

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149

MINUTES OF

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 25, 2024

The Board Meeting convened at 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Jemine (via Zoom). Absent: Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mrs. Elston.

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Felicia Frazier, Janene Preston, Carmen Canales, Dr. Kenneth Scott, Janice Opitz, DeWayne Anderson, Stacy Miles, Chief Pointer, Danielle Franklin, Daryll Lacey, Ernesta Ransom, Dr. Nicole Robinson, Theresa Smith, Laura Wolf, Christina Montgomery, Kyle Janzcewski, LaToyla Jones, Karen Slate, Tia Williams, Martiae Jenkins-Alexander, John Johnson, Nichole Jackson, Sparkle Tiffith, David Ormsby, John Shields, Nicole Taylor, Tanyelle Hannah, Crystal Montgomery and Yolanda Martin.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Cabinet Reports

Dr. Maureen White expressed condolences to Mr. Tillman regarding the passing of his father-in-law. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons presented Mr. Tillman with a Resolution.

Dr. White reported on the current student enrollment of 2,159 students district-wide.

Dr. White referenced Public Act 103-111 which cites that school districts may adopt a policy for waiving tuition costs for students whose parents are employees of the district. Dr. White asked the board if they would like to implement this policy and waive the tuition cost. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked if she was referring to registration. Dr. White responded that she is talking about a child who is not within our boundaries to attend our schools, but has a parent who is an employee of the district. The board has the option of either charging or waiving costs for tuition. The board agreed that they would waive the tuition costs.

Dr. White informed the board that March 19, 2024 is an Election Day and that we have three schools that are used as polling places. The district also has three unused e-Learning days. She asked for the board's feedback on whether they wish to use an e-Learning day or to have students in attendance on that day. Dr. White added that last year the district used an e-Learning day due to concerns about there being so many outsiders in the building when students are present. The board agreed and approved an e-Learning day for March 19, 2024.

Tia Williams, Principal of STEM, gave a presentation on Project SYNCERE, Supporting Youth's Needs with Core Engineering Research Experiments. Ms. Williams shared a PowerPoint showing the students engaging in project-based learning and their result of developing virtual robots and race tracks.

Approval authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked a question regarding payments to ISBE for fees for only two board members and not all of the board members. Janice Opitz clarified that the payments were for seminar fees that Mrs. Elston and Mrs. Jolly attended.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve authorization to the Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated December 21, 2023, and December 29, 2023, January 4, 2024 and January 25, 2024 consisting of 87 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM E</p>
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Education Fund	\$1,903,834.88	
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 256,922.16	
Debt Services	\$ 6,055.71	
Transportation Fund	\$ 152,403.83	
Capital Projects	\$ 60,876.66	
Tort Immunity Fund	<u>\$ 148,469.63</u>	
	\$2,528,562.87	
ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.		
MOTION CARRIED		

Consent Agenda

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve consent agenda items F1-4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of payroll summaries for December 8, 2023, in the amount of \$967,740.82 2. Approval of payroll summaries for December 21, 2023, in the amount of \$1,117,179.59 3. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting held December 14, 2023 4. Personnel Report <p>Resignation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Acceptance of resignation from Jordan Madden, Climate & Culture Coach at NBLA, effective 12/15/23 b. Acceptance of resignation from Shahid Coleman, Custodian at STEM, effective 12/18/23 c. Acceptance of resignation from April Palmer, Payroll Specialist at the District Office, effective 12/22/23 d. Acceptance of resignation from LaTana Weems, PCC Teacher at Berger-Vandenberg, effective 01/08/24 <p>Employment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> e. Approval of employment of Karen Lacey, Paraprofessional at Diekman, effective 01/11/2024 f. Approval of employment of Brittany Anderson, Paraprofessional at CCA, effective 01/10/2024 <p>Leave of Absence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> g. Approval of FMLA for Sheila Burks, 5th Grade Teacher at NBLA, effective 11/09/2023 through 04/01/2024 h. Approval of FMLA for Taneka Boyce, 3rd Grade Teacher at NBLA, effective 11/28/2023 through 01/15/2024 i. Approval of FMLA for Christal Washington, Principal at SOFA, effective 01/08/2024 through 05/03/2024 j. Approval of FMLA for Gabrielle Herndon, WIN Teacher at SOFA, effective 01/09/2024 through- 02/20/2024 	<p>AGEND A ITEMS F1-4</p>
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<p>k. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Jennifer Walsh, Pre-K Teacher at Diekman, for the remainder of SY23-24</p> <p>l. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Audrey Sherman, 2nd Grade Teacher at Carol Moseley Braun for the remainder of SY23-24</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggon.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
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Adjourn to Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to adjourn to a Closed session at 6:49 p.m.</p> <p>1. Motion to convene to a closed session meeting for the purpose of discussing the following matters:</p> <ul 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) <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggon.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM G1</p>
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Adjourn from Closed Session at 7:31 pm

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggon, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman.
Absent: Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mrs. Elston.

Final Action on Closed Session Items

<p>MOTION to approve student discipline decisions (if needed). NO ACTION NEEDED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H1</p>
<p>MOTION to approve teacher discipline decisions (if needed). NO ACTION NEEDED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H2</p>

Old Business

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked if there was a bid or what type of platform was used regarding the mold remediation. Dr. White answered that there is no bidding process for contracts under \$25,000.00 and therefore the district called two companies to obtain quotes. The second quote was for \$11,670.00. Mr. Anderson had used both companies in the past and so she deferred to him on company selection.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve Aerial Contracting Group, LLC to provide mold remediation for the Business Office at the District Office in the amount of \$10,750.00.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggon and Ms. Jemine.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM I1</p>
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New Business

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve MOU to forego the MOY NWEA test and give teachers a maximum score of 6 for the Type I evaluation assessment. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J1</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve new contract with David Ormsby, provider of public information and communication services. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J2</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve a renewal contract with Sentinel for Anti-Virus Software & Protection in the amount of \$10,950.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J3</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve Lana Mason as a choir director for the Middle School in the amount of \$10,000.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J4</p>

Mr. Tillman asked a question regarding the CTE program. How did the district come up with the two subject matters, culinary and agricultural, for the program? Dr. White informed the board that the district surveyed the students. Agriculture, culinary and plumbing were the highest requests.

Mr. Tillman shared his thoughts about the possibility of project-based learning so that when the students get these skills, they are actually doing some hands-on work. Dr. White responded that the district would integrate the curriculum into the subject.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked if these programs were considered to be like home economics. Dr. White answered yes and informed the board of her recent visit to a Tinley Park school. She was able to tour and see all the programs that they had to offer their students. She is looking into other programs.

Mr. Tillman asked if the program would go to the end of the year. Dr. White answered that it would be all year long. The district is currently doing a soft launch now to see what it looks like and the timing and then it would be part of the curriculum next school year.

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve contract with Feed the Future for culinary classes for the CTE program at the Middle School in the amount of \$10,000.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J5</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve contract with The Hive for agricultural classes for the CTE program at the Middle School in the amount of \$15,000.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J6</p>

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve Superintendent and designated administrators to attend the AASA conference in San Diego, California, February 15-17. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J7</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve 8th Grade Graduation date of Thursday, May 16, 2024. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J8</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve a possible e-Learning day for election day on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J9</p>

Meeting Open for Public Comments:

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked that the public comments be moved to the front of the agenda due to everyone leaving at the end. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons responded the board could figure out somewhere to move it. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked if Mrs. De Vasher-Williams meant to move the public comments prior to the closed session and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams replied yes, at some point.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams made a statement that since this is a school board, she believes we should have children at the board meetings. Dr. White informed the board that she is starting a “Friends of the Superintendent” group and the board would start to see what the students want to boast to the board about. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons commented that when she first got on the board, they had junior board members who came in and joined the meetings.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked about her blazer. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons responded that this was not on the agenda and would be discussed outside of the meeting.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams requested that when a question is asked, that the response is also written into the minutes instead of stating “answered with clarity”. Mr. Tillman asked if she was looking for verbatim or just a summary of what was said. Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that she wanted the question with the answer provided.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons responded that we would have to figure out what is best in accordance with policies. Attorney Frazier stated that there does not have to be anything written verbatim but rather a cliff note of what the response was.

Ms. Frazier informed the board that there is a FEMA form that an educational institution can submit within 30 days of an event and FEMA will make a determination.

Adjournment

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to adjourn the board meeting at 8:52 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR SAID AYE MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM L</p>
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Lolita Crisler-Liggons, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary