

**Board of Education
Worth School District 127
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
January 14, 2026
Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administration Building
11218 S. Ridgeland Ave, Worth, Illinois**

Administrators:

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent
Dr. Sinead Chambers, Director of Student Services
Dr. Maureen Eichstaedt, Assistant Director of Student Services
Dr. Lisa Lyke, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology
David Dvorchak, Director of Facilities and Grounds
Jason Tooth, Principal, Worth Junior High
Brittan Russell, Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High
Ashley Toms Bonnstetter, Principal, Worthwoods Elementary
Elizabeth D'Andrea, Principal, Worth Elementary
Alyse Koehler, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary & Worthwoods Elementary

Board Recording Secretary

Jill Moore

Others Present

Megan Dresden
Lisa Strzempa, WE
Tiffany Alexander-Harris, WE

1. MEETING OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Drew Sernus, Danette Keeler, Meghan Sisk, Vince Flores, Michelle Egan, David Blanks

Absent: Missy Sinclair

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President, Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. 5 ESSENTIALS SURVEY

Dr. Fleming stated the survey will be open from February 3 through March 10. The 5Essentials Survey identifies five indicators that lead to improved outcomes for all students, including improved attendance and larger test score gains. The five indicators that positively affect school success are: Effective Leaders; Collaborative Teachers; Involved Families; Supportive Environments; Ambitious Instruction. All teachers and paraprofessionals, grades 4-12 students will take the survey. Parents are invited to take the parent portion of the survey, but each school needs at least 20% of parents to participate for a report to be generated.

B. PARENT UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY NIGHT

Dr. Fleming stated the Parent University Technology Night will be held on Tuesday, February 3, from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m at Worth Junior High. Parents can get assistance with completing the 5Essentials Survey, PowerSchool, Meal Ordering, Google Classroom with WJH, Curriculum, Google Classroom with WW/WE Curriculum, Worth School District Website, Translations.

C. WORTH PARENT ORGANIZATION - COOKIES AND CANVAS - FEBRUARY 10, 2026

Dr. Fleming stated the Cookies and Canvas evening is scheduled for February 10, 2026 and will be held again at Worth Elementary. Parents and Children will paint a custom canvas and enjoy delicious cookies.

D. FOIA REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated the district has received six (6) FOIA requests since the last board meeting and all have been responded to in a timely manner. Jill Moore has one (1) pending FOIA and is waiting for further clarification due to the original request being unduly burdensome.

3. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS SERVICES

A. FINANCE REPORTS

4. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

A. ML UPDATE

Dr. Eichstaedt gave an ML update and stated that three students have been excused from the program due to the lack of available records during the pandemic. The appropriate protocols were followed and the Illinois Stated Board of Education was involved in the process.

5. DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

NO REPORT

6. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Megan Dresden - Addressed the Board of Education regarding the fire incident at Worth Elementary.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent): A. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented."

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Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Action (Consent): B. BOARD BILLS PAYABLE

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable for \$1,008,834.00 (EDUCATIONAL); \$66,421.35 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); \$77,051.17 (TRANSPORTATION); \$15,761.29 (CAPITAL PROJECTS); and \$105,965.00 (TORT IMMUNITY) for a total of \$1,274,032.81."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Action (Consent): C. PAYROLL SUMMARY

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Payroll Summary for the Education Fund in the amount of \$829,165.58, the Building Fund in the amount of \$58,642.35, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of \$53,943.95."

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Action (Consent): D. RESIGNATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - MARY TOGHER - LUNCHROOM SUPERVISOR - EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 18, 2025

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Action (Consent): E. CALL LIST OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Drew Sernus.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

8. MOTIONS

Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 regular meeting."

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, Meghan Sisk, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Abstain: David Blanks, Danette Keeler

9. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION AND/OR REPORTS/REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated that the spring SC Division Meeting will be back at the DoubleTree Hotel in Alsip on March 4th from 6:00 - 8:00PM. If any Board Member is interested in attending, to please let Jill Moore know and she will get you registered.

10. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Citizens' Remarks

11. CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

Action: B. RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education upon completion of it's discussions in closed session reconvene in public session at 6:50 p.m."

Motion by Meghan Sisk, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Meghan Sisk, Danette Keeler, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m."

Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Handwritten signature of Meghan Sisk in blue ink. To the right of the signature, the words "Secretary" and "Pro Tem" are written in blue ink.

Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education

Handwritten signature of Drew Sernus in blue ink.

Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education