

MAINE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 207
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 5, 2025

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Maine Township High School District 207, Cook County, Illinois, held in the District 207 Administration Center Boardroom on May 5, 2025.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

President Yousuf-Abramson called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board Secretary called the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Teri Collins
Linda Coyle
Ed Eicker
Jin Lee
Carla Owen
Dean Patras
Sheila Yousuf-Abramson

OTHERS PRESENT

Tatiana Bonuma
Mary Kalou
Shawn Messmer
George Dagres
Katie Di Sanza
Brett Clark
Ginny Edwards
Melissa Pikul
Antwan Babakhani
Eileen McMahon
Kelly Foersterling
Maureen Hartwig
Rebecca Heneghan
Dana Jaime

2. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Updates from Board Members

Dr. Collins wished to thank everyone in the room for their hard work and doing so many great things for kids. Dr. Collins said it was a great experience being on the Board and enjoyed working with everyone, especially with MCYAF which was a mission of her heart.

Ms. Owen appreciated the chance to serve on this Board. She saw it as a privilege and a great experience. Ms. Owen is passionate about public education and stated the public should be reassured about the District leadership and their conscientious and thoughtful decision making. She added she is inspired by the staff putting students first in all decisions and looks forward to watching what is next to come.

Ms. Coyle stated it was a complete privilege serving on the Board for eight years. She is proud of being a part of such a respectful Board and the hiring of the new superintendent, and noted the District is thriving under the administration's leadership. She will miss serving but it is time to pass the torch and added may there be no COVID or big issues!

Mr. Lee said that the twelve years he served on the Board was a great and humbling experience. He enjoyed working with everyone, especially the three principals and all of the superintendents. Mr. Lee congratulated the new Board members and stated that education is our most important investment and added it is our duty to provide for the future.

Mr. Patras stated he was struck by the moment and attributes his knowledge from those in the room, learning how to be a good Board member. He thanked each of the departing members for all that they have done for the students and community.

Mr. Eicker echoes Mr. Patras' words considering the Board members colleagues and friends. He will miss having them at the table and thanked them for their service.

Dr. Sheila Yousuf-Abramson thanked the outgoing Board for their warm welcome and stated that together they are a community. She appreciated the learning and conversations, and will be forever grateful, also asking that they stay in touch.

B. Update from Superintendent

Dr. Bonuma mentioned National Teacher Appreciation Week adding that teachers are the heart of our schools, inspiring minds and shaping futures.

Dr. Bonuma went on to announce that each month, the Board recognizes a student from each school as 207's Best and tonight we will recognize four outstanding leaders, each as 207's Best - Board of Education.

Jin Lee's son Andrew and daughter Jenna read remarks of his twelve years on the Board and his unwavering dedication, commitment, insight, and heart, guiding our District with distinction. Mr. Lee had a vision to broaden the horizons of our students with deep pride, kindness and generosity. In addition, he approached governance with thoughtfulness and fiscal responsibility. Mr. Lee's wife Anna was also in attendance for the celebration.

Maine South counselor Mr. Tim Spiegel read a script written by District 207 administrators recognizing Teri Collins's contributions as a true champion for students, bringing empathy and a grounded approach to advocate for wellness. Dr. Collins is an unwavering pillar of our school community. And as President of MCYAF, she was always looking out for our students' best interests. Longtime friend Cindy Schneider then shared her appreciation for Dr. Collins.

Linda Coyle's daughter Caroline spoke about her Mom's legacy of dedicated service, thoughtful governance and passionate commitment to lifelong learning. Ms. Coyle had a unique ability to bring depth, calm and insight to even the most complex discussions, navigating with compassion and clarity, and leaving an enduring mark on our students, schools and communities. Also there to support were Linda's husband Shaun and Mom Dorothy Parrillo.

With their Dad Terry alongside, Carla Owen's children Christian and Marisa read about their mom's steadfast dedication, insightful leadership and compassionate presence that have left a profound impact on District 207. She led the Board as President for five of her thirteen years, all doing so with unwavering commitment, empathy and patience. Christian spoke of her volunteer work, advocating for senior citizens and offering free legal advice for those in need. Ms. Owen will be missed.

Mr. Lee, Dr. Collins, Ms. Coyle and Ms. Owen each received a certificate and gifts as tokens of appreciation. The meeting paused to celebrate with cake and to wish them well.

*3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Health Insurance Benefit for Superintendent

Motion to recognize the Superintendent's exceptional performance and authorize that the Board of Education pick up and pay the full premium cost of health insurance benefit, including single and/or any qualifying dependent coverage, through the remainder of the Superintendent Tatiana Bonuma's contract.

Motion by Jin Lee, second by Linda Coyle

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Collins, Coyle, Eicker, Lee, Owen, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

B. Minutes Approved - Open Session

1. April 7, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

2. April 21, 2025 - Special Board Meeting

Motion on 3B 1&2 by Teri Collins, second by Linda Coyle

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Collins, Coyle, Eicker, Lee, Owen, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

C. Minutes Approved - Closed Session

1. April 7, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

2. April 21, 2025 - Special Board Meeting

Motion on 3C 1&2 by Teri Collins, second by Linda Coyle

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Collins, Coyle, Eicker, Lee, Owen, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

D. Official Canvass of April 1, 2025 Consolidated Election Results

Motion by Calra Owen, second by Linda Coyle

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Collins, Coyle, Eicker, Lee, Owen, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

WELCOME/SEAT NEW BOARD MEMBERS

A. Oath of Office

*5. BOARD OF EDUCATION ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

Motion to adjourn sine die.

Motion by Ed Eicker, second by Dean Patras.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*6. REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD

A. Members Present

Ed Eicker

Kelly Foersterling

Maureen Hartwig

Rebecca Heneghan

Dana Jaime

Dean Patras

Sheila Yousuf-Abramson

B. Appointment of Temporary Officers

President Yousuf-Abramson appointed Ed Eicker as President Pro-tem and appointed Ginny Edwards as Secretary Pro-tem.

C. Election of President of the Board of Education 2024-2025

Mr. Eicker called for nominations for President of the Board of Education for 2025-2026. Dean Patras nominated Sheila Yousuf-Abramson as President.

There being no other nominations, Sheila Yousuf-Abramson was unanimously elected as President of the Board of Education for 2025-2026.

D. Election of Vice President of the Board of Education 2025-2026

President Yousuf-Abramson called for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education for 2025-2026. Dean Patras nominated Ed Eicker as Vice President.

There being no other nominations, Ed Eicker was unanimously elected as Vice President of the Board of Education for 2025-2026

E. Appointment of Secretary of the Board of Education for 2025-2026

President Yousuf-Abramson appointed Ginny Edwards as Secretary of the Board of Education for 2025-2026.

F. Calendar of Board Meetings - 2025-2026 - 6 p.m. Start Time

June 2, 2025

August, 4, 2025

September 2, 2025 (Tuesday)*

October 6, 2025

November 3, 2025

December 1, 2025

January 5, 2026

February 2, 2026

March 2, 2026

April 6, 2026

April 13, 2026^

May 4, 2026

* Alternate date due to holiday or other

^ Meeting to discuss personnel matters

Motion to approve the Calendar of Board of Education meetings for 2025-2026 as presented.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

8. MONTHLY STATUS OF FINANCES

A. Monthly Finance Report

Ms. Kalou, updated the Board on the March 2025 financials. Spring property tax collections have been received and funds are above 95% complete. Expenses are in line with previous year's and within budget. The Education and Operations and Maintenance funds are within budget and tracking to previous years. The status of the Health Life Safety fund is determined by the roofing work completed over the summer.

9. INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

No reports this month.

10. OTHER ITEMS

A. Monthly FOIA Requests for April 2025

There were four FOIA requests for the month of April and they have been responded to or are in process.

***ACTION ITEMS: Items for which a roll call vote will be made**

11. TEXTBOOKS - 1ST READING

This World History e-textbook has an estimated life cycle of 5-6 years and is continually updated.

***12. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. MINUTES APPROVED - moved to #3

B. BOARD BILLS - APRIL 2025 - \$2,456,515.07

Fund Totals as follows:

DISTRICT 207: \$1,968,450.87
NSERVE: 481,904.64
ED-RED 6,159.56

C. PAYROLLS – APRIL 2025

DISTRICT 207: \$9,988,579.00
NSERVE: 19,695.78
ED-RED: 19,908.00

D. STUDENT ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURES - MARCH 2025

E. SCHOOL GIFTS

1. MTHS Foundation - \$1,640.00 - Maine East APES Field Trip to Farmers Rising Farm
2. Maine East Fine Arts Boosters - \$9,646.90 - Maine East Fine Arts Field Trips and Equipment Grants
3. MTHS Foundation - \$1,500.00 - Defray cost for Maine East Lyceum Summer Service Field Trip
4. Maine West Athletic Boosters - \$12,780.00 - Various Purchases for Maine West Athletic Teams
5. MTHS Foundation - \$1,050.00 - Maine East DECA State Competition
6. MTHS Foundation - \$1,700.00 - Maine West Inspira Summit
7. Messiah Lutheran Church - \$500.00 - D207 School Based Health Center
8. Mount Prospect Lions Charities, Inc. - \$1,000.00 - Maine South Football Team Party
9. Maine East Athletic Boosters - \$2,599.00 - Maine East Softball Pitching Machine
10. Ruth Soil - \$10,000.00 - Angela Foster Scholarship at Maine East
11. Karnezis Law Group, LLC - \$2,500.00 - Maine South Boys Volleyball Program
12. Maine West Fine Arts Boosters - \$3,590.00 - Supplies for the Music Education Program
13. Jean Dempsey - \$5,600.00 - Maine West Boys Volleyball Team Equipment and Events

F. FACILITY FEE WAIVER

1. Headfirst Professional Sports Camps, LLC - \$1,500.00 - Chicago Cubs Baseball Camp at Maine West

Motion on 12B-F by Ed Eicker, second by Dean Patras

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

***13. BOARD POLICIES - 2ND READING**

A. 6:240 - Field Trips and Educational Tours

Motion to approve 13A for inclusion in the District 207 Board Policy Manual.

The policy has gone through administrative review, Policy Committee review, and first reading.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

B. 5:210 - Resignations from Professional Staff

C. 7:190 - Student Behavior

Motion to approve 13 B&C for inclusion in the District 207 Board Policy Manual.

These policies have gone through first reading.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*** 14. TEXTBOOK APPROVAL - 2ND READING**

Motion to approve textbooks for the 2025-2026 school year.

These books are offerings for English 1, English 2 and AP Literature.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Rebecca Heneghan

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*** 15. APPROVAL OF BIDS AND AWARDING OF CONTRACTS**

A. Renaissance STAR 3-year Contract - \$132,483.00 - Reading and Math Testing Series

Motion to approve a 3-year contract with Renaissance STAR for Reading and Math testing in the amount of \$132,483.00.

This program is used to track yearly growth, to assist in class placement, and to provide additional support. District 64 also uses this program.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

B. Curriculum Associates, LLC - \$44,073.76 - Elevation - Multilingual Student Data Progress Tool

Motion to approve a contract with Curriculum Associates, LLC for the Elevation program in the amount of \$44,073.76.

The software enables teachers in multilingual or regular classes to identify areas of support for non-native English speakers. The program is paid out of Title 3 funds.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Rebecca Heneghan

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*16. APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY BUDGET - 2025-2026

Motion to approve the Technology Budget for 2025-2026 in the amount of \$4,594,300.00.

The budget was presented as information at the April 21, 2025 Special Board meeting. Since then, there have been two adjustments to the software bringing the cost to less than last year. Next year's initiatives include auditorium production software, LCD projectors and short throws along with cyber security. Software accounts for half of the technology budget.

Motion by Ed Eicker, second by Dean Patras

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*17. CLOSED SESSION

A. Student Personnel

B. Review of Closed Session Minutes

C. Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees

D. Probable, Imminent or Pending Litigation

E. Collective Negotiating Matters

F. Security Procedures and the Use of Personnel and Equipment to Respond to an Actual, a Threatened, or a Reasonably Potential Danger to the Safety of Employees, Students, Staff, the Public or Public Party

Resolution: That the Board adjourns to Closed Session at 7:38 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees.

Motion by Ed Eicker, second by Dean Patras

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*18. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Resolution: That the Board returns to open session at 8:32 p.m.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Rebecca Heneghan

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson

Nay: None

*19. PERSONNEL ACTION

A. SUPPORT STAFF RETIREMENT

Moni Ruterschmidt-Ryczek - Administrative Assistant - Maine East
Retirement effective June 6, 2025

Anthony Muench - Custodian - Maine East
Retirement effective June 30, 2025

Myroslav Tachyk - Custodian - Maine South

Retirement effective July 15, 2025

B. CERTIFIED STAFF RETIREMENT

Joseph Pomey - Math Teacher - Maine South
Retirement effective at the end of the 2029-2030 school year

James Depies - Math Teacher - Maine South
Retirement effective at the end of the 2028-2029 school year

Rogelio Cabrera - World Language Teacher - Maine East
Retirement effective at the end of the 2028-2029 school year

Joel Walsh - English Teacher - Maine West
Retirement effective at the end of the 2028-2029 school year

C. SUPPORT STAFF APPOINTMENT

Angel Araque Urdaneta - Custodian - Maine East
Start Date: April 30, 2025 (replaces MC)
Salary: \$47,441.70

Detaureo Harrington - Football Coach - Maine East
Salary: Stipend

D. CERTIFIED STAFF APPOINTMENT

Michaela Burke - Special Education Teacher - Maine South
Start Date: August 11, 2025 (additional hire)
Salary: Col 1, Step 1, \$70,841.00

Elizabeth Sanchez - School Psychologist - Maine East
Start Date: August 11, 2025 (replaces SM)
Salary: Col 5, Step 5, \$92,732.00

Alexander Bonk - Special Education Teacher - Maine West
Start Date: August 11, 2025 (additional hire)
Salary: Col 3, Step 1, \$76,266.00

Maria Clara Hidalgo - Special Education Teacher - Maine East
Start Date: August 11, 2025 (replaces MK)
Salary: Col 1, Step 2, \$72,286.00

Bridget Marshall - Special Education Teacher - Maine East
Start Date: August 11, 2025 (additional hire)
Salary: Col 1, Step 3, \$73,761.00

Jeremy Schwartz - Substitute Teacher - District 207

Lena Salem - Substitute Teacher - District 207

E. ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTMENT

Lucas Leavenworth - Assistant Principal for Student Supports - Maine South
Start Date: August 4, 2025 (replaces JJ)
Salary: \$145,000.00

Erica Wagner - Associate Principal for Teaching and Learning - Maine South
Start Date: July 1, 2025 (replaces MD)
Salary: to be determined by the 2025-26 Administrator Salary Schedule

Jennifer Sheridan - Associate Principal for Student Services - Maine South
Start Date: July 1, 2025 (replaces KC)
Salary: \$164,000.00

Hetal Shah - Math Department Chair - Maine East
Start Date: August 4, 2025 (replaces EW)
Salary: \$142,000.00

F. CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION

Robert Winkel - Special Education Teacher - Maine East
Resignation effective May 30, 2025

G. SUPPORT STAFF RESIGNATION

Eugenia Economos - Administrative Assistant - Maine South
Resignation effective May 14, 2025

Motion to approve the previously mentioned personnel items.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson
Nay: None

H. SUBSTITUTE TEACHER DISMISSAL

Tina DeBlasio - Substitute Teacher - District 207
Dismissal effective May 5, 2025

Motion to approve 19H - Dismissal of substitute teacher Tina DeBlasio effective May 5, 2025.

Motion by Ed Eicker, second by Rebecca Heneghan
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Aye: Eicker, Foersterling, Hartwig, Heneghan, Jaime, Patras, Yousuf-Abramson
Nay: None

20 OTHER ITEMS

There were no other items.

*20. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

*21. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Motion by Dean Patras, second by Ed Eicker

Final Resolution: Motion Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Yousuf-Abramson adjourned the Board meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Ginny Edwards, Secretary

Sheila Yousuf-Abramson, President