

BOARD BRIEFS

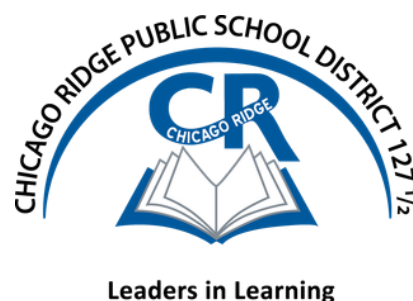
A report of items discussed and actions taken at the March 10, 2026
Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Effie "Chrissi" Petropulos, President
Joy Labudzik, Vice President
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ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Adam Thorns, Superintendent
Mrs. Megan Nothnagel,
Curriculum Director
Mrs. Kathy Picciolini, CSBO
Mr. Cary Hillegonds, Director of
Student Services
Mrs. Karoline Burcheri, Director of
Bilingual/EL
Mrs. Fran Setaro, Principal
Mrs. Leighanne Kaczmarek, Asst.
Principal
Mr. Geoff Youngberg, Principal
Mrs. Julie Bazian, Asst. Principal
Dr. Katy King, Principal
Mrs. Emily Geyer, Asst. Principal



Reports to the Board

- Dr. Thorns shared the current enrollment, explained staffing needs, and informed the Board that the next PTA event is the Glow Night on Tuesday, April 14th at 5:00 PM at the Tinley Park Roller Rink. He went on to discuss Draft A and Draft B of the 2026-2027 SY calendars and the feedback he received from CREA and CRESS. He stated that the Board would vote on the calendar later in the meeting. He discussed overall staffing needs for the 2026-2027 SY, highlighting special education and elementary teachers. Dr. Thorns then discussed the District's Recognition event being held at Gaelic Park on Thursday, April 30. He ended his section by reviewing the Freedom of Information Act requests received over the last month.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
.....**April**

- Consolidated District Plan
- Registration

Reports to the Board cont.

- Mrs. Nothnagel discussed this year's One District - One Book that will be taking place in the Spring. She also explained what the March Institute Day would look like on March 17.
- Mrs. Picciolini discussed the food service contract renewal for the 2026-2027 school year. She then explained that the Board will be asked to approve classroom furniture for Finley Jr. High for grades six through eight. She ended by pointing out the need to resurface the Ridge Central playground with turf.

Personnel

The Board approved the hiring of:

- Sarah Parker, Lunch Supervisor at Ridge Lawn, eff. March 3, 2026
- Emily Geyer, PreK Director / MTSS Coordinator, eff. July 1, 2026
- Molly Moulis, Assistant Principal, Ridge Lawn, subject to completion of all legal requirements, eff. July 1, 2026
- The Board voted to terminate a Library Aide at Ridge Central
- The Board voted to non-renew Cary Hillegonds as Special Education Director and to reassign him to the position of School Psychologist with the additional service hour agreement, starting August 17, 2026
- The Board Approved the Resignations of an EL teacher, Special Education teacher, and paraprofessional at Ridge Lawn and two junior high teachers and a paraprofessional at Finley eff. June 4, 2026

RECOGNITION

The Board recognized the 2nd Trimester Academic Achievement Award recipients. from Finley Jr. High, Ridge Central, and Ridge Lawn.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 14 , 2026:

Board Meeting at 6:30 PM in the Boardroom.

Personnel continued

- The Board accepted the resignation of a teacher at Ridge Central, eff. March 6, 2026
- The Board approved adding additional names to the substitute teacher list: Amekia Carter, Kejuan Shanes, Ohdye Alabed, Jasmine Baker, Nautica Holder, Jacob Gambotz, and Afnan Alzubi.

Board Action

- The Board approved Draft B of the 2026-2027 School calendar.
- The Board designated Dr. Adam Thorns to prepare the 2026-2027 budget.
- The Board approved the purchase of classroom furniture for Finley Jr. High from Interiors for Business.
- The Board approved the installation of artificial turf in the Ridge Central playground.
- The Board approved a contract with Easter Seals for 2026-2027.
- The Board approved a contract with Integrated Control Technologies, LLC for the building controls project at Finley Jr. High.
- The Board approved the Summer Band Program and the stipends for two staff members to run the program.
- The Board approved a resolution for the purchase of 10625 Ridgeland Ave, Chicago Ridge
- The Board took action on a resolution releasing closed session minutes and destruction of verbatim recordings 18 months and older.