



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent  
September 15, 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,  
September 15, 2022, beginning at 7:02 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance**

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

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

The Board was informed of one change: V. Closed session 1 will be moved to item X. by Superintendent Kristina Davis.

**Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

**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 Member Chad McLean shared his agreement to Respect staff and other board members and their opinions. We, as a board, delegate responsibility for leadership in the education of our students to everyone employed by

this district. We work most closely with the administration, but every person in the district contributes to the education of the kids. Many roles do not work directly with children in their education, but every role is important. For example, Air conditioning has been a big topic of conversation and is far removed from the field of education but is very helpful to get the school year off to a good start. Teachers receiving healthy, safe, prepared, and timely students is very important for everyone's success. I would like to thank everyone for their efforts to help our students reach their full potential.

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

***Recognition*** – No recognition at this time.

***Showcase*** –

Wegner School Career Day

Lead Tech Teacher, Ms. Barsotti, and K-2 GATE Teacher Ms. Knopp, along with students Darshiv M. and Stephanie G., shared their High Interest Day with the Board that was held on May 13, 2022. On this day, students could sign up for different careers they can do when they grow up. Darshiv shared that his favorite part of High-interest day was the engineering and building. Stephanie's favorite part was crocheting and making butterflies. Careers included Art by Mrs. Miller; Ballet Floklorico by LMS; Basketball and Sports by Avery Smith and James Flemming; Bike Safety by League of IL Bicyclists; BeeBots by Roxanna Del Real and Diane Hernandez; Cake Decorating by Usher, Wilson, Gustafson, Szul, and Franch; Cartooning by Nichols and Armstrong; Cooking Class by The Kitchen Table; Drawing by Gonzalez-Magana, and Podbielska; Electricity and Technology by Nokia; Engineering and Building by Yevdash, and Laukaitis; Firefighters by the West Chicago Fire Department; Foster/Rescue Animals by Lyne; Henna by Shahbana Kakar, and Longi; Home Depot Build by Shankle and Dauber; Horse Care by Mrs. Mendoza & Co.; Knitting by Devine; Legos by Netzel; Math Games-Mathnasium by Del Toro; Music and Technology by Mutchler; Pedicures by Kristin Ramirez from Royal Polish; Parachute and PE fun by Maxwell; Photography by Godoy; Pokemon by Frankel; Police by West Chicago Police Department; Push or Pull by ROE STEM; Rubik's Cube by Urbina and Nava; Slime by Grogan and Renner; Spheros by Roxanna Del Real and Diane Hernandez; SWAT by DuPate SWAT; T-Shirt decorating by Vanessa Viola-Benhardt; Therapy Dogs by Lutheran Church Charities; Volleyball by Cahmbers; and Yoga by Yog Sadhan Rsham. Some feedback from staff and students: 90.7% of those surveyed enjoyed High-Interest day; there were too many good choices; the need to improve transitions; and adjust session lengths. Some considerations for the future would be to include all 6 schools and have a greater presence of District Admin, making it a paid committee, needing a budget, sharing of community partners/resources, and knowledge of waiver and requirements.

\*Felicia arrived at 7:23 p.m.

***Presentation*** –

School Improvement Goals

Principals for all buildings presented to the Board their goals for the 2022-2023 school year. Some strategies will be El Dictado/Dictation and guided math for Academic K-8 District-Wide. For Culture, EC-8 District-wide will include Classroom Learning Communities, Academic Parent Teacher Teams, and Professional Learning Teams. District Administrators and Principals have constant meetings to work together, and Cabinet has added more people, so they all work together and collaborate.

***Board Salutes*** - No Board Salutes at this time.

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

No ETAWC statement at this time.

**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.

Jamee Kenney, Principal of Wegner School, shared with the Board on Goal #2: Learning Culture of Equity, Engagement & Agency. Wegner School is off to a great start! Students spent the first day of school learning about PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention and Support - and review their Five Core Values: • Orderly Transitions • Readiness to Learn • Positive Interactions • Responsibility • Respect for Others. This year Wegner will focus on one Core Value each month. The value will be reviewed on the morning announcements, explicitly taught in classrooms, and practiced in all areas of our building. At the end of each month, each classroom will choose one child who exemplified the month's value to be awarded a Golden Eagle Award at the building ceremony. Wegner students are excited to practice the values, earn fuzzies, and work toward classroom and individual awards!

**Closed Session**

The Board of Education went into closed session to discuss collective bargaining.

**Action Items Following Closed Session**

The Board did not take vote regarding SSA Contract.

The Board voted to approve the closed session minutes.

**Consent Agenda**

The Board of Education conducted the following business on a consent agenda as follows:

- Approved the Regular Board meeting minutes of August 18, 2022, and the regular Board meeting minutes of September 1, 2022;
- Approved the list of bills dated August 19, 2022, through September 15, 2022, in the amount of \$2,510,493.76;
- Approved payrolls of August 15, 2022, in the amount of \$436,535.69, August 16, 2022, in the amount of \$2,697.31 and August 31, 2022, in the amount of \$331,833.06;
- Approved imprest account from August 9, 2022, to September 8, 2022, in the amount of \$0;
- Approved the disposition of audio tape of the Board of Education regular closed session dated February 18, 2021, and March 4, 2021. Meetings that are at least 18 months old, and meet the State criteria, are disposed of.
- Approved the personnel report:
  - 0 Administration:
    - 1 Certified: Alejandra Vargas, 4th Grade Dual Language at Turner, effective 2022-2023 school year;
    - 2 Classified: Jose Correa, Paraprofessional at Indian Knoll, effective September 7, 2022; Monica Guzman, Interpreter at ELC, effective September 15, 2022;
  - 0 Transfers:

2 Resignations: Aracely Avila, Translator at ELC, effective, August 31, 2022; Berenice Duran, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective September 2, 2022;  
0 Retirements:  
0 Leave:

### **Financial Reports**

- The Board of Education reviewed the Treasurers' Report and Budget Report as of August 31, 2022, along with the financial charts.
- The Board of Education received a financial report from Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, stating that since the last meeting, the District received a \$694,499.00 payment for Early Childhood, \$1,188,210.00 in Evidence-Based Funding; \$10,689.93 for National School Lunch and \$6,241.58 for School Breakfast.
- The Board of Education received a summary of each school's monthly activity accounts as of August 31, 2022.

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

- *Presentation follow-up* - No follow-up at this time.
- *1st and 6th Day Enrollment Information* - Mark Truckenbord, Director of Human Services, presented to the board the enrollment information regarding the 1st and 6th day of school along with the 2022-2023 Projected Enrollment staffing.
- *Committee Assignments*- Gloria Trejo, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, shared the Committee Assignments.
- *Pre-Purchase Airconditioning Equipment* - The Board approved the pre-purchase of airconditioning equipment for the elementary project scheduled for 2023.
- *Resolution in Recognition of Principal Appreciation Week* - Board President Rita Balgeman read the Resolution in Recognition of Principal Appreciation Week, which is October 24, 2022, through October 28, 2022, with Friday, October 28, 2022, being Principal Appreciation Day. The Board approved and adopted the resolution.

### **Action Items**

- *Crossing Guards* – Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, updated the Board regarding the shared cost of Crossing Guards with the City of West Chicago and the West Chicago Police Department. The Board will vote on this at the October 6, 2022, meeting.
- *Budget Review* - The Board voted to approve the Budget Review for the 2022-2023 school year.

### **Information Items**

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

- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Bussing update from Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations and John Haffner, Executive Director of Business and Operations. IL Central has lost 10 employees, which has significantly affected District 33. IL Central is working with D33 and D94 for solutions.
- Exit Interview and Retention Update from Mark Truckenbord, Director of Human Resources, and Sarah Burnett, Employee and Labor Relations

Coordinator, presented to the Board data regarding retention and Exit interviews.

- First Day of School Report -Gloria Trejo, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, shared with the Board highlights of the First day of school.
- Preschool Update - Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, shared with the Board the construction update of Winfield Preschool.
- The Board of Education received the Freedom of Information Act report noting there was 1 new request since the last board meeting.
- The Board of Education received information regarding Open Enrollment and Child Care.
- The board received the Special Education report indicating that 17 special education students and 3 general education students have been placed out of district as of September 9, 2022.
- Moving WeGo Together - Sarah Norton, Coordinator of Partnerships, shared with the Board the update of the administrative sponsor for WeGo Together for Kids.
- No suggested Board items at this time.
- Board Outreach -Board Member Morgan Banasiak attended ELC open house and received good feedback from parents regarding the presentation and are excited to be at the BluePoint Presentation.
  - Board Vice President Felicia Gills attended Curriculum Night at LMS and shared some feedback on the night. She was happy to see all the smiling faces and good vibes the 6th graders had. This year, there was a positive outcome and an excellent presentation on partnering with District 94.
- Parking Lot Items- Board President Rita Balgeman asked about a follow-up on the Joint D94 and D33 meeting. Board members are looking for responses to their questions from last spring.
- No Open Comments at this time.

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

No District Committee meetings 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