

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LAKE FOREST COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 115
300 SOUTH WAUKEGAN ROAD, LAKE FOREST, IL 60045
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026**

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, June 2, 2026, and called to order at 5:04 p.m. by President John Noble.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amy Connell - Donohue, Secretary	Robert Silvay, Member
Jenny Zinser, Member (Virtual - 5:40 P.M.)	Anne Geraghty Helms, Vice - President
Gail Gamrath, Member	Dewey Winebrenner, Member
John Noble, President	

ABSENT: None

CABINET PRESENT:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Renee Fitzsimmons, Assistant Superintendent of TLA
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

GUESTS: Jennifer Smith, Attorney, Franzcek (Virtual)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: A motion was made by Mrs. Gamrath and seconded by Ms. Connell Donohue that the Board adjourn to Executive Session at 5:05 p.m. to discuss matters related to 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 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: Noble, Gamrath, Silvay, Helms, Winebrenner, Connell-Donohue

Nays:

Absent: Zinser (5:40 p.m.)

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath that the Board of Education, Lake Forest Community High School District 115 return to Open Session at 5:45 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 5:46 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT ROLL CALL WERE:

Robert Silvay, Member

Anne Geraghty Helms, Vice-President

Dewey Winebrenner, Member

Jenny Zinser, Member

Amy Connell-Donohue, Secretary

John Noble, President

Gail Gamrath, Member

ABSENT: None

CABINET PRESENT:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent

Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer

Erin Lenart, Assistant Superintendent/LFHS Principal

Phil Georgia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

Renee Fitzsimmons, Assistant Superintendent of TLA

Jenn Hermes, Chief Operating Officer/CSBO

ADMINISTRATION/STAFF PRESENT:

Tiana Tolver, Board Clerk

Brittany Tjardes, Director of Fiscal Services/CSBO

Dan Mortensen, Director of Facilities

Joe Busse, Wellness Teacher

Donna Lovitsch, Special Education Teacher

FINANCE COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE

The Finance Committee of a Whole met to discuss the tentative budget, referendum update, the intergovernmental agreement with the City of Lake Forest and the student resources officer agreement.

Tentative Budget

Brittany Tjardes presented on the budget cycle; the prior year and looking forward. The tentative budget will be voted on this evening to be put on display per legal guidelines. The final budget will be presented in September. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued.

Kudos to Jenn Hermes and Brittany Tjardes on their robust work with the financial status of the district.

Intergovernmental and Student Resources Officer (SRO) Agreement

Dr. Hermes gave an update on the agreements with the City of Lake Forest that will be voted on this evening. Discussion ensued amongst the administration team and the Board. The new SRO will begin at the beginning of the school year.

Summer Construction Update

Dan Mortensen provided an update on Phase 2 user groups for the referendum. The summer of 2026 scope of work provided. Members of the Board asked questions and discussion ensued.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

LFHS UPDATES: STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

The student spotlight recognizes a student that exhibits exemplary behavior aligning to the District's mission, vision, and values; this month's spotlight recipients are Ethan Farrell and Molly Thomas. He was nominated by Donna Lovitsch and Joe Busse, who also had the honor of presenting the award. Ethan was unable to attend due to a Lacrosse game.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Noble provided a brief report. He thanked Vice-President Helms and Dr. Montgomery for attending the City of Lake Forest's recognition of the District's 90th anniversary.

Thanks to the finance team, Brittany Tjardes and Jenn Hermes for all of their hard work.

Thanks to the fellow Board members for their work and continued devotion to the District and the community.

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP REPORT

Dr. Montgomery, in collaboration with Drs. Lenart, Fitzsimmons, and Student Board Representatives presented the District Leadership report which includes the 2025-2026 year in review report. The topics for the District Leadership report were Graduation 2026, LFHS Foundation Pitch Night, and Around the Campus. The 2025-2026 Year in Review topics were Referendum Progress, Fiscal Stewardship, Student Voice, Community Engagement, and Board Priorities.

The full presentation can be found on the District website.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

LIAISON REPORTS

Ed-Red and Legislative Update

Mr. Noble stated he is hoping to meet with state representatives in June now that the Budget is done; further update will be provided in August.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Lake Forest

Motion: Mr. Silvay moved, seconded by Ms. Helms that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Lake Forest.

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

Aye: Winebrenner, Silvay, Noble, Gamrath, Helms, Connell-Donohue, Zinser

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Student Resources Officer Agreement with the City of Lake Forest

Motion: Ms. Helms moved, seconded by Ms. Connell-Donohue that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Student Resources Officer Agreement with the City of Lake Forest.

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

Aye: Gamrath, Winebrenner, Zinser, Connell-Donohue, Noble, Helms, Silvay

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of 2026 - 2027 Tentative Budget

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the 2026 - 2027 Tentative Budget.

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

Aye: Helms, Silvay, Connell-Donohue, Zinser, Gamrath, Winebrenner, Noble

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Sponsorship Agreement with Boosters

Motion: Ms. Connell-Donohue moved, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Sponsorship Agreement with Boosters.

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

Aye: Connell-Donohue, Gamrath, Zinser, Winebrenner, Noble, Helms, Silvay

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Recommendation for Termination of Athletic Coach

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Ms. Connell-Donohue that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Recommendation for Termination of Athletic Coach

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

Aye: Gamrath, Helms, Winebrenner, Noble, Silway, Connell-Donohue, Zinser

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of the Two-Year Activity Bus Lease Extension with Midwest Transit

Motion: Ms. Helms moved, seconded by Ms. Connell-Donohue that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Two-Year Activity Bus Lease Extension with Midwest Transit.

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

Aye: Zinser, Gamrath, Silway, Winebrenner, Helms, Noble, Connell-Donohue

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval to Waive the 1st Reading of Updated Policy 7:200: Suspension Procedures

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Mr. Silway that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Waive the 1st Reading of Updated Policy 7:200: Suspension Procedures.

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

Aye: Helms, Zinser, Connell-Donohue, Silway, Winebrenner, Gamrath, Noble

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Second Reading of Updated Policy 7:200: Suspension Procedures

Motion: Ms. Connell-Donohue moved, seconded by Mr. Winebrenner that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Second Reading of Updated Policy 7:200: Suspension Procedures.

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

Aye: Silway, Winebrenner, Zinser, Noble, Connell-Donohue, Helms, Gamrath

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval to Waive the 1st Reading of Updated Policy 5:50:Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition (PRESS Issue 121)

Motion: Ms. Connell-Donohue moved, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the waiving of the 1st Reading of Updated Policy 5:50:Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition (PRESS Issue 121).

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

Aye: Winebrenner, Connell-Donohue, Helms, Silway, Zinser, Gamrath, Noble

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of the Second Reading of PRESS Issue 121

Motion: Mr. Winebrenner moved, seconded by Ms. Connell-Donohue that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Second Reading of PRESS Issue 121 .

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

Aye: Gamrath, Winebrenner, Noble, Helms, Silway, Connell-Donohue, Zinser

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was 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 Monthly Financial Report - March 2026
2. Approval of Human Resources Report
 - Hires
 - Resignations
 - Leaves of Absence
 - Changes of Assignments
 - Stipends | Activities | Athletics/Test Prep Assignments
3. Approval of Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative (CLIC) Programs
4. Approval of 2025-2026 Budget Transfers
5. Approval of the Designation of Depositories
6. Minutes of an Executive Session, May 12, 2026
7. Minutes of a Regular Meeting and Workshop, May 12, 2026

Motion: Ms. Helms moved, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath that the Lake Forest Community High School District 115 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Consent Agenda Items.

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

Aye: Noble, Gamrath, Silway, Connell-Donohue, Zinser, Winebrenner, Helms

Nay:

Absent:

The motion was carried unanimously.

FOIA REQUESTS*

Data Branch USA | 3 of 5 | Completed

Jeff Brincat | 3 of 4 | Completed

Jim Karr | 2 of 2 | Completed

Carla Carlos | 1 of 2 | Completed

Samir Vhidra | 1 of 1 | In Progress

Justin Wenig | 3 of 4 | Completed

Ted Boborski | 4 of 5 | Completed

**FOIA Requests will be available on the website once completed*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, June 5, 2026

Last Day of School

Saturday, June 6, 2026

Commencement Ceremony - 2:30 p.m.
Lake Forest High School Front Lawn

Wednesday, August 12, 2026*

Please note the change in the meeting date

Finance Committee of a Whole - 5:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
LFHS West Campus Board Room

Press Releases

- Little Scouts Director Heather Monzingo Selected for Leadership Fellowship
- Five LFHS Student-Athletes Announce College Commitments

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Silvay, seconded by Mrs. Gamrath to adjourn the meeting.

On Voice Vote, motion carried.

President Noble declared the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

John Noble, President

Date

Amy Connell Donohue, Secretary

Date