



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent
November 3, 2022, 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, November 3, 2022, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

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

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Appoint President Pro-Tem - The board voted to approve Felicia Gills as President Pro-Tem in the absence of Board President, Rita Balgeman.

An addition in close session reason number 5, Litigation.

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 purpose of the agreement is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work. Board Pro-tem President, Felicia Gills shared her statement. **“Confidentiality is a delicate bargain of trust.”** This Board, cabinet, and staff of D33 confront issues that can change the very fabric of a student’s academic career. The decisions we make in this room and the information shared with us cannot always be exchanged openly before a vigorous investigation to divide truths and untruths. I have heard as a parent that the district or the Board doesn’t care about certain

inequities or incidents that negatively affect those in our community. That statement is far from the truth. We look into every incident and allegation and deal with them according to the guidelines of the IASB. We took our oath to serve the citizens of West Chicago -especially students and staff seriously. In a day where bullying in person or virtually, weapons in schools, and drugs have hit even the smallest communities we are here to protect all that walk the corridors of our buildings. We honor and respect each man's opinion. We ask that as our supporters and partners you Trust us to maintain the confidentiality of concerned parties and know any action this board takes is for the greater good and safety of All.

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Recognition –

Mark Truckenbrod, Director of Human Resources, presented to the Board three teachers (Mr. Tim Kolaczowski, Mr. Daniel Guerrero, and Mr. Arturo Arvizu) who have been accepted into the School Leader Pipeline Program.

Showcase –

Preschool - Pyramid

Mrs. Brenda Vishenof, Principal, presented to the Board their Preschool Pyramid. Pyramid is a social and emotional learning framework that when implemented with fidelity, promotes young children's healthy development, and prevents challenging behaviors. The Preschool expectations are "We are safe, we are kind, and we work together". Four preschool students presented to the board the expectations and how they implement them. Students Salma, suggested washing hands, James suggested sharing, Isabella suggested playing together, and Miguel suggested working together during centers.

Presentation –

Illinois School Report Card Summit

Beth Walrath, Director of Assessment and Accountability, presented to the Board the Illinois School Report Card Summit.

Board Salutes -

No board salutes at this time.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

No ETAWC statement at this time.

Public Comment

Corell Fiene addressed the Board regarding late bus arrivals without communication and the length of rides for preschoolers.

Lavender Hudson addressed the Board regarding late bus arrivals without communication.

Superintendent News - Preschool

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 #3: Professional Culture of Teamwork & Continuous Improvement

Embrace a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, trust, innovation, and professional growth that attracts, develops, and retains a diverse, high-quality staff. We have begun our year with a high

emphasis on staff collaboration and development. Our teachers have completed two sets of learning walks. Learning walks are opportunities for teachers to visit each other's classrooms to promote collaborative discussion and to be inspired by each other. In September, teachers did a learning walk before students arrived to review each other's room setup since a high-quality learning environment is essential to early childhood learning. In October teachers visited each other's classrooms to specifically observe routines and transitions within the classroom. Our teachers just completed a staff training day led by our MTSS team to reflect on Tier 1 and Tier 2 program practices that involved high levels of learning and reflection within teams. We are asking our staff to give us feedback in this area each month as we seek to ensure this important element of our strategic plan is implemented with fidelity.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *Presentation follow-up* - No follow-up at this time.
- *Tax Levy* - Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations along with John Haffner, Executive Director of Business and Operations, shared with the board the tax levy process, and the resolution for intent to levy taxes for 2022. The total estimated amount of taxes to be levied for 2022 is \$44,716,593.00. The Board will vote to adopt the intent to Levy Taxes Resolution on November 17, 2022. A public hearing on the Intent to Levy taxes will be held on December 1, 2022, with the final adoption of the Resolution to adopt Aggregate Property Tax Levy on December 15, 2022.
- *Property Tax Abatement* - The Board of Education received information on the tax abatement process and a recommendation for a tax abatement. The Board will continue to review the information at the November 17, 2022 meeting.
- *IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) Resolutions 2022*- The Board reviewed the proposals which will be acted on at the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly, on November 19, 2022. Tom Doyle, will be the representative for District 33.
- *Addition of three Paraprofessional Positions* - The Board of Education voted to approve three additional paraprofessional positions.
- *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; Early Childhood Block Grant in the amount of \$357,101.00; and Fed. Special Ed IDEA Flow Through in the amount of \$115,037.00.

Action Items

The Board of Education took action on the following items:

Approved the Personnel report:

1 ADMINISTRATION: Penny Munoz, Interim Community School Administrator, effective November 4, 2022.

1 CERTIFIED: Araza Sparks, K-2 Interventionist at Turner School, effective November 4, 2022:

3 CLASSIFIED: Isaac Ibarra, HVAC Facility Engineer at ESC, effective November 15, 2022; Rocio Garcia, Lunch Supervisor at Currier School, effective November 7, 2022; Vianney Moreno, Lunch Supervisor at Indian Knoll School, effective November 7, 2022

1 TRANSFER: Guadalupe Esparza-Rios, Head Custodian at LMS, effective November 1, 2022;

1 RESIGNATION: Antonio Higgins, Community School Administrator at ESC, effective November 3, 2022;

0 RETIREMENTS:

0 TERMINATIONS:

0 LEAVE:

Insurance Renewal - Blue Cross Blue Shield

The Board of Education approved the renewal of health insurance for the 2023 calendar year. The renewal rate is a 4.0% increase for health insurance and a 5.9% increase in dental.

Purchase of District Vehicle

The Board of Education approved the purchase of a District vehicle with a price of up to \$50,000 to be used primarily by the HCAC Facility Engineer.

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 Board items at this time.
- Board Outreach -Sandra Garcia, Board member, attended the Gary Fall Fun Fest and noticed the small parent involvement in volunteering but the turnout was good. She wants to know what other PTOs are doing to get parents more involved to volunteer.
- Parking lot -
Karen Apostoli, updated the Board regarding making Hazel Street one-way permanently.
Morgan Banasiak, Board member, asked about the academic recognition. Will bring more information at the next meeting.
Phebe Balzer, Board member, would like to get an update on where we are in restorative practices regarding training implementation.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Safety Committee Update - Fred Cadena informed the Board that all schools have done their law enforcement drills. During the drills, they were able to use the blue point, hear the messages over the speakers, and made sure that all Administrators were able to get the communication.
- 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