

TAFT SCHOOL DISTRICT 90
1605 S. Washington Street
Lockport, Illinois 60441
September 25, 2025
6:15 p.m.
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

President Lane called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. with the following members answering present: Colella, Bruss, Jelinek, Strote, Brzuszkiewicz, Scanlan, Lane

Also Present: Mr. James Calabrese

Members Absent:

3. CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Board member Strote and seconded by Brzuszkiewicz at 6:15 p.m. to go into Closed Session for the purposes of: (A) Student Issues; (B) Personnel-Resignations/Dismissal/Employment; (C) Litigation, (D) Legal Counsel, and (E) Review of Closed Minutes.

Discussion:

AYE: Brzuszkiewicz, Scanlan, Colella, Jelinek, Bruss, Strote, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 7:08 p.m.

Motion made by Board member Strote and seconded by Brzuszkiewicz

AYE: Scanlan, Jelinek, Colella, Bruss, Strote, Brzuszkiewicz, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

4. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC: no one present to address the board

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

PTA update: Mrs. Ruzzini reviewed past events and exited to announce the launch of the PTA website.

Taft Foundation update: Mrs. Jelinek reviewed upcoming events and grants that are being applied for.

Board Member updates: N/A

6. FY25 AUDIT PRESENTATION: John Michalesko presented the board with the FY25 audit.

7. COMMITTEE REPORT:

7.1. Finance: Jelinek reviewed the meeting held on 9/22.

8. PRINCIPAL REPORT- Mr. Calabrese reviewed the NWEA fall data presentation.

9. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Mr. Calabrese discussed the FOIA's we received. Reviewed if we should change the time we have closed session at during meetings as it was brought up at last meeting. Reviewed the need to purchase a gas card for reimbursement of a special education student transportation costs.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

10.1. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the Regular Board meeting minutes of August 21, 2025. **Motion** made by Board member Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Jelinek to approve the minutes listed above.

Discussion:

AYE: Jelinek, Scanlan, Bruss, Brzuszkiewicz, Colella, Strote, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

11. **CONSENT AGENDA –Action.** Items may be removed from the consent agenda on the request of any one member. Items not removed may be adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the Board
Motions: It is recommended the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented.

11.1. Approve Treasurer's Report

11.2. Authorize to pay bills/payroll

11.3. Accept Investment Report

11.4. It's recommended that the Board approve the 2025 Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit report as presented.

11.5. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the facilities rental for the Girl Scouts on 11/19/25 in the library from 6:30-7pm.

11.6. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the facilities rental for Art Club to be held on the following dates from 3:15-4:15: 10/1, 11/19, 12/3, 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/22, and 5/20.

11.7. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the facilities rental agreement from the Taft Foundation for Bragi Players as presented for dates between 2/15/25-6/7/26.

11.8. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the refund request from student ID#02057 for lunch balance paid in error.

11.9. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve the list of musical instruments and 3D printer to be deemed as surplus as presented.

PERSONNEL REPORT:

11.10. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve Pete Howard as 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2025-2026 school year at \$4,223.00

11.11. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve James Calabrese as 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2025-2026 school year for \$3,440.00.

11.12. It's recommended that the Board of Education approve Alicia Smorynski the additional band stipend of \$1957.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion made by Board member Strote and seconded by Brzuszkiewicz to approve the Consent agenda as presented above.

AYE: Strote, Bruss, Brzuszkiewicz, Colella, Jelinek, Scanlan, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

12. 2nd CLOSED SESSION – not held

13. ACTION ITEMS:

13.1. Motion made by Board member Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Colella to approve the FY26 Budget as presented.

Discussion:

AYE: Colella, Bruss, Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Strote, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.2. Motion** made by Board member Jelinek and seconded by Strote to approve the FY25 Audit as presented.

Discussion:

AYE: Bruss, Strote, Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Colella, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.3. Motion** made by Board member Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Jelinek to approve the quote from Savvas for 3rd and 4th grade myWorld 6 year social studies curriculum.

Discussion:

AYE: Strote, Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Colella, Bruss, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.4. Motion** made by Board member Strote and seconded by Brzuszkiewicz to approve the 5 year pay annually 2025-2028 renewal for NWEA as presented

Discussion:

AYE: Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Colella, Bruss, Strote, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.5. Motion** made by Board member Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Bruss to approve to move the 12/18/25 Board meeting to 12/11/25.

Discussion:

AYE: Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Colella, Bruss, Strote, Scanlan, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.6. Motion** made by Board member Bruss and seconded by Colella to authorize the Superintendent to release payment of \$7,347.00 to Adler Roofing contingent upon final release confirmation from SPM Architects.

Discussion:

AYE: Jelinek, Colella, Bruss, Strote, Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

- 13.7. Motion** made by Board member Strote and seconded by Scanlan to approve the purchase of a Gas Card for transportation expenses a parent is incurring to transport their child to an out of district special education placement with a cost to not exceed \$700.

Discussion:

AYE: Colella, Bruss, Strote, Scanlan, Brzuszkiewicz, Jelinek, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Colella to all adjourn at 8:30 PM

AYE: Brzuszkiewicz, Scanlan, Colella, Jelinek, Bruss, Lane

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Whereupon President Lane declared the motion carried

BOARD PRESIDENT

Nicole Lane

Christine Jelinek for

BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Christine Jelinek

Nicole Lane

Recording Secretary: Melissa Lesniak