



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent
January 5, 2023, Board Briefs

Rita Balgeman, Board President
Felicia Gills, Board Vice President
Tom Doyle, Board Secretary
Phebe Balzer, 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, January 5, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

Rita Balgeman, Sandra Garcia, Phebe Balzer, Tom Doyle, Morgan Banasiak, and Chad McLean were present.

Felicia Gills was absent.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

No changes or additions.

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 member Chad McLean shared his agreement. I am reflecting on our shared agreement of respect for staff and other board members and their opinions. This is very important for school boards so that we can speak with one voice. To get to that one voice, we need to hear staff and board opinions. We also need to hear the opinions of the other stakeholders in our local district, including parents, community

members, and students. We do not want to be found in our own little educational district bubble as we discuss and make decisions for the district. At our Joint Conference in November, Amanda Ripley talked about the pitfalls of high conflict that causes division and positive conflict that leads to growth and conflict resolution. We need to guard against the characteristics of high conflict by avoiding the pitfalls of one: us versus them, two being dismissive of those that hold certain opinions, and three, assuming we understand what is being said by a person with a different opinion. Any opinions shared by parents are more important than the opinions of board members and staff. We serve them, and we are not the parents. At the end of the day, the parents are responsible for their children.

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Recognition - No recognition at this time.

Showcase – No showcase at this time.

Presentation – No presentation at this time.

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: Robyn Kimmel, Indian Knoll, Music Teacher

Submitted by: Mary Cortez, Puente del Pueblo at Indian Knoll

“Fifth grader Ivan Perez really wanted to play the clarinet, but registration was already closed for the band. When I told him this, he was very distraught and kept bringing it to my attention, “Mrs. Cortez, I want to play the clarinet!” Not knowing what to do, I shared this story with Robyn Kimmel, the music teacher at Indian Knoll. She “just happened” to have an extra clarinet in her room. Right away, she sat on the floor and watched YouTube to figure out how to put the clarinet together. She then proceeded to spend 40 minutes after school teaching Ivan the basics. A plan was formed, and he was sent home with sheet music and a recorder. We are still searching for a teacher to come to instruct him at Indian Knoll during Puente's after-school program, but what a joy it was to see Robyn in action. She has a heart for students and a love for learning. She is perfectly placed at Indian Knoll and she makes all of us better by empowering us with her hope and action!

Salute to: Amie Correa, Principal & Jessica Raiser, Assistant Principal, Gary School

Submitted by: Irene Nelson, Gary School, LBS1

“Staff at Gary school have endured so many changes with building administration. Gary's staff feels very fortunate to have Amie Correa as an administrator who is in it for the long haul. Amie is very professional and does what is best for children! She has made staff meetings extremely beneficial, having staff work in teams and building new relationships amongst other staff members. Staff meetings are now so exciting to attend as we all actively participate in professional development. She models strategies for staff to incorporate in the classrooms. Jessica Raiser, our assistant principal, works side by side making Gary a smooth operation each day. The calm demeanor trickles down to staff, making it easier to learn and teach in a rigorous dual language school. There are so many wonderful things to say about our principal and our assistant principal, but visiting Gary school would say it all! ”

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

No ETAWC statement at this time.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Superintendent News - No Superintendent news at this time.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *Presentation follow-up* - Gloria Trejo, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, along with Beth Walrath, Director of Assessment and Accountability, presented to the Board an update on the school goals.
- *Summer Construction Bid* – The Board voted to approve the Summer 2023 Construction Bid.
- *Finances* – 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; Title IV- 21st Century Community Learning in the amount of \$189,215.00 and Other Federal Programs in the amount of \$690,810.00.
- *Music Instruments for LMS* - The Board voted to approve the Music Instrument for Leman Middle School.
- *School Year 2023-2024 Student Fees* - The Board voted to waive student fees for the 2023-2024 school year.

Action Items

The Board of Education took action on the following items:

Approved the Personnel report:

0 ADMINISTRATION:

1 CERTIFIED: Chantal Gonzalez, PE teacher at LMS, effective January 5, 2023;

3 CLASSIFIED: Maricela Cruz, Nurse at Winfield, effective January 5, 2023; Arpita Sutaria, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective January 5, 2023; and Flordelis Liz Rodriguez, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective January 12, 2023;

0 TRANSFER:

2 RESIGNATION: Layuna Foster, Paraprofessional at Wegner, effective December 26, 2022; Karen Vargas, Building Secretary at Winfield, effective December 27, 2023:

0 RETIREMENTS:

0 TERMINATIONS:

0 LEAVE:

0 FTE Change:

Information Items

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

- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- The Board would like information on a possible Football program brought to the middle school. Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, will bring information to the January 19, 2023, Board meeting.
- No Board Outreach at this time.
- No parking lot at this time.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Board members were provided with an update on all committees.
- 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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