

**Board of Education
Worth School District 127
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
June 4, 2025
Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administration Building
11218 S. Ridgeland Ave, Worth, Illinois**

Administrators:

Dr. Mark Fleming, Superintendent
Cindy Dykas, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager/CSBO
Dr. Maureen Eichstaedt, Assistant Director of Student Services
Linda Esposito, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Robert Jeffers, Director of Technology
Melissa Wills, Assistant Principal, Worth Junior High
Ashley Toms Bonnstetter, Principal, Worthwoods Elementary
Elizabeth D'Andrea, Principal, Worth Elementary
Allyse Koehler, Assistant Principal, Worth Elementary & Worthwoods Elementary

Board Recording Secretary

Jill Moore

Others Present

Pete Esposito

1. MEETING OPENING

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Drew Sernus, Vince Flores, Michelle Egan, David Blanks, Missy Sinclair

Absent: Danette Keeler, Meghan Sisk

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President, Drew Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Fleming opened by honoring Linda Esposito and wishing her well in her retirement. Her commitment and unwavering support have made a lasting impact on our students, staff, and the entire school community.

Dr. Fleming congratulated Assistant Principal, Melissa Wills, on her new position and thanked her for her dedication and hard work at Worth Junior High.

A. WORTHWOODS/WORTH JUNIOR HIGH CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Dr. Fleming gave a positive update on the construction projects at Worthwoods and Worth Junior High stating both buildings are on track for completion by August 15th.

B. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Mr. Robert Jeffers gave a technology update and explained that we've approached the end of the four-year cycle for Chromebooks. New Chromebooks will be issued for students and student Chromebooks will also receive upgrades, including anti-glare screens, increased RAM, and HDMI ports for easier classroom connectivity. The district has been selected for the Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program, receiving \$40,500 for security enhancements and complete funding of Chromebooks. The goal is to prevent phishing emails and ensure network security with regular updates and audits.

Dr. Fleming thanked Mr. Jeffers for his efforts in securing quotes and funding for the devices.

C. SOUTH COOK DIVISION GOVERNING BOARD MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS - JUNE 17, 2025

Dr. Fleming informed the Board that on June 17, 2025, the South Cook Division Governing Board Meeting will take place. Anyone interested in attending should let Jill Moore know and she will register you.

D. FOIA REQUESTS

Dr. Fleming stated that the district received one FOIA request and it has been responded to in a timely manner.

3. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR BUSINESS SERVICES

A. FY 2025 AMENDED BUDGET

Mrs. Dykas gave a brief update regarding the amended budget stated there are minor changes. The projected fund balance for the year is revised to \$15.8 million due to delays in contractor payments. The actual budget document is available in the BoardDocs, and the amended budget is requested for approval.

- \$500k increase in Revenue in the Amended Budget
- \$(1 million) in Local Revenue
- Larger than expected Property Tax refunds/tax objections
- Since the Board approved the Recapture Levy, those funds will not be recovered
- \$1.15 million in State Revenue
- \$1m Evidence Based Funding – Property Tax Relief Grant to Fund 10
- \$150k State Categoricals – higher than originally anticipated
- \$350k in Federal Revenues
- Federal Grants – Additional Funding given during the year (Title I, Title IV)

- \$1.75 million increase in Expenditures in the Amended Budget
- Increase \$250k in Education Fund
- Instructional expenses increased from original budget for consultants and capital outlay resulting from additional federal funds directly offsetting these costs
- Increase \$350k in Operations and Maintenance Fund
- Slight reduction in Purchased Services of \$150k
- Additional \$500k in Transfers – per resolution in November to move funds from O&M to Debt Service Fund for Bond Payments to keep tax burden on community flat
- Decrease \$250k transfers from Working Cash
- As stated above, now transferred from O&M
- Increase \$50k in Transportation
- Utilized more transportation costs than originally planned
- Reduced \$300k in Health/Life Safety Fund
- Originally budgeted some construction costs in this Fund; but not included in most recent HLS amendment, so construction costs cannot be charged here
- Fund Balance of over \$1MM will be used in future years for roofs, parking lots, etc.

Operating Funds: Anticipated Fund Balances as of 6/30/25

- Original Budget FY25 \$12.1 million;
- Amended Budget FY25: \$12.3 million

Special Funds: Anticipated Fund Balances as of 6/30/25

- Original Budget FY25 \$2.2 million;
- Amended Budget FY25: \$3.5 million

Special Funds: Anticipated Fund Balances as of 6/30/25

- Original Budget FY25 \$14.3 million;
- Amended Budget FY25: \$15.8 million

4. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

No Report

5. DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

A. EdCamp 2025

- Dates: 8 days, June 9-13 and June 16-18. June 19 is a Thursday and is a holiday, and I didn't think anyone would want to come back for 1 more day. However, in the past the first day of EdCamp was always for staff only. This year students will start on day 1, so we kind of get that day back.
- Times: 9:00-12:00 for students, and 8:30-1:00 for teachers. 1 hour less for teachers than in previous years.
- Student Enrollment - 160 students. This is less than in previous years. Our largest classes are for students entering grade 2 and grade 6.
- Staff participants - 50 teachers, paraprofessionals, sub teachers. 25 are veteran EdCamp staff, and 25 are new EdCamp staff.
- Student Ambassadors - for service hours or just for fun. - 14 total, 11 are WJH grads and 3 are family members of staff.

Changes this year:

- We have no consultants this year for a couple of reasons. Most importantly, we wanted a gradual release. It was always the plan that we would reimagine and change the way we offered summer school with the support of consultants and guest teachers. This year, we asked the teachers if they felt ready to do this on their own. The feedback from last year's EdCamp staff was they felt ready.
- So we redirected the Title 1 money budgeted for EdCamp to consultant PD throughout the school year.
- Teachers are still being supported. All of the lesson planning and prep was done for the teachers. Consultants Stefane Beddard and Amanda Greene wrote all of the lessons.
- The lessons come from our adopted ELA and Math curriculums.
- ELA - lessons that classes did not get to this year.
- Math - lessons that reinforce the best practices in math instruction and include math talks, productive struggle, and the importance of using manipulatives.
- I printed all of the lessons and worksheets, and gathered and delivered all of the materials to their EdCamp classrooms.
- Teachers were given 3 hours set-up time prior to first day of EdCamp and 1 hour plan/day.
- Music - This year I reached out Krystal to see if she would be interested in bringing music to the classrooms instead of teaching a class. She will visit 6 classrooms per day for 15 minutes of music fun and will see each class 3 times during the course of EdCamp.
- Krystal will also MC our morning and afternoon community gatherings in the MPR.

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

There were no Citizens' Remarks

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."

Action (Consent): B. BOARD BILLS PAYABLE

Resolution: Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Accounts Payable for \$831,814.35 (EDUCATION); \$18,789.36 (OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE); \$591.01 (TRANSPORTATION); and \$1,011,111.93 (CAPITAL PROJECTS) for a total of \$1,862,306.65."

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

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 \$1,149,532.71, the Building Fund in the amount of \$83,524.92, and the FICA/IMRF/Medicare in the amount of \$75,647.31."

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): D. RESIGNATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - KRISTINA BRENNER - LUNCH SUPERVISOR - WORTH ELEMENTARY - EFFECTIVE MAY 20, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): E. RESIGNATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - KAREN STIERS - LUNCH SUPERVISOR - WORTHWOODS ELEMENTARY - EFFECTIVE JUNE 3, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): F. RESIGNATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - INTESAR ALDENI - PARAPROFESSIONAL - EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): G. RESIGNATION OF CERTIFIED STAFF - WISAM RASHID - PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE - EFFECTIVE JUNE 3, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): H. RESIGNATION OF CERTIFIED STAFF - LORI STAGE - SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER - WORTH JUNIOR HIGH - EFFECTIVE JUNE 3, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): I. RECLASSIFICATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - ARACELI MAGANA-GUERRERO - FROM PART-TIME CUSTODIAN TO PARAPROFESSIONAL - WORTH ELEMENTARY - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): J. EMPLOYMENT OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - CARL BLATTNER - PART-TIME CUSTODIAN - EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): K. EMPLOYMENT OF CLASSIFIED STAFF - RACHEL KADAN - STUDENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER - EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 2025

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): L. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED STAFF - SARA BEAULIEU - 2ND GRADE TEACHER - WORTHWOODS ELEMENTARY - EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): M. REVISED - FY2025-2026 NON-UNION HOURLY AND SUB SALARIES

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action (Consent): N. 2ND READING AND ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICY #118

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

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

8. MOTIONS

Action: A. REGULAR BOARD MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 14, 2025 regular meeting."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Missy Sinclair.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: B. CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the May 14, 2025 closed session meeting."

Motion by Missy Sinclair, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: C. AMENDED BUDGET APPROVAL 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Amended Budget for the 2024-2025 School Year."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Missy Sinclair.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: D. APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS THROUGH JUNE 2025

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to pay all invoices due and owing on or before June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent/CSBO/SFO."

Motion by Drew Sernus, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: E. APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS THROUGH JULY 2025

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to pay all invoices due and owing on or before July 31, 2025, as recommended by the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent/CSBO/SFO."

Motion by Missy Sinclair, second by David Blanks.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: F. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Personal Property as presented in the attachment".

Motion by Michelle Egan, second by Vince Flores.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

Action: G. APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

Recommended Motion (roll call): "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent Contract for Dr. Mark T. Fleming, beginning on July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028."

Motion by Vince Flores, second by Missy Sinclair.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Drew Sernus, David Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Missy Sinclair

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

Board Member asked for clarification if full day Kindergarten students would be receiving ChromeBooks in the fall. Mr. Jeffers stated that all kindergarten students will still be using an iPad.

10. CITIZENS' REMARKS - AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Citizens' Remarks

11. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion (voice vote): "that the Board of Education motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m."

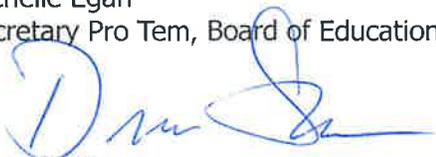
Voice Vote: All Yes

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Egan
Secretary Pro Tem, Board of Education



Drew Sernus
President, Board of Education