

District 172 Regular Meeting of The Board of Education

Thursday, May 16, 2024 Board Meeting

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER by President Sonja Jenkins-Brown at 7:07 pm**
2. **ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Gray-p, Mrs. Newton-p, Ms. Guthrie-p, Ms. Krueger-p, Mr. Colwell-p, Ms. Lee-p, President Jenkins-Brown-p (All Present)
3. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG** All stakeholders recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Public Comments:** President Jenkins-Brown introduced public comment section to address comments to the board. She noted that the public comment section is limited to 5 minutes each. Public comments are not to be addressed to board members, and individuals will not be participating in the board agenda. If there is any follow-up by the board, it will be provided at a later date.
Cheryl Ward, PTA secretary stated that the last ice cream day will be held on Monday (May 20, 2024), the annual PTA fair will be held on June 1, 2024, from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm in the school gymnasium. She shared a text message that was sent on behalf of one of the parents in recognition of the work that the PTA is doing. She also thanked the administration for the continued support they are giving in support of the PTA. Public comment from parent Lakieta Taylor addressed ongoing concerns she and her family are having with regards to staff, students and teachers bullying her kids at the school. She stated she has had an ongoing investigation with Dr. Nalls for 2 months and asked Dr. Nalls "to do her job effectively". President Jenkins-Brown responded that her concerns will be sent to the Superintendent. Public comment from parent Keyara, stated she has experienced delays with teachers/administrators handling concerns with her kids as well. She expressed concerns that she feels some teachers are disrespectful and she has experienced delays in handling concerns. She acknowledged that principal Polk is trying to make positive changes. She referenced an incident that happened with one of her kids in the morning, but she was not notified until later that afternoon. President Jenkins-Brown thanked all those who spoke during public comment.
5. **Superintendent's Report:** presented by Dr. Nalls and Principal Polk. Dr. Nalls acknowledged that she has heard the concerns from the parents regarding the need for more effective communication. She thanked all her staff for their continued dedication, for the hard work and tireless efforts they put in throughout the

school to make it a success. She noted that the school district held a teacher appreciation last week and honored teachers with certificates, self-care time, donuts and a salad bar. Principal Polk gave honorable mention and recognition to the kindergarten-8th grade students for their academic character, attendance and students of the month. Each student was called by name and individually recognized for their achievement. Group pictures were taken with students and board members.

She noted that there are currently 457 kids on campus to date. 8th graders won the contest for attendance with a 99.5% attendance rate. Summer school starts on June 10th and runs through July 18th, 2024, from 8:30 until 12 noon. Bus transportation will be provided. There are 48 students registered for summer school. Registration for the upcoming SY 24/25 remains open. To date there are 120 returning families. There will be a school professional development day on June 3, 2024. Kindergarten graduation will take place on May 24, 2024, at 10:00 am. Eighth grade graduation will take place on May 23, 2024, at 5:30 pm. Last day of school is May 31, 2024.

Special recognition mention to teacher Rebecca Ginaven for staff member of the month. Dr. Nalls noted the district is offering summer school for all grades. She noted that any student with 20 or more days of absences, students failing math or reading can participate in a five week remediation program that will be offered during summer school. Dr. Nalls also acknowledged the concerns parents have raised with regards to bullying and assured them that these concerns are being addressed.

Social Worker Jordan Szorc presented a video slides presentation on the definition of bullying per the Illinois School code. She went over the definition of bullying vs teasing and how to identify one from the other. Per the Illinois School code, the definition of teasing is saying or doing something to make fun of someone. While bullying looks like teasing, it is never playful, and its intent is to cause harm and has power over you. She noted that for the upcoming 24/25 SY there will be peer/buddy support programs, law enforcement support, parent antibullying support groups, revamp PBIS programs and bullying behavior support groups. Students/parents can report bullying incidents on the district website located under the principal's page. Member Gray asked is there any intent to revise the PDIS program? Ms. Szorc replied that the district will provide activities to students, have teacher plug in's, community outreach. Member Gray asked if

they could provide a monthly report? Ms. Szorc replied she can have that set up for the next school year. Member Guthrie asked how are parents involved? Member Gray recommended youtube videos, roll playing. Ms. Szorc replied parents are notified if there is a PBIS assembly and there is a monthly celebration for parents. Member Guthrie noted parent awareness is critical and asked if flyers can be sent home with kids on what bullying is. Ms. Szorc replied that we use class DoJo, parent university for parent awareness. President Jenkins-Brown recommended that a plan should be put together for the upcoming summer school session.

Dr. Nalls noted that the Capital Improvement project for the summer was approved by the board during the last board meeting. Some of these projects are life safety projects and need to be completed with the use of some local dollars. SD 172 has been allocated with a 50K grant. She stated that the work deemed beautification has been eliminated from the project. The total cost for this project is 88K. This was allocated to come out of next year's budget. She received an email from the state saying Sandridge has 260K remaining in the Esser funds. She received a letter today that only \$36,648 is remaining. Dr. Nalls stated SD 172 is not entering into any level of deficit spending. The 25 fiscal budget has been drafted and will be presented to the board. On the finance report (trial balance) there is a transfer pending from evidence base funding. All the money has not been received and is expected to come in June. There was no fund balance in fund 60 at the end of school year. The grant was put into fund 20. Dr. Evans drafted an amendment to the budget and moved it to fund 60. At the recommendation of the auditors, we removed it back to fund 20. The board approved a onetime approval to borrow money from reserves. Dr. Nalls indicated she needs direction from the board on how to move forward with the summer projects.

6. **ACTION ITEMS CONSENT AGENDA** Member Gray asked that all agenda items be voted on separately.

6.1. **Approval of Minutes** Motioned by Newton, seconded by Kreuger
Colwell-yes, Guthrie-yes, with correction made to her attendance at the special meeting that took place on 4/30/24, Kreuger-yes, Lee-yes, Newton-yes, Gray-abstain, Jenkins-Brown-yes with correctios. Motion carries

6.2. **Approval of Capital project** Motioned by Newton, seconded by Guthrie
Newton-yes, Lee-no, Colwell-no, Guthrie-yes, Kreuger-yes, Gray-no, Jenkins-Brown-yes.
Motion carries

- 6.3. **Approval of Payroll** Motioned by Newton,
seconded by Guthrie
Newton-yes, Lee-yes, Colwell-yes, Guthrie-yes,
Kreuger-yes, Gray-abstain, Jenkins-Brown-yes.
Motion carries
- 6.4. **Approval of Personnel** Motioned by Guthrie
seconded by Newton
Lee-yes, Kreuger-yes, Guthrie-yes, Colwell-yes,
Gray-abstain, Newton-yes, Jenkins-Brown-yes.
Motion carries
Discussion: Member Gray requested to see the
total amount being offered. We just received the
contract today and it's not enough time to review
the contract. Dr. Nalls responded I gave the
board the information 5 days ago in the Friday
update. The employee cannot select the medical
until they are hired. Current cost saving to the
district is at a lower dollar amount. We won't
know the total final amount until the candidate
picks insurance.
- 6.5. **Approval of Trial/Fund Balance** Motioned by d
Newton, seconded by Guthrie
Gray-no, Guthrie-yes, Colwell-no, Kreuger-yes,
Newton-yes, Lee-no, Jenkins-Brown-yes.
Motioned carries
7. **Approval of Bills \$375,253.72** Motioned
by Newton, seconded by Jenkins-Brown
Guthrie-yes, Gray-no, Colwell-no, Kreuger-yes,
Newton-yes, Lee-no, Jenkins-Brown-yes
Motion carries
Discussion: Gray voiced concern of having
invoices and requisition slips at COH. It is
difficult to review these items while trying to
pay attention. That's why there was a need for a
separate finance committee to review.
8. **Motion to Approve Director of Student Support
Services:** David Hook \$104,850.00 Motioned by
Newton, seconded by Guthrie
Newton-yes, Lee-yes, Gray-abstain, Kreuger-yes,
Guthrie-yes, Colwell-abstain, Jenkins-Brown-yes,
Motion carries
Discussion: Member Gray asked when is the
official start date? Dr. Nalls replied July 1st,
2024, with transitional days before Dr. Newman
leaves. Gray: Is there a cost for these
transition days. Dr. Nalls replied there is per
diem pay. You would divide the salary by 250,
which gives you a daily rate. I have asked for 10
days, but I'm not sure we will need 10 days.
9. **Motion to Approve the Coordinator of Technology
Services** Motioned tabled at this time, will
revisit June meeting.
10. **Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session: 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. Motioned by Gray, seconded by

Newton at 8:37 pm

Guthrie-yes, Lee-yes, Newton-yes, Gray-yes, Colwell-yes, Kreuger-yes, Jenkins-Brown-yes.

Members took a break prior to the closed session meeting. Closed session started at 8:44 pm.

Member Newton leaves closed session at 10:01 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 pm.

11. Motion to Adjourn all member in agreement.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 pm