BOARD OF EDUCATION PRAIRIE-HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF WORKSESSION MEETING ANNEX BOARD ROOM

3015 WEST 163RD STREET MARKHAM, ILLINOIS

March 03, 2026

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (2:220)**
   Vice President Ms. Sharron Davis called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. Then she and the Girl Scouts / Color guards led the Board and Audience in the pledge of Allegiance.

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

   Also, present were: Interim Superintendent, Dr. Taquia Hylton, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction & Equity, Dr. Jamie Crosen.

3. **Board President Report-** Vice President, Ms. Sharron Davis **-** None

4. **Superintendent Update-** Interim Superintendent Taquia Hylton, provided updates on several district initiatives [2:22]: An iconic film festival was held at Prairie Hills Junior High, celebrating African American history with student performances [2:22] [2:50]The five essential survey response rates were reported: 57% student response, 53% teacher response, and 14% parent response [3:49] [4:08] [4:25] The FEC (Family Engagement Center) will begin classes the week of March 16th [4:41]

5. **Discussion-**

   5.01 Summer Enrichment & Sports Program 2026- Mr. Smith shared information with the Board of Education about the summer enrichment programs for the summer. A proposal was presented for the 2026 summer enrichment and sports program [7:15]. The program would run six weeks from June 15th through July 20th, serving approximately 400 students [7:35] [7:53] [7:57]. The addition of sports programming nearly doubled attendance compared to traditional academic-only programs [7:35].

   5.02 Eight Grade Activities-Dr. Crosen, shared information regarding the 8th grade activities He and The board discussed, particularly concerns about costs for a Six Flags trip due to expensive bus transportation [10:44] [12:51]. Board members expressed interest in fundraising and sponsorship opportunities while considering more affordable alternatives like bowling [11:22] [11:54] [12:23].

5.03 IASB Spring Dinner-

Dr. Hylton shared with the Board of Education the date and time for the IASB Spring dinner which is set to be on March 4, 2026 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm so far there are three Board Members who are saith to be in attendance.

5.04 Rental Agreements- Dr. Hylton shared We have two rental agreements that are up for requests for the district. We have a rental request from the Grand Public Library. They want to sponsor an event at the junior high on, it's called the Cotton Club event. (20:14)All of the information with the rental application is attached in the invoice. They of course will be paying for it. They have highlighted the prices and their needs. We would just need the board to approve or deny the rental request for that. The second rental request is from God's gift. Basketball is an AAU team that is sponsored by one of our dean's assistants, Mr. Nichols. This is a team that he works with. It's a majority of Prairie Hills students, but there are some others. He does have his insurance liability waiver claim available for you. We would just need the board to approve him to be able to use the gym at the junior high for his camp.

5.05 Non-Renewals & RIF's- The following item was discussed in executive session.

5.06 Staff Organization Chart- The following item was discussed in executive session.

5.07 Administrative Stipend- The following item was discussed in executive session.

5.08 New Vendors- The following item was discussed in executive session.

5.09 Personnel Recommendations- The following item was discussed in executive session.

6. Presentation

6.01 Markham Park School Presentation-Markham Park Elementary Principal Ms. Winters presented their school data and initiatives [27:52]:Enrollment of 297 students (pre-K to 5th grade) with demographics of 35% Hispanic and 63% African American [28:13]Current attendance rate of 68.4% [28:28]MAP assessment data showing growth at 49th percentile overall, with achievement at 33rd percentile

6.02 Intergovernmental Agreement ISBE VIT Program- Dr. Crosen discussed the attached Speaker 13 (35:26): the intergovernmental agreement between ISBE. So as you know, we struggle with finding our ELL population. Our ELL population of teachers and ISBE has a program that essentially is at no cost to us. Well, they will actually find us at least two too three ELL teachers that they recruit. They do all the recruiting. The only aspect that is for us a financial aspect is that once they find us to teachers is that we have to commit to paying for seven days in a hotel as they transition from their country to the US. But if you are in this

program, they commit to you roughly about ... They commit you to finding two to three teachers for you in our ELL population, which again, has been a struggle for us.

6.03 District Assessment Data Overview-

Mr. Paul Huffaker presented to the Board of Education the comprehensive assessment data [42:41]: A PowerPoint was shared which acknowledge the performance across the district

Kindergarten and first grade switched from MAP to AIMSweb assessments for more accurate baseline data [42:41] [43:19]

Results showed varying performance across schools, with some buildings showing significant gaps between fall and winter testing [44:52] [45:23] [46:02]

Reading and math growth data was presented by grade level, showing mixed results across grades 2-8 [51:22]

7. Audience Participation-

Personnel Recognition
The meeting concluded with recognition of departing principal Kendell Smith, who shared that he has served 12 years in the district and oversaw over 3,000 student graduations [1:02:52] [1:03:39] [1:04:00].

Support staff union president Cheryl Jones also addressed concerns about potential staff reductions [1:08:32] [1:08:53].

8. Executive Session- Executive Session:

Ms. Juanita Jordan moved, and it was seconded by Ms. Crain to go **into Executive** Session. On roll call voting Aye: Ms. Aubry Crain, Ms. Joyce Ratliff, Ms. Sharron Davis, Ms. Carlene Matthews Ms. Juanita Jordan and Dr. Sylinda Musaindapo, Absent: Ms. Vicki Walker.

Motion Carried 6:26pm

Reconvened no discussion meeting adjourned

Adjournment (2:200) Meeting Adj 7:50pm

Submitted by:

Ms. Sharron Davis, Vice President

Ms. Aubry Crain, Secretary