

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MUNDELEIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 75**

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 held on the eighteenth day of November 2025, at 6:21 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 75:

PRESENT: Kristie Fingerhut, President
Ray Rose, President
Eric Billittier, Secretary
Georgina Aguirre
Marcela Duran
Al Hitzke
Emily Karl

ABSENT: None

D75 ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr. Corey Tafoya, Superintendent
Cathy Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
Jamie DiCarlo, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Shane McCreery, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Legal
Peter Gill, Director of Public Relations
Jill Under, Director of Teaching and Learning
Dave Zaremba, Director of Maintenance
Dr. Lilli Melamed, Principal, Washington School
Glenda Juarez Assistant Principal, Washington School

CALL TO ORDER

Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose were present for the November 18, 2025, regular board meeting.

All in favor by voice vote: 7-0

RECOGNITION

Ms. DiCarlo congratulated the staff members from Lincoln Early Childhood Center for earning the ExceleRate Gold Circle of Quality. The program recognizes childcare centers that meet or exceed specific quality benchmarks that must be validated by the State of Illinois.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No citizen comments.

BOE COMMENTS

Board members reviewed statement number five of the standard and principles from school board policy #2:280-E Exhibit, board member code of conduct. Discussion was held on the topic.

DISTRICT 75 REPORT

Washington Update

The principal, Dr. Lilli Melamed, and assistant principal, Glenda Juarez of Washington School, provided an update on the work that is taking place related to the Literacy Partnerships. They

shared how the literacy partnerships provide targeted, small group reading support for all students and have had a positive impact on both staff and student learning. Discussion was held on the topic.

School Report Card

Jill Unger, director of teaching and learning, reviewed the data presented in the 2025 School Report Card. She also reviewed several indicators that included the summative designations, highlights for each building and the planning for academics and attendance. She also provided additional information on the new performance levels and benchmarks for proficiency that the State has added. The overall index score for each school building is commendable. Discussion was held on the information provided by the State of Illinois.

CSMS Stage Construction Update

Dave Zaremba, director of maintenance and facilities, shared the construction progress on the Carl Sandburg Middle school stage project. He reviewed the images of the interior floor plan for the stage addition and the exterior entrance. The project is projected to be completed May 2026. Discussion was held on the topic.

Adoption 2025 Aggregate Tax Levy

There were no questions on the adoption of the 2025 Aggregate Tax Levy.

2025 Supplemental Levy Resolution

Cathy Johnson, assistant superintendent of finance and operations, reviewed the supplement levy resolution. Discussion was held on the topic.

Board Room Audio Visual System

Ms. Johnson reviewed the recommendation for the upgrade to the Board Room's audio and visual systems. She shared the upgrade will enhance the quality and accessibility of Board of Education meetings and support professional development meetings held at the district office. The cost will be shared with Mundelein D120.

FY School Maintenance Project Grant

Ms. Johnson reviewed the recommendation to authorize the final step of the process for the School Maintenance Project Grant that will reimburse the district 50% of approved maintenance projects up to \$50,000. The grant will be used to replace outdated classroom door handles with ADA-compliant lever-style locks and install new security cameras across multiple buildings.

Illinois Together Purchasing Cooperative

Ms. Johnson reviewed the recommendation for the district to join Illinois Together, a cooperative purchasing program partnered with the Illinois Association of School Business Officials. Joining the cooperative increases efficiency, reduces costs, and offers flexible, shared purchasing options for the district.

Resolution to Transfer Funds from Working Cash to Capital Projects Fund

Ms. Johnson reviewed the recommendation to approve a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Working Cash Fund to the Capital Projects Fund, retroactive to June 30, 2025. The transfer of funds will support the Carl Sandburg Construction Project.

CSMS Enhancement of Softball Field

Ms. Johnson reviewed the recommendation for the district to enter into a five-year intergovernmental agreement with District 120 to use and upgrade the softball field at Carl Sandburg Middle School. District 120 will fund the upgrade and share the softball field with D75.

The district would continue to own the field and both districts will coordinate annual scheduling for shared use. Discussion was held on the topic.

Triple I Joint Conference Meeting

Dr. Corey Tafoya, superintendent, asked board members attending the conference meeting to share which panel sessions they would be attending. Discussion was held on the topic.

Resolutions Committee Report

Board members discussed the resolutions that will be presented at the delegate assembly. Discussion was held on the topic.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Board Policy

Board members reviewed and discussed PRESS Policy sections fourteen and fifteen.

Finance Advisory

No update.

Shared Services

No update.

Community Outreach

No update.

REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

STEAM Foundation

Committee member Duran shared the Tacos and Trivia night hosted by the STEAM foundation was able to raise funds for teacher grants. Staff members are encouraged to apply.

SEDOL

No update.

Village Liaison

Committee member Rose shared various events taking place in the Mundelein community.

Dr. Tafoya shared that School Board Members Day was celebrated on Friday, November 15, 2025. He expressed gratitude to the board members for their dedication and the important work they do on behalf of the community and students.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Rose, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the consent agenda of November 18, 2025, which included:

- October 21, 2025, Regular Board Minutes
- Bill List
- Financial Report
- FOIA Request(s)
- Annual Renewal List
- Approval of Personnel Report
- New Hire – Classified: Teanna Mazzara
- Change in Assignment: Jennifer Marquardt, Laura Gallegos

Resignation: Lianna Olivia

Leave of Absence: Ana Valencia

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Adoption 2025 Aggregate Tax Levy

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Rose, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 adopt the 2025 Aggregate Tax Levy, as presented.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

2025 Supplement Levy Resolution

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Aguirre, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 adopt 2025 Supplement Levy, as presented.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

Board Room Audio Visual System

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Karl, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve Sync Audio & Video, for the total project cost of \$35,095. The total cost to be shared equally between Mundelein Elementary School District 75, and Mundelein High School D120 in the amount of \$17,547.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

FY School Maintenance Project Grant

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Hitzke, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the FY26 School Maintenance Project grant, as presented.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

Illinois Together Purchasing Cooperative

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Billittier, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the Master Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (MICPA), between and entered into by Bespoke Community Cooperatives, LLC and Mundelein Elementary School District 75, as presented.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose
NAY: None

Resolution to Transfer Funds from Working Cash to Capital Project Fund

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Karl, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Working Cash Fund to the Capital Projects Fund, retroactive to June 30, 2025 to support the Carl Sandburg Construction Project.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose
NAY: None

Resolutions Committee Report

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Aguirre, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the resolutions that will be submitted by the Delegate, Kristie Fingerhut, at the 2025 Illinois Association of School Board Conference.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose
NAY: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Aguirre, that the Board adjourn for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 8:54 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose were present for the November 18, 2025, regular board meeting.

All in favor by voice vote: 7-0

ACTION

Executive Session Minutes

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Hitzke, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 approve the October 21, 2025, executive session minutes.

Upon roll call, the following members voted:

AYE: Board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose

NAY: None

President's Prerogative

Board members were informed the Village of Mundelein meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Board Member Fingerhut, seconded by Board Member Hitzke, that the Board of Education of Mundelein Elementary School District 75 board members: Aguirre, Billittier, Duran, Fingerhut, Hitzke, Karl and Rose adjourned the meeting of November 18, 2025, at 8:58 p.m.

Motion approved by voice vote: 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTIE FINGERHUT, PRESIDENT
DISTRICT 75, BOARD OF EDUCATION

ERIC BILLITTIER, SECRETARY
DISTRICT 75, BOARD OF EDUCATION