Board of Education
School District No. 155
Calumet City, Illinois
Regular Meeting
February 9, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by President Stern on February 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin and Miller: Absent: Long

Also present were: Dr. Joseph Zotto, Adam Jordan, Alicia Thiel, Justin Valle, Jessica Orr, Julie Stephan, Valerie Wilhoite, Andrew Morgan, Jenny Seddon and Barbara Jude.

Public Comment

President Stern opened the floor to the public for comments.

President Stern mentioned that she appreciates the School Board and acknowledged all the different members. She also acknowledged Dr. Zotto and the work he has done as Superintendent, and mentioned how she appreciates how he is willing to work together with the School Board.

President Stern closed the floor to the public for comments.

Communications

Member Oberman read the communications below:

- Thank you letter from Calumet City Resources Department for the food donation and gift cards that Mrs. Rock and the NJHS Students collected, organized and donated for those in need in our community.

Administrator Presentation

Dr. Zotto indicated that the students that were to be honored were unable to make the meeting. Therefore, there was no presentation.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the consent agenda items as listed in the Meeting Agenda. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Reports

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the gross payroll figure for the month of January. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Miller, a motion to approve the pre-lists of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the National School Board Association Conference for Member Coleman. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the Maxim Agreement for 1-2 Cross Cat Paraprofessional. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Buildings & Grounds

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve and accept Bid Package Number 1, Wilson Elementary, Wentworth Intermediate and Maintenance Office, from Matthew Paving, Inc. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Teachers and Education

Enrollment Total

Enrollment total is 975 as of 2/3/2022.

Policy

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the policies listed under 7, d, i on the meeting agenda. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Abstain; Coleman Motion carried, 5-0-1.

SCOPE - Dr. Zotto discussed the Governor's anticipated budget address, evidence based funding amounts, anticipated bills, chronic absenteeism and mental health days.

FOIA - Adam Jordan read the FOIA report.

FOIA Report

Date of Request	January 26, 2023
Summary of Records Requested	The name and email address of any certified staff (teachers, administrators, nurses, counselors, etc.) who are retiring this year.
Status of Response	There were not any responsive records and such was indicated to the requestor via email on 01/26/2023

Teachers and Paraprofessional Unions

Julie Stephan, President-Teachers Union, announced that Lynn Kooistra is teacher of the month for February.

Unfinished Business

Adam Jordan discussed the Raptor Technologies System, a visitor management system that checks against sex offender databases. The costs of the system were discussed and the board agreed on the recommendation to purchase the system for use beginning in FY24.

New Business

Discussion for the good of the School District

a. Denise McField, Student Services Director and Jessica Orr, ESL Coordinator, discussed the EL Program. Ms. Orr passed out references to the Board for review. A comparison in EL Students from 2014 to 2023 was discussed. In 2014 out of 1,000 students there were 100 students identified as English Learners. Today that number has increased to 203. The need for bilingual teachers and bilingual support staff was discussed. Current systems, practice and the use of translating devices was mentioned and how the students have responded positively to these interventions. The Student Services Team recommends having a bilingual teacher at each school. Additional supports and materials were discussed. They also mentioned hosting a Parent University in the near future.

   A Board member asked a question regarding if current teachers are interested in becoming an EL Teacher.

Dr. Zotto indicated that there are grants available and any teachers that are interested would need to follow up with approved programs and the district office.
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b. Dr. Zotto discussed the draft of the 2024 calendar.

c. The IASB Division Meeting was discussed and a sign up sheet was provided to the Board. Dr. Zotto indicated that there is a Sheet Metal Workers contract ending soon which may affect projects for the next school year. He also discussed Black History Month and multiple district wide and school specific events.

A Board member recognized Principal Seddon, Wentworth Intermediate.

Executive Session

- Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Franklin, a motion that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1),(2) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1),(2). Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.
  Time: 7:09 pm.

- Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Miller, a motion that the Board return to regular order of business Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.
  Time: 8:26 pm.

Adjournment

- Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Coleman, a motion that the Board adjourn. Ayes; Stern, Rising, Oberman, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

Time: 8:32 pm

Board President **Board Secretary**