

Northwest Educational Council for Student Success Public Budget Hearing and Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 27, 2025, 11:30 a.m.
Barrington CUSD 220, Administrative Center Boardroom
515 W. Main Street
Barrington, IL 60010

PRESENT: District 211: Dr. Judith Campbell, Joshua Schumacher
 District 214: Dr. Scott Rowe, Dr. Laz Lopez, Dr. Brad Hubbard
 District 220: Dr. Craig Winkelman, Dr. Melissa Byrne
 District 512: Dr. Avis Proctor, Dr. Ruth Williams, Dr. Michelé Smith
 NECSS: Nancy Awdziejczyk, Cara Steetz

CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum
 NECSS Board Chair, Dr. Winkelman called the NECSS Board meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
 - Roll Call: 211- present; 214 – present; 220 – present; 512 - present
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - Motion by A. Proctor, second by S. Rowe
 - Roll Call: 214 – aye; 220 – aye; 512 - aye; 211 – aye
 - Motion carries
3. Welcome and Recognition of New Leaders: Dr. Judith Campbell, D211, and Dr. Brad Hubbard, D214

APPEARANCES

1. Public Budget Hearing – [FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget](#)
 Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to open the Public Budget Hearing for the FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget.
 - Motion by S. Rowe, second by A. Proctor
 - Motion carries by voice vote

Public Comments Regarding Proposed FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget
No public comments received.

Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to close the Public Budget Hearing for the FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget and convene the NECSS Board Meeting as scheduled.

- Motion by A. Proctor, second by S. Rowe
- Motion carries by voice vote

2. Public Comments
 No public comments received.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of [Minutes of June 4, 2025, NECSS Board Meeting](#)
2. Approval of Financial Transactions [FY25 NECSS Report dated June 30, 2025](#)
 and [FY26 NECSS Report dated July 31, 2025](#).
 Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
 - Motion by S. Rowe, second by A. Proctor
 - Roll Call: 220 – aye; 512 - aye; 211 – aye; 214 – aye
 - Motion carries

NEW BUSINESS

1. [FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget](#)

The Joint Agreement Budget reflects local revenue from year two of the STAMP grant and local partnership funding, State funding for two Education Pathway grants, State CTEI funding, Perkins and METT Perkins funding. Overall, CTEI saw an increase in funding under the second year of the new funding formula, currently being applied at 50%. Perkins was slightly lower, with the state receiving less Federal funds than previous years.

The revised NECSS budget was provided to show differences from the draft proposed budget presented in June to the final budget presented.

Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to approve and sign the FY26 NECSS Joint Agreement Budget as presented.

- Motion by S. Rowe, second by A. Proctor
- Roll Call: 211 – aye; 214 – aye; 220 – aye; 512 – aye
- Motion carries

2. [FY26 Financial Update](#)

N. Awdziejczyk shared information on the late opening of several of the grants. While METT was approved June 24, 2025, the two Education Pathway grants opened August 1, and the consolidated application for CTEI and Perkins opened August 12; we are awaiting approval on those four grants. C. Steetz gave the update on the status of funding for all grants.

3. [FY26 NECSS Goals and Areas of Focus](#)

N. Awdziejczyk presented the Areas of Focus, calling attention to the new format. Student Transitions builds on last year's Transitional Advisor work, taking it a step further by creating a comprehensive communications plan, aligned with Harper Promise, to build a single online hub "landing page" of information for all stakeholders. Regional Alignment - College Now is launching with the Class of 2028. Regional Impact - Math Pathways Training, an initiative which grew out of previous course evaluation and gap analysis, will work to support the alignment of secondary math placement with students' future postsecondary plans and career pathways. Regional Alignment - Communication & Data will create a process for sharing NECSS information and data through monthly follow-ups to the Board after Council meetings and a quarterly data report presented at Board meetings. Ongoing work highlighted the support of Elementary to meet the PaCE framework requirement.

Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to approve the FY26 NECSS Goals and Areas of Focus as presented.

- Motion by A. Proctor, second by C. Winkelman
- Roll Call: 512 – aye; 211 – aye; 214 – aye; 220 – aye
- Motion carries

4. [College Now](#)

N. Awdziejczyk presented the development timeline and regional launch of College Now. Discussion centered around minor changes for clarity and better alignment across print and website messaging. The Board expressed its thanks to all who contributed to the undertaking of this regional initiative.

5. Plan for Regional facilities and curricular updates

Barrington's College & Career pathway addition to BHS will be highlighted at the November NECSS Board meeting and Harper's update on campus construction, including the new Emergency Services Training Center and other new programs in development will be highlighted at the March NECSS Board meeting.

6. Possible Future Agenda Items

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Winkelman asked for a Motion to Adjourn.

- Motion by A. Proctor, second by S. Rowe
- Motion carries by voice vote.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Township High School District 211

1750 S. Roselle Road

Palatine, IL 60067

D211- Dr. Judith Campbell, Superintendent; Joshua Schumacher, Assistant Superintendent

D214- Dr. Scott Rowe, Superintendent; Dr. Laz Lopez, Executive Director of Career Pathways,
and Dr. Bradford Hubbard, Assistant Superintendent

D220- Dr. Craig Winkelman, Superintendent; Dr. Melissa Byrne, Assistant Superintendent

D512 Harper- Dr. Avis Proctor, President; Dr. Ruth Williams, Provost; Dr. Michelé Smith, VP of Workforce Solution

NECSS- Dr. Nancy Awdziejczyk, Executive Director; Cara Steetz, Assistant Director