



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent
October 19, 2023, Board Meeting

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

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

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at Leman Middle School on Thursday, October 19, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

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

Changes or Additions

A motion was made to approve Chad McLean as the Pro Tem Secretary.
An addition was made to Close Session for reason 2, pending 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 meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The purpose of the shared agreement is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work.

Board member Janette Hernandez shared her statement. “As a new school board member, I have been learning just like our students do every single day. I have been learning the procedures, the rules, and the importance of showing up on time. But also the huge responsibility that we have as board members. The significance of being willing to see things from the eyes of seven individuals

and not just one. Seven different perspectives, with seven different experiences, but all seven with the same goal. Which is to make the best decision for all of our District 33 students. And it has been a blessing, honestly, to see how hard everyone at this table (teachers, teacher assistants, social workers, custodians, principals, office clerks, the list can go on) works together for our students so they can have the best education and learning experience while being in a safe, caring environment. I applaud everyone in District 33.

With that, I conclude my very first shared agreement. Thank you.”

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Showcase - Leman Middle School

AVID - Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID’s mission is to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students for college and career readiness and success in a global society. AVID aligns with District 33 Strategic Goal 2.

In the Summer of 2023, six D33 staff members (Lindy Ayala- AVID for School Counselors; Kristen Guerrero- Mathematics: Cultivating a Discourse-Rich Classroom; Jennifer Smith- AVID in Science; Matt Mordini/Hannah Christie- AVID Site Leaders; and Kellie Barros- AVID District Director) traveled to San Francisco for a 3-day AVID training.

The AVID elective course provides students with additional academic, social, and emotional support that will help them succeed. Students are often first-generation college students and/or typically underrepresented groups in higher education. In-class teachers help students with organization support with their binders and planners and provide academic support focusing on note-taking and rigorous course work to prepare for AP in high school. Teachers also help students to be college and career-ready by bringing in a guest speaker and exposing them to college. AVID instructional strategies focus on WICOR - Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading. When implemented school-wide, these strategies can help improve achievement in all subject areas and prepare students for life beyond high school. Leman AVID students can continue their AVID journey in high school. Current Leman students Jose A. and Jiselle C. and former student Camila T. shared their experiences in AVID at Leman.

Presentations

5Essentials Parent Survey

Beth Walrath, Director of Assessment and Accountability, shared the 2023 5essentials parent survey results with the board. The survey is open to all parents of preschool to 12-grade students and is offered online in English and Spanish. The parent survey has 12 indicators with 48 parent questions. The overall satisfaction for the district has increased from prior years.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

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

Follow-up to prior statement

Gloria Trejo, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, shared a response to the October 5th E.T.A.W.C. statement.

District and union leadership met on October 16, 2023, to discuss ETAWC comments on behavior raised during the October 5, 2023 BOE meeting. We acknowledge that there is a small group of, primarily kindergarten and 1st-grade students, that have intensive behaviors. While there are less than a dozen students across the district, their needs are intense and taking on all staff involved. Currently, we have 11 students across the district experiencing transition and behavior challenges. Many of these needs stem from Covid as the intensity of needs is something we have not experienced before. ETAWC and the administration reviewed the Culture and Climate Committee and will continue to work together.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Superintendent News - Lemman Middle School

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 #1: Student Growth and Achievement

- This year's theme at Lemman is Building a Foundation for the Future. Our school improvement plan emphasizes a renewal of our understanding of best practices for instruction in a classroom setting. We consider all experiences at Lemman to be contributions to a child's foundation and are committed to strengthening that foundation.
 - Staff will participate in a year-long professional development series on a topic of their choosing that aligns with those practices that are high-leverage strategies for high school readiness.
 - We collect data on classroom practices through monthly walkthroughs completed by our Instructional Leadership Team and Building Leadership Team.
 - Mario Palma has been a tremendous resource for our Language Arts teachers this year. He works closely with our ELA teachers, providing in-classroom coaching, modeling, and support. Mario's feedback has been that our teachers know their standards, and he is working on helping that knowledge transfer into rigorous learning.
 - We look forward to continued collaboration with him. With the help of Char Cieply, we have also rewritten our ELA assessments to be more rigorous and more strongly aligned with the IAR.

Goal #3: Professional Culture of Teamwork and Continuous Improvement

- Our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are off to a great start this year. At the beginning of each month, grade-level team leaders are responsible for creating an assessment calendar, and then they use that calendar to plan their agendas for each weekly PLC meeting. This has helped us determine which data can be discussed in each meeting.
- We have implemented a Lemman data review protocol to help staff discuss assessments.
- Conversations in PLCs are being transformed!

Goal #4: Family Engagement and Community Involvement

- Our collaboration with the high school continues to develop this year.
 - We have focused heavily on our 8th to 9th grade transition plan to start the year. The plan includes student and family components, academic collaboration, and staff communication about social-emotional needs. We have created an overview document and a family-friendly handout explaining how students will transition to WCCHS.
 - Monthly, the middle school feeder principals of Lemman, Benjamin, and Winfield meet with Dr. Dwyer at the high school to discuss areas for alignment and problem-solve trends we are seeing. Meeting topics include grading practices, homework, school safety, discipline, attendance, and social-emotional support.
 - Staff will once again be able to visit high school classrooms during our November SIP day to observe classroom practices.
- We have been working for many years to move 8th-grade graduation back to WCCHS so that we may have one ceremony with all of our students. We are thrilled that this will be happening this school year. We look forward to bringing our whole school community together to celebrate the class of 2024.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approved the Board meeting minutes of September 21, 2023, and October 5, 2023;
- Approve the contract renewal with the following vendors: IXL and Tumbleweed Press, Inc.;
- Approved the list of bills dated October 3, 2023, through October 20, 2023, in the amount of \$2,839,377.20;
- Approved payrolls of September 15, 2023, in the amount of \$1,867,480.49; September 29, 2023, in the amount of \$1,893,176.67;
- Approved imprest account from September 10, 2023, to October 2, 2023, in the amount of \$910.00;
- Approved the disposition of the audio tape of the Board of Education's regular closed session dated March 17, 2022, and April 7, 2022. Meetings that are at least 18 months old and meet the State criteria are disposed of;
- Approved the personnel report:
 - 2 Administration: James Doyle, Interim Co-Assistant Principal at IK, effective October 23, 2024; Sharon Wysoglad, Interim Co-Assistant Principal at IK, effective October 23, 2024;
 - 0 Certified:
 - 2 Classified: Cameron Simpson, Grants Specialist at ESC, effective November 13, 2023; Iridian Cortes, Lunch Supervisor at Pioneer Prek, effective October 19, 2023;
 - 2 Resignations: Colleen Kelly, Assistant Principal at IK, effective October 18, 2023; Jackie Campos, Principal at IK, effective June 20, 2024;
 - 0 Terminations:
 - 1 Position Change: John Wojnarowski, Courier at LMS, effective October 23, 2023;
 - 0 Leave:
 - 1 Retirement: Patrick McMillan, Science Teacher at LMS, effective end of 2026-2027 School Year.

Financial Reports

- The Board of Education reviewed the Treasurers' Report and Budget Report as of September 30, 2023, along with the financial charts;
- The Board of Education received a financial report from Kristina Davis, Superintendent, stating that since the last meeting, the District received \$7,790.85.00 payment for the National School Lunch Program, \$2,194.92 for School Breakfast, and \$3,309.00 for Title IV 21st Century;
- The Board of Education received a summary of each school's monthly activity accounts as of September 30, 2023.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *No presentation follow-up at this time.*
- *Board Resolutions - Joint Annual Conference.* On June 1, 2023, The Board of Education elected Mr. Tom Doyle to represent District 33 as a delegate to the assembly at the Illinois Association of School Board's Delegate Assembly meeting, which will be held on November 18, 2023.
- *Board Meeting Equipment.*- The board was provided with updated information for the board meeting equipment. The Board will vote at the meeting on November 2, 2023.
- *Trinity Storage* - The Board voted to approve the continued rental of 1 classroom at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church through at least June 2024.

Action Items

- *Insurance Renewal* - The Board voted to approve the renewal with Blue Cross Blue Shield, with an increase of 2.9% for health and 5.7% for dental. Vision, Long Term Disability, and Life Insurance will remain the same (0% increase).
- *McAuley* - The Board voted to approve Phase 1 and 2 to repair McAuley School. Phase 3 will be brought back after the Facility Committee meets.

Information Items

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

- Principal search timeline;
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Freedom of Information Act Report noting there were 4 new requests since the last board meeting;
- Out of District placement of Students with Disabilities report stating that 27 special education students and 2 general education students have been placed out of district as of October 19, 2023;
- Short-term maternity leave report was shared;
- The Board of Education was provided with the School newsletters from the buildings;
- No suggested items at this time.
- No Board outreach at this time.
- No Parking Lot items at this time.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- 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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