



# Board of Education Meeting

## Cass School District 63

District Community Room, 8502 Bailey Road, Darien,  
Illinois 60561

Tuesday, March 24, 2026  
7:00 PM

### Agenda

#### I. **Welcome and Call to Order**

Our Mission, Beliefs, and Values

Board Agreements and Protocols

Vision 2025 Strategic Plan

IASB Code of Conduct

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements, and Correspondence

This is an opportunity to welcome guests, make announcements, and share Board correspondence.

The Board received FOIA requests from Oshea Smith with Sunlight Access, Lauren Leong, Abbas Khan with Civic IQ, and CT Mills.

D. Student and Staff Spotlight and Recognition

Since the last Board meeting, we recognized our outstanding social workers Rozie Hornig at Cass Junior High and Bridget Gilmartin at Concord Elementary in honor of School Social Work Week. These two professionals are newer to our school district, and do so much for our students and families through a wide array of services behind the scenes. We appreciate Rozie and Bridget's hard work and advocacy for our students.

Our varsity girls volleyball team just capped off a great season. In our conference, we compete against some larger schools and sometimes that is tough, but these girls held their own and finished 3rd in the

regular season and advanced to the semifinals of the SDEAA conference tournament. Congratulations to the girls and Coach Landon Mitchell.

E. Public Comments

This is the first opportunity for any guests to comment, per Board Policy 2:230.

II. **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda allows for approval of routine action items together in one motion when discussion is typically unnecessary. Upon the request of any Board member, a consent agenda item can be withdrawn and placed on the regular agenda for independent consideration. Questions in advance of the meeting are appreciated in the event any background information needs to be obtained.

A. Approval of the March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda

B. Approval of the February 17, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

C. Approval of the February 17, 2026 Closed Meeting Minutes

D. Approval of Personnel Recommendations

We have several recommendations for employment of new staff for the 2026-27 school year. This includes Concord music teacher Maddie Ross at a salary of \$57,540.40 and Concord social worker Bridget Gilmartin at a salary of \$75,952.58. We found a great music teacher and we are very happy that Bridget is ready to go full time.

Additionally, I am conducting final interviews with two speech-language pathologists on Monday. The team conducted screening and final interviews through a group effort to find the right candidates for each role. They had two clear recommendations for me. Assuming I concur and we get to an offer and acceptance, we will add the recommendations and salaries prior to the meeting. This will fill four key positions for next year, with the junior high STEAM position remaining.

E. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

F. Approval of the District Bills

III. **Reports, Updates, and Informational Items**

A. Administrative Reports

We will briefly touch upon the highlights of our administrative reports at the meeting.

B. Student Learning and Academic Growth Report

We will review our most recent Student Learning and Academic Growth presentation that includes winter NWEA MAP assessment data, and the

identification of some strengths and areas targeted for further review and improvement.

C. Federal Impact Aid Advocacy and Funding Report

Following is a report regarding the recent NAFIS conference and impact aid advocacy trip to Washington, D.C.

D. Update and Review of Summer 2026 Phase III Facility Projects

At our March 6 Facilities Committee meeting, we made some changes to better organize our bids to hopefully get the best pricing. We will review this information and answer any questions. The bid is out on the street and the opening is scheduled for April 14.

IV. **Recommended Action Items**

A. Approval of Employee Requests for Retirement

We have three staff members who have submitted their requests to retire. The staff members are Cass math teacher Jim Bundy and Concord kindergarten teacher Kristen Orr effective at the close of the 2029-30 school year, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board Secretary Gayle Wilson, effective June 30, 2031. Following the three request letters is a list of currently planned retirements for the next five years.

B. Approval of Sunrise Regular Transportation Contract Extension

Our change to a contracted service for regular routes and subsequent partnership with Sunrise Transportation has been successful. Under the statute, at the end of the initial three-year transportation contract, the Board can exercise either a one or two-year contract extension. The recommendation is to lock this in for two years at the same annual CPI that we use for the local tax levy and for most staff salaries.

C. Approval of 2026-27 Federal Funding Consolidated District Plan

There are some new requirements with the consolidated plan this year, so even though approval is a bit of a formality to allow us to complete our FY27 federal grant applications, we need a little more time to do this the right way. Once complete, I will bring it back to the Board for approval at the April meeting.

D. Approval of Agreement for 2026-27 Adapted Physical Education Services

With the continued effort to bring outplaced students back to the district and provide the services necessary to support their needs, we contract with a service for adapted physical education. This has been very successful and we would like to continue this partnership for the 2026-27 school year.

E. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Hinsdale School District 86

Recommended for approval is a Memorandum of Understanding with District 86, which all partner elementary districts collaborated on to allow for sharing student data as expressed in the agreement and making sure this is done in a legally sound manner. In a K-12 school district, this is obviously a non-issue, but I think having an agreement like this in place is appropriate since we are different school districts. Exceptions to FERPA that allow for this type of data sharing are included in some of the recitals. This was recently approved by the D86 Board, and the elementary districts are in the process of Board approval as well. Ultimately, our goal is focused on getting better data and information on how our students are performing once they get to high school.

V. **Closed Session**

A. Discussion of Information Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific District Employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

The final settlement agreement is included for review, discussion, and approval as an action item after closed session.

VI. **Recommended Action Items After Closed Session**

A. Approval of Settlement Agreement with Former District Administrator

VII. **Conclusion**

A. Public Comments

This is the second opportunity for any guests in the audience to share public comments, per Board Policy 2:230.

B. Board Member Comments

This is the opportunity for Board members to share any comments, as well as to announce the next meeting date, time, and location.

C. Adjournment