MEETING MINUTES OF
THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
WEST40 INTERMEDIATE SERVICE CENTER #2

The West40 ISC #2 Governing Board Meeting was held on Friday, May 15, 2026, at 8:00 a.m., at 415 Lexington Street, Maywood, IL 60153. Board President Dr. Kelsall called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

I. Present: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Dr. Kirstin Kopta, Dr. Aldo Calderin, Dr. Paula DiDomenico, and Ms. Mary-Rita Moore

Not Present: Dr. Leah Gautier, Ms. Kylie Linquist, Ms. Eileen Piper-Simpson, Ms. Kathleen Tomei, and Ms. Dana Wesolowski

President Kelsall declared a quorum for the West40 ISC #2 Governing Board meeting at 8:02 a.m.

Also present: Heidi Bellm, Josh Boies, Lezlie Fuhr, Joe Gage, Marianna Delinck Manley, Dr. Mark Klaisner, Lefvia T. Marrero, and Christi Tyler

II. Approval of March 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes: It was moved by Dr. Aldo Calderin and seconded by Dr. Ed Condon that the West40 ISC#2 Governing Board approves the minutes as presented.

On call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Dr. Kristin Kopta, Dr. Aldo Calderin, Dr. Paula DiDomenico, and Ms. Mary-Rita Moore

Nays: Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of FY 2026-27 Meeting Schedule: It was moved by Ms. Mary-Rita Moore and seconded by Dr. Kristin Kopta that the West40 ISC#2 Governing Board approves the schedule as presented.
On call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, Dr. Ed Condon, Dr. Kristin Kopta, Dr. Aldo Calderin, Dr. Paula DiDomenico, and Ms. Mary-Rita Moore

Nays: None The motion carried without dissent.

III. Presentations:
Josh Boies - Chief Technology Officer

Mr. Boies presented an overview of the West40 technology plan and highlighted key accomplishments and priorities for the department.

Key updates included:

- Reviewed the organization's technology framework, organized into seven operational categories:
  - Devices
  - Cybersecurity
  - Infrastructure
  - Governance
  - Team Development
  - Professional Learning
  - Strategic Planning
- Reported improvements to device management systems, including expanded use of Mosyle mobile device management and automated device enrollment through Apple Business Manager.
- Highlighted cybersecurity initiatives, including:
  - Continued use of CrowdStrike Falcon Complete for endpoint protection and monitoring
  - Ongoing phishing awareness training for staff
  - Maintenance of an organizational cybersecurity response plan
- Shared infrastructure updates, including:
  - Secure network implementation at the St. Joseph campus
  - Continued use of Meraki cloud-based network management
  - Audiovisual upgrades to the Think Tank meeting space
  - Refinements to the internal technology ticketing system

- Reported governance and operational planning updates, including:
    - Revisions to staff and student acceptable use policies to address artificial intelligence
    - Development of a technology operations and business continuity document outlining annual processes, vendor information, and system access procedures
- Recognized the work of the technology team and noted ongoing staffing efforts within the department.
- Reviewed professional learning and networking participation, including attendance at IETC, involvement in the Illinois Education Technology Leaders network, and facilitation of regional technology director meetings hosted at West40.
- Discussed future planning priorities, including:
    - Continued technology support for St. Joseph operations
    - Expansion of AI-supported operational workflows and tools
    - Ongoing device management and steady-state technology operations

Board members expressed appreciation for the technology department's work and acknowledged the growing complexity and importance of technology operations across the organization.

Financial Report - Christi Tyler

Ms. Tyler reported that the organization's financial position remains strong, with revenues and expenditures tracking steadily and fund balances continuing to grow.

Key updates included:

- West40 continues to monitor developments in Springfield regarding Evidence-Based Funding (EBF), including the proposed additional $350 million in State funding.
- Due to increased enrollment, administration is hopeful for a corresponding increase in EBF revenue.
- Summer facility projects are being planned, including:
    - Masonry and tuckpointing work at Lexington
    - Replacement of basement doors and frames with metal doors
    - Continued abatement work at the St. Joseph campus
- The Lexington projects are being funded through the School Maintenance Grant, which includes a matching grant component.

- Human Resources activities continue to focus on staffing for the upcoming school year.
    - Several staff members have already been hired for next year.
    - Hiring efforts remain ongoing as part of the annual recruitment season.
- The grants department is actively engaged in grant writing and submission activities.
    - Staff have met with departments to identify organizational needs and funding priorities.
    - Administration is developing a streamlined needs-assessment survey that will be shared with member districts and departments to help identify areas where grant support may be beneficial.

Ms. Tyler concluded by thanking the Board for its continued support and service to the West40 region.

Executive Director's Report – Dr. Mark Klaisner

Dr. Klaisner provided an organizational update focused on "Finishing the Year," highlighting several areas of progress across West40 programming, partnerships, strategic initiatives, and statewide leadership efforts.

Key updates included:

- Reported that the Professional Learning Team continues to focus on continuous improvement efforts and district engagement through "Walk Further With You" meetings.
- Shared updates on Student Programs, including:
    - Ongoing hiring efforts for approximately 25 positions across the organization
    - Expansion of current programming
    - Development of additional new programs for students and districts
- Discussed legislative advocacy efforts through the SWAT team, including:
    - Continued advocacy for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF)
    - Support for K-3 ALOP funding
    - Advocacy for RSSP, truancy, and ROE/ISC service line funding
- Noted that anticipated increases in EBF funding, combined with enrollment growth, are expected to provide additional revenue opportunities to support expanded programming and staffing.
- Provided updates regarding the St. Joseph campus, including:
    - Continued planning and partnerships related to wraparound services

    - Expansion planning for the North Wing project
    - Ongoing conversations with the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Hartgrove, DCFS, and other organizations regarding partnerships and potential leased program space
    - Current asbestos abatement and renovation preparation work is underway at the site
- Shared updates regarding international and AI-related partnerships, including:
    - Participation in AESA's Ascend Academy, a year-long study focused on artificial intelligence
    - Continued collaboration with AESA Global
    - Exploration of future international learning opportunities and reciprocal global partnerships
- Reported on ongoing statewide leadership work through IARSS, including legislative advocacy, MTSS network development, continuous improvement initiatives, and SEL hub work.
- Reviewed progress on the West40 Strategic Plan:
    - Cabinet leadership will finalize goals and action steps during the June retreat
    - A draft strategic plan will be presented to the Board in August
- Asked Board members to indicate whether they intend to continue serving on the Governing Board for FY27 through a forthcoming Google Form survey.
    - Dr. Klaisner noted that a new Vice President will be needed for the upcoming fiscal year.

Dr. Klaisner concluded by thanking Board members for their continued leadership and support of West40 initiatives and organizational growth.

Dr. Mark Klaisner recognized Dr. Ed Condon for his leadership, service, and contributions to West40 and the broader educational community.

Board member Dr. Aldo Calderin added remarks about his longstanding professional relationship with Dr. Condon and acknowledged Dr. Condon's mentorship, collegiality, and continued support over the years. Dr. Calderin stated that Dr. Condon's contributions extended beyond his local community and positively impacted educational leadership across the region and the state of Illinois.

IV. Public Comment

No one chose to speak.

V. Adjourned:
Member Dr. Kristin Kopta moved, seconded by Ms. Mary-Rita Moore. Be it resolved, the West40 ISC# 2 Governing Board hereby adjourns at 8:47 a.m.

The next West40 Governing Board Meeting will be held on Friday, August 21, 2026, at 8:00 a.m., at 415 Lexington Street, Maywood, IL 60153.