



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent
November 2, 2023, Board Briefing

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, November 2, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

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

Public Hearing

School Improvement Waiver

The Board of Education, West Chicago Elementary School District 33, announces a public hearing to receive public comment on a proposed waiver application to allow the district to hold 2 full day school improvement days during the school year.

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 President Rita Balgeman shared her statement. "Tonight, I'd like to reflect upon our shared agreement, "commit to shared leadership" and "be willing to see things from the eyes of seven people, not just one." School boards and any governing body are weird things. We are 7 citizens coming together to determine a shared vision for what public education should look like for our community's children. We are representatives of our community. We each bring a unique perspective and a unique voice to the table. I very much appreciate this. I learn from your questions and your comments, and I believe that the dialogue that we engage in helps us collectively make better, more well-informed decisions. We end up speaking with one voice in our final decision, but that one voice is formed by our seven perspectives. I want to thank each of you for your commitment to this."

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Showcase

Pioneer School Showcase - 4th-grade Podcast.

Kathy Grogan, Pioneer Principal, introduced Mrs. Vaca, tech teacher, and student Valeria. Ms. Vaca presented the 4th-grade podcast. Ms. Vaca shared the process of creating the podcast. It starts with a book they read independently and then fill out a graphic organizer (script). The students will then record themselves using seesaw and review the podcast before posting it. The podcast aims to help students with their reading comprehension and help them get ready for the APPL and ACCESS assessments.

Board Salutes

Board Salute Salute to: The LMS Family Liaison and the Sponsor and Donors of LMS Family Literacy Night

Submitted by: Penny Munoz, Community School Administrator, LMS Shannon Kennedy, Media Specialist, LMS Megan Quintana, Instructional Coach, LMS

"We would like to recognize and thank the community sponsors and donors who contributed to the LMS Family Literacy Night on October 3rd. Families won donated raffle prizes, including study nooks, gift cards to local businesses, new books, and more. All participants left with grab bags full of reading goodies, including timers, books, study fidgets, school supplies, and journals. We want to recognize Molly Beck Dean from Wego Together for Kids, Carly Smitherman from Healthy West Chicago, Kate Peterson from State Senator Karina Villa's office, and Omar Espinosa from the West Chicago Lion's Club for hosting their stations at the event. We also want to recognize the hard work and collaboration of the LMS Family Liaison Team, Liz Soto, Brenda Guerrero, and Nathaly Franco, for leading the parent education session on "Healthy Literacy Routines." This event hosted 300 Lemay Middle School students, parents, and community members. We could not have done this without the support of community partners and organizations. Event sponsors and donors included Harvey's Tales, Townhouse Books, Kindred Coffee, Hawthorne's Backyard, The Paramount Theatre, The Forge, WeGo Together for Kids, Healthy West Chicago, West Chicago Public Library, State Senator's Villa's office, West Chicago Lions Club, and Lemay Middle School PTO."

Presentation**Summative Designation & School State Report Card 2023**

Beth Walrath, Director of Assessment and Accountability, presented the summative designation definition and facts. The information included the components, 4 step process, and the 5 different levels. Gary School was rated as exemplary (performance in the top 10% of schools statewide with no underperforming subgroups). Carrier, Indian Knoll, Turner, Pioneer, Wegner, and Leman Middle School were all commendable (no underperforming subgroups). Indicator scores, subgroup results, and trends in growth were also shared with the board. Improvement plans for the future include a district-wide action plan to have each building follow their local school improvement plan and monitor the changes in the data for evidence of curricula improvement. Leman-specific stems include IL-EMPOWER partner assistance grant funded and following the board and state approval school improvement plan for the targeted student group as written through this year.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

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

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Prior Public Comments follow-up

No public follow-up 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.

Goal #3: Professional Culture of Teamwork & Continuous Improvement

- Pioneer has started Collaboration Rounds
- All teachers are signed up for a collaboration Round, including classroom, specials, intervention, GATE, tech, LBS1s, and coaches.
- Pioneer has 17 out of 21 teachers spend time in a collaboration session.
- Teachers fill out a 3 question reflection sheet about their time observing.
- They have time to meet with the teachers they observed to reflect on their time.
- The district goal is three rounds by the school year's end; Pioneer hopes to do six rounds- three in language arts and three in math.

*Felicia Gills arrived at 7:28 p.m.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approved the list of bills dated October 21, 2023, through November 3, 2023, in the amount of \$1,973,433.33;

- Approve current imprest list from October 5, 2023, to October 25, 2023, in the amount of \$415.00;
- Approved the personnel report:
 - 0 Administration:
 - 1 Certified: Michelle Garcia, Part Time Speech Language Pathologist at Gary, effective October 30, 2023;
 - 7 Classified: Veruska Suniaga, Lunchroom Supervisor at Pioneer, effective October 23, 2023; Lizbeth Lopez, Paraprofessional, effective October 24, 2023; Brandon Olson, Grounds Custodian at ESC, effective November 2, 2023; Paul Shankle, Lunchroom Supervisor at Wegner, effective October 23, 2023; Noemi Cinto, Paraprofessional at Turner, effective November 2, 2023; Azucena Morales, Paraprofessional at Gary, effective November 2, 2023; Mercedes Alverio, Family Liaison at Pioneer Preschool, effective November 16, 2023;
 - 5 Resignations: Elizabeth Perez, Lunch Supervisor at Gary, effective October 14, 2023; Rina Salguero, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective October 26, 2023; Rosa Carrillo, Lunch Aide at Pioneer Prek, effective October 19, 2023; Daisy Castro Murillo, Temp Custodian at ESC, effective October 19, 2023; Leticia Murillo, Nurse at Wegner, effective November 7, 2023;
 - 1 Terminations: Guadalupe Esparza Rios, Custodian at LMS, effective November 2, 2023;
 - 0 Position Change:
 - 1 Leave: Veronica Caballero, Paraprofessional at Wegner, effective November 2, 2023;
 - 0 Retirements:

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *Presentation follow-up* - No presentation follow-up at this time.
- *IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) Resolutions 2023* - Board member Tom Doyle will represent District 33 at the delegate assembly at the Joint Conference on November 18, 2023.
- *Decommissioned Devices* - The board voted to approve the offer for a buyback of these devices. The devices will have the data destroyed and will be placed in an underprivileged student program where the vendor will distribute the devices.
- *Finance/Facilities* – Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, stated that since the last Board meeting, the district has received for Evidence-Based Funding \$2,401,814.00, \$291,382.00 for Early Childhood Block Grant, and \$164,026.00 for Other Federal Programs.
- *Tax Levy* - Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, spoke regarding the tax levy. This year is the year of reassessment for all the properties in DuPage County. Karen will bring the presentation for the tax levy to the November 16th meeting, along with a tax abatement option.
- *McAuley School Update* - Karen Apostoli, Director of Business and Operations, provided an update for McAuley School.
- *School Improvement Day Waiver* - The board voted to approve the proposed waiver to allow the district to hold 2 full days of school improvement during the school year.
- *Upgrading Technology Platforms* - Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, shared the proposed upgrade for the current student information system (SIS-eSchool) and the financial/employee management system (Skyward 2.0). The Board will vote at the November 19, 2023 meeting.

Action Items

- Board Meeting Equipment - The board voted to approve the purchase of new board meeting equipment to improve the sound quality during the meetings and for the live stream.

Information Items

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

- Response to Behavior
- Veteran’s Day 2023
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33.
- Suggested agenda items - Karen Apostoli will bring back more information regarding the buses.
- No Board outreach at this time.
- No parking lot at this time.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Opportunities for Teacher Influence and Committee Updates slide presentation was provided.
- 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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