

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149

MINUTES OF

THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

May 22, 2024

The Board Meeting convened at 6:34 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Jemine (arrived at 7:03 p.m.). Absent: Mrs. Gray-Everett and Mrs. Elston.

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Safaa Zarzour, Janene Preston, Carmen Canales, Dr. Kenneth Scott, Janice Opitz, DeWayne Anderson, Stacy Miles, Torreon Walker, Chief Pointer, Daryll Lacey, Ernesta Ransom, Theresa Smith, Laura Wolf, Christina Montgomery, LaToyla Jones, Karen Slate, Martiae Jenkins-Alexander, Sparkle Tiffith, David Ormsby, Nicole Taylor, Crystal Montgomery, Gerald Scott, Yolanda Martin, Danielle Franklin, Tanyelle Hannah, Christal Washington, John Shields, Jori Watson, Lynn McAfee, Tia Williams, Jim Maciejewski, Kyle Kasperek, Astaysia Self and parent.

**The Pledge of Allegiance** – Said by all

**Cabinet Reports**

Dr. Maureen White reported on the current enrollment. She asked for the administrators to stand and congratulated them for another successful year in the books.

Dr. White informed everyone of the new alarm system that has been installed at Bergerr-Vandenberg and thanked the Board for prioritizing the safety of our students and our staff.

Dr. White also announced that she received a surprising call from our Lobbyist, Donne Trotter. Mr. Trotter stated that there are 3 million dollars on the table for Capital Projects that we will be able to access. Dr. White thanked Architect Jim Maciejewski for getting a list of things that the funds would be used for as the list is required for consideration.

Dr. White offered a date of June 5<sup>th</sup> as a date for a community town hall meeting to discuss the renovations and the sixth grade move to the Middle School. Mrs. Liggons has confirmed that the date is good.

Dr. White shared that the Thornton Township Treasurer’s office is in shambles. There are pending litigations from legislators to disband the township in the next 3 years.

Dr. Kenneth Scott provided a proposal to include a barber and cosmetology class in our CTE Program.

Jim Maciejewski gave a presentation on the upcoming Capital Projects for Dolton School District 149.

Kyle Kasperek reported on the SY23 Audit.

Ms. Jori Watson presented the Doug Terandy Scholarship award to scholar, Ataysia Self.

**Approval authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices**

<b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve authorization to the Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated May 8, 2024, May 17, 2024 and May 23, 2024 consisting of 95 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:	AGENDA ITEM E
Education Fund	\$ 862,423.68
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 106,638.93
Debt Services	\$ -

Transportation Fund	\$ 881,194.25
Capital Projects	\$ -
Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 128,469.04
	\$1,978,725.90

**ROLL CALL TO VOTE:** Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Consent Agenda**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mr. Tillman to approve consent agenda items F1-18</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval of payroll summaries for April 12, 2024, in the amount of \$955,135.87</li> <li>2. Approval of payroll summaries for April 26, 2024, in the amount of \$925,447.41</li> <li>3. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting held March 28, 2024</li> <li>4. Approval of the minutes from the special board meeting held May 7, 2024</li> <li>5. Approval to renew agreement with Milestone for physical therapist during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>6. Approval to renew agreement with Diversified Therapeutics Center for Speech Therapy for Speech Language Pathologists during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>7. Approval to renew agreement with Omni Therapeutics, Inc. for therapy related services during the 2024-2025</li> <li>8. Approval to renew agreement with Rosina Gallagher, Bilingual Psychologist during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>9. Approval to renew agreement with Procure staffing agency during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>10. Approval to renew agreement with Keith Edwards for transportation services during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>11. Approval for agreement with EPIC Special Education staffing agency during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>12. Approval to renew agreement with Amergis (formerly Maxim) Staffing agency during the 2024-2025 school year</li> <li>13. Approval of assessment agreement with NWEA in the amount of \$32,200.00</li> <li>14. Approval of summer school materials with Curriculum Associate in the amount of \$14,300.16</li> <li>15. Approval of the District 149 Administrative Team Building and SY 2024-2025 Summer Leadership Retreat July 15-18, 2024 at Eaglewood Resort, Itasca, IL</li> <li>16. Approval of the Board of Education and designees to attend the Cube Conference in Las Vegas, October 28 through October 30, 2024</li> <li>17. Approval of the Board of Education and designees to attend the Triple I Conference in Chicago, November 22 - 24, 2024</li> <li>18. Personnel Report</li> </ol> <p>Resignation:</p>	<p>AGEND A ITEMS F1-18</p>
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- a. Acceptance of resignation from Iesha Curtis, 2nd Grade Teacher at Caroline Sibley, effective May 24, 2024
- b. Acceptance of resignation from Lynn McAfee, Assistant Principal at Caroline Sibley, effective June 30, 2024
- c. Acceptance of resignation from Nichole Jackson, Interim Principal at SOFA, effective April 29, 2024
- d. Acceptance of resignation from Virni Webb, Social Worker at Diekman, effective May 24, 2024

Termination:

- e. Approval of termination of Bonita Johnson, Custodian at NBLA effective May 23, 2024

Employment:

- f. Approval of employment of Tachon Pulliam, District Wide Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher effective April 8, 2024

Retirement:

- g. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Anita Jackson, Administrative Assistant at CCA, effective June 30, 2027
- h. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Glenn Lindsey, Custodian at the Middle School, effective June 30, 2027
- i. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from Margarita Valdez, Custodian at the Middle School, effective June 30, 2027
- j. Acceptance of letter of intent to retire from John Smida, Computer Technician at Diekman, effective June 20, 2027

Rescission of Retirement:

- k. Acceptance of letter of rescission of retirement letter from LaTanzya Howell, Paraprofessional at SOFA, rescind fro SY 2025-2026 to 2027-2028

Leave of Absence:

- l. Approval of FMLA for Toneice James, Paraprofessional at Diekman, effective April 14, 2024 through the remainder of the SY 2023-2024
- m. Approval of FMLA for Jennifer Jefferson, Paraprofessional at Diekman, effective March 31, 2024 through the remainder of the SY 2023-2024
- n. Approval of Intermittent FMLA for Dr. Angela Winters, Social Worker at Caroline Sibley for the remainder of SY 2023-2024

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Adjourn to Closed Session**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Ms. Jemine to adjourn to a Closed session at 7:25 p.m.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Motion to convene to a closed session meeting for the purpose of discussing the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of Dolton School District 149. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)</li> <li>• Student Disciplinary Cases 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9)</li> <li>• 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 for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM G1</p>
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**Adjourn from Closed Session at 7:59 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><b>MOTION</b> to approve student discipline decisions (if any hearings require Board action)  <b>NO ACTION NEEDED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H1</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> to approve teacher discipline as discussed in closed session (if needed)  <b>NO ACTION NEEDED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H2</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve the ISC4 ALOP program, as discussed in closed session.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve that our current architect, Jim Macjiewski, complete Phase 1 of the project management, as discussed in closed session.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Ms. Jemine to table the grievance for retiree candidate, Crystal Williams, as discussed in closed session.  <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.  <b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to reject all transportation bids presented and go out for rebid.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H3</p>
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**Old Business**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve the in-house board retreat on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM I1</p>
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**New Business**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the purchase of SuperEval, Superintendent evaluation tool, in the amount of \$3,401.00 for SY 2024-2025.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J1</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, to approve MOU regarding Mentor Coordinator.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J2</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams to approve vacation day payout for Superintendent, 12 month Administrators and Executive Administrative Assistant.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillams and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J3</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve renewal of District’s medical insurance with EBC.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs, De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J4</p>

Mrs. Jemine asked if the agreement with Matthew Malone was for \$7,000.00 a month or is it a total of \$7,000.00. Dr. White replied that it is a total of \$7,000.00 for the months of June and July.

Mr. Tillman asked how many students do we roughly have needing psychological evaluations. Dr. White replied that she didn't have that information on hand because she didn't know the evaluation schedule. Dr. White went on to say that what she can say is that there is an overwhelming amount of requests. Parents are asking for their kids to have special education services faster than we can keep up with. The district cannot deny the requests and only has 60 days to complete the evaluations. Therefore, we need Mr. Malone to do the evaluations over the summer.

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve agreement with Matthew Malone, Ed.S., to provide psychological evaluations during the summer at a rate of \$7,000 for the months of June and July 2024.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J5
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve agreement with Nexlore in the amount of \$65,670.00 for the 2024 Summer Enrichment Program.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J6
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve agreement with The Hive in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the 2024 Summer Enrichment Program.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J7
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly seconded by Ms. Jemine to purchase a 1 year reading curriculum grades K-5 plan from Savvas in the amount of \$161,757.54.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J8
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly seconded by Ms. Jemine to purchase a 1 year reading curriculum grades 6-8 plan from Savvas in the amount of \$56,511.00.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams and Mr. Tillman</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J9

Mr. Tillman asked what would the district do if we left the township. Dr. White replied that because there are no, definitive move details, what she would like to do is just get in front of “our we leaving”. She wants the district to be on the front end of everything to ensure that the district has all its money. So she didn't want to drag this process out.

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve withdrawal from the Thornton Treasurer's Office.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J13
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Ms. Jemine asked if the board had already voted on the board paid TRS and IMRF for administrators. Dr. White clarified that it was previously discussed but had not been on the agenda before this meeting. Ms. Jemine commented that she recalled the discussion and that the board had agreed to approve it.

Mr. Tillman asked if this motion effectively gives the administrators a raise. Dr. White and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams both stated that this is a benefit and not a raise.

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve board paid TRS and IMRF for Administrators.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J14
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**Public Comments**

Ms. Jemine asked the question of how many meetings can a board member miss. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons replied that this question would be covered during the board retreat. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated that this is why it is so important to attend the board retreat. The superintendent’s evaluation, the board's evaluation and committee reports will also be covered during the retreat.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked Dr. White if the schools have poster makers at their buildings. Dr. White replied that there is a poster maker in the District Office but not in each school. Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that she has some information from a vendor regarding poster makers and will bring it to the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

<b>MOTION</b> to adjourn the board meeting at 8:20 p.m. <b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> ALL IN FAVOR SAID AYE <b>MOTION CARRIED</b>	AGENDA ITEM M
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Lolita Crisler-Liggons, President

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Bertha Jolly, Secretary