

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 15, 2026

The Board Meeting convened at 6:36 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Tillman, and Mrs. King.

Mrs. Elston arrived at 6:39 pm.

Absent: Mr. Crivens.

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Priscillia Centeno, Dr. Mellodie Brown, Dr. LaTonya Applewhite, Sparkle Tiffith, Tammy Buckley, Ernesta Ransom, Robert Bufford, Janice Opitz, Tia Williams, Christal Washington, DeWayne Anderson, Martiae Jenkins-Alexander, Jason Battle, Marian Dowling, Renee Carter, LaTasha Clark, La Toyla Jones, Daryll Lacey, Karen Slate, Robert Bufford, Nicole Taylor, Jamar Everett, Gerald Scott, Angela Grimes, Secrett Stone, Dr. Cloud, Chief Pointer, Lolitta Crisler-Liggons, Zacarias Castillo, and Felita Crayton.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Cabinet Reports-

Dr. White reported the following:

- Student Enrollment:
 - Elementary Schools: 1,338 students
 - Middle Schools: 701 students
 - Total District Enrollment: 2,039 students
- Fiscal Year 2026 Health Life Safety annual report:
 - During their visit on December 19, ISC4 commended our Buildings and Grounds team for their extraordinary daily efforts and the pride they take in maintaining our school facilities. While there were a few minor findings, most were corrected immediately, and all have since been fully resolved. Congratulations to Mr. Anderson and his team on this outstanding work.
- District-wide attendance initiative:
 - District and building administrators worked diligently over the winter break to develop a comprehensive, actionable plan that includes consistent monitoring, targeted supports, incentive strategies, and accountability measures to drive improvement.
 - This initiative will serve as a focused final push to improve attendance through a district-wide challenge aimed at increasing daily student presence in every building. Our goal is for each school to achieve a minimum of 96% daily attendance by the end of the school year.
 - This effort is especially important because attendance accounts for 5% of our IAR performance score, making it a critical factor in both student success and district accountability. Strong daily attendance directly impacts instructional continuity, academic growth, and overall school performance.

Mr. Tillman devoted a portion of the meeting to recognizing the service and contributions of former members of the Dolton School District 149 Board of Education. He individually honored Ms. Teresa Jemine, Mr. Zacarias Castillo, Ms. Rayya Ghani, Mrs. Bertha Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggins, and Mrs. Darlene Gray-Everett for dedicating countless hours, energy, and leadership to the betterment of the District. The Board expressed its deep gratitude in acknowledging their years of faithful service.

Public Comments –

Mrs. Crayton wished all a Happy New Year.

Committee Reports – None

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to approve authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated January 8, 2026 and January 15, 2026 consisting of 64 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:</p> <table data-bbox="406 420 1218 682"><tr><td>Education Fund</td><td>\$ 601,744.07</td></tr><tr><td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td><td>\$ 129,579.78</td></tr><tr><td>Debt Services</td><td>\$ -</td></tr><tr><td>Transportation Fund</td><td>\$ 417,961.04</td></tr><tr><td>Capital Projects</td><td>\$ 424,026.74</td></tr><tr><td>Tort Liability Fund</td><td>\$ 117,287.56</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><u>\$1,690,599.19</u></td></tr></table> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	Education Fund	\$ 601,744.07	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 129,579.78	Debt Services	\$ -	Transportation Fund	\$ 417,961.04	Capital Projects	\$ 424,026.74	Tort Liability Fund	\$ 117,287.56		<u>\$1,690,599.19</u>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H</p>
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<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. King, to approve consent agenda items G#1-6:</p> <ol data-bbox="178 903 1331 1260" style="list-style-type: none">1. Approval of payroll summaries for December 5, 2025, in the amount of \$1,033,881.902. Approval of payroll summaries December 18, 2025, in the amount of \$1,129,818.043. Approval of the minutes from the special board meeting on December 8, 20254. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting on December 18, 20255. Approval of CTE Short Filmmaking program for semester two with Elévé31, in the amount of \$22,000.006. Approval of CTE Agriculture program for semester two with The Hive, in the amount of \$9,550.007. Approval of CTE Electronic Game Design program for semester two with Nexplore, in the amount of \$29,850.00 <p>8. Personnel Report</p> <p>Resignation:</p> <ol data-bbox="276 1449 1299 1680" style="list-style-type: none">a. Approval of resignation of Karen Lacey, Paraprofessional, at Carol Moseley Braun, effective January 2, 2026b. Approval of resignation CeeJay Johnson, 5th Grade Teacher, at NBLA, effective December 16, 2025c. Approval of resignation of Hannah Copps, Special Education Resource Teacher, at the Middle School, effective January 9, 2026 <p>Rescission of Retirement:</p> <ol data-bbox="276 1785 1234 1848" style="list-style-type: none">d. Acceptance of letter of rescission of retirement letter from Gerald Scott, Assistant Principal at NBLA, rescind from SY 2026-2027 to 2025-2026	<p>AGEND ITEM I1- 8</p>														

<p>e. Acceptance of letter of rescission of retirement letter from Kimberly Woodson, 1st Grade Teacher at Caroline Sibley, rescind from SY 2026-2027 to 2027-2028</p> <p>Retirement:</p> <p>f. Approval of Intent to Retire from Gerald Scott, Assistant Principal at NBLA, effective the end of 2025-2026 school year</p> <p>g. Approval of Intent to Retire from Kimberly Woodson, 1st Grade Teacher, at Caroline Sibley, effective the end of the 2027-2028 school year</p> <p>ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
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Adjourn to Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to adjourn to a Closed session at 7:05 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel of Dolton School District 149, 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) • Student Disciplinary Cases 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9) <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM J1</p>
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Adjourn from Closed Session at 8:19 p.m.

Final Action on Closed Session Items

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to approve student discipline decisions as discussed in closed session.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM K</p>
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Old Business - None

New Business

<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to the first reading of Press Plus 120.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM M1</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to the agreement with BlueStreak for math fluency support in the amount of \$26,804.00 to be paid out of the Title 1 School Improvement Grant.</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM M2</p>

<p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	
<p>MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to amend Agenda Item M3 to \$2,000.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM M3</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to the board to attend the UNCF Scholarship Gala on February 27, 2026, in the amount of \$2,000.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM M3</p>

Adjournment

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to adjourn the board meeting at 8:22 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM L</p>
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Wilbur Tillman, President

Sheryl Tillman, Secretary