

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the HOH Conference room in said district on Tuesday evening, September 24, 2024, and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel.

President Gallinson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

DeShawn Arms
Beth Bazer
Christine Beeftink
Matt Cassidy
Jennifer Gallinson
Mara Silver-Schack
Adam Weinstock

Absent: None

Also present were Dr. Jason Pearson, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Maria Stavropoulos, Director of Technology; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Chrissy Yonaites, Recording Secretary; Jeremy Bartunek, Greenbriar Teacher and streaming tech; Nicole Gas, Core Council and AJ Treiber, Core Council.

Public Attendees: None.

VISITORS COMMENTS / PRESENTATIONS

None.

2024-25 PUBLIC HEARING

Annually the District presents a legal budget, and after the required 30-day period for public access, the Board of Education calls for a hearing in order to receive public comment.

At 7:04 pm, it was moved by Member Cassidy and seconded by Member Silver-Schack to open the public hearing on the District 28 budget for 2024-2025.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato provided an overview of the 2024-25 budget, including a summary of revenues and expenditures, capital projects and other initiatives.

There was no public comment.

At 7:10 p.m., it was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Bazer that the budget hearing close.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Pearson, Superintendent, provided the board with back-to-school updates. Enrollment for the school year started with 1,820 students.

Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Pearson mentioned the strategic plan facilitators were recently trained on how to facilitate action plans.

Facilitating Team Community Engagement Charge

Dr. Pearson updated the Board on the progress of the facilitating team after their first meeting on September 23. Dr. Pearson explained that the purpose of the proposed charge is to provide the facilitating team guidance with goals, directives and expectations.

Four more meetings are scheduled with this group along with two community engagement workshops in October. The workshops are open to the public, and offer the opportunity to learn about the district's facilities and give their perspectives.

It was moved by Member Weinstock and seconded by Member Arms that the Board of Education approve the Facilitating Team Community Engagement Charge.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Beeftink and seconded by Member Bazer that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2024 and Closed Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2024.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Weinstock that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

Payroll

The payment of employee salaries for the last half of August 2024, in the amount of \$1,723,664.02 and covered by check numbers 67879 through 67881 and deduction check numbers 67882 through 67898 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2024;

The payment of employee salaries for the first half of September 2024, in the amount of \$1,799,692.00 and covered by check number 67899 through 67909 and deduction check numbers 67910 through 67918 inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2024.

Bills

Vendor invoices totaling \$944,598.47 and Warrants listed as Numbers 63413 through 63560, and the following voids: 62965 and 202300496, confirmed by the signature of the President of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2024.

Personnel Report: Contract Changes, Employment of Staff, Leaves, Resignations and Dismissals

Staff Recommended for Employment				
Name	Position	Location	Salary	Effective Date

Katherine Albertson*	S/L Pathologist	NBJH	\$102,842 prorated to \$87,020	9/20/24
Laura Jaeger	Classroom Asst.	MB	\$19.44	9/16/24
Ensley Circle	Classroom Asst.	WM	\$19.15	9/19/24

* Certified Candidate details below

Staff Resignations, Retirements and / or Terminations				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Connie Philippas	1st Gr Classroom Asst.	GB	Resignation	8/30/24
Jennifer Medvin	3rd Gr Classroom Asst.	WM	Resignation	9/5/24
Qua'Vyana Frazier	Sp. Ed. Classroom Asst.	GB	Resignation	9/20/24

Staff Leave of Absence				
Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date
Allison Tampier	3rd Grade Teacher	MB	Parent Leave	≈12/5/24
Tyler Tampier	PE Teacher	MB	Parent Leave	4/7/25

Staff Lane Changes 2024-25				
Name	Position	Location	Current Salary	New Salary
Eric DeMattia	Teacher	NBJH	B+00-08 \$63,496	B+12-08 \$65,667
Killeen Nass	Teacher	MB	M+12-08 \$75,435	M+30-08 \$76,792
Kate Robison	Teacher	MB	M+12-10 \$80,320	M+30-10 \$81,676

Background Data on Certified Staff Recommended for Employment	
Name	Katherine Albertson
License	Speech Language Pathologist, Prekindergarten through Age 22
Education	Master's Degree in Clinical Speech Pathology, Northern Arizona University
Experience	Speech Language Pathologist, Boise School District, August 2019 - present

The report also included an amendment to Jessica Donato's contract regarding tuition reimbursement.

FY2025 Extra Duty Stipend - Instrumental Music

The Instrumental Music Stipend of \$6,046 was recommended for approval for the district's instrumental music teacher, David Hoppe.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Finance Report

Ms. Donato, Chief School Business Official, provided the finance report for the month ending August 31, 2024, and the list of bills paid in August was included in the Board packet. After two months of the new fiscal year, the monthly variance report shows 9% of the draft 2024-25 budget expended and 39% of budgeted revenues collected. Ms. Donato also provided updates on the state-required compensation reports that must be posted on the website after the budget is approved by the board.

Food Service Sales

NBJH food services for the month of August totaled \$18,317. Organic Life's operating statement has a deficit of \$8,059 for the month. This is typical due to the beginning of the year opening inventory purchases.

Member Cassidy moved, and Member Bazer seconded, that the Board of Education approve the Finance Report for August 2024.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Adoption of Budget for 2024-25

Having reviewed the budget and concluded the public hearing, it was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Bazer that the Board of Education adopt the budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year, as was on display and which is attached to and made part of the minutes and posted on the district website financial documents page.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Edward Brophy, Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services, informed the Board that there are five open positions: three classroom assistants, one business office administrative assistant and one parental leave coverage.

STUDENT SERVICES

No report.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Dignity Consulting Contract

Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent presented a new contract with Dignity Consulting for \$25,750. The firm will help the district build on last year's work by focusing on the students' sense of belonging. The work includes a junior high student survey, a facilitator that will work with the belonging team, another facilitator that will work with student focus groups for deeper insight and a third facilitator that will work with the principal.

Member Arms moved, and Member Weinstock seconded, that the Board of Education approve the Dignity Consulting Contract.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bazer. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

School Maintenance Project Grant

Ms. Donato presented the application for the School Maintenance Project Grant that can award up to \$50,000. The existing Building Automation System needs to be kept current and the existing license is outdated and the controllers are obsolete. The grant funds will be used to upgrade the system.

Member Arms moved, and Member Cassidy seconded, that the Board of Education approve the School Maintenance Project Grant.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Bazer, Beeftink, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Weinstock. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION

Board Member Cassidy stated that the annual IASB delegates meeting is on November 23. The policy committee will meet to review the resolutions to determine if the board needs to send a delegate to the IASB meeting.

POLICY

Mr. Brophy noted that the next press issue is expected mid-November.

COMMUNICATION

Terry Ryan, Communications Director, informed the Board that the district is partnering with CATCH again to provide coping kits to third and sixth graders. The week following distribution, a survey will be issued to parents, teachers and students for feedback.

Ms. Ryan mentioned that she will be highlighting the new educators in various ways (website, Matter of Fact) to allow staff and families to get to know the new team members.

There was one FOIA this month.

TRUENORTH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 804

Board Member Beeftink noted the next meeting is on October 9th.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 p.m., Member Bazer moved, and Member Arms seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted Aye to adjourn the meeting. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Beth Bazer, Secretary

Jennifer Gallinson, President