



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent  
February 1, 2024, Board Briefs

Rita Balgeman, Board President  
Morgan Banasiak, Board Vice President  
Tom Doyle, Board Secretary  
Chad McLean, Board Treasurer

Sandra Garcia, Board Member  
Felicia Gills, Board Member  
Janette Hernandez, Board Member

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at Lemay Middle School on  
Thursday, February 1, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance**

Rita Balgeman, Morgan Banasiak, Tom Doyle, Sandra Garcia, and Chad McLean were present. Jannette Hernandez and Felicia Gills were absent.

**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*

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Item IV: Shared agreements will be postponed to the February 15, 2024 board meeting.

**Shared Agreements Reflection**

No shared argument at this time.

**Recognition/Showcase/Presentation**

**Superintendent for the day**

*Gary School Superintendent for the Day*

Amie Correa, Gary School Principal, introduced the Superintendent Students for the day.

Camila R., Giovanni D., and Mariely A. participated in Superintendent of the Day on January 26, 2024. The students observed Ms. Valdivia's classroom, provided feedback

and shared what they learned. They also shared what they liked and wanted to keep in the district.

### **Showcase**

#### *Gary School Showcase*

Assistant Principal Jessica Raiser introduced the Gary Patrol. Gary Patrol helps build leadership skills for children. Their primary goal is to help primary-grade children get to where they need to be during arrival and dismissal. To become a patrol, students had to fill out an application, be interviewed, get certified, and receive a pin from Officer O’Neil. Students presented a small gift to board members and administrators, were able to answer questions regarding their experience being a patrol, and shared what they liked about their jobs.

### **Presentation** *Audit- 2023-2024*

Mr. Scott Duesner from Wipfli presented the annual audit for the year ending June 30, 2023. He will come back in April or May with preliminary work.

### **Presentation** *Strategic Plan and Department Goals*

The Board of Education received the Department Goals Update presentation by District administrators. The presentation included information on all the achievements that have taken place throughout the district and the status of the goals that they will continue to work on.

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

No E.T.A.W.C. statement at this time.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

No public follow-up at this time.

### **Superintendent News**

#### Gary School 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 #4: Family Engagement and Community Partnerships**

In addition to the reading and math goals, Gary School has a culture goal that is monitored through the PBIS committee and the Specials PLC. PBIS concentrates its efforts on students and staff, while the Specials teachers and the Principal work on the family portion of this goal. The Specials PLC has written a SMART Goal and action plan that is monitored weekly: **By the spring of 2024, the score on the ‘Involved Families’ category of the 5Essentials survey will increase to a score of 57 from a spring 2023 score of 55.**

- Culture Goal
  - PBIS: Teachers and Students
  - Specials PLC: Involved Families
- Recruitment Efforts: Supply Drop Off, Curriculum Night, and Fall Conferences
  - Volunteers
    - Classroom

- Walking School Bus
      - Teachers are required to have every family engage in volunteerism each year.
- APTT: 8 teachers participating
- Gary School Ofrenda: 5th grade researches and teaches younger children lessons
- Music Programs
  - Fall, Winter, Spring
  - Frosty Fest
  - Nursing Home
  - Blooming Fest
  - Community Drumming
- Breakfast with Santa: Team with PTO and Renewal Church
- Toys for Tots: PTO receives a gift for every child, wraps them, and Santa (Don Jose) and his elves (our supervisors) visit classrooms on a sleigh
- Tiny Art Show: Art teacher displays small pieces of student art and has a Gary School Family art project during conferences
- Academic Accolades Reception: Potluck, Games, and Gifts
- International Penpals: SEL teacher partners with several countries to exchange cards and letters
- Gary School Cookbook: SEL teacher collects recipes from families and illustrations from students and publishes a cookbook
- ACCESS Event: The MLL coach and team of teachers bring in parents, provide childcare in collaboration with PTO, and teach parents about ACCESS, the implications of the test, give them the practice tests, go over the student report with each family, and then give the families resources to use at home
- Coming Soon
  - First Place Chiropractic
  - Judge Jennifer Barron
    - Reading to Kinder
  - Megan Petromale
    - Author Visit
  - Family Reading Night
  - Family Math Night
  - Dia de los Reyes

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- Approved the list of bills dated January 20, 2024, through February 2, 2024, in the amount of \$780,776.46:
- Approve the contract Renewals with the following vendor: NORC-National Opinion Research Center;
- Approved imprest account from January 16, 2024, to February 1, 2024, in the amount of \$775.00;
- Approved the personnel report:
  - 0 Administration:
  - 0 Certified:
  - 4 Classified: Vianca Perez, Paraprofessional at Preschool, effective January 26, 2024; Valeria Perez, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective January 26, 2024; Aalyah Guerrero, Paraprofessional at Preschool, effective January 29, 2024; Oksana Paihr, Lunch Supervisor at Preschool, effective January 24, 2024;

- 0 Resignations:
- 0 Terminations:
- 0 Position Change:
- 0 Leave:
- 0 Retirements:

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

- *2024-2025 Administration Compensation* - Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, shared with the Board of Education the continue the use of the Administrator Matrix as a New Hire Matrix for future administrators with annual increases of CPI-U up to 5% for the 2024-2025 school year. This would mean an overall increase of 2.02% to the total Administrator compensation package for the next school year. The Board will review the information and vote at the February 15, 2024, board meeting.
- *Finance/Facilities* – Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, stated that the district has received \$251,635.00 for Title I since the last board meeting.
- *School Board Self Evaluation*- The Board reviewed the suggested protocols and expectations updates. The board will vote at the February 15, 2024 board meeting.
- *Transportation Contract* - The board received information to renew the contract with IL Central's proposal of a 7.1% increase for 2024-25 and a 4.25% increase for 2025-26 with the following conditions:
  - 1. Full implementation of penalties for missed/late routes as identified in the contract.
  - 2. Exercise the right of Termination as described in the contract should the performance quality not meet expectations for the school year 2024-25.

### **Action Items**

- *Healthy West Chicago Donation* - The board voted to approve the donation from Healthy West Chicago of \$5,000 yearly for the next three calendar years (2024-2026). This donation is to ensure that all residents have access to optimal health and wellness.

### **Information Items**

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

- Kinder and returning student registration.
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33.
- No suggested items at this time.
- Board Outreach: Morgan Banasiak attended the Scholastic Bowl meet. Chad McLean and Rita Balgeman attended the Band and Orchestra concert.
- No parking lot items at this time.

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

- LEND - Kristina Davis provided an update on LEND.
- SASSED Board of Control - Krsitina Davis provided an update.
- 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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