Board of Education
School District No. 155
Calumet City, Illinois
Regular Meeting
June 8, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by President Long on June 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern: Absent: Franklin, Miller and Del Real

Also present were: Dr. Joseph Zotto, Adam Jordan, Alicia Thiel, Justin Valle, Julie Stephan, Valerie Wilhoite, Imelda Carrasco, Rick Sanchez, Jessica Orr, Andrew Morgan, Kim Wesley, Jenny Seddon, Jaclynn Labahn, Andrew Labahn and Leisl Brown

Public Comment

President Long opened the floor to the public for comments.

There was no public comment.

President Long closed the floor to the public for comments.

Let the record show that member Del Real arrived at 6:32 pm.

Communications

Dr. Zotto acknowledged the retirements of four district employees. He also presented two of the retirees who were able to attend with a retirement gift.

i. Mary Valle
ii. Rick Sanchez
iii. Katherine Wetzig
iv. Imelda Carrasco

Consent Agenda

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the consent agenda items as listed in the Meeting Agenda. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

Reports

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the gross payroll figure for the month of May. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the pre-lists of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the Powerschool Agreement. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the Finalsite Agreement. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve the 2023-2024 CLIC Insurance Program and Premium Costs for the following coverages:

- Workers Compensation
- Property/Casualty
- Fiduciary Liability
- Law Enforcement

Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve and Ratify Summer Enrichment Agreement with Sunbelt Staffing. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Stern, a motion to approve Access Point and Fiber Update Quote from Synapse Technology Group. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the Instruction Technology Support Agreement. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

Buildings and Grounds

Justin Valle stated that everything is going well and is on schedule. Dr. Zotto added that there were some minor issues with the Wentworth Junior High roof that were found.

Teachers and Education

Enrollment Total

Enrollment total is 986 as of 6/2/2023.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the resignation of the listed staff per the effective dates indicated; and to execute the employment contracts for

the FY24 school year for the identified staff at the salary indicated or steps and lanes provided in the applicable bargaining agreement pending receipt of the required documents which includes the Illinois State Background Investigation Report. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1

New Hires		
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**
Karina Garcia	8th Grade Bilingual Paraprofessional	8th Grade Cross Categorical
Kathleen Kittaneh	3rd Grade Teacher	WIS

Resignations		
Name	**Position**	**Date**
Reyna, Jessica	Pre-K Teacher	07/31/2023

Policy

Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of policies as listed on the board agenda. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman and Stern. Nays; none. Abstain; Del Real Motion carried, 4-0-1.

SCOPE - Dr. Zotto discussed that the Spring Legislative Session has ended and changes made to bills.

FOIA - Adam Jordan indicated there were no FOIA's this month.

Teachers and Paraprofessional Unions

Dr. Zotto indicated that Summer School has started. He also acknowledged that some teachers and paraprofessionals have not had a break yet. They ended the school year and went right into summer school.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Tara Lawrence, Jenny Seddon and Andrew Morgan discussed the School Improvement Plan for Wentworth Intermediate and Wentworth Junior High.

Ms. Lawrence discussed targeted status, planning year, additional funding and support. Including goals, timelines and interventions.

Ms. Seddon and Mr. Morgan discussed children with disabilities and chronic absenteeism. Student growth was also discussed and goals to decrease the absenteeism.

A board member asked a question about 2018 growth.
Ms. Seddon indicated that it was significantly lower in 2018.

A board member asked a question about what the percentages are based on.
Mr. Morgan indicated that the 2022 data to determine the baseline setup incremental goals at 5% from one year to the next.

Dr. Zotto discussed progress and continuous growth.

A board member asked a question around how will absenteeism be decreased.
Mr. Morgan indicated that the students need to miss fewer than eight days and with the help of a staff led committee.

A board member asked about parents possibly wanting homeschooling.
Mr. Morgan stated that he feels that education needs to be reprioritized.

Dr. Zotto discussed parents' fears of sending students after COVID and normalizing data again.

A board member asked about truancy and if the student is passed to the next grade.
Dr. Zotto indicated that during COVID it was flexible but now is the time to get back to following the student handbook.

Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Long, a motion to approve the School Improvement Plans. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

Discussion for the good of the School District

Dr. Zotto mentioned that one of our school board members Mr. Lamarr Miller is a division officer for the Illinois Association of School Boards.

Executive Session

- Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, 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 of specific employees of the public body, collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1),(2). Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.
  Time: 7:14 pm.

- Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board return to regular order of business. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.
  Time: 7:25 pm.

Employment Action Items

- Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve 2023-2024 Assistant Principal Employment Agreements for Jaclynn Labahn and Kimberly Wesley. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

- Moved by Member Stern, seconded by Member Long, a motion to approve the MOA - Elevating Bilingual Educators Grant. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Stern and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0.

Adjournment

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

Time: 7:32 pm

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Board President **Board Secretary**