

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2020, at Longfellow Center. Due to the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's stay-at-home order, the meeting was held virtually via Zoom videoconference and live streamed to the public on the District's YouTube channel.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and announced that it was the regular monthly meeting of the District 58 Board of Education. Present at Longfellow Center: President Darren Hughes; Kevin Russell, Superintendent; James Eichmiller, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Learning; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary. Present via video conference: Vice President Gregory Harris; and Members Kirat Doshi, Emily Hanus, Steve Olczyk, Jill Samonte and Tracy Weiner. Members absent: None. Also in attendance via video conference were Jayne Yudzentis, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Catherine Hannigan, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds; and Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

President Hughes led the flag salute.

**3. NON-ACTION REPORTS**

A. "Spotlight on our Schools" - Preliminary Staffing Update

Dr. Jayne Yudzentis, along with Justin Sisul and Jessica Stewart, presented a preliminary staffing update to the Board. As a result of the strategic planning process, the District has worked to close gaps in communication, improve equity for all students, create staffing targets, and equitably allocate related services across the District. Dr. Yudzentis reviewed the staffing targets for each grade level and noted that, although it is still early in the registration process, the coming school year should have more consistency in average class size across schools. The District is on track to meet and likely exceed the 80% threshold for class size targets.

The District is also restructuring models to more efficiently and effectively provide support for students. In special education, the continued development of in-district programs helps keep students connected to their school and community; redirected funds previously spent on outplacements can fund additional support and specialized staffing in-district for struggling

students. The District is working toward overall lower class sizes and has eliminated combination classes, which reduces the need for instructional assistants in large classes. The District is expanding its intervention services to be delivered by and additional 4.5 FTE certified staff for students needing Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention, which will increase support in an additional seven schools (four Title I schools already receive interventionist support).

The current model of math acceleration has some teachers teaching two grade levels of math during the same math block. To increase the consistency of experience for both teachers and students across the District, next year accelerated sixth graders will take Common Core 7 math at the middle schools. They will be in sixth grade sections taught by middle school math teachers.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

##### Written Communications

1. Text messages from Addie Pampalone regarding last day of school.
2. Email from Jennifer Lattimore regarding SASSED representative ~ *responses from Board Secretary Melissa Jeroes, Board Member Tracy Weiner, and Vice President Gregory Harris.*

#### 5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

##### A. Superintendent

Superintendent Kevin Russell reported on the following:

- Public Relations: Staff Appreciation was celebrated last week. The Board created a video to show its appreciation for District 58 staff.
- No final decisions have been made regarding schools reopening in the fall. The District is actively planning for several scenarios, depending on guidance from the county health department.
- Curriculum and Instruction: Per state and county guidance, summer school and Extended School Year (ESY) programs must take place remotely.
- Finance: The District's financial situation continues to be fluid. Although contingency funding plans are being made if property tax funds are insufficient to cover expenses, the District does not believe they will be necessary at this time.
- Facilities: Priority facility projects and possible funding sources are being identified in the absence of referendum funds. The work of the Citizen Task Force will remain paused during the current economic uncertainty; placing a question on the ballot this November is ruled out at this time.
- Personnel: The schedule for the last few days of the school year may look different as schools celebrate the end of the school year remotely and staff assist families with drop-off and pick-up of student

belongings. Final plans will be sent by building principals to families and staff.

- Technology: While most students will retain their devices over the summer, the District will also share details regarding drop-off of eighth grade Chromebooks and sixth grade iPads. Sixth graders will receive a Chromebook in exchange.
- Other: Addressing a frequently asked question regarding the amount of video conferencing during remote learning, Dr. Russell shared that District 58 is providing more instruction via Zoom than neighboring districts. The District will continue to consider staff and parent feedback and make adjustments to its remote learning plan in the event it is needed in the fall.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports, the investment report, and revenue and expenditure summary reports for the month ending May 11, 2020. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall reported that the Year-to-Date report shows that expenses are typical, though expenses for transportation are lower than usual due to school closures. On the revenue side, the expected state payment was not received in April, but did arrive in May. Mr. Drafall does not foresee the need to borrow funds at this point. While DuPage County is offering some property tax relief, taxpayers must file an application demonstrating how COVID-19 has affected their ability to pay. Tax receipts are expected to be reduced, but more stable than in counties where property tax payments were postponed for all taxpayers. Health insurance claim data has been lower than in prior years, and the medical reserve fund currently has a surplus. Finally, in coalition with Districts 99 and 68 and their food service vendors, District 58 and its vendor Aramark have been working together to provide breakfast and lunch for any child aged 0-18. Meals are federally funded and the program will continue through the summer. District staff have distributed meals on a volunteer basis.

C. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing special to report in regard to the Treasurer's Report.

D. Policy Committee

Member Samonte and Dr. Russell reported that the Policy Committee will meet this week with the IASB representative to review the final edits to the draft policy manual. The draft manual is expected to be on the June board agenda for first reading.

E. Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee did not meet in April.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

The Financial Advisory Committee did not meet in April.

G. District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team did not meet in April.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

Member Harris reported on the April 23, 2020 meeting. Claims have continued to trend low. During the first part of the year, costs rest more on members until their deductibles are reached, so claims could shift as the year goes on. There have been fewer elective procedures and emergency room visits during the COVID-19 stay at home order, but there may be a future increase in Teladoc use or COVID-19 associated costs due to testing. The District's pharmaceutical benefits manager will be removing high-cost drugs from the formulary, requiring review of use of those drugs to ensure they are prescribed for FDA-approved uses. 38% of members and their spouses participated in a wellness screen this fall in exchange for a \$100 gift card. 70% participation is needed to produce sufficient data, so the committee may consider increasing the incentive. The District is realizing significant savings due to the change in prescription plan and the addition of the high deductible plan.

**6. DISCUSSION**

Online Summer Opportunities

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul gave a short presentation on the remote summer learning opportunities the District is planning in lieu of the traditional summer school program from June 8 to July 31. The District will respond to learning gaps for all students when instruction resumes in the fall, but will offer optional, fee-based summer opportunities to families who wish to participate. The program will be provided by Acellus Learning System, which is an online instructional platform that has been in use before the widespread need for remote learning due to the pandemic. It is adaptive, and largely independent for students to use. The reading and math instruction will follow grade-level standards, and begin at the midpoint of each student's current grade. District 58 staff will monitor student progress through the program. Student licensing begins at \$100 per student and there will be some staff costs for monitoring. Depending on the number of students who enroll, the program may be cost neutral to the District.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Katie Hurckes, DGEEA member and Highland parent, submitted the following public comment:

"Good evening, my name is Katie Hurckes, a parent of two students at Highland, and a proud DGEEA member. I am submitting this public comment prior to the start of tonight's board meeting so please bear in mind that my thoughts, as written, do not reflect on what was presented this evening prior to public comment. First off, as a DG58 teacher and also a parent, I have the opportunity to experience our remote learning from multiple angles. I would like to thank our

administration for their expertise in guiding us thus far into the process. I am impressed and grateful for the ability to include as many students as possible by means of device and reliable internet accessibility so students can continue learning.

"As the news cycle continues forward, many of my colleagues and other parents I speak to have shared concerns of our plans, as a district, for the fall. I implore the Board of Education, as well as the administration, to work alongside members of the DGEEA to craft a comprehensive program for all scenarios in the fall, whether that includes transitioning to in-person learning, continued remote learning, or some combination therein. In the uniqueness of this situation, the current staff members are the only ones that have experience delivering remote instruction and we have to value that experience and draw on it as we seek to create the best possible plan for instruction in the fall. My colleagues and I want to have a hand in guiding these plans to ensure the best possible experience for our students.

"Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, I want to bring to the light my (and many of my colleagues) concerns about the achievement gap that is being widened by COVID-19 and the break from on-site instruction. In District 58, we are fortunate enough to work with students from a variety of backgrounds, socio-economic statuses, and a wide range of parent availability at home. This, in turn, means that some students may be falling behind their peers in terms of education. Our administration has worked tirelessly to ensure all students have access to devices and the internet during remote learning. This is an excellent start, but the board must be cognizant that despite teachers' best efforts, the education gap will continue to grow the longer students are out of the classroom. When students return, we, as a district, need to ensure that these students are given access to the necessary resources to close that gap.

"As you have seen over the past two months our teachers are innovative, creative, and dedicated to our students and families, but we would like to be as prepared as possible. We appreciate you trying not to put more on our plates, but please don't be afraid to ask for our help!"

## 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. Approval of Minutes – April 13, 2020

Member Doshi moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

### B. Approval of Minutes – April 27, 2020

Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2020 special meeting/tentative

budget workshop as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

There being no request for individual consideration of any items on the consent agenda, the President stated that a motion would be in order relative to items on the consent agenda, consisting of the Personnel Report and Financial Statements consisting of the List of Bills and Summary. Member Olczyk moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to approve the following items:

A. Personnel

The appointment of 13 certified staff and the resignation of one certified teacher. The request for Family Medical Leaves of Absence for five staff members. The request for an unpaid leave of absence for one certified teacher. The retirement of one custodian.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on May 11, 2020 as well as the revolving and imprest issued in April 2020 as shown on the list submitted under the date of May 11, 2020 in the total amount of \$868,350.77 and direct that they be so entered in the minutes and orders drawn for their payment in accordance with the following summary and that the President and Secretary be authorized to certify the list to the School Treasurer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 58  
SUMMARY PAGE MAY 11, 2020  
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES

EDUCATION FUND

List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$421,699.28
Revolving Fund - April 2020	\$1,650.15
Imprest Checks - April 2020	\$8,871.94

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND

List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$97,958.42
Revolving Fund - April 2020	\$813.98
Imprest Checks - April 2020	\$0.00

DEBT SERVICE

List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - April 2020	\$0.00

TRANSPORTATION FUND

List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$398,231.25
Revolving Fund - April 2020	\$0.00

Imprest Checks - April 2020	\$0.00
<u>IMRF</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>FICA/MEDICARE</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>SITE &amp; CONSTRUCTION FUND</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>WORKING CASH FUND</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>FIRE &amp; LIFE SAFETY FUNDS</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
<u>SINKING FUND</u>	
List of Bills - May 11, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - April 2020	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$929,225.02</b>

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,  
Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

(Copy of Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements  
attached to official minutes)

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

A. Intergovernmental Agreement to Share Data with District 99  
Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement to Share Data Between Community High School District 99 and Downers Grove Grade School District 58.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,  
Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

B. Stop Loss Insurance Renewal  
Member Olczyk moved and Member Harris seconded the motion to accept

the proposal from Aetna for Specific Stop-Loss insurance coverage at a cost of \$950,340 for the plan year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

C. Wight & Co. Master Agreement

Member Olczyk moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the master agreement between Wight & Co. and Downers Grove Grade School District 58 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

D. Purchase of Faculty Devices

Member Weiner moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to approve the purchase of 350 13-inch MacBook Airs for a price of \$272,650.00 from Apple, Inc.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

E. Designation of Surplus Equipment: MacBook Air Computers

Member Hanus moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to designate 386 MacBook Airs purchased between 2012 and 2014 as surplus equipment.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

F. Acellus Learning System

Member Olczyk moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to authorize District 58 to enter into a licensing agreement with Acellus Learning System from June 2020 to June 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hughes announced the following dates:



Wednesday, May 13, 8 a.m.	Policy Committee Meeting
Monday, May 18th, 3:45 p.m.	District Leadership Team Meeting
Monday, June 8, 7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting Longfellow Center (Virtual Meeting)

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

Member Harris moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to move to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to

- the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1);
- the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10);
- discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
 NAYS: None Motion carried

Member Harris moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to reconvene in open session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner  
 NAYS: None Motion carried

The Board convened to closed session at 8:43 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 8:57 p.m.

**13. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes - April 13, 2020  
 Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020 closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,  
Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

B. Approval of Closed Session Minutes - April 27, 2020

Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2020, closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,  
Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Member Harris moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,  
Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

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Darren Hughes, President

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Melissa Jerves, Secretary