

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
DECEMBER 13, 2018

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:31 P.M. by Mrs. Darlene Gray Everett, Board President, in the Gym Room at the Middle School located at 1650 Pulaski Road in Calumet City, Illinois.

**The Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Knight-Anderson. Absent: Ms. Ghani and Mr. Tillman.

Also in attendance were: Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, Dr. Denita Scott, Vedia Page, Dr. Brigitte Garth-Young, Twyla Harris, Akil Khalfani, Cedric Lewis, April Brown, Dellnora Winters, Karen Slate, April Davis, Jamie Hayes, Carolyn Franklin, Renata Patterson, Christal Walker, Dr. Hester Alfred, John Johnson, Gabrielle Herndon, Zarita Beal, Joi Lewis, Dr. Nicole Robinson, Sherry Dority, Laura Wolf, Carmen Canales, Kathy Fejes, Sheria Robinson, Janie Crews, Bernadette Madison, Tara Thompson-Rayburn, Stacy Miles, Couren Jackson, John Smida, Patricia Boyd, Kimberly Crossley, Shelia Colone, Sharonne Dinnwiddie, Tomika Halsey, Kimberly Hayes, Kristopher Jones, David Ormsby, Dr. Cunneen, Board Attorney Emily Tulloch and Board Attorney Mr. James Vasselli.

**Public Comments on the agenda** – There were no public comments made.

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge, to amend the agenda to move Closed Session I items 1, 2 and 3 to the beginning of the agenda.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 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 the 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).</li> <li>2. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).</li> <li>3. Student Disciplinary Cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).</li> </ol> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Gray Everett and Mr. Tillman. <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p><b>AMEND AGENDA TO MOVE CLOSED SESSION I ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3.</b></p>
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**Closed session**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to go into closed session at 7:32 p.m. for 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 the 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> <p>The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).</p> <p>Student Disciplinary Cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Gray Everett and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Tillman arrived at 7:33 p.m.</b>  <b>Ms. Ghani arrived at 7:42 during closed session</b></p>	CLOSED SESSION
<p><b>Motion</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to come out of closed session at 8:23 p.m. and resume regular session.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	RESUME REGULAR SESSION

**Roll Call:** Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Tillman.

<p><b>Motion</b> by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani, to add New Business items J 1, 2, and 3 to the Board President Consent Agenda.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	ADD NEW BUSINESS ITEMS J 1, 2 AND 3 TO THE BOARD PRESIDENT CONSENT AGENDA.
<p><b>Motion</b> by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, to amend the Board President Consent Agenda to add Old Business item G 7.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Ghani.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AMEND THE BOARD PRESIDENT CONSENT AGENDA TO ADD OLD BUSINESS ITEM G 7.

<p><b>Motion</b> by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Jolly, to accept the Board President Consent Agenda items 1-18 and New Business items J 1, 2, and 3 and Old Business item G 7.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>ACCEPT THE BOARD PRESIDENT CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1-18 AND NEW BUSINESS ITEMS J 1, 2, AND 3 AND OLD BUSINESS ITEM G 7.</p>
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1. Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held October 25, 2018.
2. Approval of the minutes of the special board meeting held November 14, 2018.
3. Approval of payroll summaries for October 19, 2018, in the amount of \$954,654.70.
4. Approval of payroll summaries for November 2, 2018, in the amount of \$966,528.61.
5. Approval of payroll summaries for November 16, 2018, in the amount of \$956,329.71.
6. Approval of payroll summaries for November 30, 2018, in the amount of \$962,238.97.
7. Authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated December 13, 2018, consisting of 121 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

Education Fund	\$2,193,966.81
Operations and Maintenance Fund	240,557.75
Transportation Fund	949,464.66
Capital Projects	52,233.27
Tort Immunity Fund	237,867.92
Total	\$3,674,090.41

8. Need a motion to ratify payment made to Pre-K Expansion Partners Children's Home Center and Nurturing Developmental Learning Academy on November 29, 2018, for \$50,833.65.
9. Need a motion to authorize Business Manager, Cedric Lewis, to begin preparation of the FY'20 Tentative Budget.
10. Need a motion to approve the holiday hours for Winter break. The following six days will be designated as holidays: December 24, 25, 26, and 31, 2018, and January 1, 2, 2019.
11. Need a motion to approve Scholastic Book Fairs for all schools at no cost to the district.

12. Need a motion to approve the purchase of library books for all three Middle Schools in the amount of \$15,000 per school paid for through Title I Funds for the Middle Schools Media Center.
13. Need a motion to ratify a Cost Sharing Agreement with School District 148 for Homeless Student Transportation.
14. Need a motion to enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement with Chicago Heights School District 170 for Homeless Student Transportation.
15. Need a motion to ratify an agreement with Unique School Photography for Breakfast with Santa December 1, 2018, at no cost to the district.
16. Need a motion to ratify the payment for a new water heater at New Beginnings Learning Academy with Calumet City Plumbing in the amount of \$7,627.00 paid for out of contingency funds with Johnson Controls.
17. Need a motion to accept the letter of resignation from Theresa Wilkerson effective Monday December 3, 2018.
18. Need a motion to renew the agreement for services with Midwest Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) for all schools for the 2018-2019 school year.

**J. New Business Items**

- 1. Need a motion to ratify the Support Personnel Cooperative Association, SPCA Agreement for 2018-2022.**
- 2. Need a motion to accept the settlement agreement discussed in executive session.**
- 3. Need a motion to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for Comprehensive Services with the Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago Incorporated for the Pre-K Expansion Grant Program.**

**G. Old Business Item**

- 7. Need a motion to accept the proposal from Dr. Jeff Spitz of Groundswell Educational Films to support media and technical training for students and teachers at the Creative Communication Academy for \$15,000 paid for out of Title I Funds.**

**E. Special Committee Report—None**

**F. Superintendent's Report**

1. Cedric Lewis, Business Manager Tentative Tax Levy 2018

## 2. Dr. James Cunneen, Tax Relief State Grant

Paraphrasing, Dr. Cunneen stated the following:

Ladies your contract was approved!! I personally want to thank you. I thought it was a productive negotiation and sometimes we do not agree on everything, but we have something that we hope will improve our schools.

My report will cover our Tax Levy that you tentatively approved in October. This Board cares about the taxpayers in School District 149, but how does it care? It cares by keeping the levy under control, it cares by not having book or bus fees, it is here to serve the community. This levy serves the community; and not only that but also, this board is actively going to support the Property Tax Relief Act. Therefore, with your approval, we are going to apply for a Tax Relief Grant that gives no extra money to the district but gives tax relief to our taxpayers. It is dollar for dollar--we get money from the State we then abate money to our taxpayers. We are already abating money, which is one of your resolutions, and we are asking for less than we could ask for. The levy is a sound levy geared to make the school district functional and help our taxpayers. With this Tax Relief Grant, which I know you as a Board have actively supported, we are now putting that into fruition so that we get more tax relief for our tax payers. It is my recommendation that you support the tax levy items on the agenda, plus applying for the tax relief grant.

<p><b>Motion</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani, to group Old Business items G 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 together.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman Mrs. Knight-Anderson and Mrs. Eldridge.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>GROUP OLD BUSINESS  ITEMS G 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  AND 6.</p>
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### Old Business Items

1. **Need a motion to authorize the approval of the Final Tax Levy for Calendar Year 2018, payable in Calendar Year 2019, and the Filing of the Certificate of Levy with the Cook County Clerk.**
2. **Need a motion to authorize the approval of the Calendar Year 2018 Levy for Special Education, payable in Calendar Year 2019, and the Filing of the Certificate of Special Education Levy with the Cook County Clerk.**
3. **Need a motion to approve the Resolution regarding the Truth in Taxation Law.**
4. **Need a motion to adopt the Resolution to instruct Cook County on the final proration of the extension under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act (PTELL) in the event our Levy exceeds the total amount available for extension.**

5. **Need a motion to adopt the Resolution abating the Levy for debt service on the general obligation bond as circulated.**
6. **Need a motion to pass a resolution informing Cook County to set School District 149 loss and collection factor at ten percent seeing that last year the District only collected ninety percent of the amount extended by the County.**

<p><b>Motion</b> by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Jolly, to approve Old Business items G 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Gray Everett. Board Member Mr. Tillman voted Nay.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>APPROVE OLD BUSINESS ITEMS G 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6.</p>
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**H. Correspondence—None**

**L. Bulletins and Report—None**

**M. Public Comment—None**

**Adjournment**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani, to Adjourn at 8:34 p.m.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
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Darlene Gray Everett, President

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Bertha Jolly, Secretary