

**Board OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held at 4 p.m.
September 17, 2026
Jefferson School - Hendee Rooms
8200 Greendale Ave, Niles, IL 60714**

President Doubleday called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. Other Board members in attendance were Rankin, Milligan, Kuempel, and Georgakis. Members Cline and Loise were absent. Also attending were: Superintendent Dr. Ben Collins, IASB Director of Outreach and Training, Arlana Bedard, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations/CSBO, Brian Harlan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Dr. Joel Martin, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, Samantha Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Alicia Schmeisser, Chief Technology Officer, Matt Tombs, Director of Student Learning and MTSS, Alison Dauernheim, Director of Business Services, Phoebe Wood, Director of Facility Management, Mike Browning, Director of Communications, Chris Lilly, and Assistant to the Superintendent, Christine Bednarek. There were no members of the public present.

Member Cline joined the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Doubleday led the board in the pledge of allegiance.

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

President Doubleday had no opening remarks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IASB BOARD MEMBER AND ADMINISTRATION WORKSHOP

The Board and district leadership met to discuss implementation of the strategic plan, continuous improvement, Board monitoring, district priorities, and the redesign of Committee of the Whole meetings.

The meeting centered on establishing a disciplined system for implementing, measuring, evaluating, and adjusting strategic priorities. The Board and administration will be conducting Committee of the Whole meetings throughout the year which will highlight evidence of progress, implementation in schools, reflection, celebration and clear next steps while protecting staff capacity.

District leadership reviewed the framework for implementing and monitoring the strategic plan, including the mission, vision, values, district pillars, school-leader paradigm, cycle of inquiry, scorecards, and benchmarking.

The district is working to create greater coherence among the Portrait of a Learner, Model Classroom, and Educator Excellence/Portrait of an Educator initiatives. The goal is to have these components more fully developed by March for Board review and discussion of implementation.

Student Performance

The Board reviewed a new public-facing student performance report designed to provide information about student achievement and growth in an accessible format. The report includes early childhood, K-1 FastBridge, reading, mathematics, IAR, ISA, and other performance measures.

Areas discussed for continued attention included early literacy/phonics and student growth. Updated Illinois Report Card comparative information is expected later in October. The district plans to share the report with staff before publishing it more broadly.

Capacity & Prioritization

Leadership emphasized protecting staff and administrator capacity by being intentional about what the district will not undertake. Time was identified as a significant challenge for principals, assistant principals, and cabinet members.

The district will continue limiting additions to the calendar, prioritizing existing work, and providing intentional implementation timelines for new initiatives.

Student Behavior

The Student Success Specialist role was highlighted as supporting restorative practices, alternatives to suspension, accountability projects, and significant behavior cases. The work has helped reduce administrative workload at the schools. The district is taking a phased approach to broader restorative-practice implementation.

Leadership & Instructional Implementation

The district is developing leadership and systems capacity through the school-leader paradigm and cycle of inquiry. Building leaders are increasingly responsible for implementing priorities, monitoring progress, collecting evidence, and demonstrating impact.

Instructional implementation walkthroughs are planned for October–November and March–April to establish baseline and follow-up information. These walkthroughs are not part of formal teacher evaluation.

Financial, Facilities & Staffing Planning

The district is coordinating long-term planning for finances, facilities, and staffing.

Financial projections are expected in November.

A McKinstry facilities assessment is expected in October.

Facilities priorities will be coordinated with budgeting and fund-balance planning.

A multi-year staffing plan is anticipated for late winter/early spring and will consider retirements and future district needs.

A long-term objective discussed was rebuilding fund balance toward approximately 50% by the end of the strategic-plan period.

Communications & Community Engagement

The district continues to streamline internal communications through the staff portal, monthly staff newsletter, and ParentSquare.

The district is also gathering feedback from Parent Universities, Community Coffees, Student Services Coffees, and other family/community events to evaluate effectiveness and guide future use of staff time and resources.

Committee of the Whole Redesign

Small, mixed groups discussed what they need from future Committee of the Whole meetings. Common themes included clear progress updates, data, prioritization, implementation evidence, reflection, and next steps.

A proposed structure for future monitoring is:

Data/Scorecard → Plan → Implementation → Assessment → Reflection/Adjustment → Celebration → Next Steps

The intent is to strengthen Board oversight while keeping operational responsibility with district leadership.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:27 p.m. President Doubleday adjourned the meeting, and the board approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried.

Signed Date: October 15, 2026

President

Secretary