

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
December 14, 2022

The Regular Board Meeting was held via Zoom.

Board Member Comments and Questions:

Mrs. Jolly stated that until the State instructs the Board otherwise, that Ms. Ghani is a board member.

The Board discussed the Committee of the Whole and assigned committees as follows:

- Finance - Chairperson: Ms. Jemine, Co-Chairperson: Mr. Tillman
- Technology - Chairperson: Ms. Jemine, Co-Chairperson: Mrs. Jolly
- Discipline - Chairperson: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Co-Chairperson: Mrs. Jolly
- Policy - Chairperson: Mrs. Gray-Everett, Co-Chairperson: Mr. Tillman
- Buildings & Grounds - Chairperson: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Co-Chairperson: Mr. Castillo
- Curriculum - Chairperson: Ms. Francisco, Co-Chairperson: Mr. Castillo
- Parent Advisory - Chairperson: Mrs. Gray-Everett, Co-Chairperson: Ms. Francisco

Mr. Tillman thanked all for the successful Breakfast with Santa. He also stated that he spoke with many parents and grandparents who would like to be involved more with the district. In addition, the Board evaluation will happen and we are currently looking for dates from Lori Grant.

Mr. Tillman has requested that Dr. White to keep in contact with our Lobbyist regarding grant money.

Business Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Mr. Wilbur Tillman, Board President.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Edward Wong, Janene Preston, David Ormsby, Dr. Twyla Harris, Dr. Vedia Page, ZaRita Beal, Christina Montgomery, Latricia Lewis, Karen Slate, Janice Opitz, Sparkle Tiffith, Rayya Ghani, Dr. Dellnora Winters, Nicole Taylor, Ernesta Ransom, Lynn McAfee, Rejara Washington, Dr. Nicole Robinson, Dr. Young, Laura Wolf, Jamar Everett, John Smida, Alfred Thompkins, Akil Khalfani, Christal Washington, BeNita Parker, Gerald Scott, Mary Edmonds, and Ms. S. Dixon.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to appoint Mercedes Francisco as new Board Member.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Yay: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Gray-Everett, and Mr. Castillo. Abstain: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM D</p>
---	--------------------------

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to direct Board Attorney to swear in new Board Member.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Yay: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Gray-Everett, and Mr. Castillo. Abstain: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM E</p>
---	--------------------------

Cabinet Report

Dr. White reported on enrollment and vacancies. Dr. White stated that the Treasurer’s Office is a year behind. In addition, she has made contact with our Lobbyist and will continue to do so. The District Office window has been completely repaired. Shout out to all those who worked hard so that we could pass the Health, Life & Safety Inspection.

Principal Tiffith reported on Instructional Rounds.

Principal Beal reported on the PBIS program.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Jolly addressed Attorney Wong stating that until the board receives a letter for the State’s office, she will continue to call Ms. Ghani as a Board Member and would not recognize Ms. Francisco as a Board Member.

Mr. Tillman referred to the Board Policy and the Oath taken by Board Members.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked for clarity regarding the hold up with obtaining a letter from the State. Mr. Tillman stated that it is up to Ms. Ghani to provide a letter from the State and that the Board has taken action.

Ms. Jemine stated that according to the Book of Governance anyone can take roll call. Attorney Wong answered with clarity and asked if Ms. Jemine would be willing to do so. Ms. Jemine answered “yes”.

Attorney Wong further stated that the Board 4 to 2 to censure and remove Ms. Ghani. The Board does not have to go get a court order. Once the vote was taken, it was a legal vote of the Board. If Ms. Ghani feels that the action was illegal, it is her responsibility to bring it to court.

Mrs. Jolly stated that she would excuse herself from the remainder of the board meeting and left the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

<p>Motion by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Gray-Everett to approve Ms. Jemine as secretary pro tem in the absence of Mrs. Jolly</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Francisco, Mr. Castillo, and Ms. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPOINT SECRETARY PRO TEM</p>
---	--

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to ratify Board poll to approve consent agenda items G1-G6.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval for holiday party on December 22, 2022 from 4-8PM at Taureaux Tavern. 2. Approval for holiday time off for 12-month employees December 26th, 29th and 30th, 2022 and January 2nd, 5th and 6th, 2023. 3. Approval of student discipline cases. 4. Approval for Superintendent to enlist District 149 as members of the Superintendents' Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity. 5. Approval for 3% raise for 12-month secretaries, IT confidential employees, and Truant Officers. 6. Approval for MOU with Illinois Action for Children. <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco, and Ms. Jemine</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEMS G1-G6</p>
--	-------------------------------

Mr. Tillman requested to pull out Consent Agenda item G12 and move to new business.
Mrs. Crisler-Liggons requested to pull out Consent Agenda item G9.

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to ratify Board poll to approve consent agenda items G7, G8, G10, G11, & G13.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Approval of the payroll summaries for November 10, 2022 in the amount of \$945,271.86 8. Approval of the payroll summaries for November 22, 2022 in the amount of \$942,395.45 10. Approval to pay bills for Breakfast with Santa totaling \$3,970.60. (Net profit from event is \$3,847.90) 11. Approval to authorize Superintendent to work with Lobbyist, Donnie Trotter, to secure \$4.7M secured for District 149 for new windows and electrical work. 13. Approval of personnel report. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) New Hires b) Resignation c) Retirement <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco, and Ms. Jemine</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEMS G7, G8, G10, G11 & G13</p>
--	--

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons as a question in regards to the payables for the HVAC system. Dr. White answered with clarity.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Gray-Everett, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons for the approval Township Treasurer to pay invoices.</p> <p>9. Approval Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated December 9, 2022 and December 14, 2022 consisting of chargeables to the following accounts:</p> <table data-bbox="381 294 1120 514"> <tr> <td>Education Fund</td> <td>\$948,456.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td> <td>\$190,502.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Fund</td> <td>\$732,764.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Projects</td> <td>\$413,161.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tort Immunity Fund</td> <td>\$ 98,740.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>\$2,383,625.18</td> </tr> </table> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco and Ms. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	Education Fund	\$948,456.50	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$190,502.44	Transportation Fund	\$732,764.42	Capital Projects	\$413,161.81	Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 98,740.01	Total	\$2,383,625.18	<p>AGENDA ITEM G9</p>
Education Fund	\$948,456.50												
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$190,502.44												
Transportation Fund	\$732,764.42												
Capital Projects	\$413,161.81												
Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 98,740.01												
Total	\$2,383,625.18												

Adjourn to Closed Session

Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to adjourn to a Closed session at 7:52 p.m.</p> <p>1. Motion to convene to a closed session meeting for the purpose of discussing the following matters:</p> <ul data-bbox="332 987 1242 1743" style="list-style-type: none"> • The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of Dolton School District 149. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) • Student Disciplinary Cases 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9) • The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance, or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(3) • Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when a public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. In which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) <p>2. Motion to adjourn closed session meeting and reconvene open session meeting.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H1</p>
--	---------------------------

Adjourn from Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to adjourn the Closed session at 8:49 p.m.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco and Ms. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM F2
--	----------------

Old Business

<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons for approval for Superintendent to contact South Cook District Rep to train Board on goal-setting and self-evaluation.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mr. Castillo, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM I1
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mr. Castillo for approval for Superintendent to begin bidding process for renovations for Berger-Vandenberg, Caroline Sibley and Diekman Schools.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Francisco and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM I2

New Business

<p>MOTION by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Ms. Francisco for recommend approval to authorize the Superintendent to update and renew agreement with Calumet City Police Department for district-wide security.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Ms. Francisco, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM J1
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Gray-Everett, seconded by Mr. Castillo to recommend approval to hire The Terry Group to do the OPEB Valuation for the audit.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Gray-Everett. Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Francisco, Mr. Tillman, and Ms. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM J2
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Ms. Jemine for approval of the final Tax Levy for calendar year 2022 payable in calendar year 2023 and filing of the Certificate of Levy with the Cook County Clerk.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mr. Castillo, and Mr. Tillman. Abstain: Ms. Francisco.</p> <p>Mrs. Gray-Everett did not vote due to technical difficulties.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM G12

Actions as a result of Closed Session, if necessary

Agenda Items K1, as discussed in closed session.

MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to terminate Employee A. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine and Mr. Tillman. Mrs. Gray-Everett did not vote due to technical difficulties. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM K1
--	-------------------

Meeting Open for Public Comments:

Rayya Ghani stated that we the board is doing is illegal and that Attorney Wong should be ashamed for ill-advising the board members. It is an embarrassment to the district he manner

The Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on January 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Adjournment

MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to adjourn the board meeting at 9:11 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Francisco, and Mr. Castillo. Mrs. Gray-Everett did not vote due to technical difficulties. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M
--	------------------

Wilbur Tillman, President

Teresa Jemine, Pro-Tem Secretary