

SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gildea: Called meeting to order at 6:30.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Tovar: Jim Gildea; Melissa Mongillo; Rebecca O’Hara, absent; Ken Marcucio, absent. Dan Foley; Karla Malerba, absent; Erica Nuzzo, here; Kimberly Tovar; Ivey Speight, absent.

Mr. Gildea: Let the record reflect, we have 5 members of the Board here. We have a quorum.

Also Present:

Dr. Matthew Conway, Superintendent of Schools

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Gildea: Anyone from the public who wishes to speak before the Board of Education this evening? Anyone from the public twice? Anyone from the public, three? Seeing no one from the public, we will close public portion.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS

Recommend that the Derby Board of Education delete Item Number 14, Public Act 25-93 Increasing Resources for Students, Schools and Special Education from the agenda. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O’Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent

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Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Ms. Mongillo: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Recommend that the Derby Board of Education table the extended leave of absence for the '25/'26 school year as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Mr. Gildea: Motion tabled.

Mr. Foley: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries.

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APPOINTMENT OF NEW HIRES

I would like to recommend that the Board of Education approve the appointment list of new hires as recommended by the Superintendent. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Ms. Melissa Mongillo.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O’Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making Motion.

Ms. Mongillo: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries.

Ms. Olson: Introducing and welcoming Carlin Ali as the Freshman Academy Coordinator joining Derby High School Team.

Ms. Olson: Introducing and welcoming Tanner Soracin. Tanner is replacing Carlin as our PE Teacher at Derby High School.

Ms. Conway: Introducing and welcoming Sierra Boccuzzi to our LRU family.

Mr. Gildea: Welcome to Derby.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the following meetings, September 2, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes



Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries.

FINANCIAL REPORT

I'd like to recommend that the Board of Education approve the financial report for the period through August 31, 2025 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Ms. Melissa Mongillo.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Ms. Mongillo: Second.

Mr. Gildea: The financial report is in your package. A motion has been made. Is there a second.

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Ms. Mongillo: Second.

Mr. Gildea: So, folks, Robbie is not here this evening. If you want to approve the financial report and he could come to our next meeting, that's fine. If you want to table it until the next meeting, I'm fine with it. Whatever you guys want.

Mr. Foley: Approve it.

Mr. Gildea: All right. Motion carries.

2025 CABE/CAPSS CONVENTION

I'd like to recommend that the Board of Education approve the reimbursement for attendance at the 2025 CABE/CAPSS convention for Board members. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Seven. Six, I think.

Dr. Conway: We put you in for an award.

Mr. Gildea: Yes, for you Dan. Motion carries.

CONCESSION STAND PROCEEDS – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Dr. Conway: I think it's important that we talk about in the meeting so we have a record in the minutes of how the snack bar at the concession stand at the Field House operates. It's been done differently over the years. But I think codifying it at least in minutes of a meeting

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so people understand at points of time when that changed and who authorized the change. So, everybody is aware of the change. And this both includes us, I think and Park and Rec Commission as well because they oversee that portion of the fieldhouse. And things kind of go mutually through Dennis and myself as needed and most recently now it's going on two years, but it's gone back and forth in between. I think Pop Warner as of this September is now running events out of the concession stand and currently now hold as of last week the health certificate for the concession stand.

I think we've had it for the last two years.

Dr. Conway: So, it's been reupped under Pop Warner and the request for that Pop Warner receive the proceeds of the concession stand as well.

Mr. Foley: May I have your input, Melissa since you've been involved with it.

Ms. Mongillo: It's a really hard thing to manage. So, in my opinion any group that's in there running it and managing it should keep the proceeds. And so, I would agree with that wholeheartedly. If it's a school group that's running it, student council, Italian club, whoever is in there should take the proceeds because there's an investment up front to run it. So, to split it, share it. I don't feel it's fair. Because it's a lot of work. It's a heavy investment on the front end of buying products to sell and manning it is a beast. So, if a group is in there and it's a Derby School District group and/or a Derby Youth non-profit youth group, whomever it is, as long as it's under those umbrellas, I believe the group that's in there should reap the proceeds. Does that make sense?

Mr. Gildea: Yeah, and I just wanted to throw my small two cents in and Melissa said it better than me but I just saw this year that a bunch of our Pop Warner parents and I know Erica and a group of parents spent four or five hours each getting the stand ready. And then they went to BJ's, and then they got the groceries. And then they spent hours rolling the Raider dogs. I would echo that. The groups that are doing the work should benefit.

Ms. Mongillo: It should be a shared opportunity. If the Booster Club isn't organized at the moment, fine. But if there's a student council group or there's an Italian club raising money for their trip. And they want to like I just think that it doesn't need to be owned by one person necessarily by one group but whomever is there wants to own it, run it, manage it for a game, an event, they should have the opportunity to reap the profit.

Ms. Tovar: I'm going to actually put a little bit of my two cents in because the last two years, I was the one who was manning the stand and Moff was trying to get the leg work for volunteers. The dilemma is I resigned because I'm not going to do it anymore. We don't have the in-school support not from the staff side. It's the parents. So, unfortunately, wherever it's going to go, as long as they have the volunteers that are going to man the

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stand, I agree that the funding should go there. Unfortunately, I had said both to Jenn Moffat and to Doc that, you know, I would love to keep this within the high school because I think that we don't have big enough of a budget to where volleyball and baseball and this and that, you know, there's needs that they have that we can't cover. But if we don't have the volunteers to be able to man the stand for them to get in there and get the money then, you know, whoever can do it, then I support that they deserve it.

Mr. Foley: My only concern is, someone should be at the head that has to answer and take charge. Who do we want in there?

Dr. Conway: From my experience this past week, Pop Warner did an incredible job setting it up, getting everything running and having more than enough bodies there to make sure the food went out quickly. Was cooked and went out quickly. Even Bethany's husband Charlie even was back on the grill cooking.

Mr. Foley: I could see where there would be a lot of work involved.

Dr. Conway: Yes.

Mr. Foley: I can imagine.

Ms. Mongillo: In an effort for clarity if Pop Warner President is going to own making sure that that's managed, who's the contact person within the school, is that you communicate with if there's a school group that wants to go instead of Pop Warner, like how we, we shouldn't keep the school groups out of there. If there's a school group that wants to do it and they've got numbers and they've got manpower, I just remember last year, I want to say it was last year, I just want to say someone asked me, could we send some people from, I want to say student council. I don't remember exactly. And I want to say, you've had, I'm looking at you, Moff, you've had every week was a different group. So, I don't want to take that away from the school groups by any stretch, but I'm just saying Pop Warner has the manpower. They know what to do. They will do a good job. They certainly would love to man it for you. I guess my question would be that if there is a group at the school that wants to do it, how is that getting managed?

Dr. Conway: No, I think going back to the way it was managed in that respect. I remember seeing the softball team in there last year for example. I assume the conversation took place with Pop Warner that softball was going to be running it that night. They had more than enough help in terms of people to provide the support and the proceeds I assume went to the softball program.

Ms. Moffat: So, Kim, the last two years had done all of the shopping under the head of the Booster Club. She was considered the President of the Booster Club. Melissa had been

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under the certificate for so that Pop Warner could also function out of there during their season. Each game during football season to not have football and cheer parents in there so they can enjoy watching their children play and cheer. We would have a different group from the high school in there. So, we've had volleyball in there, soccer, softball. The Class of 2025 seniors were in there. Student council was in there. So, over the past couple of years, we've had school organizations in there so that they were able to get some money back as well. The way that it had worked is what I was told when I came into this role is if you have eight to ten people, up to ten people, you would get \$40 back to your organization per person that you had in there. So, we would write a check at the end of the season to each organization based on the amount of volunteers that they had in there. But Kim had done the shopping as the head of the Booster Club.

With Kim stepping down this year, Pop Warner offered to step in and take over the purchasing of items as well as keeping the finance and things. What we set up, they would meet with myself and Mr. Trainor once a month and just go over you know what was spent, what was brought in just he's aware of what's going in and out of the concession stand and so that it's on the record.

Mr. Gildea: So, you and Robbie are the point of contact.

Ms. Moffat: Correct.

Mr. Gildea: And if there's an organization or group, so currently Pop Warner is currently set up. They did the cleaning. They bought all of the investments.

Ms. Moffat: Correct.

Mr. Gildea: Once that runs out or if there's another group that needs it, they would make it a similar investment or they would get paid that rate that you just talked about.

Ms. Moffat: Correct. Right now, I've worked with Pop Warner, they are definitely available four out of the five dates because they are away at a cheer competition on October 11th, which is a morning 10 a.m. game. We sort of have a kind of plan in place for that. We'll just do donuts and bagels and that type of thing. And I will get a couple of parents to take care of that. But right now that is the commitment that Pop Warner will be in there the other four games. They've already done the first game and it went great.

Mr. Gildea: And it's down the road. The club reorganizes.

Ms. Moffat: Correct.

Mr. Gildea: We would reevaluate. Thank you so much.

Mr. Foley: Melissa, are you happy with that?

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Ms. Mongillo: It has to be open. Like, I would hate to see it not open. Like it just breaks my heart to not have that open for a game. We have the most beautiful stadium in the State of Connecticut if not New England. And to have a stand not open, I guess it's hard to rally parents. Sometimes we've got a group that knows what to do, let it be. If there's another group that wants to have a piece of it or they want to go in there in the spring and sell during baseball, you've got time. And you can fund your prom that way and you know, it's there to use. So, hopefully some other groups will take advantage of it. But, for now, having Pop Warner in there I think is a win-win for the school and for Pop Warner.

Mr. Gildea: All right.

I'd like to recommend that the Derby Board of Education approve proceeding from the concession stand will go to the group and/or organization conducting and staffing the event. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Mr. Dan Foley.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O'Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: Making motion.

Mr. Foley: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Mr. Gildea: Any update. It's still early in the year. We don't start the budget until after the election. Nothing new on finance.

Negotiations and Personnel: Ms. Mongillo: We have not had a regular meeting. We have had several meetings to negotiate the contracts for DEA as well as the nurses. So, we are

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scheduling our next meeting for the nurses contract and we should have the teachers contract for this Board at our next meeting.

Mr. Gildea: Got it. And you did the custodians and the paraeducators.

Mr. Foley: Did anything go to arbitration?

Ms. Mongillo: Not yet.

Mr. Foley: Congratulations.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND POLICY: Mr. Gildea: I did talk to Rebecca, full disclosure. I offered to help. I told her I was going to try and sit in and we are going to try to have a policy meeting prior to our next Board of Education meeting so that some of the policies we have a backlog on we could have you guys read. So, I just talked to Rebecca the other day and I offered to help.

PLANT AND FACILITIES: Mr. Foley: Yes, we had a meeting before this meeting. Playground is completed. And the General Contractor is coming tomorrow to inspect it. I looked at it today. It looks exceptional.

Mr. Gildea: Are the zip lines in? Is everything in?

Mr. Foley: Looks like it.

Irving School, we had a problem with air conditioning. Control Board with some rooms. It will be replaced next week at a cost of \$3,000. Five rooms I believe were affected.

Middle School, leave that to Mr. Hoffman. He has some very good news that he can present on middle school. And also in the middle school, the ABS mainframe would not accept Microsoft 11. So, that has to be replaced at a cost of \$14,000.

And in the high school, detectors in some rooms have to be replaced at a cost of \$2,200. Also at the high school, fire doors have to be implemented. That's about it.

Some good news on the horizon for Jim speaking on the middle school.

ACADEMIC AND CURRICULUM: Mr. Gildea: Ms. O'Hara is not here. No update.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE: Ms. Tovar: We were supposed to meet the other day but Doc and Jenn Moffat felt instead of meeting, we were going to bring it to the full board, which we discussed today, which is the concession stand discussion. Otherwise, we haven't had the need to meet. And I'm sure we will be meeting soon down the line.

STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY: Mr. Gildea: Our meeting will be on October 2nd. We will review the dress code and get input from the various administrators and address any issues

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that may be open issues and look at any improvements we need to make. That will be October 2 at 5.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT

Dr. Conway: Busy month getting up and ready. I do want to share it's been a knock on wood, it comes up every time I'm asked, but so far relatively very smooth start thanks to incredible individuals that you have working in Derby Public Schools.

A lot of positive things to report like current culture moral and I think from staffing but also from our students even with the uniforms which I think increased that they walk with a sense or pride. We have 90 percent of compliance with the uniforms. And it's really neat to see. And the ones that aren't compliance in a sense wearing the khakis, they're wearing a white shirt just not with the Derby Logo because they're waiting for it through City Stitchers through an order.

I do want to share when I visited them this past last week, went down to thank City Stitchers for their assistance in getting us through this process. From the very start all the way to the point of distribution where parents are going there to pick up their uniforms. We're going to take back over the pick-up process with the heavy lift is done and the large bulk orders are still picked up. But we're still getting orders in the 300s each week. We submit new orders weekly. We'll take back the orders moving forward and submit them out of the schools and in our office as needed. It's been a great experience going through that. And I just want to thank everybody who had a hand in making sure it was a smooth opening in what could have gone differently. It was super, super positive in doing the planning and execution of everybody who had a hand in it.

Working on a couple of things legislatively with grant funding. The seed grant that you've heard us talk about as well as a new smart start foundation grant from the \$300 million-dollar endowment fund that they created. And we just got approved yesterday for funding to open up another pre-K classroom in 2027. We are working with our local delegation as well as representative Leibert on change in the current language around the foundation funding and supplanting. Same thing around the seed funding, the \$176,000. We're working on language with regards to supplant and trying to get some flexibility within that language because the intent is not to make it as strict as it is. That's the way the language sits now. We want some flexibility with the State Dept of Ed to be able to utilize that funding. This will be for all districts. While it came up because of the impact I see for us, it'll impact all districts across the State to be able to use that funding for other than just supplanting for districts.

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Mr. Foley: In speaking with people at the Beach, there's one Town, one wealthy Town who has an half day kindergarten for everyone. Full-time kindergarten, they have to pay for it. And when I mentioned that our school system has pre-K and it's free. They could not believe this. And it was a wealthy district. It surprised the heck out of me. So, we should be very proud in what you have done.

Mr. Gildea: Yes. I was going to ask Robbie, but I don't want to wait. So, I just wanted to understand the American Express. I don't know if I understand this correctly.

Dr. Conway: Yes.

Mr. Gildea: It's a pretty big deal. Total was 67,000. I'm having a hard time understanding of how we got to the last stage. Having difficulty how we went from 67,000 fraudulent charges. They're crediting us 8,939.

Dr. Conway: Yes.

Mr. Gildea: And why are they crediting us?

Dr. Conway: I'll double check on the why.

Mr. Gildea: One is why I couldn't figure out why we were getting the credit. I'm glad we are. Two is, the loss to the District of \$58,690 and it says the City cyber insurance has a \$50,000 deductible.

Dr. Conway: No, it's 58,000. The insurance is 50,000. So, they won't.

Mr. Gildea: We'll get another 8,000.

Dr. Conway: If the City uses their policy to retrieve the 8,000.

Mr. Gildea: And if they don't, then where does the 58,000 come from?

Dr. Conway: It's already been paid out of our general fund in this year.

Mr. Gildea: So, we're assuming, somebody from outside the school district back in 2024 somehow purchased something that is shipped somewhere.

Ms. Mongillo: Is this multiple charges?

Dr. Conway: And multiple items.

Ms. Tovar: They should be able to tell where it was purchased and where it was shipped to. When I got fraud on my card. They were able to figure it out and it was Amazon fraud.

Ms. Mongillo: No, this is AMX.

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Ms. Tovar: I understand, but I thought it said Amazon purchases through AMX.

Mr. Gildea: Nine transactions dated December 15th through, I apologize. And then 20 more.

Dr. Conway: Yep.

Mr. Gildea: So, 29 transactions from December 15, 2024 to January 18, 2025. Do we have a record of what all 29 are?

Ms. Tovar: Amazon should be able to track down where that card was used.

Mr. Trainor: Hi, sorry I cannot be there in person. So, the transactions were through Amazon paid for by American Express. On the statement, all it says is Amazon. And when we reached out to Amazon, we have a Derby account. So, we cannot find out what was purchased and where it was sent. Amazon would not give me that information. It's not our Amazon account. They got our American Express card somehow.

Mr. Gildea: So, somebody stole that American Express.

Mr. Trainor: Correct. We canceled the cards. We had cards renewed. And we have since left AMX as of July 1st of this year.

Mr. Gildea: Is there a reason why AMX didn't credit us?

Mr. Trainor: Yes. If you have more than ten corporate cards, you're not protected.

Mr. Gildea: And how many corporate cards do we have?

Mr. Trainor: 12.

Mr. Gildea: And do we really need 12?

Mr. Trainor: No. I have all of them at Central Office. When we switched to Capital One I reduced the cards we needed.

Ms. Tovar: I'm just curious as to why nobody was notified?

Mr. Trainor: It's a great question. It's a great point. We were never notified by either AMX or Amazon.

Mr. Gildea: Moving forward, and I realize you reduced the cards down to less than ten, but do we have fraud protection at Capital One? Does our new program protect us from similar situations?

Mr. Trainor: Yes, it does. We have more control with the Capital One card.

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SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE

Dr. Conway: I gave some of it to you in my report.

Mr. Gildea: We are going to have a subcommittee meeting on October 2. And we'll go over any issues.

Ms. Nuzzo: No questions. But I just want to mention I loved all the comments in those little blurbs. The comments even from Irving School about the kids. It brought tears to my eyes. It's just because they felt so good about themselves.

Dr. Conway: You could see it.

Ms. Tovar: I agree. They look proud of what they're wearing.

Mr. Gildea: Thank you.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

FACILITIES REPORT

Mr. Hoffman: Bradley Playground is all set. Playground boss will be on site tomorrow and Saturday to do their 30 day inspection to make sure all the nuts and bolts are all tight.

At Bradley, badge reader is being installed on the set of double doors closest to the opposite of the playground. It should have been done today. I'll verify it later on this afternoon.

Irving, the VRF system I actually just got word, they will be there tomorrow on site with the control boards. Blizzard Mechanical will be there around 2 in the afternoon. So, hopefully we're back up and running. We're upgrading the Nurses Office A.C. that mini split wasn't changed when they did the York system. So, we're doing that one in-house.

Derby Middle School, the chiller. The temporary chiller is running. It's been running for two-weeks now. No water flow issues. So, we're giving it another week. Our theory is working. I do want to report that we are going to have an engineer come out that worked on this chiller, the absorption chiller back in 2014. He's going to come out and go through it to see if we can get that chiller up and running. If we can do that, we would not have to go out on the referendum for the \$350,000. If we get that going, we'll be in very good shape.

Mr. Gildea: Thank you.

Mr. Hoffman: ABS server up here is being upgraded. It's not compatible with Windows 11. So, we will have the 2.0 software upgrade. We had 12 heat detectors being replaced at DHS. They expire next month. That will be taken care of tomorrow on their half day. Fire

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Marshal inspections are completed. There's a few things. On the next report, you guys will have the checklist so that you can see what's been completed what we've already done. Big thing on the fire marshals is the fire doors at the high school. It's going to be, ballpark, around 60,000 grand to get six doors wired in. 90-minute fire rated doors with magnets. We got two companies that came out. I should have pricing within the next week. Our hood vents were cleaned and serviced districtwide.

Mr. Gildea: So, I see something like badge reader, installation badge reader, door 13, cost 1,800, savings 22. Was that because an outside price was 2,200 by us doing it in-house?

Mr. Hoffman: We did the cabling. And the cabling price was that we cabled it ourselves.

Mr. Gildea: So, we would have paid the cable company 2,200. I appreciate you guys putting the cable in. Badge reader, quick question. Who is the access master so-to-speak, or the access control system?

Mr. Hoffman: So, Alert Alarms does all our access controls. IT has –

Mr. Gildea: Again, not so much outsourcing it. We hired Tanner this evening. Who gave Tanner his badge?

Mr. Hoffman: IT did. IT controls the badges. Controls the Program.

Mr. Gildea: And takes away access?

Mr. Hoffman: Correct.

Mr. Gildea: They all have remote access?

Mr. Hoffman: No, it's all done through the middle school. Lorenzo can remote in as well.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Rafferty: Good evening. It's a draft and I'm working on it. I don't know much about Power School. I'm learning. But another thing I learned on the report cards, we can put the kids' pictures on there. So, when the report card goes home, they'll have a nice little snapshot of their child in there. We're coding the report card a little bit different. I did convene with the principals, a subcommittee of teachers and coaches who are going to help us formulate and give direction to staff of how to make sure we keep family members informed about student progress before the report card.

This new report card shifts to trimesters. We gave messaging to all the teachers in the district. I sent out one and well, it's being conveyed tonight at open houses. So, it will be a deeper, better way for parents to learn about it. And I want to highlight one other thing in case people ask you questions about it. The primary driver for the design of the final

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By Marc J. Garofalo, MPA, MCC, MCTC at 4:42 pm, Oct 14, 2025

product was driven by parents. Many times teachers write report cards for teachers. But I had to tell them they're really for parents. When we get all excited about the standards they don't always understand them. So, it's written in much more plain speak, much more easier for parents to understand. So, that projects just about done. So, I'm just cleaning it up to make it beautiful so that we get another cable award for it or something.

So, the second piece of information is a little bit further down. I've met informally with teachers and next week I will meet with first and second grade teachers to talk about that project. We are in partnership with Yale. So, we're kind of only one or two places in the United States that's field testing this highly successful stroke awareness program inside our health program. Dr. Conway if you go up a little bit and click that link you'll see it right underneath the report card, I believe there's a link right there. I put in there a sample for you to look at the materials that we'll use with children. It's really cute. It's superhero theme. Kids get to do all kinds of games and fun activities. You know, a few teachers I talked to first they said, oh, this looks easy to implement. There's a compendium website and just to leave it one little thing. Statistically based on the research and in our community, it's very likely that this program will save at least one life in Derby. So, I'll give you an update on that as I work with teachers and as we roll it out. It's not all year long. It's a short five-week kind of introduction for kids to teach them how to be superheroes in their own house.

We have heard it's worked really great. There's a lot of research behind it. Kids are super resilient. So, I'm really excited to be once again probably getting international recognition or Derby, Connecticut. So, we'll be picking up either our award or our white paper or something further to come.

And the third thing I wanted to show you is the training. We had partnered with a company called Assisments that we put in the middle school first using commissioner's network money. And to help our teachers to have better resources to, one, get better data on our kids in math. And two, provide additional supplemental practice materials. We actually did so well that Assisments actually asked us if we would present with them at a regional math conference in Massachusetts highlighting the great work that Derby has done in terms of math assessments. And we were fortunate enough with additional grant money and with their inclusion to move it down to the elementary so that we give parents better information about math growth and another resource for our teachers to feel better equipped to provide mathematicians.

Mr. Gildea: We do appreciate the work that you do. Usually, you're not last.

Dr. Rafferty: First or last, I'm just happy to be here.

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Mr. Gildea: As we are too.

ADJOURN

Motion that the Board of Education adjourn its meeting. Passed with a motion made by Ms. Kim Tovar and a second by Ms. Erica Nuzzo.

Jim Gildea	Yes
Melissa Mongillo	Yes
Dan Foley	Yes
Erica Nuzzo	Yes
Kim Tovar	Yes
Karla Malerba	Absent
Rebecca O’Hara	Absent
Ken Marcucio	Absent
Ivey Speight	Absent

Ms. Tovar: 7:42 motion to adjourn.

Ms. Nuzzo: Second.

Mr. Gildea: Motion carries. We are adjourned.

Marianne Samokar

Recording Secretary

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