



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent  
June 1, 2023, Board Briefs

Rita Balgeman, Board President  
Felicia Gills, Board Vice President  
Tom Doyle, Board Secretary  
Janette Hernandez, Board Member

Chad McLean, Board Member  
Morgan Banasiak, Board Member  
Sandra Garcia, Board Member

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at Lemay Middle School on Thursday,  
June 1, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance**

Rita Balgeman, Sandra Garcia, Tom Doyle, Chad McLean, and Janette Hernandez were present.

Morgan Banasiak and Felicia Gills were absent.

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

X. - Action items were moved to IX.

V.C.1 - Building Goals has been moved to X.

**Shared Agreements:**

1. *Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.*
2. *Respect staff and other board members and their opinions.*
3. *Be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1).*
4. *Allow everyone to complete their thoughts.*
5. *Commit to shared leadership.*
6. *Respect confidentiality.*
7. *Adhere to our belief in our students' full potential and successful future.*

**Strategic Plan Goals**

*Goal #1 – Student Growth and Achievement*

*Goal #2 – Learning Culture of Equity, Engagement & Agency*

*Goal #3 – Professional Culture of Teamwork & Continuous Improvement*

*Goal #4 – Family Engagement & Community Partnerships*

*Goal #5 - Effective and Innovative Use of Resources*

**Shared Agreements Reflection**

At the July 18, 2013, meeting, the Board of Education finalized their “shared agreements” and agreed to begin each regular board meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The agreement's purpose is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work. Board President, Rita Balgeman, shared her statement. “ As we come to the end of the school year, I’d like for us to reflect upon the shared agreement and adhere to our belief in our student's full potential and successful future. This year we’ve made some tough decisions to repurpose Pioneer School to be our Early Learning Center to modify our dual language program. Fundamentally these changes are

because we are dedicated to our student's successful futures. These changes will help establish a stronger foundation for our students before kindergarten and help ensure our students are bilingual and bi-literate. The changes at the Middle school, such as those to the GATE program and backward mapping from the high school curriculum, are because we want to ensure that our students are set up for success in high school. We believe that all of our students can be successful, and you can see this in our strategic plan as well. As long as we continue to make decisions focused on this, I think we will continue to make the best decision for our students. Also, tonight we are celebrating our retiring teachers, and I want to say thank you not just for the years you've put in with us but for your dedication to our students. And I know that this belief that I've just talked about has been core to your work. You've believed in our student's futures, and you have touched the lives of many children over the years. So thank you for your work with our kids to help them realize their potential."

### **Recognition/Showcase/Presentation**

#### ***Recognition***

##### *Board Salutes -*

The Board Salutes will be a standing item on the agenda starting with the February 3, 2022, board meeting. The Board of Education would like to recognize individuals of the District 33 community - which includes all staff members, students, bus drivers, parents/guardians, and guardians - for actions that build a positive culture and climate in District 33. This "shout-out" will become part of the official Board minutes under Board Salutes on the bi-weekly agendas.

**Salute to:** Janet Ayala, Instructional Coach, Lemay Middle School

**Submitted by:** Julie Odom, D33 Parent

Mrs. Ayala is everywhere! She is the Lemay Book Club sponsor and takes the club on wonderful excursions. Her commitment to the Lemay students and community runs deep. We are grateful for her time, energy, and leadership.

**Salute to:** Madison McMurray, Student, Indian Knoll

**Submitted by:** Amy Rasmussen, Learning Behavioral Specialist (LBS1), Indian Knoll

"Maddie is one of Ms. Amy's fifth-grade buddies. She comes into the classroom every day to help with my students. She also helps me with the after-school program ASAP when I have kindergarten students. Maddie has made Google slide shows for both my classroom and my ASAP classroom. She makes slide shows to welcome the students and also makes social stories! Maddie helps so much throughout the day, especially at lunchtime. All of my students respect and respond so well to Maddie it warms my heart. She is a wonderful role model and very responsible and respectful to all of the children she comes into contact with. This is why Maddie is so deserving of a board salute. She is a shining example of a D33 student!"

##### *Pioneer Superintendent for the Day*

Kenya P. and Solash P. from 4th grade at Pioneer School presented to the Board of Education their experiences as Superintendent for the Day. The fourth-grade students who were chosen to be the Superintendent for the Day took their job of collecting reading power goals data very seriously. They shared their data with the classroom teacher and the building administration.

##### *Retiree Recognition*

“Tonight, we want to recognize all of our staff members retiring this year.” The following staff were present and will receive a gift from the Board and Administration.

Karen Laukaitis

Tammy Charvat

Rachel Kimball

The following staff were not in attendance.

Soona Farag

Veronica Cisowski

Rosalind Rodriguez

Jeanette Hernandez

Anna Leuer (Lure)

Paul Shankle

Lella Favia

Guadalupe Nieto

Sue Cox

“On behalf of the board members, administration, staff, students, and families, we thank each of you for your years of dedication and commitment to ensuring a quality education for all of the students that have passed through District 33. Please accept our sincerest gratitude. You have worked tirelessly, and now it is time to enjoy and embark on the next adventure. We wish you the best!”

### ***Showcase***

#### **Currier School Showcase**

Principal Kellie Barros introduced students from Mr. Guerrero’s class to present the Currier School 3rd Grade Showcase. On behalf of Mr. Guerrero, Esther S. lead the presentation.

Natasha R. shared how students need to memorize the multiplication table by using songs to help them remember. Illiana G. shared the hard work it is to remember the multiplication table, and singing catchy songs helps them. Alex L. shared that aside from learning multiplication and division, they also use songs to learn tens and hundreds. Bianca R. shared the adaptation rhymes, which help them learn about parameters. Aubriana V. spoke about how long it takes, and it does not take long, but it lasts for a long time. The songs are introduced when new learning is going to happen. Students shared how ecstatic to learn math through songs, and they sang several songs to show the great way they learn math.

### **E.T.A.W.C. Statement**

Tristan Cure and Karen Evans, E.T.A.W.C. representatives, read the following statement for the Board: “Good Evening, As stated in September, ETAWC's goal this year was to continue to create and develop a culture of collaboration and accountability that would support the district in meeting the needs of all stakeholders. This year we have made great gains in this area. We've appreciated being involved in planning, coordinating, and developing changes that could affect our members. We've been able to meet with district administration to collaboratively problem solve and make decisions that both sides can support. The district has provided our leadership team with many valuable and productive learning opportunities that have put systems in place that promote positive collaboration and problem solving. We have grown as leaders and are looking forward to sharing the union's next year's mission and goals to all district admin. in early August during an in-service day.

One of our main goals next year is to sustain the positive relationship union leadership has with the district to support the district's and special education department's goal of creating a committee and action plan that will support student behavior and ultimately improve student achievement. We have heard from admin and community members the need for action to be taken. We support the district and community with this mission and are looking forward to serving on a committee that will help D33 achieve its mission and vision for this community. We thank the board for their support, the district administrative team for their time and

dedication to meet with us, our teachers for their passion and drive and the community for their patience.

We wish you all a relaxing summer and we look forward to another productive year. Thank You!”

### **Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

### ***Prior Public Comments follow-up***

No public follow-up at this time.

### **Superintendent News** - Currier Superintendent News

The Superintendent News is to update the board and community on some of the many programs and activities occurring in the schools and the departments determined to help us accomplish the goals of the District Strategic Plan.

### **Goal #1: Student Growth and Achievement**

Throughout the school year, Currier staff have been working arduously analyzing student data in MAP, SchoolPace, and Freckle/ST Math. During one of Dr. Marino’s visits, he made a couple of suggestions to move our PLTs forward. We took his advice, and since February, teachers created action plans strategically choosing a couple of students from their classrooms. In their action plan, teachers included a different strategy to use with the targeted group of students to help them grow further academically.

Every couple of weeks, they progress monitored the students’ growth. At the end of six weeks of implementation during PLTs, staff reviewed the strategies and decided whether to keep that strategy because students were making adequate growth or if they needed to switch the strategy because students were not making adequate progress. It was surprising to see that the majority of teachers were excited to share that the bulk of students who were selected made adequate growth or surpassed it by the sixth week. This meant that the new strategy used was successful!

We were excited to share these results with Dr. Marino. So when he joined our PLTs a couple of weeks ago, he shared how impressed with the great strides classroom teachers made analyzing data and reflecting on their teaching practice and progress monitoring. We have taken this a step further. At a recent Building Leadership Team meeting, we invited Currier’s incoming principal, Anthony Hugelier, and Dr. Marino. The team conversed about how this work will be carried over to the next school year.

### **Action Items**

The Board of Education took action on the following items:

- ***Approved the Personnel report:***

2 ADMINISTRATIONS: Julie Odom, Assistant Director of Athletics and Activities at ESC, effective July 1, 2023; Amy Martensen, Assistant Principal at LMS, effective July 1, 2023;

2 CERTIFIED: Sierra Jacobs, Health Teacher at LMS, effective July 1, 2023; Maria Vargas, Preschool Teacher at ELC, effective 23-24 School Year;

2 CLASSIFIED: Alexis Correa, Temporary Custodial Help at ESC, effective June 1, 2023; Caiden Guevara, Temporary Custodial Help at ESC, effective June 1, 2023;

6 RESIGNATIONS: Amy Rasmussen, LBS1 at Indian Knoll, effective end of 22-23 School Year; Angelica Nieto, Family Liaison at LMS, effective end of 22-23 School Year; Grace Alber, Speech Language Pathologist at ELC, effective end of 22-23 School Year; Katie Hauserman, Dual Language Kindergarten Teacher at Indian Knoll, effective end of 22-23 School Year; Vanessa Palacios, Preschool Teacher at Winfield, effective end of 22-23 School Year; Stacy Huerta, Dual Language Teacher at Indian Knoll, effective end of 22-23 School Year;

0 POSITION CHANGES:

1 LEAVE: Lizbeth Gonzalez, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective May 13, 2023;

2 RETIREMENT: Sue Cox, Accounts Payable and Benefits at ESC, effective July 2, 2023; Patricia Macko, SEL Teacher at LMS, effective end of 27-28 school year;

0 TERMINATIONS:

Superintendent Kristina Davis read the bios of the new administrators, Julie Odom and Amy Martensen.

- No Contracts to approve at this time.

### ***Presentation*** – Building Goals

Spring Benchmark and School Goal Results

Kristina Davis and the Principals from each school shared the final benchmarks of the year with the Board regarding Literacy and Math. Building Principals shared their Goals, Celebrations, Misses, and Hypotheses with the Board of Education.

### **Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action**

- *Presentation follow-up* - No presentation follow-up at this time.
- *2023-2024 Tentative Budget* - Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, presented to the board the 23-24 tentative budget. The Board will vote at the June 15, 2023, meeting.
- *Appointment of SASED Board of Control Representatives*- The board voted to approve Kristina Davis as Governing Board of Directors Representative, Rita Balgeman as Governing Board of Directors Alternate Representative, Tom Doyle as Governing Board Representative, and Chad McLean as Governing Board Alternate Representative.
- *Approve Administrative Compensation*- The Board approved the Administrative Compensation for the 2023-2024 school year.
- *Click Insurance Renewal* - The Board voted to approve the renewal with Click Insurance.
- *Equipment Disposal* - The Board voted to approve the disposal of equipment at Indian Knoll School and tech equipment.
- *Finance/Facilities* –Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, stated that since the last Board meeting, the district has received for Evidence-Based Funding in the amount of \$1,188,210.00; and Other states (after-school program) in the amount of \$13,261.00.
- *McAuley School* – Kristina Davis, Superintendent, gave the Board an update on possible grant money for McAuley School.
- *Purchasing of Literacy Materials* - The Board voted to approve the grant-funded purchases for literacy resources and professional development to support the shift of the 50/50 dual language model.
- *Resolution for the Continuous Use of Mobile Classrooms* - Karen Apostoli provided the annual resolution for the continuous use of mobile classrooms. The Board will vote at the June 15, 2023 meeting.
- *Resolution for the Hazardous Bussing 2023-2024* - Karen Apostoli provided the annual resolution for the continuous use of mobile classrooms. The Board will vote at the June 15, 2023 meeting.

- *Transfer of Working Cash Interest* - Karen Apostoli provided the transfer of working cash interest. The Board will vote at the Jun 15, 2023 meeting.
- *Policy 7:190 Student Behavior* - Mark Truckenbrod provided a revised copy of Policy 7:190 Student Behavior.
- *Policy 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment* - Mark Truckenbrod provided a revised copy of Policy 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment.

### **Information Items**

The Board of Education received/reviewed/discussed the following informational items:

- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- No suggested agenda items at this time.
- Administrators and several Board members attended Blooming Fest in downtown West Chicago.
- Janette Hernandez met Judge Jennifer Barron and would like to visit D33 classrooms for career cruising or be a guest speaker in the Civics class.

### **Report of District Committee Meetings**

- No open comments at this time.

### **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

### **Adjournment**

The above review of action taken by the Board of Education at their regular meeting is provided in an attempt to keep you informed. If you have any questions regarding any of the information provided or wish to discuss any of the items, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,

**Kristina Davis, Ed. S.**

Kristina Davis,  
Superintendent of Schools

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