

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
APRIL 20, 2022

The Regular Board Meeting was held in the District Office, the meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Mrs. Lolita Crisler-Liggons, Board Vice-President.

Roll Call: Present: Members: (Ms. Ghani arrived at 7:07pm), Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, (Mrs. Gray Everett arrived at 6:56pm.), Mrs. Jemine and Mr. Tillman. Absent: Mr. Castillo.

Also in attendance: Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, April Brown, Cedric Lewis, Board Attorney, James Vasselli, Dr. James Cunneen, David Ormsby, Mr. Donne Trotter and Sheena Dixon.

Meeting Open to the Public for Comments on the Board Agenda –

Larry Hall

Larry Hall stated his address, 19134 Oakwood, Lansing, Illinois. I am here this evening, first and foremost thank you all for allowing me to speak. I have been with the district as a part-time police officer for a year and six months. I am also the assistant deputy police in the Robins Police Department. I work here part-time as a police officer at New Beginnings and because I haven't been with the district two years, I've been processing a personal home with a personal loan. They allow you to use a combination of the check stubs to get the average so I've been here a year and six months.

Yesterday I came to the district and I approached Dr. Shelly outside and I asked her of the process as far as getting it. Dr. Shelly gracefully allowed me to come in. She contacted Mr. Lewis who is over that, I guess the finance. Mr. Lewis advised me that he wasn't going to be able to help me yesterday, but to come back today at 10am. I arrived here approximately 9:55am and again Dr. Shelly called Mr. Lewis and asked him if he was going to be able to assist me. Originally, he said he couldn't come but then he said have him come back today at 4pm. I rearranged my work schedule and I came back at 4pm and I've been here since 4pm today.

The purpose of me addressing the Board is for you all to know that this type of customer service it is not indicative or what I think you all expect of Mr. Lewis. I just wanted to voice my concern because now I have to tell my lender again that possibly I can get it tomorrow. Had he told me he wasn't going to be able to do it, I wouldn't have adjusted my schedule and come back twice.

I emailed Mr. Lewis on April 19th through the district email address and he still hasn't responded. It is blatant disrespect for a gentleman to tell me to come here a certain time, come back another time and did not respond at all. I just wanted the Board to know this type of individual represents the Board, the district and I just feel I am risking my life for the kids in this district, at least he can do was say he couldn't do it or tell me a better time, communicate with me so that I am not wasting my time.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked a question if there was any way we could get the check stubs for Mr. Hall.

Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones answered the question by stating as you all know as a Superintendent I do not have access and it is not good for Superintendent's to have access to that part of the Treasurer's office which is why I reached out to call Mr. Lewis.

Many people in the office have different component access on personnel but you can only see right now the only person that has a 149 address can only see their own stuff and that is what he really needs.

What I did, I contacted the Township Treasurer at 6pm and he answered the phone. He also sent out an email five minutes after we finished talking and he stated he will have his stubs ran from April 1, 2021 thru April 30, 2022 for Mr. Hall tomorrow and he will have to come through me to get those stubs. Unfortunately, I will have to see everything, but I have no other recourse or choice but to help this young man. A client, someone who works and serves for us and I am sorry and I am embarrassed and I apologize.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated to Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones she did not need to apologize it was not on her and asked Mr. Hall if he could speak to his lender about getting an extension on his loan.

Mr. Hall stated I sent Mr. Lewis an email again today and told him hopefully he would have his stubs tomorrow. In the interim I thanked Dr. Shelly for even doing what she did because she did not have to do that, but I wanted to make sure I stuck around to address this issue because if I am being treated this way who else knows what is going on.

Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones stated I do have a confirm email from Mr. Varnado that he will have it done first thing in the morning. So I will follow up in the morning and I will make contact with Mr. Hall.

April Brown asked Mr. Hall for his telephone number so we could contact him and he gave it to her.

All the Board members apologized to Mr. Hall.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons thanked Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones for taking care of the issue.

Board Member Comments and Questions

Board President Ms. Ghani asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the Board agenda.

Mr. Tillman asked a question on Item #8 under New Business. Superintendent Dr. Davis-Jones and Dr. Cunneen answered with clarity.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked a question on Item #9 under New Business and Superintendent Davis-Jones answered with clarity.

Mr. Tillman asked a question on Item #8 under the Board President Consent Agenda and Superintendent Davis-Jones answered with clarity.

Mr. Tillman shared some great information from Preckwinkle in person meeting and the IASB Zoom meeting that could be beneficial to the district.

Business Session began at 7:03 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Roll Call: Present: Members: (Ms. Ghani arrived at 7:07pm), Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Jemine and Mr. Tillman. Absent: Mr. Castillo.

Cabinet Reports –

Dr. Shelly Davis Jones – Good News Report

We are excited about our District Wide Math Spring Contest. April 15-30th and May 1st-31st. Students left for spring vacation encouraged to participate in the Blue Streak Contest to support math fluency. The class/period in each grade level will receive a special award along with their principal and teacher. We will identify the top class/period in each grade level across all schools to select our winners. The winning class at each grade level will be announced at beginning of the month and at the May 20th Board meeting. The class with the most equations mastered will receive a special award.

Congratulations is in order for Dr. Brigitte Garth-Young!! She has been selected to serve on the Illinois Digital Educators Alliance Board for a two year term for South Suburban July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Dr. Young we know you will serve South Suburban area well. We are so proud of you!

President Ghani has shared information with us regarding the new public library initiative, a partnership with Dolton public library to support and enhance eLearning and facilitate educational synergy between our institutions. This new initiative will help public libraries serve the needs of K-12 students and schools. With the Community Share Program, public libraries can share age and grade appropriate titles with local schools, providing students and educators with a greatly expanded selection of digital content. The local public library program is called Axis 360. The program is currently used by over 200 public libraries and has supported 1,650 schools nationwide with increased circulation of E-content. Dr. Young has worked with Allison Withers Director of the Dolton Public Library to prepare sign on with the SOPPA Agreement. With the board's blessing we would like to participate in this program to continue to provide opportunities for our students to have access to books and encourage the love and importance of reading.

Congratulations to Dr. Cunneen and Dellnora Winters for their interview with Susie An of WBEZ. The story and recording aired on Tuesday April 19th in the Eye on Education edition with IASA. Dr. Cunneen talked about the much needed improvements in the district such as windows and a modern HVAC system. He stated the ESSER dollars has allowed districts across the state, including Dolton School District 149 to finally begin to catch up. Dellnora Winters stated As a result, getting a large lump sum through federal COVID relief dollars is significant, showing just how far behind these school districts are but hoping the dollars can level the playing field so black and brown students can catch up academically.

Lastly, On March 23rd, I received a letter from the ISC4 Center congratulating the district on receiving a Certificate of Excellence for achieving a perfect score with no violations cited in any of our buildings during the health life safety inspection. Thank you Mr, Khalfani, Director of Facilities, Glen Lindsey, district maintenance, and our head custodians and custodians for your diligence and persistence to make this achievement happen. This is the district's first time receiving the Certificate of Excellence!!

Dr. James Cunneen – General Matters of the District

We only had one response for the snow removal and lawn bid which was the same company we have been using, but we went through the bid process.

We will be getting word on the HVAC soon. We hope to get the big equipment by this summer. We are going to do everything we can to make the schools comfortable.

The Illinois State Board of Education had to recalculate the GBE funding and it was a net zero for all districts, some districts got more money and some got less. Our district got less money, but it wasn't anything we did. Our Lobbyist, Donne Trotter will talk about it when he gives his report.

Dr. Cunneen complimented the Board on the great Special Board meeting in executive session and thanked Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones for getting the job descriptions ready. He recommended the new Superintendent Dr. White to be invited to the next Special Board meeting and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated they would talk about it in executive session.

Mr. Donne Trotter – Lobbyist Presentation

We have a balance budget. Couple of the federal dollars that have come in and the stewardship of the governor for the past three years they have been able to achieve paying down on the pension debt, paying down on all other outstanding bills every 15 days which is a huge achievement. They were able to put dollars where it was needed. Most importantly, the dollars came back to the community.

The dollars went to mental health days to educators which allowed educators to use sick days for mental health, hiring retired teachers because there is a teacher shortage in the state of Illinois. They are looking to pass a senate bill 3465 which will allow retired teachers to come back to the classrooms without harming their retirement fund until June of 2024. Also, lowering the age for paraprofessional's license, allowing 18 year old's to teach pre-kindergarten to 8th grade until they are 19 years old.

Getting more substitute teachers in the classrooms, Senate bill 3915 will waive the application fee for short term substitute teacher license when the governor declares a disaster due to public health emergency. Senate Bill 3907 will allow substitute teachers to teach up to 15 days in classrooms instead of 5 days.

The assessment of early learners, there has been a lot of talk about standard testing for students again, if it is fair, if it is not sensitive, the racial barriers throughout the districts, how they differ and now they have past the two young test bills. This will prevent the Illinois State Board of Education from giving the standardized test to students Kindergarten to 2nd grade.

There is a lot of federal money, these dollars will be going to construction, rebuilding our bridges, going to schools, hospitals and for those essential services which was a 6 year program and we are now in our second year.

There was old money on the table and Dolton School District 149 was able to get 3.5 million dollars for their window program, 1.2 million dollars for the electrical system and 1.4 million for bathroom remodeling. Senator Elgie Sims took part in helping the district to receive the money.

Board President Ms. Ghani thanked lobbyist Donne Trotter.

Board President’s Consent Agenda G1-G11

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggon, seconded by Mr. Tillman to consolidate the President’s Consent Agenda G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, G7,G8, G9, G10 and G11.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held March 16, 2022. 2. Approval of the payroll summaries for March 4, 2022 in the amount of \$ 941,543.03. 3. Approval of the payroll summaries for March 18, 2022 in the amount of \$ 947,191.54. 4. Authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated April 20, 2022 consisting of 102 pages and chargeable to the following accounts: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Education Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,125,098.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$191,745.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$256,975.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tort Immunity Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$128,324.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,702,144.73</td> </tr> </table> 	Education Fund	\$2,125,098.59	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$191,745.66	Transportation Fund	\$256,975.89	Tort Immunity Fund	\$128,324.59	Total	\$2,702,144.73	<p>CONSOLIDATE THE PRESIDENT’S CONSENT AGENDA G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, G7, G8, G9, G10 AND G11</p>
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Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$191,745.66										
Transportation Fund	\$256,975.89										
Tort Immunity Fund	\$128,324.59										
Total	\$2,702,144.73										

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Need a motion to authorize FMLA for Jorie McCowan from March 11, 2022 through September 1, 2022. 6. Need a motion to authorize FMLA for Amanda Phillips from April 11, 2022 through June 11, 2022. 7. Need a motion to authorize Intermittent FMLA for Sherry Dority from March 30, 2022 through June 30, 2022. 8. Need a motion to approve FMLA for ZaRita Beal April 6, 2022 to April 14, 2022. 9. Need a motion to authorize participation in the Cube Conference for the Board of Education and designees September 29, 2022 through October 1, 2022. 10. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with Cleveland Plump, Jr., of Unique School Photography for the eighth grade day dances on Friday June 3, 2022 and the eighth grade graduation on Thursday June 9, 2022 at Thornridge High School at no cost to the district. 11. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with the LUV Institute for the After School Empowerment Series Program for middle school students for \$50,000 for five weeks paid for out of the After School Grant. <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve the President’s Consent Agenda G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, G7,G8, G9, G10 and G11.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held March 16, 2022. 2. Approval of the payroll summaries for March 4, 2022 in the amount of \$ 941,543.03. 	<p>APPROVE THE PRESIDENT’S CONSENT AGENDA G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, G7, G8, G9, G10 AND G11</p>

3. Approval of the payroll summaries for March 18, 2022 in the amount of \$ 947,191.54.
4. Authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated April 20, 2022 consisting of 102 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:

Education Fund	\$2,125,098.59
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Total	\$2,702,144.73

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7. Need a motion to authorize Intermittent FMLA for Sherry Dority from March 30, 2022 through June 30, 2022.
8. Need a motion to approve FMLA for ZaRita Beal April 6, 2022 to April 14, 2022.
9. Need a motion to authorize participation in the Cube Conference for the Board of Education and designees September 29, 2022 through October 1, 2022.
10. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with Cleveland Plump, Jr., of Unique School Photography for the eighth grade day dances on Friday June 3, 2022 and the eighth grade graduation on Thursday June 9, 2022 at Thornridge High School at no cost to the district.
11. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with the LUV Institute for the After School Empowerment Series Program for middle school students for \$50,000 for five weeks paid for out of the After School Grant.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Jemine.
MOTION CARRIED

Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to go into closed session at 7:36 p.m.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to Section 2 (c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act matters, related for the purposes of consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of Dolton School District 149.2. 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).3. Student Disciplinary Case. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).4. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10). <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jemine, Mrs. Gray Everett and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>CLOSED SESSION</p>
<p>Executive Session ended at 8:17 pm.</p>	<p>RESUME REGULAR SESSION</p>

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

Old Business J1-J3

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Tillman to consolidate Old Business J 1,2 and 3.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Need a motion to ratify the low bid for E-rate with AT&T for two years.2. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with VISTA National Insurance Group to provide consulting services with District 149 paid health insurance.3. Need a motion to review Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones final agreement.	<p>CONSOLIDATE OLD BUSINESS J 1,2 AND 3</p>
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<p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jemine and Mrs. Gray Everett. MOTION CARRIED</p>	
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<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve Old Business Items J 1, 2, and 3.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need a motion to ratify the low bid for E-rate with AT&T for two years. 2. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with VISTA National Insurance Group to provide consulting services with District 149 paid health insurance. 3. Need a motion to review Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis Jones final agreement. <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Jemine and Mrs. Gray Everett. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE OLD BUSINESS J 1,2 AND 3</p>
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Before the motion was read New Business Item #8 was tabled by all until the May 18, 2022 Board Meeting. (Need a motion to enter into a two –year agreement with 16% increase with First Student Transportation).

New Business and Approval of Personnel

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to consolidate New Business K1,2,3,4,5,6, 7,9 and 10; Approval of Personnel L 1, 2,3 and 4.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need a motion to award the lawn and snow removal bid upon the recommendation of the District Architect Mario Planera. 2. Need a motion to approve the Public School Calendar August 26, 2022 through for the 2022-2023 June 13, 2023 for the 2022-2023 school year. 3. Need a motion to approve a one-year extension license renewal with Meraki for the purpose of wireless access points. 4. Need a motion to approve Mr. Keith Edwards of KE Transportation to 	<p>CONSOLIDATE NEW BUSINESS K 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9 AND 10; APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL 1, 2, 3 AND 4</p>
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transport students from Dolton School District 149 to alternative schools for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at the cost of \$100.00 per day round trip per student.

5. Need a motion to ratify the rental agreement and pay the rental fee of \$3,035.00 to Thornridge High School for the eighth grade Graduation June 9, 2022 at 5:00 pm.
6. Need a motion to authorize Mr. Khalfani to enter into an agreement to provide chairs, stage, sound system equipment and extra security to ensure safety for the 8th grade Graduation June 9, 2022.
7. Need a motion to enter into an agreement with Mennoite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and approve Mrs. Homere Randall to participate in the school nursing internship program to assist in recruiting school nurses at no cost to the district.
9. Need a motion to enter into a five-year agreement with Quadient for the purpose district postage.
10. Need a motion to enter into a short-term agreement with R.I.S.E. Alternative School for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

L. Approval of Personnel

1. Need a motion to approve the employment of Adam Singleton custodian at step five for hire.
2. Need a motion to approve the employment of Tony Jackson custodian at step one for hire pending medical.
3. Need a motion to post for principal vacancies for FY 2023.
4. Need a motion to post for superintendent secretary effective June 1, 2022 for FY 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray Everett and Mrs. Jemine.

MOTION CARRIED

New Business and Approval of Personnel

MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Jemine to approve New Business K 1,2,3,4,5,6, 7,9 and 10; Approval of Personnel L 1, 2,3 and 4.

1. Need a motion to award the lawn and snow removal bid upon the recommendation of the District Architect Mario Planera.
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Correspondence – A thank you card was sent on behalf of LaTanyza Howell family for our love and support during their time of sorrow.

Bulletins and Reports – None

Final Action on Closed Session Items, if needed

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the recommendation for student disciplinary hearings as discussed in closed session for students 149-2122-011, 149-2122-012, 149-2122-013, 149-2122-014 and 149-2122-016.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Jemine and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS AS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION FOR STUDENTS 149-2122-011, 149-2122-012, 149-2122-013, 149-2122-014 AND 149-2122-016</p>
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Adjournment

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to Adjourn at 8:22 P.M.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Jemine and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
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Rayya Ghani, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary