

BOARD BRIEFS

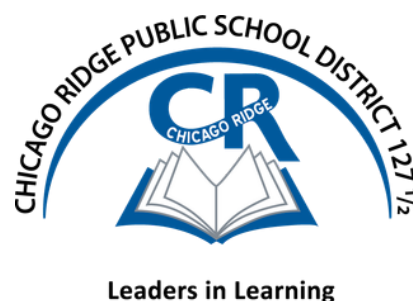
A report of items discussed and actions taken at the May 12, 2026
Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Effie "Chrissi" Petropulos, President
Joy Labudzik, Vice President
JoAnna Grove, Secretary
Tierza Lammel, Member
Antonio Medina, Member
Laura Schroeder, Member
Stacy Berkin, Member

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 was the End-of-the-Year Bash being held May 20 from 5-7 PM at Ridge Lawn School. He discussed the 8th grade graduation at Richards High School on Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 PM. Dr. Thorns talked about the 2026-2027 IASB/IASBO/IASA Annual Conference being held on November 20-22. He then explained his recommendation to change the PreK Student hours to 8:10-10:40AM and to 12:30-3:00 PM. Dr. Thorns also shared almost 40 updated job descriptions for the Board to consider at their June Board Meeting. He then explained that 218 updated their calendar to make Wednesday, March 10 a day off instead of Tuesday, March 9. He recommended CRSD 127.5 update the calendar as well. Dr. Thorns shared that the District had a perfect 5-year Compliance visit from the ISC-4.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
.....**June**

- Spring NWEA Data
- Summer Projects

DONATIONS

The Board took action to accept a donation of file cabinets from Perkins & Will, facilitated by Board Member Anthony Medina.

Reports to the Board cont.

- Mrs. Nothnagel gave an update on the Summer Exploration Program. The District anticipates that 240 students will be participating.
- Mrs. Picciolini discussed the appointment of new financial auditors and the renewal of the Dyopath contract for the 26-27 fiscal year.
- The leadership of the Chicago Ridge Education Association addressed the Board during public participation regarding a concern involving the Collective Bargaining Agreement and insurance.

Personnel

The Board approved the hiring of:

- Katelyn Irgang, 1st grade Teacher at Ridge Central, eff. August 17, 2026
- Teresa Franke, Special Education Teacher at Ridge Lawn, eff. August 17, 2026
- Catherine Wilson, Special Education Teacher at Finley Jr. High, eff. August 17, 2026
- Nicole McGinnis; Assistant Principal at Ridge Central, subject to completion of educational and legal requirements.
- The Board approved the resignation of a standby substitute teacher at Ridge Central, eff. June 4, 2026
- The Board approved the substitute teacher list containing the additional names: Jasmine Casnova, Snaa Mohammad, and Joshua Claybrooks
- The Board approved a leave of absence for a stand-by substitute teacher at Finley Jr. High

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 26 , 2026:
Study Session at 6:30 PM in the
Boardroom.

Tuesday, June 9, 2026:
Regular Board Meeting at 6:30
PM in Ridge Lawn's gym.

Board Action

- The Board took action to approve 26 policies.
- The Board approved the annual contract renewal with Dyopath for FY 2026-2027.
- The Board approved the updated PreK Schedule with the morning schedule running from 8:10-10:40AM and the afternoon from 12:30-3:00PM.
- The Board approved a revision to the 2026-27 School Calendar to move the non-attendance day from Tuesday, March 9 to Wednesday, March 10, to align with District 218's school calendar.
- The Board approved appointing the Firm Baker Tilly US, LLC as the District's auditor.
- The Board approved the FY 2026-27 salaries for non-union employees.
- The Board approved a ten hour day schedule for employees from 6/5/26 through 7/31/26
- The Board approved the personal care stipend MOU with the CRESS union.
- The Board took action on a resolution releasing closed session minutes and destruction of verbatim recordings 18 months and older.