Board of Education
School District No. 155
Calumet City, Illinois
Regular Meeting
February 19, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by President Coleman on February 19, 2026 at 6:30 pm. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller: Absent: Long, Ellis and Jamerson.

Also present were: Dr. Joseph Zotto, Adam Jordan, Tara Wilkins, LoDonna Fleming, Dr. Joyce Nelson, Colleen Kolash, Jeanelle Smith, Julie Stephan, Erika Shavers Dennis, Marcia Thomas and Leah Thomas.

Public Comment

President Coleman opened the floor to the public for comments.

None

President Coleman closed the floor to the public for comments.

Administrative Presentation

Jeanelle Smith, Assistant Principal and Greg Mason, Principal of Woodrow Wilson Elementary, stated they were recognizing former and current staff members who are authors for Black History Month. Erika Shavers Dennis who previously worked at Wilson and currently works at WJH, book is titled “Surrender It All, 7 steps with Your Relationship with God” (Faith Based). Leah Thomas, a Wilson parent and current Perm Substitute Teacher book, is titled, “Althena” (Sci-Fi/Romance Novel about a Black Queen/Super Hero). They also mentioned that one of their new teachers Jeffrey Roshell has published 5 books.

Communications

Thank you card from Alondra and Jennifer Hernandez for the floral arrangements for their grandmother's funeral service.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve the consent agenda items as listed in the Meeting Agenda. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin, and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Reports

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Approve the gross payroll figure for the month of January 2026 in the amount of $1,045,700.64. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

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 01/16/2026 (Voucher #1174) in the amount of $63,817.20, Pre-list dated 01/27/2026 (Voucher #1184) in the amount of $306,779.85, and Pre-list dated 02/19/2026 (Voucher #1197) in the amount of $718,106.69. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Miller, and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve the Lawn Maintenance Agreement with Beverly Companies.. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Buildings and Grounds

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a motion to Approve Bid Package 1: Health/Life Safety Carpentry and General Construction Work with Metropolitan Corp. for $231,000.00. Ayes; Miller, Coleman, Oberman and Franklin. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to Approve Bid Package 3: Health/Life Safety Electrical Work with Kreykes Electric, Inc. for $127,000.00. Ayes: Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve Bid Package 1: Masonry Capital Improvements with Otto Baum Company, Inc. for $60,525.00. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Franklin, a Motion to Approve Bid Package 2: Flooring Capital Improvements with Johnson Floor Company for $154,081.00. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Rebid Mechanical and Landscaping Projects due to not having a bid. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Teachers and Education

Enrollment Total: **977**

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman a Motion to approve the resignations and reassignment of the listed staff per the effective dates indicated; and to execute the employment contracts for 25-26 school years 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, Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

New Hire			
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**	**Effective Date**
Dionte Washington	Cross Cat Teacher	WIS	2/2/2026

Contract			
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**	**Effective Date**
Rachel Brooks	RN - Blazerworks	WJH	2/23/2026

Resignations			
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**	**Effective Date**
Jacqueline McGee	Assistant Principal	WJH	2/27/2026

Reassignment			
Name	**Position**	**Assignment**	**Effective Date**
Shanda Rose	2nd Grade Teacher (26-27 SY)	WW	8/2026

Policy

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to Approve Second Reading and Adoption of Policy Press 120. Ayes; Oberman, Franklin, Miller and Coleman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

2:20-E, Waiver and Modification Request Resource Guide
2:150, Committees
2:150-AP, Superintendent Committees
2:250-E2, Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records

2:270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color and National Origin Prohibited
2:270-AP, Prevention and Response for Complaints of Discrimination and Harassment Based on Race, Color and National Origin
3:60-E, Event Reporting and Notice Requirements for Building Principals Concerning School Safety and Security
4:10, Fiscal and Business Management
4:30, Revenue and Investments
4:60-AP2, Third Party Non-Instructional Contracts
4:460-AP2, E, Checklist for Third Party Non-Instructional Emergency Contracts
4:70-AP, Resource Conservation
4:80, Accounting and Audits
4:110-AP3, School Bus Safety Rules
4:140, Waiver of Student Fees
4:140-AP, Fines, Fees and Charges-Waiver of Student Fees
4:170-AP1, Comprehensive Safety and Security Plan
4:170-AP2, E3, Letter to Parents/Guardians About Disruptive Social Media Apps; Dangers
4:175-AP1, Criminal Offender Notification Laws; Screening

4:190, Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
4:190-AP1, Targeted School violence Prevention Program
4:190-AP2, Threat Assessment Team (TAT)
5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
5:10-AP, Workplace Accommodations for Nursing Mothers
5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
5:100, Staff Development Program
5:120-AP2, Employee Conduct Standards
5:200, Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:220, Substitute Teachers
5:220-AP, Substitute Teachers
5:280, Duties and Qualifications
5:300, Schedules and Employment Year
6:20. School Year Calendar and Day
6:40, Curriculum Development
6:60, Curriculum Content
6:60-AP1, Comprehensive Health Education Program

6:60-AP1, E1, Examine and Statutory Opt-outs
6:60-AP2, Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))
6:60-AP3, Developmentally Appropriate Consent Education
6:130, Program for the Gifted
6:135-AP, Accelerated Placement Program Procedures
6:160, English Learners
6:220, Bring Your Own Technology (NYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct
6:260, Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs
6:260-AP, Responding to Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs
6:315, High School Credit for Students in Grades 7 or 8
7:70, Attendance and Truancy
7:140, Search and Seizure
7:150, Agency and LawEnforcement Request
7:150-AP, Managing Agency and Law Enforcement Request
7:150-AP, E, Record of Agency and Law Enforcement Requests
7:180, Prevention of Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment

7:190, Student Behavior
7:190-E3, Memorandum of Understanding
7:190-AP3, Guidelines for Reciprocal Reporting of Offenses Committed by Students
7:190-AP6, Guidelines for Investigating Sexting Allegations
7:190-AP7, Student Discipline Guidelines
7:255-AP1, Supporting Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence
7:290, Suicide and Depression Awarness and Prevention
7:290-AP, Resource Guide for Implementation os Suicide and Depression Awarness and Prevention Program
7:310, Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools
7:340, Student Records
7:340-AP1, School Student Records
7:340-AP1, E1, Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records
8:30, Visitors and Conduct on School Property
8:30-AP, Definition of Child Sex Offender
8:95-AP, Parental Involvement

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman a Motion to Waive First Reading and Adopt Policies 7:305 and 6:280. Ayes; Franklin, Miller, Coleman and Oberman. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

6:280, Grading and Promotion
7:305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head injuries

SCOPE

Dr. Zotto stated that there is a lot going on and he has a SCOPE meeting 2/20/2026 at 1:30 pm and he would keep the Board informed on any changes.

FOIA

Date of Request	01/13/2026
Summary of Records Requested	Records that describe purchasing or contracting approval authority within your School District. Specifically, please provide records, policies, schedules, or tables that identify: ● Dollar thresholds requiring approval by school administrators (e.g., principals) ● Dollar thresholds requiring approval by central office staff or department leadership ● Dollar thresholds requiring approval by the superintendent or designee ● Dollar thresholds requiring approval by the board of education
Status of Response	Responsive records sent via email on 01/14/2026

Date of Request	01/15/2026
Summary of Records Requested	• list of your current employees, full names, hire date, phone numbers, e-mail address, and salary
Status of Response	Responsive records sent via email on 01/21/2026

Date of Request	02/05/2026
Summary of Records Requested	"From 2019 thru the present please provide Documentation the District Complied with Illinois law and Performed the Background Checks the District Superintendent is supposed to perform of whomever is designated to perform The Background Checks for Board members Prior to them being Given the Oath Of Office."
Status of Response	There were no responsive records and the district responded as such via email on 02/06/2026

Date of Request	02/06/2026
Summary of Records Requested	"I want the compliance documents that this occurred on each board member not the report Please provide copies of any Legal opinions that you have that support your claim the District is not required to perform the checks. In addition, provide all correspondence with the Illinois State Board of election from January 1, 2019 thru present. Please provide copies of all court rulings you claim support you non compliance claim. I specifically want the proof of compliance for the background checks you are required to perform"

Status of Response	There were no responsive records and the district responded as such via email on 02/10/2026. The district also advised in its response that Section 10-21.9 of the School Code only applies to employees and certain contractors, not Board members.

Date of Request	02/10/2026
Summary of Records Requested	"Please provide documents and procedures how the District verifies and determines its school Board Members are not sex offenders, reside in the District, registered to vote they are a US Citizen and over the age of 18. I specifically want the Documents that the District used to establish that the person who was elected to be a school Board Member Meets the Legal Requirements and what the District used to establish the person who was sworn into Office as a School Board member net the following Legal Requirements. Please Provide Documentation on each of the Following for each School Board Member From January 1, 2010 Thru Present. Background: Must not be a prohibited child sex offender. [1, 2] Residency: Must reside in the district for at least one year. Age and Citizenship: Must be 18+ and a US citizen. Registration: Must be a registered voter. Ineligibility: Convicted felons, child sex offenders, and those holding incompatible offices (such as school trustees or certain state/federal employment) are ineligible"
Status of Response	There were no responsive records and the district responded as such via email on 02/13/2026.

Teachers and Paraprofessional Unions

Julie Stephan stated the Teacher of the Month is Yajaira Camacho Hernandez. She was previously a Building Secretary at Wilson and went back to school to get her teaching degree and is currently a Kindergarten teacher.

No comment from the Paraprofessional Union

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Moved by Member Oberman, seconded by Member Coleman, a Motion to Approve the Preparation and Release of the Transportation Bid. Ayes; Miller, Coleman, Oberman and Franklin. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Discussion for the Good of the School District

The March Board Meeting moved to March 26, 2026 at 6:30 pm from March 19, 2026, due to a scheduling conflict.

The board agreed to change the regular meeting start time from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm for the remainder of the school year (March - June).

Executive Session

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion that the board enter executive session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) & 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(2). Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Entered Executive Session at 6:56 pm

Moved by Member Oberman, carried by Member Miller, a Motion that the Board return to regular business. Ayes; Coleman, Oberman, Franklin and Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Returned to regular business at 8:53 pm

Adjournment

Moved by Member Miller and seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion that the Board Adjourn. Ayes; All. Nays; none. Motion carried, 4-0.

Time: 8:54 pm

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Board President **Board Secretary**