

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF RIDGEWOOD COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 234
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 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, February 23, 2026. President Draniczarek called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

QUORUM DECLARED PRESENT

Board Secretary Nealon declared a quorum of the Board of Education of District 234 was present at 7:00 PM.

Present: Members Paul Draniczarek, Jamie Nealon, Frank DiPiero, Lisa Malicki
Chris O'Leary and Fiona Tanny.
Absent: Mike Straughn

Also present were Superintendent Jennifer Kelsall; Assistant Superintendent Tom Parrillo; Principal Eric Lasky; Assistant Principal of Student Affairs, Ryan Goldflies; Athletic Director, Robert St. John and those on the attached list.

AGENDA REQUESTS

Motion was made by Member Tanny and seconded by Member O'Leary to approve the Consent Agenda and the Regular Agenda for the February 23, 2026 meeting of the Ridgewood High School District 234 Board of Education as presented.

On voice vote, President Draniczarek declared the motion carried.

II. CONVENED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Purpose: To discuss Student Expulsion Case Number 2026.01.

Purpose: To discuss Student Residency Case Number 2026.2JM and Student Residency Case Number 2026.3JS.

Motion by Member Malicki, second motion by Member O'Leary, to convene to the Executive Session at 7:01 p.m.

Voice Vote:	Aye: X	Nay:	Present: 6	Absent:1
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The President declared the Motion:

Carried X	Defeated

III. ADJOURNED EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Motion by Member Tannny, second motion by Member Malicki, to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene to Open Session at 8:45 p.m.

Voice Vote:	Aye: X	Nay:	Present: 6	Absent: 1
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The President declared the Motion:

Carried X	Defeated
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oIV. APPROVED RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINARY CASE 2026.01

Member Malicki moved, seconded by Member Nealon, Be it Resolved the Board of Education of Ridgewood Community High School District 234 hereby approves the recommendation of Action A (A, B or C below) for student # 2026.01 as presented.

Approved as presented 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
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Motion A if Board Determines Student Guilty of Gross Misconduct and Desires to Expel

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held before the Board on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education enters a finding that Student No. 2026.01 was guilty of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration.

I move that Student 2026.01 be expelled from Ridgewood High School District 234 for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year.

Motion B if Board Determines Student Not Guilty of Gross Misconduct

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held before the Board on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education enters a finding that Student No. 2026.01 was not guilty of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration.

I move that Student 2026.01 not be expelled from Ridgewood High School District 234 as recommended by the District's Administration and that any references to such expulsion be removed from the student records of Student 2026.01.

Motion C if Board Determines Student Guilty of Gross Misconduct but Does Not Desire To Expel

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held before the Board on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education enters a finding that Student No. 2026.01 was guilty of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration.

I move that Student 2026.01 not be expelled from Ridgewood High School District 234 as recommended by the District's Administration but rather that

oV. APPROVED RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION FOR STUDENT RESIDENCY CASE 2026.2JM

Member Tanny moved, seconded by Member Nealon, Be it Resolved the Board of Education of Ridgewood Community High School District 234 hereby approves the recommendation of **Action A** (A or B below) for residency for student #2026.2JM as presented.

Approved as presented 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
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Motions A if Board Determines Students to be Non-Residents -- RECOMMENDED

I move, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the written evidence and testimony presented at the residency hearing held on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education find that Student Numbers 2026.2JM is not a legal resident of Ridgewood High School District No. 234 and therefore, not entitled to attend District 234 schools on a tuition free basis.

I move, pursuant to the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a and 10-20.12b, that the Board of Education charge the parents the student’s tuition for the student’s attendance in the District schools during the 2025-2026 school year at the annual per capita tuition charge of \$15,806.10 prorated for 118 days of attendance, from the first day of the 2025-2026 school year though today’s date, and charge the family the daily tuition rate of \$133.95 for each additional day the student attends District 234 until the student establishes residency in the District or is dis-enrolled or withdrawn from District 234.

Motion B if Board Determines Students to be Residents – NOT RECOMMENDED

I move, based upon and after the Board’s consideration of the written evidence and testimony presented at the residency hearing held on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education find that Student Number 2026.02JM is a legal resident of school on a tuition free basis.

oVI. APPROVED RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION FOR STUDENT RESIDENCY CASE

2026.3JS

Member Nealon moved, seconded by Member O’Leary, Be it Resolved the Board of Education of Ridgewood Community High School District 234 hereby approves the recommendation of **Action B** (A or B below) for residency for student #2026.3JS as presented.

Approve as presented 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

Motions A if Board Determines Students to be Non-Residents -- RECOMMENDED

I move, based upon and after the Board’s consideration of the written evidence and testimony presented at the residency hearing held on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education find that Student Numbers 2026.2JS is not a legal resident of Ridgewood High School District No. 234 and not, therefore, entitled to attend District 234 schools on a tuition free basis.

I move, pursuant to the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a and 10-20.12b, that the Board of Education charge the parents the student's tuition for the student's attendance in the District schools during the 2025-2026 school year at the annual per capita tuition charge of \$15,806.10 prorated for 118 days of attendance, from the first day of the 2025-2026 school year through today's date, and charge the family the daily tuition rate of \$133.95 for each additional day the student attends District 234 until the student establishes residency in the District or is dis-enrolled or withdrawn from District 234.

Motion B if Board Determines Students to be Residents – NOT RECOMMENDED

I move, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the written evidence and testimony presented at the residency hearing held on February 23, 2026, the Board of Education find that Student Number 2026.02JS is a legal resident of school on a tuition free basis.

VII. USUAL RECURRING AGENDA ITEMS

***A. Approved Minutes of:**

- (1) Executive Session of Board of Education Meeting of December 15, 2025 per Appendix VII-A-1.
- (2) Regular Board of Education Meeting of January 26, 2026 per Appendix VII-A-2.
- (3) Executive Session of Board of Education Meeting of January 26, 2026 per Appendix VII-A-3.
- (4) Community Relations Subcommittee Meeting of February 4, 2026 per Appendix VII-A-4.
- (5) Finance-Audit Subcommittee Meeting of February 5, 2026 per Appendix VII-A-5.

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

- (1) Approved Accounts Payable of February 23, 2026 per Appendix VII-B-1.
- (2) Approve Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements per Appendix VII-B-2.
- (3) Ratified Payrolls of January 15 & 30, 2026 per Appendix VII-B-3.
- (4) Authorized Signing of Payroll Vouchers for March 13 & 31, 2026.

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

A. Principal's Report

1. Sports Survey Results and Athletic Update presented by Athletic Director, Rob St. John.

- *B. **Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising**
The Board approved the requests for outside fundraising per Appendix VIII-B.
- *C. **Approved Out of State Travel for RHS Band and Drama Club**
The Board approved the Out of State Travel Request for RHS Band and Drama Club per Appendix VIII-C.

IX. MATTERS RELATING TO DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

- *A. **Approved Amended Personnel Report**
The Board approved the Personnel Report as amended, per Appendix IX-A.
- *B. **Approved Assistant Principal of Student Affairs Contract for SY 2026-27**
The Board approved the Assistant Principal of Student Affairs Contract for SY 2026-27 per Appendix IX-B.

X. 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 X-A.
- *B. **Accepted Monthly Investment Analysis**
The Board accepted the monthly investment analysis, per Appendix X-B.
- *C. **Received Post Issuance Compliance Report**
An annual report of district financial information and the annual audit must be posted on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The FY2025 report was provided as Enclosure X-C.
- *D. **Approved Date and Agenda for Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting on March 11, 2026**
The Board approved the date and agenda for a Building & Ground Subcommittee Meeting and agenda on March 11, 2026, per Appendix X-D.
- *E. **Accepted 7-Year Analysis of Revenues, Expenditures and Closing Balances**
The Board Accepted Audited results for FY2025 that was included in the 7-year comparison per Appendix X-E.
- *F. **Accepted Audits and Annual Financial Reports for 2025**
The Board Accepted the Audits and Annual Financial Reports for 2025 per Appendix X-F.

- *G. **Approved Memoranda of Understanding for Teacher Overload Pay**
The Board Approved Memoranda of Understanding for Teacher Overload Pay per Appendix X-G.

- O H. **Accepted Resolution Appointing Representative and Alternative Representative to NIHIP**
The Board accepted the Resolution Appointing Representative and Alternative Representative to NIHIP per Appendix X-H.

Member Tanny moved and seconded by Member DiPiero approved the Resolution Appointing Representative and Alternative Representative as presented.

Approved as presented 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

- *I. **Approved Student Fees for School Year 2026-27**
The Board Approved Student Fees for School Year 2026-27 per Appendix X-I.
- *J. **Accepted Donation from PM Music to fund food for Upstate 8 Band Fest**
The Board Accepted Donation from PM Music to fund food for Upstate 8 Band Fest per Appendix X-J.

XI. 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
 - a. SB100 Review
 - b. Discussion of County Ordinance

2. Proposed Agenda for March 16, 2026 Board of Education Meeting per Enclosure XI-A-2.

***B. Approved Date and Agenda for Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting of March 4, 2026**

The Board approved the date and agenda for Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting of March 4, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. per Appendix XI-B.

C. Reviewed Current Freedom of Information Requests

The Board reviewed the Current Freedom of Information Requests per Enclosure XI-C.

XII. RECEIVED CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 23 THROUGH MARCH 18, 2026

February 27	Institute Day - No School Spring Play "Once Upon a Mattress"
February 28	Spring Play "Once Upon a Mattress"
March 1	Spring Play "Once Upon a Mattress"
March 2	Pulaski Day – No School
March 4	Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting Festa/Fiesta
March 5	Winter Athletic Awards Ceremony 6 PM Cafeteria
March 11	Building and Grounds Subcommittee Mtg 7 PM Superintendent's Conf. Room
March 12	Parent Teacher Conferences – No School
March 14	Foundation Bingo 6 PM Old Gym
March 16	Regular Meeting, 7 PM, Community Room
March 18	Spring Band Concert 7 PM Auditorium

XIII. TOOK FORMAL ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 23, 2026

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

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
VII-A-1	5	Appendix VII-A-1	Approved minutes for Executive Session of Board of Education meeting held on December 15, 2025;
VII-A-2	5	Appendix VII-A-2	Approved minutes for Regular Board of Education meeting held on January 26, 2026;
VII-A-3	5	Appendix VII-A-3	Approved minutes for Executive Session of Board of Education meeting held on January 26, 2026;
VII-A-4	5	Appendix VII-A-4	Approved minutes for Community Relations Subcommittee Meeting of February 4, 2026;
VII-A-5	5	Appendix VII-A-5	Approved minutes for Finance-Audit Subcommittee Meeting held on February 5, 2026;
VII-B-1	5	Appendix VII-B-1	Approved Accounts Payable of February 23, 2026;
VII-B-2	5	Appendix VII-B-2	Approved Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements;
VII-B-3	5	Appendix VII-B-3	Ratified Payrolls of January 15 & 30, 2026;
VII-B-4	5	Narration for VII-B-4	Authorized signing of Payroll Vouchers for March 13 & 31, 2026;
VIII-B	6	Appendix VIII-B	Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising;
VIII-C	6	Appendix VIII-C	Approved Out of State Travel for RHS Band and Drama Club;
IX-A	7	Appendix IX-A	Approved the Personnel Report;
IX-B	7	Appendix IX-B	Approved Assistant Principal of Student Affairs contract;

X-A	8	Appendix X-A	Accepted Analysis of the Financial Condition of the District;
X-B	8	Appendix X-B	Accepted Monthly Investment Analysis;
X-D	8	Appendix X-D	Approved the Date and Agenda for a Building and Grounds Subcommittee Meeting on March 11, 2026;
X-E	8	Appendix X-E	Accepted 7 Year Analysis of Revenues, Expenditures and Closing Balances;
X-F	8	Appendix X-F	Accepted Audits and Annual Financial Reports for 2025;
X-G	8	Appendix X-G	Approved Memoranda of Understanding for Teacher Overload Pay;
X-I	8	Appendix X-I	Approved Student Fees for School Year 2026-27;
X-J	8	Appendix X-J	Accepted Donation from PM Music to fund food for Upstate 8 Band Fest;
XI-B	9	Appendix XI-B	Approved Co-Curricular Subcommittee Meeting Agenda of March 4, 2026.

Approved as presented by Roll Call Vote:

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

The President declared the motion duly carried on this 23rd day of February, 2026.

XIV. RECOGNIZED VISITORS AND INVITE COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

There were no visitors at this time.

XV. CONDUCT BOARD FORUM

The Board was provided with a KIA Update.

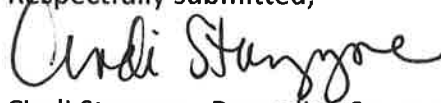
There was discussion regarding the upcoming interviews for the Payroll Clerk position.

XVI. ADJOURNED

Motion by Member Tanny second motion by Member Malicki, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Voice Vote:	Aye: 6	Nay: 0	Present: 6	Absent: 1
The President declared the Motion:			Carried X	Defeated

Respectfully submitted,



Cindi Stazzone, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Paul Draniczarek, President



Jamie Nealon, Secretary