MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING AND WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION LAKE FOREST COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 115 300 SOUTH WAUKEGAN ROAD, LAKE FOREST, IL 60045 FEBRUARY 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Forest Community High School District 115, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, and called to order at 5:03 p.m. by President John Noble.

PRESENT: John Noble, President
John Venson, Secretary
Sally Davis, Member
Jenny Zinser, Vice - President
Anne Geraghty Helms, Member
David Burns, Member
Dewey Winebrenner, Member

ABSENT: None

CABINET PRESENT:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Renee Fitzsimmons, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, and Accountability
Jennifer Hermes, Chief Operating Officer/CSBO
Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer
Erin Lenart, Assistant Superintendent/LFHS Principal
Phil Georgia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF PRESENT:

Tiana Tolver, Board Clerk
Whitney Draegert, Director of Business Services/CSBO
Lisa Roberts, Systems Administrator
Jessica Kleitsch, Staff Accountant
Katie Labuhn, Director of Fiscal/CSBO

GUESTS: Betsy Allen, CPA, Principal | Miller Cooper

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE

Betsy Allen, CPA, Principal of Miller Cooper, the District's auditing partner gave a presentation on the final audit, reports provided to the district and the purpose of the audit. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued on the presented data.

Dr. Hermes provided an update on the five-year projections. The consumer price index has been released and it is the main driver for revenue in the district. Further updates will be provided in future meetings.

Dr. Hermes provided an update on the window project at East Campus. There is a new issue of Under the Hard Hat that has been released. The district is hosting a neighborhood coffee on March 13 to provide an

update to local neighbors that may be affected by the construction. Currently the project is trending on time and under budget. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Zinser and seconded by Mr. Winebrenner that the Board adjourn to Executive Session at 5:49 p.m. to discuss matters related to the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony or 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)

Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Burns, Davis, Winebrenner, Helms, Zinser, Venson, Noble
Nays:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Dr. Venson, that the Board of Education, Lake Forest Community High School District 115 return to Open Session at 6:15 p.m.

On Voice Vote, motion carried.

REOPEN REGULAR MEETING:

President Noble called back to order the Regular Meeting of the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois, at 6:19 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT ROLL CALL WERE:

Jenny Zinser, Vice-President
John Venson, Secretary
John Noble, President
Dewey Winebrenner, Member
Anne Geraghty Helms, Member
Sally Davis, Member
David Burns, Member

ABSENT: None

CABINET:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Renee Fitzsimmons, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, and Accountability
Jennifer Hermes, Chief Operating Officer/CSBO
Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer
Erin Lenart, Assistant Superintendent/LFHS Principal
Phil Georgia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF PRESENT:

Tiana Tolver, Board Clerk
Patrick Sassen, Associate Principal

Megan Miles, Counselor

GUESTS: Dave Fako, FAKO Research and Strategies
Katherine Yakes
Simon Back

BOARD WORKSHOP

Communication Survey Results

Dave Fako of FAKO Research and Strategies provided an overview of the communication survey data. This is the second survey conducted and the results were favorable. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued.

Board Retreat

The Board of Education will host a retreat the 2nd week of June with the new Board Members. Members of the Board that are retiring are welcome to join or provide feedback to assist the new Board Members. Potential dates are June 9 or 10 from 9am - 3pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and members of the community recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Noble welcomed everyone to the new year. There is a lot going on federally and locally that will be addressed in due time but the Board wants to reassure the community that the focus will remain on student outcomes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Montgomery reported on Community Outreach, Joint Board Coffee, Book Talk Series, Referendum Update, and Reminders for School Attendance.

The full presentation can be found on the District website.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dr. Lenart provided a Mid-Year Review focused on three priorities: Academic Excellence, Portrait of a Learner, and Culture & Climate. LFHS 101 will be held on February 27th at 6:30 p.m.

LFHS UPDATES

Kate Yakes and Simon Back provided updates on recent student activities.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

REPORTS

Dr. Patrick Sassen along with School Counselor Megan Miles presented the 2024-2025 Post-Secondary Report. He highlighted some of the work being done to best prepare students for life after Lake Forest High School. This work is done on several different fronts. Dr. Sassen provided the different programs,

results of the 2024 exit survey, college attendance, and next steps. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued.

LIAISON REPORTS

Ed-Red and Legislative Update

John Noble discussed recent activity with Ed-Red around recent Executive Orders. An update will be provided as more information is made available.

TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804

John Venson provided the report from Kurt Schneider, Superintendent of TrueNorth. It is linked to the agenda there is nothing additional to report.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Withdrawal of School District 34 from the TruNorth Educational Cooperative

Motion: Ms. Zinser moved, seconded by Mr. Burns that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Resolution Regarding the Proposed Withdrawal of School District 34 from the TruNorth Educational Cooperative.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Noble, Helms, Davis, Zinser, Venson, Burns, Winebrenner
Nay:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Acceptance of 2023-2024 Annual Financial Audit

Motion: Mr. Burns moved, seconded by Ms. Helms that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the 2023-2024 Annual Financial Audit.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Winebrenner, Zinser, Burns, Venson, Noble, Helms, Davis
Nay:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Perkins & Will Referendum Projects Enabling Phase-Design Development Fee Alignment Proposal

Motion: Ms. Zinser moved, seconded by Dr. Venson that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Perkins & Will Referendum Projects Enabling Phase-Design Development Fee Alignment Proposal.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Venson, Davis, Helms, Burns, Winebrenner, Noble, Zinser
Nay:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Fire Protection Bid Approval for Referendum Phase I

Motion: Ms. Zinser moved, seconded by Ms. Davis that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Fire Protection Bid Approval for Referendum Phase I.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:
Aye: Winebrenner, Noble, Burns, Venson, Davis, Zinser, Helms
Nay:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA*

**Any item may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board Member.*

1. Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements, October and November, 2024
2. Approval of Human Resources Report
   - Hires
   - Resignations
   - Retirements
   - Leaves of Absence
   - Change of Assignments
   - Stipends/Activities/Athletics Assignments
3. Approval of PRESS Issue 117 - Second Reading

   2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
   2:120 Board Member Development
   4:30 Revenue and Investments
   4:60 Purchases and Contracts
   4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
   4:170 Safety
   5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
   5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
   5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
   5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
   5:125 Acceptable Use of Technology Policy
   5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline
   6:60 Curriculum Content
   6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
   6:270 Guidance and Counseling Program
   7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
   7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
   7:160 Student Appearance
   7:200 Suspension Procedures
   8:10 Connection with the Community
4. Approval of Vision 2030 Resolution
5. Minutes of a Regular Meeting and Workshop, December 10, 2024

6. Minutes of an Executive Session, December 10, 2024
7. Minutes of an Executive Session 1, August 13, 2024
8. Minutes of an Executive Session 2, August 13, 2024
9. Minutes of an Executive Session, September 10, 2024
10. Minutes of an Executive Session, October 15, 2024
11. Minutes of an Executive Session, November 12, 2024
12. Release of Executive Session June 2024 - November 2024

Motion: Dr. Venson moved, seconded by Ms. Zinser that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Aye: Burns, Noble, Davis, Winebrenner, Zinser, Venson, Helms
Nay:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

FOIA REQUESTS
Sheri Reid-SmartProcure | 2 of 2 | Completed
John Emser | 1 of 1 | Completed
James Francis | 1 of 1 | Completed
Owen Wang - Lake County Gazette | 7 of 7 | Completed
Lake Forest Corruption Busters | 3 of 3 | Completed
Judith McAndrew | 2 of 2 | Completed
**FOIA Requests will not be made available on the website until completed*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Lake Forest Troop 48 was in attendance at the meeting for credit for their badges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 14, 2025	Institute Day - No School for Students
February 17, 2025	President's Day - No School for Students and Staff
Tuesday, March 11, 2025	Education Committee of a Whole - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 11, 2025	**Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.** **LFHS West Campus Board Room**

ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made by Ms. Davis seconded by Dr. Venson to adjourn the meeting.

On Voice Vote, motion carried.

President Noble declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

_____	_____
John Noble, President Date	John Venson, Secretary Date