

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIDGEWOOD COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 234
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 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, August 17, 2026. President Draniczarek called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited at the Budget Hearing/Adoption Meeting prior to this meeting.

QUORUM DECLARED PRESENT

Board Secretary declared a quorum of the Board of Education of District 234 was present at 7:06 PM.

Present: Paul Draniczarek, Michael Straughn, Jamie Nealon, Frank DiPiero, Lisa Malicki, Chris O'Leary and Fiona Tanny
Absent: None

Also present were Superintendent Jennifer Kelsall; Assistant Superintendent Patricia Alvarez, Principal Eric Lasky; Recording Secretary Cindi Stazzone and those on the attached list.

AGENDA REQUESTS

Motion was made by Member Nealon and seconded by Member DiPiero, to approve the Consent Agenda and the Regular Agenda for the August 17, 2026 meeting of the Ridgewood High School District 234 Board of Education as presented.

On voice vote, President Draniczarek declared the motion carried.

F. Introduction of New Staff

Patty Alvarez – Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
James Fusco – Assistant Principal
Dominique Dore – Italian teacher
Melina Latic – Science teacher

II. USUAL RECURRING AGENDA ITEMS

***A. Approved Minutes of:**

- (1) Regular Board of Education Meeting of June 29, 2026 per Appendix II-A-1.
- (2) Executive Session of Board of Education Meeting of June 29, 2026 per Appendix II-A-2.
- (3) Community Relations Subcommittee Meeting of August 6, 2026 per Appendix II-A-3.
- (4) Finance-Audit Subcommittee Meeting of August 10, 2026 per Appendix II-A-4.
- (5) Policy Subcommittee Meeting of August 11, 2026 per Appendix II-A-5.

***B. Approved Current Bills, Payrolls & Financial Documents (1) Ratified Accounts**

- Payable for July 15 and 30, 2026 and Accounts Payable of August 15, 2026 per Appendix II-B-1.
- (2) Approved Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements per Appendix II-B-2.
 - (3) Ratified Payrolls of June 15 & 30 and July 15 & 31, 2026 and August 14, 2026, per Appendix II-B-3.
 - (4) Authorized Signing of Payroll Vouchers for August 14, 2026.

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

A. Principal's Report

1. Summer School Update
2. Review of AP Scores
3. Beginning of Year Update
4. Student Senate AI share out
Zane Pan and Elisa Iskra gave their presentations regarding the AI Conference they attended.

***B. Approved Updates to Parent/Student Handbook for 2026-27 School Year**

The Board approved the 2026-27 Parent/Student Handbook updates per Appendix III-B

***C. Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising**

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

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. Accepted Annual Financial Report from Ridgewood Foundation**

The Board accepted the FY26 Financial Report from Ridgewood Foundation as presented per Appendix V-C.

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
 - Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
 - Enrollment Update
 - Succession planning
2. Proposed Board of Education Agenda on September 21, 2026 per Enclosure VI-A-2.

***B. Approved Superintendent's Goals for 2026-27 School Year**

The Board approved the Superintendent's Goals for the 2026-27 school year as presented in Appendix VI-B

***C. Retroactively Approved Date and Agenda for Policy Subcommittee Meeting of August 11, 2026**

The Board retroactively approved the Date and Agenda for the Policy Subcommittee Meeting of August 11, 2026 per Appendix VI-C.

***D. Reviewed Freedom of Information Requests**

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

VII. RECEIVED CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 17 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

August 21	Back to School Spectacular
September 7	Labor Day, No School
September 9	Late Start Schedule
September 10	Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
	Cafeteria
September 12	Foundation Bingo
September 14-17	HOMECOMING WEEK
September 17	Operation Safe Return No School
	Night Rally
September 18	Fun Fair & Parade
September 18	Homecoming Dance
September 21	Regular Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM

VIII. TOOK FORMAL ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 17, 2026

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

Item	Page	Reference	Action
II-A-1	3	Appendix II-A-1	Approved minutes of Regular Board of Education meeting on June 29, 2026;
II-A-2	3	Appendix II-A-2	Approved minutes of Executive Session of Board of Education meeting on June 29, 2026;
II-A-3	3	Appendix II-A-3	Approved minutes of Community Relations Subcommittee meeting of August 6, 2026;
II-A-4	3	Appendix II-A-4	Approved minutes of Finance-Audit Subcommittee meeting of August 10, 2026;
II-A-5	3	Appendix II-A-5	Approved minutes of Policy Subcommittee Meeting of August 11, 2026;
II-B-1	3	Appendix II-B-1	Approved Accounts Payable for July 15 and 31, 2026 and August 15, 2026;
II-B-2	3	Appendix II-B-2	Approved Revolving (Imprest) Fund Expenditures and Reimbursements;

APPENDIX II-A-2
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

II-B-3	3	Appendix II-B-3	Ratified Payrolls of June 15 & 30 and July 15 & 31, 2026 and August 14, 2026;
II-B-4	3	Narration for II-B-4	Authorized signing of Payroll Vouchers for August 14, 2026;
III-B	4	Appendix III-B	Approved Updates to Parent/Student Handbook for the 2026-27 School Year;
III-C	4	Appendix III-C	Approved Requests for Outside Fundraising;
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;
V-C	6	Appendix V-C	Accepted Annual Financial Report from Ridgewood Foundation;
VI-B	7	Appendix VI-B	Approved Superintendent's Goals for the 2026-27 School Year;
VI-C	7	Appendix VI-C	Retroactively Approved Date and Agenda for Policy Subcommittee Meeting of August 11, 2026;
VI-D	7	Enclosure VI-D	Reviewed Current Freedom of Information Requests;

Approved as presented by Roll Call Vote:

Name	Aye	Nay	Present	Absent
Draniczarek	X			
Straughn	X			
Nealon	X			
DiPiero	X			
O'Leary	X			
Malicki	X			
Tanny	X			
Board President declared the Motion:			Carried X	Defeated

IX. RECOGNIZED VISITORS AND INVITE COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Stefan Veljovic from Norridge United Soccer Club asked to speak regarding using/renting our facilities for their soccer company.

X. CONDUCTED BOARD FORUM

A Board member shared a magazine from the recent Chicago Tribune showing Ridgewood ranked number 20.

The green and white event was very nice and very well attended.

The Foundation bags tournament was a lot of fun and well attended.

XI. ADJOURN

Motion by Member O'Leary second motion by Member Tanny to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Voice Vote:	Aye: X	Nay:	Present: 7	Absent:
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The President declared the Motion:

Carried X

Defeated

Respectfully submitted,



Cindi Stazzone, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Paul Draniczarek, President



Jamie Nealon, Secretary