BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRAIRIE-HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING **ANNEX BUILDING**

3015 W. 163rd STREET **MARKHAM, IL 60428**

December 15, 2025

A. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (2:220)
President Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. She then led the Board and Audience in the pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call (2:220)
The following members were present: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Juanita Jordan, Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo, Ms. Sharron Davis, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Carlene Matthews.
Absent Ms. Vicki Walker.

Also, present were: Superintendent, Dr. Kanisha Brown, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction & Equity, Dr. Jamie Crosen.

C. President Report- Dr. Musaindapo Enjoyed the Triple I Conference.

D. Superintendent's Report (8:10)
Superintendent Dr. Brown Speaker 4 (01:25):

Good evening. Community Honorable board members, staff. The superintendent report is going to be presented as follow as in the president's report. We have a monthly fund balance. We have received an update from our treasurer's office that at this point we are still waiting for the distribution. We are still waiting for the distribution of our Cook County tax bills. At this point, tax bills have already went out, but there has not been distribution to any of the school districts in the Southland area. Also wanted to take a time to update the board on this quarters. You asked me to bring back the number of new students and we started to track those. We have 33 new students this quarter and our highest enrollment was at Prairie Hills Junior High with a total of 10. Fieldcrest has two new students. Highlands has four new students. Markham Park has two Knob, hill has one, Chateau has nine, may Jemison has one, and the primary learning center had four.(02:35)
So with that we are going to be scheduling a second quarter once we return after the first of the year, new family mixer, just so that our families become familiar with the things that we offer within Prairie Hill School District 1 44 at the end of the year as the board had requested previously. I want to talk a little bit about our emergency housing program. Since the beginning of school, this has been a busy one. We are seeing an uptick, especially after October 15th with our families needing help and that help being in strong demand. Right now under our emergency housing plan, we have four families, which includes a total number of 13 students. One family is one of five. They are also waiting until Christmas break because they are in transient housing to accept the emergency housing plan help. We have had several regions across all of our, we have had several reasons that our families have participated in emergency housing program. Those range from no working utilities. There was one house

fire reported. One family is at this point living in an unheated garage. And then when was a situation of domestic clients. We've also provided help from the FECs food pantry, the boutique uniforms, laundry service, transportation. And we have also signed them up for McKinney Bento as well. And our registration still continues through Tuesday on Tuesdays and Thursdays for new families. And with that, that concludes the superintendent's report.

E. Discussion-None

F. Presentations-

1. **Transportation Presentation:** Mr. Foy BryantSo, with the transportation presentation, it's more so informal. What we will be working on and presenting to the board at our January 5th is our new transportation handbook guide along with a rubric we are developing. And this rubric is really going to target expectations for parents as students are able or engaging in our transportation services. We also will be bringing forward once we have final A, where it is called where is the bus? It's an app so that our parents are able to track in real time where the bus is on actually all of the bus routes. We hope to have that to you today. But what we have to do is make sure that the actual app, because A, where is the bus and here is a bus, and so those have to be compatible with the equipment. That's already with Illinois School Central. So we will have that presented and coming back to the board in January.

2. **2026 EDI Conference-** Dr. Brown shared information about the EDI conference (05:45): I have done the final sheet for the EDI conference. You will see that I have listed all of it should be up under your attachments. It should be where it should. Under your attachments, we have our project allocation sheet. Okay. That was the completed project allocation sheets. We did our notifications based off the selection in November. And so we do have three additional vendors that we will be requesting or recommending to the board for approval. And you will see those there. That's the EDI. And up next will be Dr. Crowson with the Black History Extravaganza for February of 2026. There was concern with several Board members regarding pricing.

3. **Black History Extravaganza-**Dr. Crosen presented the Black History Extravaganza for February 2026, Speaker 8 (14:18): We have again, our gospel explosion 2.0, which again with our sound system, it will reduce the cost a little bit because we're not to pay for that. And then again, we have our PHSD 1 44 at the movies where we are again selling out, we're buying out or looking to buy out if you approve it. We're looking to buy out some of the theaters that markets in Country Club Hills so we can showcase our students on the screen. We know that screen. This speaks to the segregation of our country. So the power that we can have our kids actually presenting and see themselves on it is power in of itself. Mr. Hill is supporting us in leading that work. And then again, we have our Divine nine day, which is led by our schools.

(15:08)
We thought about trying to do more as a district, but we realized that we would get a lot of our fraternities and sororities to beat us all up because we like look, so you hear the person behind me laughing, Dr. Hilton, you don't have the blue and yellow right? Blue, yellow, blue, blue and gold. I'm sorry if the blue and gold or the AKAs or we want to ensure that all of our rich history is celebrated. So therefore we are going to again give that to our schools so that they can celebrate the history of our organizations. The next slide is just in detail what it will encompass again our traveling road. So again, we're going to work on, if we can get the museum great, but we're going to work on going in a different direction. We haven't heard from any of them. Again, our divine nine day I should, I'm doing on my computer to see what I'm doing.

(16:13)
Gospel explosion sororities. And again, this is where the funds will come from. So the estimated costs for our town hall, again, when we do it, we want to encourage families. So we pay for all refreshments and food that comes from our unrestricted rebate funding. When it comes for our black authors reading, we'll spend about $2,000 in books. That's the IE because we're going to keep the books and so the kids can read the books. Again, we are working on the Traveling Black History Museum, the gospel explosion. It will not exceed over $20,000. The PHSE 1 44 at the movies will not exceed over $30,000 and the Divine nine day will not exceed will roughly cost us about $1,000 in supplies that our school will request. The total expenses is roughly, it will not exceed $90,000. What we have so far, and if you look at the budget sheet that we created, the total cost of they're currently at is roughly about a believe $46,000. That's because we did not add in the museum, the traveling museum because we didn't have a cost for them. But unfortunately if we cannot book them and then it's just us going to the Dvo Museum, that's just transportation. The museum is free for the most part. And so are there any questions?

4. **Ms. Sandra Brown-None**

5. **Mr. Donzell Franklin- Family Engagement Center**
20:09): Mr. Franklin. Shared that he was the coordinator of family and community and Business Engagement Family He Talk a little bit about our department structure. Currently I'm a one man show, but we do have a department structure. Hopefully after tonight the one-man show will change. The coordinator is over, manages the community engagement L liaison, as well as the business Engagement L liaison. My guiding principle as I look to build my staff is service self. Every action program or partnership is rooted in the belief that if we uplift and serve our families first, then still success will follow some of the key roles that I won't read all of them for the second time. Some of the key roles in my role, my responsibilities supervise the community Engagement L liaison as well as the business engagement L liaison manage the partnerships with the Greater Food Chicago Depository supervise the FEC enrichment class instructors attend board meetings for presentation updates and workshops. Some of the key responsibilities for the business engagement lies on is to develop and maintain relationships with local businesses. Present updates at village board meetings regarding FEC programming,

develop and distribute materials to inform families about available resources and ultimately increase business partnerships. He stated that (30:28): Some of our upcoming events, we're putting together a coat drive for Brendan Township, looking to put together a financial wellness month where we target our parents to come into the FEC and really learn about financial wellness, really learn about generational wealth, a staff wellness initiative. Want to put together some community service projects with our FEC participants. We have Whoville in the hills coming up this Thursday. Wraparound services provided by a Touch of Wholeness. We are looking to really put together a partner with them to help us with our alternative expulsion and suspension programs

6. **Lumi Presentation-**

Dr Brown shared with the Board of Education information regarding Lumi which is an AI powered storytelling platform. She stated that she has had the chance (31:47): to see Lumi in action and Lumi is really taking what they're doing in AI or artificial intelligence. And for schools it is taking it to the next level. What you see is Lumi being really productive and used on two. The first is CTE and the other is exceptional education. So when we talk about our students, it's on there.(32:33) Go in, go to the PDF As he's bringing that up, does the board members have the PDF of it so we can start to go through it? So, we really, we're looking to do the two things. We're talking about really using AI to be able to address literacy and to provide our equitable and future ready learning through the power of storytelling. Now data is preliminary, but Lumi has been seen as a transformative AI story tool that really does benefit students in their academic experiences. And for Prairie Hills Elementary School District 1 44, we're really looking at doing two things. Number one, we want to use storytelling as a means to enhance our literacy growth. Lumi platform allows real time feedback for our students when they are working on those skills through storytelling as well as it has a piece where it can improve standardized performance while also strengthening students' sense of identity. We know that storytelling creating, especially through our CTE creating finished products is really a means for students to be able to build on their knowledge to showcase their talents. Speaker 4 (37:52):

For example, at steam, when students are able to showcase their work and to have the conversations. Last year they worked on a political campaign. We want to take that same concept and be able to spread it across our district, especially in our junior high. And also again, it promotes a future ready learning culture.

G. Department Updates-

1. **Curriculum Instruction and Equity**- (39:06): Dr. Crosen shared with the Board of Education that he wasn't sure if they looked at our student code of conduct is rather antiquated and therefore does not speak to some of the changes and laws that have

happened across our state. And so therefore we feel like the work is very much at needed work. We plan to start those meetings in January and finished them up in May with hopeful a presentation to you for your approval and blessing for us to take it out to our colleagues or to our parents at each of our schools for feedback.(39:59)
And so we're also looking for two board members to participate. If any of you have anything that you want to do, we're bringing dreams, Pepsi, of course, but also not only are do we want your feedback, the meetings are on both via Zoom. We want us to make this as accommodating as humanly possible. So, parents could also not if they can attend, they can attend via Zoom, but also ensuring that there's also, if you look at the attachment that was sent out, I'll work with Ms. Smiley to send it directly to your emails. If you look at the attachment, it really outlines the agenda for each day. But once we have our committee set, we'll then go into further detail to outline those initiatives. Any questions about the student conduct? So our next piece of work this month we actually had our five year instructional visit, our five year instructional visit this round really focused on some of our veteran teachers.(40:57)
And what the feedback was from the five E from the K 20 center was that from the standpoint of our veteran teachers, we have everything that is needed in our district to move forward, to move our young teachers, our staff. We know that we have a very staff of veterans, we have a large staff of substitutes, but what their feedback was is that the staff that we have on board is capable of doing the work and capable of really mentoring our teachers. So that's a positive because we know that we have, and again, like Dr. Brown has said before, everything that we need is in the room. And so therefore we believe that in order to move our district forward, we wanted to really touch our veteran teachers to see how they were integrating five E and they were doing a really good job. They gave us feedback on some areas that they wanted us to go a little bit deeper on, which was elaborating and explore.(41:52)
But those are phases that we didn't really initially start out in. We really want to focus on a couple focuses this year so that we can really lean into our teachers further. My last update is our MTSS update and our bag report. So, we are rolling out our bag report now. You probably can't see if you were to click on the little thing from my email. So, what our bag report is. Our bag report is real time data for our care teams to really meet to talk about interventions. So, when our care teams are meeting, which is our supports for our MTSS system, our care teams will then look at this back report and say, what are the things that are bubbling up? Is it an attendance issue? Is it NWEA data? This is just the beginning. So right now we have current ELA data, current math data, student absences and referrals.(42:48) Now our goal is that it has live real time data. So, as we update grades, it has that real time data. So, a teacher can see that kids are grades being updated every week, so you don't have the kid that falls through the cracks one week. You have attention to that on a routine basis. That's some of the work. We also started beginning to work with our schools with collecting. So, what are our tier one interventions? So, we can see if we can have a common language across our system regarding what are tier one interventions, what do I do when a kid is struggling, reader, writer, what do I do when this kid is struggling with behavior? So, we're beginning to have those conversations. We still have a lot of work to do, but those conversations are started. But our team, all of our care teams are now finally up and running and myself and Lisa Green will be working to ensure that they are as effective as humanly possible questions.

2.**Technology**- As Presented

3. **Human Resources-** (44:27): Dr. Oliver shared four key areas, our employee and support and benefits. We are going to continue the employee assistance program. We were really excited that we were able to get that rolled out to everyone as well as the TransUnion program. We are still encouraging our members to do sign up. As to date, we only have about five members that have taken advantage of this opportunity. So, we will, as we make our way back to our campus visits in January, we will begin sharing with those members to please sign up for this benefit that will be with them for two years. We're still actively recruiting. We have our career fair. The first one we'll start to will be in January and then in February is very heavy. We have back-to-back dates. Those are dates that are close because that we're nearing graduation. So, we will be kind of all over the state with that. Operations and compliance, we are still working on that implementation. We are looking to be fully and ready to go with all departments by January 6th for the new swipe in. As we work to get rid of time cards,(47:13)
Professional engagement opportunities, the department is looking at attending the IASA conference that will be held in Naperville. We hope to stay informed of trends network and take advantage of the professional development opportunities this will provide. Questions were also raised about vacancies. Mr. Dumas, gave an (50:53): overview of the governing board policies. Three topics. Our foundation for decision making board policies provide essential guidance for decision and defined roles, ensuring organizational compliance and objectives, governance and ethical standards, policies, clarify governance principles and ethical standards to promote transparency and effective board function. And the third categories, policy categories and maintenance policies are categorized into governance, operational, and compliance areas that require regular updates. For relevance, we go through the Illinois Association of School Board Policies. IASB provides policy services to roughly about 358 schools across the state of Illinois, including Prairie Hills. They process changes to our policy that's adopted by the governing board. And then they publish our policies online. We attach a link of our, so if anyone ever wants to see you can click on the link or go to our website. And then they provide press plus policy services, which is a policy procedure reference manual and periodic press issue updates, he stated that (56:36): Moving forward, we plan to continue submitting these press post policy updates and governing court on a monthly basis or upon receipt from IASB. We plan also keep submitting district stakeholders, recommend a policy update whether it's new or revised by administration as required. We plan to ensure that, adopt the policy to update it online on our website through IASV monthly. And we plan to bring all district policies to full compliance with IASV and district recommendation by June, 2026.

4. **Student Services-** Ms. Winters shared that we are moving forward with our heels Therapeutics week. We had a back order with our room dividers and our soundproofing, especially in the speech room that will be delivered next week over break. So, it'll be installed ready to go for our second semester here in the hills. We also are hyper folks. Second semester we started already, but on professional development for the exceptional

ed team we've already sent today we sent 14 educators to speed 8 0 1 for an autism training. So that was really exciting. Got great feedback. So, we're going to build upon this momentum and create a calendar for the remainder of the school year. But we are also still, like I said, moving full steam ahead with our systems and process cleanup for the department. But all is as presented. Any questions?

5. **Family & Community Engagement-** None

6. **Operation (Transportation and Food)-** Mr. Bryant, (59:32): Good evening board. Happy holidays. Hope everybody's warm. Yes, that's because of my operations teams. This has been a long weekend around the clock. All my updates are as presented if there's any questions. And I might be jumping a gun here, but we still are a health and life safety on Thursday. Looks like I got you another five. This is the fifth time. Perfect. So we're waiting for the documentation. It'll come to the superintendent's office, but they got us for nothing.

H. Audience Participation

Ms. Jordan moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to go into Audience Participation. On roll call member voting aye: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Juanita Jordan, Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo, Ms. Sharron Davis, Ms Carlene Matthews and Ms. Joyce Dickerson. Nay: None Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker

Motion Carried

Ms. Crain moved and it was seconded by Ms. Jordan to close Audience Participation. On roll call member voting aye: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Juanita Jordan, Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo, Ms. Sharron Davis, Ms. Carlene Matthews and Ms. Joyce Dickerson. Nay: None absent: Ms. Vicki Walker

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Motion Carried

I. Board of Education Action Items

1. **Approve Grievance Settlement Agreement**
   Ms. Crain moved and it was seconded by Ms. Davis to approve **Grievance Settlement Agreement**. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

   Motion Carried

2. **Approve Personnel Recommendations**
   Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Matthews to table the Personnel Recommendations. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: M. Vicki Walker Juanita Jordan

   Motion Carried

3. Approve Invoices

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to table invoices
On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

4. Approve Payroll

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to approve Payroll. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

5. Approve New Vendors

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to approve New Vendors
On Roll Call Members voting aye: Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo Nay: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Carlene Matthews, and Ms. Sharron Davis. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Not Carried

6. Approve Kirah Boucek- Transfer of engagement

Ms. Matthews moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to approve **Kirah Boucek-Transfer of engagement**. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo Nay: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Carlene Matthews, and Ms. Sharron Davis. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Not Carried

7. Professional Development

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to table professional Development
On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

8. Approve First Reading

Ms. Crain moved and it was seconded by Ms. Ratliff to approve **First Reading**
On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

J. FOIA

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K. Executive Session

Ms. Matthews moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to go into executive session On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

Ms. Matthews moved and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to come out of executive session On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker and Ms. Juanita Jordan

Motion Carried

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Matthews to Approve Personnel Recommendation after executive session with No being said to Community Liaison. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: M. Vicki Walker, Juanita Jordan and Joyce Ratliff

Motion Carried

Ms. Davis moved and it was seconded by Ms. Matthews to Approve Invoices after executive session, Holding those of Dr. Holt, Robinson Education Mr. Bryn Gibson and Kirha Boucek. On Roll Call Members voting aye: Ms. Carlene Matthews, Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo. Nay: None. Absent: M. Vicki Walker, Juanita Jordan and Joyce Ratliff

Motion Carried

L. **Adjournment** Meeting adjourn 7:52pm.

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Submitted by:

Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo President

Ms. Aubry Crain-Secretary