MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RIDGEWOOD COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 234 COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, Ridgewood Community High School District 234, was held at Ridgewood High School, 7500 West Montrose Avenue, Norridge, Illinois on Monday, October 19, 2026. President Draniczarek called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

QUORUM DECLARED PRESENT

Board Secretary declared a quorum of the Board of Education of District 234 was present at 7:01 PM.

Present: Paul Draniczarek, Jamie Nealon, Frank DiPiero, Fiona Tanny; Lisa Malicki arrived at 7:10 PM.
Absent: Michael Straughn, Chris O'Leary

Also present were Superintendent Jennifer Kelsall; Assistant Superintendent Patricia Alvarez; Principal Eric Lasky; Recording Secretary Cindi Stazzone.

AGENDA REQUESTS

Motion was made by Member Nealon and seconded by Member DiPiero, to approve the Consent Agenda and the Regular Agenda for the October 19, 2026 meeting of the Ridgewood High School District 234 Board of Education as amended.

On voice vote, President Draniczarek declared the motion carried.

The agenda was amended to remove Item III-D, Request for Out of State Travel for Italian Students, from the Consent Agenda; and to remove Item V-E, School Maintenance Project Grant Application (moved to next month), and Item V-F, Resolution to Amend TRS Supplemental Savings Plan (SSP).

II. USUAL RECURRING AGENDA ITEMS

***A. Approved Minutes of:**

(1) Regular Board of Education Meeting of September 21, 2026 per Appendix II-A-1.

(2) Executive Session of Board of Education Meeting of September 21, 2026 per Appendix II-A-2.

***B. Approved Current Bills, Payrolls & Financial Documents**

(1) Approved Accounts Payable of October 19, 2026 per Appendix II-B-1.

(2) Approved Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements per Appendix II-B-2.

(3) Ratified Payrolls of September 15 & 30, 2026 per Appendix II-B-3.

(4) Authorized Signing of Payroll Vouchers for November 13 & 30, 2026.

III. MATTERS RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, INSTRUCTION, STUDENT SERVICES/ACTIVITIES

A. Principal's Report

1. SPED Overview

***B. Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising**

The Board approved the requests for Outside Fundraising per Appendix III-B.

***C. Approved New Course Proposals**

The Board approved the new course proposals per Appendix III-C.

D. Request for Out of State Travel for Italian Students

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda for questions and will be moved to the November meeting.

IV. MATTERS RELATING TO DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

***A. Approved Personnel Report**

The Board approved the Personnel Report as presented per Appendix IV-A.

V. MATTERS RELATING TO BUSINESS, FINANCE, OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

***A. Accepted Analysis of the Financial Condition of the District**

The Board accepted the monthly report on the financial condition of the District per Appendix V-A.

***B. Accepted Monthly Investment Analysis**

The Board accepted the monthly investment analysis per Appendix V-B.

***C. Authorized Application for School Library Grants Available to Illinois School Districts and Approved Matching District Funds**

The Board authorized the Application for School Library Grants Available to Illinois School Districts and approved matching District funds per Appendix V-C.

*D. **Approved Date and Agenda for Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting of November 18, 2026**

The Board approved the date and agenda for the Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting of November 18, 2026 per Appendix V-D.

E. **School Maintenance Project Grant Application**

This item was removed from the agenda and will be moved to the November meeting.

F. **Resolution to Amend TRS Supplemental Savings Plan (SSP)**

This item was removed from the agenda and will be moved to the November meeting.

VI. MATTERS RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND GOVERNANCE OF DISTRICT 234

A. **Received Correspondence, Announcements, Articles, Reports and Proposed Agendas for Board Meetings**

For your information:

1. Superintendent's Report
   - Joint Annual Conference
   - Principal Appreciation
2. Proposed Agenda for November 16, 2026 Board of Education Meeting per Enclosure VI-A-2.

*B. **Approved Date and Agenda for Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting of November 5, 2026**

The Board approved the date and agenda for the Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting of November 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. per Appendix VI-B.

*C. **Approved Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies 2.230, 5.40, 5.70, 5.240, 6.70, 6.80, 6.190, 7.30, 7.130, 7.330 and 8.70**

The Board approved the second reading and adoption of Board Policies 2.230, 5.40, 5.70, 5.240, 6.70, 6.80, 6.190, 7.30, 7.130, 7.330 and 8.70 per Appendix VI-C.

*D. **Accepted Anonymous Donation for Camera System for Baseball**

The Board accepted the anonymous donation of $13,000 for a camera system for baseball per Appendix VI-D.

E. **Reviewed Current Freedom of Information Requests**

The Board reviewed the current Freedom of Information requests per Enclosure VI-E.

VII. RECEIVED CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 19 THROUGH NOVEMBER 18, 2026

October 19	Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
October 23, 24 & 25	Fall Play
October 29	Finance-Audit Subcommittee Meeting
November 2	Parent Teacher Conferences – No School
November 3	Election Day – No School
November 4	Athletic Awards
November 5	Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting
November 8	Holiday Market
November 14	Foundation BINGO
November 16	Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
November 18	Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting

VIII. TOOK FORMAL ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2026

Motion by Member DiPiero second motion by Member Malicki to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Item	Page	Reference	Action
II-A-1	3	Appendix II-A-1	Approved minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting of September 21, 2026;
II-A-2	3	Appendix II-A-2	Approved minutes of Executive Session of Board of Education Meeting of September 21, 2026;
II-B-1	3	Appendix II-B-1	Approved Accounts Payable of October 19, 2026;
II-B-2	3	Appendix II-B-2	Approved Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements;
II-B-3	3	Appendix II-B-3	Ratified Payrolls of September 15 & 30, 2026;
II-B-4	3	Narration for II-B-4	Authorized signing of Payroll Vouchers for November 13 & 30, 2026;
III-B	4	Appendix III-B	Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising;
III-C	4	Appendix III-C	Approved New Course Proposals;
IV-A	5	Appendix IV-A	Approved the Personnel Report;
V-A	6	Appendix V-A	Accepted Analysis of the Financial Condition of the District;
V-B	6	Appendix V-B	Accepted Monthly Investment Analysis;

Item	Page	Reference	Action
V-C	6	Appendix V-C	Authorized Application for School Library Grants Available to Illinois School Districts and Approved Matching District Funds;
V-D	6	Appendix V-D	Approved Date and Agenda for Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting of November 18, 2026;
VI-B	7	Appendix VI-B	Approved Date and Agenda for Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting of November 5, 2026;
VI-C	7	Appendix VI-C	Approved Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies 2.230, 5.40, 5.70, 5.240, 6.70, 6.80, 6.190, 7.30, 7.130, 7.330 and 8.70;
VI-D	7	Appendix VI-D	Accepted Anonymous Donation of $13,000 for Camera System for Baseball;

Approved as amended by Roll Call Vote:

Name	Aye	Nay	Present	Absent
Draniczarek	X			
Straughn				X
Nealon	X			
DiPiero	X			
Malicki	X			
O'Leary				X
Tanny	X			

Board President declared the Motion: Carried __X__ Defeated _____

IX. RECOGNIZED VISITORS AND INVITED COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

None

X. CONDUCTED BOARD FORUM

There was discussion regarding the Operation Safe Return drill recently held at Ridgewood. It was very well planned and very organized. It was helpful to have a drill of this type so everyone is prepared.

Union Ridge softball team recently played here at Ridgewood. They were thankful for all of the work on the fields and appreciated Mr. Rossi making sure that everything was ready for them. They were very happy to be able to play here.

XI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Purpose: Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.

Member Nealon moved, seconded by Member Tanny. Be it resolved the Board of Education of District 234 hereby convenes to Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

On voice vote, President Draniczarek declared the motion carried.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Member Tanny moved, seconded by Member Nealon. Be it resolved the Board of Education of District 234 hereby adjourns the Executive Session and reconvenes to Open Session at 8:14 p.m.

On voice vote, President Draniczarek declared the motion carried.

XII. **ADJOURN**

Motion by Member DiPiero second motion by Member Tanny to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Voice Vote:	**Aye: 5**	**Nay: 0**	**Present: 0**	**Absent: 2**

The President declared the Motion: Carried __X__ Defeated _____

Respectfully submitted,

Cindi Stazzone, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Paul Draniczarek, President

Jamie Nealon, Secretary