

District 172 Regular Meeting of The Board of Education

Thursday, August 15, 2024 Board Meeting

Media Center, 2950 Glenwood Dyer Road, Lynwood, Illinois 60411

1. CALL TO ORDER at 7:08 pm by President Jenkins-Brown	Presenter: President Jenkins-Brown
2. ROLL CALL: Mrs. Gray-present, Mrs. Newton-present, Ms. Guthrie-absent, Ms. Krueger-present, Mr. Colwell-absent, Ms. Lee-present, President Jenkins-Brown-present. Mr. Colwell arrived at 7:20 pm.	Presenter: Patricia Lee
3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: All stakeholders present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.	Presenter: Sonja Jenkins-Brown
4. Principal's Report: Principal Polk discussed some of the new activities that took place at the beginning of the school year, which included new teacher orientation on August 8 th , teachers institute day on August 12 th and 13 th , and chalk the walk on August 13 th . Approximately 50 students participated in the chalk walk activity. Upcoming activities-Open house is scheduled for September 5 th at 6:00 pm. Celebration of Hispanic Heritage month starting September 15 th . Principal Polk gave a brief update to some of the changes to the parent/student handbook which includes new arrival procedures for students who arrive late, dismissal procedures, classroom treat policies, grading policies, homework and a new program called "be a buddy, not a bully" to bring awareness on bullying. The first meeting for "be a buddy, not a bully" is scheduled for Friday Sept 13 th . All students/parents are encouraged to read the new policy update in the student handbook. President Jenkins-Brown asked for clarification on the grading system. Principal Polk replied that the grading system will be based on 10-point scale system, which is aligned with Bloom Trail to help make a smooth transition for students moving to the next level of their education. Member Gray asked how many students are currently enrolled at Sandridge? Principal Polk responded that there are currently 417 students enrolled and registration will continue through Saturday, August 17 th from 10:00 am to 2pm. Member Gray asked what type of arrangements are being made for those parents that cannot come on Saturday. Principal Polk responded that they are making appointments with those parents that cannot make it in on Saturday.	Presenter: Ms. Kalea Polk
5. Superintendent's Report: Dr. Nalls discussed a newly proposed compensation structure of salaries for substitute teachers and permanent staff which she noted would aim to attract and retain qualified professionals to maintain the continuity of learning and result in cost savings for the district. She noted the proposed revision	Presenter: Dr. Kim Nalls

would include a flat rate of \$20/hour for day-to-day substitute teachers, \$25/hour for permanent short-term subs and \$200/day for long term certified retired teachers filling a vacancy or FMLA. She re-iterated that the board is to take no action on this proposed revision tonight but is for information purposes only.

6. **INFORMATION PRESS POLICIES ISSUE 116 (No Action)** Dr. Nalls presented a brief discussion on Press Policy 116. She noted that there are training classes being offered for the new edition of this policy and if any board member is interested, they may attend at no cost to the district. **Presenter:** Dr. Kim Nalls
7. **Tentative Budget Presentation of SY 2025 Budget and Review of End of the Year Trial Balances:** Dr. Evans reported the financial results on the budget ending June 30, 2024. She noted that the numbers are not final, as they have not yet been audited. She reported the district's beginning fund balance for SY 23/24 was 8.1 million dollars, with a 1.7-million-dollar deficit, which resulted in an ending fund balance is 6.3 million dollars. Dr. Evans presented a slide on the variance reports which show the differences between budgeted expenditures against budgeted dollars. She noted the district revenue budget was 7.1 million dollars but received 8.6 million dollars. She noted the district anticipated a budget deficit of about 2.8 million dollars due to the approved construction projects. However, the deficit was 1.7 million dollars, which was better than anticipated. Dr. Evans noted that it is anticipated next year district budget will be back on track to replenish the fund balances. Member Gray asked if the Esser funds went into operations/maintenance funds and noted that the education fund is over budget by 1.5 million dollars. She asked what expenditures are included in the education fund? Dr. Evans replied that all teachers, administrators, material, books, purchase services, supplies, and tuition for out of district students come out of the education fund. Member Gray asked how the budget was balanced for the fiscal year 24/25? Dr. Evans replied she worked with Dr. Nalls by looking at all the employee salaries/benefits and adjusting as necessary. She noted that with the loss of salaries through resignations of employees, the new employees' salaries will not be as high, which results in a savings to the district. She also stated they looked at the benefits being offered to staff and at any contributions the employees are making on their behalf, which also helps improve the budget. Member Gray asked are the benefits being offered comparable? Dr. Evans replied the district is currently offering a **Presenter:** Dr. Alicia Evans

cadillac plan, which is better than most plans being offered. Member Gray asked if the district was in a co-op? Dr. Evans replied "no", and explained that the district is too small to be in a co-op. Member Gray asked how does the district receive funds from the state? Dr. Evans replied that any state funds received are administered through the state via vouchers, which go to the treasurers office and are then distributed to the various school districts. Member Gray asked if this unaudited financial balance is from the treasurer's office and if the board would get a trial/fund balance update? Dr. Evans replied that the report is from the treasurers office and the board should receive a final trial/fund balance again for June and noted they are always one month behind. Member Gray asked if we have any remaining bonds that we can retire? Dr. Evans replied she will cover this when she comes back next month. Dr. Evans went over the tentative budget and discussed the process for the budget approval which includes posting notice of the budget hearing, making budget available for public inspection, adopt a public hearing, post on district website and once approved submit to the ISBE. The final budget will be approved in September 2024. Dr. Evans noted she anticipates the district will have a balanced budget for SY 24/25 with a starting balance of 6.3 million dollars, a revenue of 7.1, and expenditures in the amount of 6.9 million dollars, ending with a surplus of approximately \$150,000. Member Colwell asked how will the budget impact expenses coming in from SPEED? Dr. Evans replied the plan is to bring students back from SPEED to the school with anticipated accommodations. Dr. Hook also replied that the district has already reduced the number of students at SPEED and that the district now has self-contained classes which will reduce the number of students off site. Member Gray asked Dr. Evans how long she has been contracted for and what is her current salary? Dr. Evans replied that her position was always intended to be temporary and that she received roughly in the amount of \$40,000 last year. She further noted that she has been training members of the administration/staff, as well as Dr. Nalls, to appropriately do the job. Dr. Nalls acknowledged that she herself does not have a CSBO and upon her start at the district, she was focused on moving instruction and appropriately spending funds to support students. Dr. Nalls stated that the district did have deficit spending, but she now understands that balancing the budget means spending money on children, not on adults, and the hard lessons have been learned.

8. **Public Comments:** This is an opportunity for the public to address comments to the Board. It is not a conversation with the Board or individual Board members. Questions will be referred to the appropriate administrator for a response. If a Board response is required, it will be provided at a future date. Speakers are limited to three minutes and may not pass or give their time to any other speaker. Speakers will be required to sign in to speak before the meeting begins. Speakers are expected to conduct themselves with civility in accordance with Board Policy 8:30, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property.

Presenter: MS. SONJA JENKINS-BROWN

This is the only opportunity for members of the public to speak during the Board meeting. During the remainder of the meeting, the public is welcome to observe the meeting but are not participants in the Board's discussion of agenda items. There was no public comment.

9. **Motion to Approve SY 2025 Tentative Budget:**

Motioned by Colwell, seconded by Newton

Newton-yes, Lee-yes, Kreuger-yes, Gray-abstain, Guthrie-absent, Colwell-yes, President Jenkins-Brown-yes

Motion Carries

10. **Motion to Approve Press Issue 115:**

Motioned by Newton, seconded by Kreuger

Colwell-abstain, Kreuger-yes, Newton-yes, Lee-yes, Gray-abstain, Guthrie-absent, President Jenkins-Brown-yes

Motion Carries

11. **Motion to Approve the Payment of Bills:**

Motioned by Kreuger, seconded by Newton

Lee-abstain, Guthrie-absent, Colwell-abstain, Newton-yes, Gray-abstain, Kreuger-yes, President Jenkins-Brown-yes

Member Lee thanked Dr. Nalls for providing the scanned billing/purchase order invoices into board books and asked to see details for the credit card purchase statement posted as well. Dr. Nalls stated that she "provided this information in the board books for review". Dr. Nalls also stated that "the district credit card is only used for those purchases that can't be used with purchase orders". Dr. Nalls took a few minutes break to get copies of the credit card statement purchases and presented them to the board for review. After reviewing the statements, a second vote took place and is as follows:

Colwell-yes, Guthrie-absent, Lee-yes, Newton-yes, Gray-abstain, Kreuger-yes, President Jenkins-Brown-yes

Motion carries

12. **Motion to Approve Minutes:**

Motioned by Kreuger, seconded by Newton

Colwell-yes, Gray-abstain, Guthrie-absent, Kreuger-yes, Newton-yes, Lee-yes, President Jenkins-Brown-yes

Motion Carries

13. Motion to Approve Payroll:
Motioned by Newton, seconded by Colwell resident
Kreuger-yes, Lee-yes, Gray-abstain, Newton-yes,
Guthrie-absent, Colwell-yes, President Jenkins-
Brown-yes Motion Carries
14. Motion to Approve Personnel:
Motioned by Newton, seconded by Colwell
Gray-abstain, Newton-yes, Guthrie-absent, Lee-
yes, Colwell-yes, Kreuger-yes, President Jenkins-
Brown-yes Motion Carries
15. Motion to Approve Certification of Annual
Hazardous Conditions: Presenter: Joseph
Kosina
Motioned by Newton, seconded by Kreuger
Guthrie-absent, Kreuger-yes, Lee-yes, Newton-yes,
Gray-yes, Colwell-yes, President Jenkins-Brown-
yes Motion Carries
16. Motion to Approve WCSIT Insurance Renewal SY
2024-2025:
Motioned by Kreuger, seconded by Newton
Newton-yes, Lee-yes, Colwell-yes, Guthrie-absent,
Gray-yes, Kreuger-yes, President Jenkins-Brown
Motion Carries
17. Motion to Approve Blue Cross Blue Shield
Renewal 2024-2025: Presenter: NALLS
Motioned by Newton, seconded by Lee
Lee-yes, Gray-yes, Colwell-yes, Guthrie-absent,
Kreuger-yes, Newton-yes, President Jenkins-Brown
18. Motion to Adjourn: motioned to adjourn meeting
made by Newton, seconded by Lee All
members in agreement. Meeting adjourned at 8:30
pm.
19. Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session: There was
no closed session meeting.
Discussion on the appointment, employment,
compensation, discipline, performance, or
dismissal of specific employees of the public
body, including hearing testimony on a complaint
lodged against an employee of the public body or
against legal counsel for the public body to
determine its validity.