Board of Education
School District No. 155
Calumet City, Illinois
Regular Meeting
April 10, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by Vice President Coleman on April 10, 2025 at 6:02 pm. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Del Real: Absent: Stern.

Also present were: Dr. Joseph Zotto, Attorney Todd Hayden, Adam Jordan, Tara Lawrence, LoDonna Fleming, Dana Berton, Jennifer Seddon, Colleen Kolasa, Julie Stephen, Barbara Jude, Andrew Morgan, Dr. Joyce Nelson, Latroy Currie and Jacqueline McGee.

Public Comment

President Long opened the floor to the public for comments.

Sharon Lazowski, read a statement and documents regarding the Censoring of Board Member Lamarr Miller.

President Long closed the floor to the public for comments.

Communications

No communications were read.

Administrative Presentation

Wentworth Junior High Assistant Principal Jacquelyn McGee (also the Athletic Director), honored the 8th grade Girls Volleyball Team, along with their coaches Ms. Lazowski and Ms. Lawler. She stated that their record was 17-1 going to the State Championship and they all had good academic standing and their behaviors were great. Student Jazanay Sanchez, read a letter thanking Dr. Zotto, the WJH Administration and the Board of Education for attending the State competition, their sweatsuits and for allowing them the opportunity to go. Coach Lazawoski also thanked Dr. Zotto and the WJH Administration. The Board gave each of the girls a American Express gift card and the girls presented Dr. Zotto and the Board members with flowers and hand made cards.

The Administration from Wentworth Intermediate along with Brandi Tanner talked about the great experience they had attending Dozin with Dinosaurs at the Field Museum in Chicago. Vice President Coleman asked, “Were they able to roam the Museum during the night?” Tanner stated, yes until 12:00 midnight.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the consent agenda items as listed in the Meeting Agenda. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Del Real. Abstain; Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 5-0-1.

Reports

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve the gross payroll figure for the month of March 2025 in the amount of $666,909.37. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, Del Real and Long. Nays; Miller. Motion carried, 5-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a motion to approve the following pre-list of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents. Pre-list dated 03/25/2025 (Voucher #1237) in the amount of $243,942.62, Pre-List dated 04/10/2025 (Voucher #1247) in the amount of $508,639.43. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Del Real, Long and Coleman; Nays; Miller. Motion carried, 5-1.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve the Agreement with Fresh Winds Transportation for the 2025-2026 School Year. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Del Real, Long, Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve FSMC Contract Renewal for FY26 with Taher, Inc. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Del Real, Long Coleman and Oberman; Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve the FY26 School Therapy Services Contract with Omni Therapeutics, Inc. Ayes; Miller, Del Real, Long, Coleman, Oberman and Franklin. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Approve the FY26 Service Agreement with BlazerWorks, LLC. Ayes; Del Real, Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Approve the FY26 Client Service Agreement with Clarifi Staffing Solutions. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to approve the FY26 Service Agreement with Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, Miller, Del Real and Long. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Buildings and Grounds

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Coleman, a Motion to Approve Change Order #1 from Keepsake Construction for the Wentworth Junior High Locker Room. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Miller, Del Real, Long and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Teachers and Education

Enrollment Total: **987**

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a motion to approve the resignation of the listed staff; and to execute the employment contracts for the FY25 school year for the identified staff at the salary indicated or steps and lanes provided in the applicable bargaining agreement pending receipt of the required documents which includes the Illinois State Background Investigation Report. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Del Real, Long, Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

New Hires			
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**	**Rate of Pay**
Caban, Judy	Part-Time Comptroller (SY25-26)	DO	$57.00 per Hour
Camacho, Yajaira	Kindergarten Teacher (SY25-26)	WW	BA, Step 2 $45,043
Gutierrez, Emilia	Full-Time Cleaner	WW	$16.50 per Hour
Hammons, LaShaunda	4th Grade Teacher (SY25-26)	WIS	BA+15, Step 7 $52,037
Long, Leslie	6th Grade Math	WJH	Masters + 35, Step 4 $53,536
Rose, Shanda	1st-2nd Cross Cat (SY25-26)	WW	BA, Step 2 $45,043
Roshell, Jeffrey	2nd Grade Teacher (SY25-26)	WW	BA, Step 1 $43,500
Thomas, Leah	Long Term Sub Teacher	WW	$180.00 per day
Villalobos, Joana	Admin. Asst. to Business Office	DO	$25.00 per Hour
Williams, Tiffani	Cross Cat Aide	WW	$16.00 per Hour

Contract Hires				
Name	**Position**	**Company**	**Building**	**Rate of Pay**
Jones, Daniel	6th Grade ELA	Blazerworks	WJH	$77.00 per Hour

Resignations			
Name	**Position**	**Effective Date**	**Assignment**
Thomas, Leah	Cross Cat Aide	3/18/2025	WW
Williams, Tiffani	Hallway/Cafeteria Supervisor	4/4/2025	WW

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Coleman a Motion to Approve and Ratify the 8th Grade Volleyball Team's Overnight Trip to Pana, IL. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Del Real, Long Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Approve School 2025-2026 Overnight, Long Distance, and Out-of-State Field trips to the Field Museum, Camp Manitoqua, Springfield, Pierce Middle School, Big John's Farm, and Scheeringa Farms. Ayes; Miller, Del Real, Long, Coleman, Oberman and Franklin. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Consolidated Grant Plan presented to the Board by Tara Lawrence.

Member Miller asked about the School Improvement Plan and how it relates to the Autonomy with the Principals and the collaboration with GSU and wanted to know how many Instructional Coaches we have and Ms. Lawrence stated three.

Member Coleman asked about the Transitional Services with Foster and Homeless children and the Literacy Training with the ESL parents and wanted to know how long did it last and Ms. Lawrence stated year round.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to approve the School Year 2025-2026 Consolidated Grant Plan. Ayes; Del Real, Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Policy

Dr. Zotto states he will keep the Board updated on any new Policy Press updates.

SCOPE

Member Miller states there are Bills moving through Committees around Pre-K and he thinks they are gonna pass, but said the Superintendent has to approve them. Dr. Zotto said there are 4 or 5 Bills, and he will keep the Board updated.

FOIA
1

Date of Request	03/13/2025
Summary of Records Requested	All Lease / Purchase / Meter Rental / Maintenance Agreements for Mailing Equipment such as: postage meters, shipping and tracking software, folder/inserters, folding system, address printers, tabbers, addressing software, outsourcing invoices, etc.
Status of Response	The district does not have any responsive records and responded as such via email on 03/19/2025.

2

Date of Request	03/21/2025, 03/23/2025, 03/24/2025, 03/25/2025, 03/26/2025, 3/28/2025, 3/29/2025, 3/30/2025, 3/31/2025
Summary of Records Requested	· "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2020, 2010, and 2000 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2019, 2009, and 1999 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2021, 2011, and 2001 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2022, 2012, and 2002 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "The annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2023, 2013, and 2003 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2018, 2008, and 1998 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members."

	· "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2015 and 2005 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2016 and 2006 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members." · "the annual expenses paid to vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years 2017 and 2007 … who have received total payments of $500 or more in a fiscal year." "This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members."
Status of Response	Responsive records were sent via email on 3/27/2025 and 3/31/2025

Teachers and Paraprofessional Unions

Julie Stephen stated that the teachers of the month were Sharon Lazowski and Raina Lawler for the excellent job they did with the Girls Volleyball Team.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman a Motion to Approve the 2025-2026 Assistant Principal Employment Agreement for Jeanelle Smith. Ayes; Long, Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Del Real. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Discussion for the Good of the School District

Dr. Zotto stated that Graduation is right around the corner and it will be held the 1st Tuesday in June (June 3, 2025) at 6:00 pm at TF North.

Adjournment

Motion that the Board Adjourn. Ayes; All. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Time: 6:41 pm

_____	_____
Board President	**Board Secretary**