

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149

MINUTES OF

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 28, 2024

The Board Meeting convened at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Jemine. 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, Torreon Walker, Chief Pointer, Daryll Lacey, Ernesta Ransom, Dr. Nicole Robinson, Theresa Smith, Laura Wolf, Christina Montgomery, LaToyla Jones, Karen Slate, Martiae Jenkins-Alexander, Nichole Jackson, Sparkle Tiffith, David Ormsby, Nicole Taylor, Crystal Montgomery, Jamar Everett, Gerald Scott, Yolanda Martin, Danielle Franklin, m Tanyelle Hannah, Latroy Currie, Felita Crayton, Jasmine Murray, Reggie and Jori Gibson.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Cabinet Reports

Dr. Maureen White reported on the current enrollment. She informed the Board of a District Strategic Pathway Program under the Teacher Vacancy Grant with the hopes of strengthening, soliciting, and developing teachers and leaders as a means to retain teachers in our district. With the Board's approval tonight, we will send all of our instructional coaches to the Standards Institute in Denver to attend a highly interactive learning experience that focuses on mindsets, planning, and instructional actions required for implementing grade-level engaging and meaningful instruction. Then we will host a summer institute for all teachers, and the coaches will turn their learning and support the teachers in their practices.

Dr. White addressed the letter in the Board packet regarding a letter from Mark Sheehan, who is the interim treasurer. For your information, the South Cook districts who are serviced by the office are still intent on leaving, the Treasurer's office and are in the throes of determining the next move, the next logical moves to make that transition.

Dr. White reported that she has spent a lot of time with JMA architects, and they are gearing up for the school renovations to begin as school as soon as school is out. Mrs. Jolly chaired our Buildings and Grounds meeting on March 7th. We are now in the throes of planning for town hall meetings and informing the community and parents what the next steps are for the renovations.

Dr. White presented the idea of moving 6th-grade students to the Middle School and the possibility of grade centers. She also reported on the adoption of a new reading curriculum, the new time and attendance system and gave a shout out to Crystal Montgomery for her hard work and attendance at recent job fairs. Ms. Montgomery has secured 5 new teachers at these job fairs.

Janice Opitz addressed the Board and provided information regarding the recent lawn care and snow removal bids.

Martiae Jenkins-Alexander reported the middle of the year iReady data.

Dr. Kenneth Scott gave a short video presentation of the Culinary Class in CTE Program. A few students then presented the Board with homemade guacamole and chips.

Approval authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices

<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve authorization to the Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated March 7, 2024 and March 28, 2024 consisting of 94 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Education Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,504,150.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 531,686.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Debt Services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 12,077.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 697,763.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Projects</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 62,400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tort Immunity Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$ 143,520.11</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,951,598.24</td> </tr> </table> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	Education Fund	\$1,504,150.14	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 531,686.47	Debt Services	\$ 12,077.76	Transportation Fund	\$ 697,763.76	Capital Projects	\$ 62,400.00	Tort Immunity Fund	<u>\$ 143,520.11</u>		\$2,951,598.24	<p>AGENDA ITEM E</p>
Education Fund	\$1,504,150.14														
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 531,686.47														
Debt Services	\$ 12,077.76														
Transportation Fund	\$ 697,763.76														
Capital Projects	\$ 62,400.00														
Tort Immunity Fund	<u>\$ 143,520.11</u>														
	\$2,951,598.24														

Consent Agenda

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams pointed out that one of the resignations on the Personnel Report is missing from the Consent Agenda.

Dr. White added that Ms. Danette Quinn’s FMLA request also needs to be added.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve resignation of Aja Frierson-Jackon, Guest Teacher at Carol Mosely Braun, effective February 23, 2024. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM F1-4</p>
<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve FMLA for Danette Quinn, 8th Grade ELA Teacher at STEM, effective February 13, 2024 through the remainder of SY 2023-2024. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM F1-4</p>

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve consent agenda items F1-4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of payroll summaries for February 2, 2024, in the amount of \$960,976.76 2. Approval of payroll summaries for February 16, 2024, in the amount of \$967,482.59 3. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting held February 22, 2024 4. Personnel Report <p>Resignation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Acceptance of resignation from Raquel Wilson, Paraprofessional at Berger-Vandenberg, effective February 20, 2024 b. Acceptance of resignation from Tyler Roddy, Guest Teacher at Berger-Vandenberg, effective March 11, 2024 	<p>AGEND A ITEMS F1-4</p>
--	-----------------------------------

Termination:

- c. Approval of termination of Ronetta Stamps, Permanent Guest Teacher at Caroline Sibley, effective March 13, 2024

Employment:

- d. Approval of employment of Mia Lawson, Pre-K Family Support Assistant at Diekman, effective March 4, 2024
- e. Approval of employment of Francita Hudson, Paraprofessional at Berger-Vandenberg, effective April 8, 2024
- f. Approval of employment of Marian Smith-Marshall, District Wide Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher effective April 8, 2024
- g. Approval of employment of Amarri McKay, District Wide Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher effective April 8, 2024

Retirement:

- h. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Dr. Carolyn Franklin, Instructional Coach at Berger-Vanderberg, effective June 30, 2027
- i. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Dawn DiLollo, ICC Teacher at SOFA, effective June 30, 2027
- j. to retire from Marlo Panega, P.E. Teacher at Carol Mosely Braun, effective June 30, 2028
- k. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Jennifer Walsh, Pre-K Teacher at Diekman, effective June 30, 2028
- l. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Dona Gentles, 7/8th Grade Teacher at STEM, effective June 30, 2028
- m. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Melissa Gronendyke, 6th Grade Teacher at BV, effective June 30, 2028
- n. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Rita Whitehead-Westmoreland, 6th Grade Teacher at NBLA, effective June 30, 2028

Rescission of Retirement:

- o. Acceptance of letter of rescission of retirement letter from Sharonne Dinwiddie, Paraprofessional at Diekman, rescind from SY 2024-2025 to 2025-2026
- p. Acceptance of letter of rescission of retirement letter from April Brown, Human Resources Administrative Assistant at the District Office, rescind from SY 2024-2025 to 2025-2026

Leave of Absence:

- q. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Erin Lewis, Kindergarten Teacher at Carol Mosely Braun, effective March 25, 2024 through the remainder of the SY 2023-2024
- r. Approval of FMLA for Karen Turnbough, 1st Grade Teacher at Caroline Sibley, extended from March 18, 2024 through April 22, 2024
- s. Approval of FMLA for Dr Carolyn Franklin, Literacy Coach at Berger-Vandenberg, effective March 18, 2024 through the remainder of the SY 2023-2024
- t. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Anita Jackson, Administrative

<p>Assistant at CCA, effective March 8, 2024 through the remainder of SY 2023-2024</p> <p>u. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Jerome Smith, 8th Grade ELA Teacher, effective March 11, 2024 through the remainder of SY 2023-2024</p> <p>v. Approval of FMLA for Antoine James, Custodian at Caroline Sibley, effective March 25, 2024 through April 25, 2024</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
--	--

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to amend the Board agenda and move public comments to after “Consent Agenda”.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM L
--	------------------

Public Comments

Mrs. Crayton spoke to the Board about Breaking the Cycle and presented a flier and mental wellness kits to attendees.

Adjourn to Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to adjourn to a Closed session at 7:15 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: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	AGENDA ITEM G1
---	-------------------

Adjourn from Closed Session at 8:26 pm

Roll Call: Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, 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 any hearings require Board action)</p> <p>NO ACTION NEEDED</p>	AGENDA ITEM H1
<p>MOTION to approve teacher discipline as discussed in closed session (if needed)</p> <p>NO ACTION NEEDED</p>	AGENDA ITEM H2
<p>MOTION to approve to reclassification of Employee A as discussed in closed session</p> <p>NO ACTION NEEDED</p>	AGENDA ITEM H3

<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to postpone appointment of lawn care and snow removal services as discussed in closed session.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H4</p>
---	---------------------------

Old Business - None

New Business

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve six Instructional Coaches to attend the Standards Institute in Colorado from June 9th through June 14th, in the amount of \$25,402.14 (plus airfare), to be paid out of the Teacher Vacancy Grant.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J1</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, to approve payment to Ganci-Clodi Law & Mediation, LLC in the amount of \$5,000.00 for legal services.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J2</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the settlement with Mr. and Mrs. Ervin in the amount of \$18,000.00 for Special Education Services and Therapies.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J3</p>
<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve MOU for \$15,000.00 stipend for elementary and middle school case managers.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs, De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J4</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve Summer School dates of June 3, 2024 through July 11, 2024, Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for students and 8:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. for staff.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J5</p>
<p>MOTION by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve renewal contract with AT&T for data services for 12 months in the amount of \$6,006.00 per month with a 90% payment contribution commitment from E-Rate.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J6</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve agreement with Halliburton & Associates, LTD to provide psychological evaluations at a rate of \$1,100 per evaluation for the remainder of the SY 2023-24.</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J7</p>

Board Discussion

Mr. Tillman reported that he has been talking to a lot of board members from all over the place who are experiencing problems within their districts. He believes that the problems are due to the Superintendents getting involved in things that should be board decisions. Superintendents are often running the Board. He stated that he does not believe that is happening with our Superintendent but is the job of board members to give the vision and set the goals; giving the Superintendent direction. He suggested that the board spend some time together, where they bring in ideas and come out of the meeting with direction so our Superintendent has a target. He stated that the board has not given that very clear direction.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked what is it that Mr. Tillman would like to see? Grades are up. We have additional classes that the children are excited about. Attendance is up. We are doing several things that other districts are not doing. What more would he like to see?

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that we have not done a Superintendent's evaluation.

Ms. Jemine stated that the Board went over this at the retreat in Itasca.

Mr. Tillman stated that the board went over some bullets. The Board has not defined the vision. He thinks that Dr. White is doing a great job. He thinks a better job could be done with the Board's direction.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated that she is excited about the direction the district is going. She is on board with expanding but not biting off more than the district can handle.

Mr. Tillman stated that he never said the district was not going in the right direction. It's that the Board is not giving the direction. It is the Superintendent's direction.

Ms. Jemine stated that is what the district is paying the Superintendent for.

Mr. Tillman stated that we don't pay her for the Board's vision.

Ms. Jemine stated that is what the Superintendent is working off of. We talked about the vision in Itasca. The ideas that the Superintendent comes up with, the Board can say yes or no.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that she understands the point, as a Board collectively, that they have an idea and present it to the Superintendent and then it is carried out. She asked if the retreat and training would be a meeting to come up with new ideas for the new school year. She gave an example of the renovations.

Dr. White stated that Mrs. Jolly is the chair of the Buildings and Grounds and she makes the determinations.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated that the Board will come together and bring their ideas of what they are looking to do. The Board will figure out a date and time for this meeting. She is very excited about what is happening and the district has not seen these improvements in years.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams inquired about the Superintendent's evaluation and when it would take place. She mentioned purchasing the SuperEval to make the process smoother.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated that they can make the evaluation as part of the retreat day for now. Moving forward we can use the SuperEval.

Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn the board meeting at 8:49 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR SAID AYE MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M
--	------------------

Lolita Crisler-Liggons, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary