media center and makerspace learning environments, launching the Two-Way Dual Language program at the kindergarten level, and implementing a co-teaching model to support multilingual learners.

Technology: Accomplishments included the work of the Technology Professional Development Team, development of Generative AI guidance for students, staff, and families, evaluation of student information systems, and creation of a long-term classroom technology replacement plan. During the 2026–2027 school year, the District will provide professional learning focused on Generative AI and begin the transition to a new Student Information System.



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Facilities: Administration highlighted continued collaboration with Wold Architects on the Long-Range Facilities Plan, media center renovation planning for multiple schools, improvements to outdoor learning spaces, LED lighting upgrades, parking lot lighting enhancements, and districtwide safety and security improvements. Priorities for 2026–2027 include continued refinement of the Long-Range Facilities Plan, completion of media center renovation planning, planning for student support space improvements, and evaluation of future space needs for the Instructional Support Center and Technology Department.

Finance: Administration reviewed efforts to increase transparency through quarterly Board finance meetings focused on long-range facility planning, funding, the annual audit, staffing, and budget development. The District will continue holding quarterly finance meetings during the 2026–2027 school year to provide regular financial updates and support informed decision-making.

Communications: Administration reported increased family engagement through ParentSquare, including a significant increase in user interactions and improved student registration through targeted communications. Additional communication efforts included outreach regarding the new Two-Way Dual Language Program and updates on summer construction projects. Looking ahead, the District will continue providing construction updates and launch the "D46 Stories" initiative to further strengthen communication and community engagement.

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

- **Student Information System** - Ms. Amanda Pelsor, Director of Innovation, provided the Board of Education with an update regarding the District's student information system (SIS). The District has utilized Infinite Campus for the past 11 years to manage student attendance, registration, health records, grading and reporting, food service, fee management, and state reporting requirements. Ms. Pelsor shared that staff feedback collected through the District's Technology Survey, along with evaluations conducted by the Technology Planning and Design Team, front office staff, and administrators, indicated that the current system is no longer meeting the District's instructional and operational needs. She noted that transitioning to a new student information system would better support the District's long-term instructional goals, particularly the planned implementation of standards-based grading and reporting for grades 5–8. Administration had originally anticipated recommending the purchase of a new system during FY27, with implementation in FY28. The transition would require approximately 12 months and was budgeted at \$120,000, which includes implementation costs, setup fees, and the need to operate both the current and new systems concurrently during the transition. Due to the District's current budget challenges, Administration is not recommending the purchase of a new student information system at this time. Instead, the update was presented to inform the Board of the need for a future transition. Administration expects to bring forward a revised timeline for the purchase and implementation of a new student information system when financially feasible.



CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

- **District Office Basement Sealing** - Mr. Scott Wold, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented information regarding the District Office basement waterproofing project. He explained that the proposed improvements are intended to address moisture concerns, improve drainage, and protect the long-term condition of the facility. Mr. Wold reported that the district obtained proposals from U.S. Waterproofing and Perma-Seal Basement Systems, Inc. for the project. The proposal from U.S. Waterproofing totaled \$26,956.37, while the proposal from Perma-Seal Basement Systems, Inc. totaled \$33,709.02. Administration is recommending proceeding with the U.S. Waterproofing proposal, as it was the lowest responsible proposal and provides the necessary scope of work to address the identified facility needs. The recommendation will be presented to the Board of Education for approval at the August 12 meeting. The project will be funded through the FY2027 Operations and Maintenance budget.
- **Right at School Service Contract Extension** - Mr. Scott Wold, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, presented information regarding the extension of the District's agreement with Right At School, LLC for before and after school care services. He explained that Right At School provides supervised childcare, enrichment activities, and recreational programming for students before and after the regular school day. Mr. Wold shared that he has reviewed the current partnership and recommends extending the agreement for the 2026–2027 school year. The continuation of the partnership will allow the District to maintain an established childcare program that supports the needs of families while providing students with a safe and engaging environment outside of school hours. Administration recommends approval of the agreement extension with Right At School, LLC at the August 12 Board of Education meeting. There are no direct financial implications for the District, as Right At School utilizes District facilities at no cost in exchange for providing before- and after-school programming. Additionally, the District receives 5% of the program's revenue from Right At School in accordance with the agreement.
- **Miscellaneous Rates Substitute Pay** - Dr. Chris Wolk, Director of Human Resources, presented the proposed 2026–2027 Miscellaneous and Substitute Wage Rates to the Board of Education. These wage rates apply to positions that are not covered under the District's collective bargaining agreements and are typically filled by individuals from outside the District. Administration reviewed the current wage rates and compared them with those of neighboring school districts to ensure the District remains competitive, particularly for substitute teachers, whose role is essential to the District's daily operations. The proposed changes include increasing the daily substitute teacher rate from \$125 to \$135 for the first 20 days, increasing the loyalty rate beginning on day 21 from \$140 to \$150 per day, increasing the long-term substitute teacher rate from \$250 to \$253 per day after 20 consecutive days in the same assignment, increasing the daily rate for retired CCSD 46 staff serving as substitutes from \$150 to \$160, and increasing the hourly rate for non-CCSD 46 substitute teaching assistants from \$18.33 to \$19.16. The rates will continue to be reviewed annually to maintain competitiveness and reflect the District's staffing needs.

CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION

- **CSBO Mentoring Contract** - Dr. Chris Wolk, Director of Human Resources, presented information regarding the proposed mentoring agreement with Mr. Brad Goldstein. Mr. Goldstein has served as Interim Chief School Business Official (CSBO) since March 2026. Effective July 1, 2026, Mr. Scott Wold assumed the role of Assistant Superintendent of Finance/CSBO. To support a smooth leadership transition, maintain institutional knowledge, and ensure continuity of financial operations, Administration is recommending that Mr. Goldstein continue to provide mentoring support to Mr. Wold during the 2026–2027 fiscal year. The proposed agreement outlines the scope of the mentoring services, compensation, and scheduling expectations. Under the agreement, Mr. Goldstein would be compensated at a rate of \$500 per half day, with total compensation not to exceed \$10,000 for the fiscal year, equivalent to a maximum of 20 half-day sessions. Mentoring sessions will be scheduled collaboratively and aligned with key financial milestones, including budget development, levy preparation, and fiscal year-end closeout. Administration will recommend approval of the mentoring agreement with Mr. Goldstein at the August 12 Board of Education meeting.
- **Evolve Service Agreement SY26-27** - Mrs. Amy Gluck, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, provided the Board of Education with an update on the Evolve Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program. She explained that Evolve is a Tier 2 intervention designed to support students by strengthening connections, fostering belonging, and developing social-emotional skills through relationships with peers and trusted adults. Mrs. Gluck shared that Evolve began in CCSD 46 during the 2023–2024 school year with two schools, six staff facilitators, two student groups, and 23 participating students. The program expanded during the 2024–2025 school year to include three schools, eight staff facilitators, 11 groups, and 137 students. Evolve continued to be implemented successfully across all three buildings during the 2025–2026 school year. Students are identified for participation through teacher recommendations, student self-recommendations, or parent recommendations. District staff serve as Evolve group facilitators after receiving training from Evolve. Groups typically meet once per week for approximately 40 minutes over a 13-week period, with facilitators receiving ongoing coaching and support. Mrs. Gluck noted that Evolve facilitators previously shared the program's impact with the Board of Education in February 2025, highlighting the positive experiences of both students and staff. After reviewing the program with building-level administration. Administration is recommending continuation of Evolve for the 2026–2027 school year. Throughout the upcoming school year, Administration will continue discussions regarding the long-term approach to supporting students' social-emotional learning needs.

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 p.m. The next scheduled Board of Education general meeting on August 12, 2026, will be held at 6:00 p.m. and live-streamed online.

Please note: Although Frederick School's media center will be under construction over the summer, Board Meetings will still be held in the Falcon Room. Please use the main entrance at Frederick School and follow the signs to the Falcon Room.

Please visit d46.org/board-of-education for more information.

CCSD 46 BOARD OF EDUCATION



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