

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 16, 2026

The Board Meeting convened at 6:38 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, and Mrs. Crayton. Mrs. Elston arrived at 6:40 pm and Mr. Crivens arrived at 7:27 pm

Also in attendance: Dr. Mellodie Brown, Attorney Pricillia Centeno, Janene Preston, Dr. Robert Grossi, Dr. Cloud, Jim Maciejewski, DeWayne Anderson, Dr. La Toyla Jones, Nicole, Taylor, Tamisha Bufford, Ernesta Ransom, Robert Bufford, Sparkle Tiffith, Dr. Martiae Jenkins- Alexander, Jamar Everett, Tia Williams, Renee Carter, Jason Battle, Christal Washington, Tammy Buckley, Tanyelle Hannah, LaTasha Clark, Kimberly Wright, Jacqueline McGee, Danielle Franklin, Kimberly Owens, Karen Slate, Officer White, Officer Pointer, Officer Perez, Camisha Taiwo, Cleo Jones, Willis Harris, Kimberly Eldridge, and Shagmond Lowery.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Cabinet Reports –

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Brown thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity and trust placed in her to serve as Superintendent of Dolton School District 149. She expressed her commitment to leading with integrity, empathy, collaboration, transparency, and a focus on student success.

Dr. Brown shared her enthusiasm for working alongside the Board, administration, staff, families, and community partners to build a culture of excellence, innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement. She emphasized the importance of collective leadership and a shared vision in positioning District 149 as a premier educational institution in South Cook County.

Dr. Brown identified the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategic plan as a significant priority for the District. She stated that the strategic planning process will establish measurable goals, identify District priorities, and develop actionable strategies to guide future decision-making.

Dr. Brown reported that 279 students in grades 1 through 7 were enrolled in the Middle School summer school program and 43 students in Pre-K through kindergarten were enrolled at Diekmann, for a total summer school enrollment of 322 students. She also reported that 40 students in grades 3 through 7 were participating in camp.

Dr. Brown addressed the District's staffing shortages and stated that the administration is working diligently to fill current vacancies. She thanked the team for making staffing a priority.

Dr. Brown also acknowledged the recent flooding that affected the District community. She then yielded the remainder of her report to Jim from JMA to provide an update regarding the flooding, construction progress at Caroline Sibley, and previously discussed roof scans.

JMA Report:

Jim Maciejewski from JMA provided an update on construction at Caroline Sibley, the water intrusion that occurred over the July 4th weekend, and the results of roof scans conducted at District facilities.

Jim reported that Phase I work at Caroline Sibley, which includes classrooms at the east end of the building, is complete. A final inspection is scheduled for early August. Administrative staff have been temporarily relocated to the east end of the building and will remain there until construction is complete. Phase II includes renovations to the first- and second-floor restrooms, gymnasium restrooms, and gymnasium and is expected to be completed in time for the start of the school year. Phase III is expected to be completed by the end of 2026. Current work includes masonry, painting, flooring, doors and frames, fire alarm work, plumbing, and asbestos abatement.

Jim provided an update regarding water intrusion in the lower level of Caroline Sibley following the significant rainfall over the July 4th weekend. Maintenance staff responded quickly, and dehumidifiers were brought in to dry the affected areas. No damage to the newly installed flooring has been observed. JMA is investigating the building's drain tile and pumping systems and the exterior sewer system to ensure they are functioning properly. Sewer lines will also be televised to identify any potential blockages or breaches. Any necessary repairs will be addressed following completion of the investigation.

Jim also reviewed the results of roof scans conducted at Berger-Vandenberg, Caroline Sibley, and Diekman. The scans identified areas of moisture saturation within portions of the roofing systems. Berger-Vandenberg showed minimal saturation, while Caroline Sibley and Diekman showed additional areas requiring attention. JMA recommended repairing the isolated areas of moisture saturation and replacing one section of the roof at Caroline Sibley. The estimated budget for the recommended work is \$135,000.

Jim further recommended developing a phased roof replacement and maintenance plan for District buildings based on the condition and remaining useful life of each roof. He explained that scheduling future roofing projects during off-peak bidding periods may result in more competitive pricing. Subject to District and Board direction, JMA would prepare the recommended repair work for public bidding and return to the Board with a recommendation for consideration.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked Jim to explain what a chiller repair is.

Jim explained that the chiller provides air conditioning for the building by chilling water that circulates through the building to the classroom unit ventilators. He stated that the chiller serving the southernmost classrooms at Berger-Vandenberg has a refrigerant leak and other components that have broken down and are in need of repair. JMA is recommending that the chiller be repaired.

Mr. Tillman asked for clarification regarding the estimated \$135,000 cost and whether it included the identified roof repairs at all three buildings.

Jim confirmed that the \$135,000 estimate includes the recommended repairs to the identified areas at Berger-Vandenberg, Caroline Sibley, and Diekman, but does not include full roof replacement.

My PAL presentation:

Shagmond Lowery, school safety advocate and creator of MyPAL Schools, provided a presentation regarding the MyPAL school safety reporting system. Mr. Lowery discussed the importance of providing students, staff, parents, and community members with a means to report safety concerns, including bullying, cyberbullying, fighting, personal crises, school threats, and other potential safety issues. He demonstrated

the reporting system for the Board and explained how reports can be submitted electronically and received by designated District administrators.

Mr. Lowery also discussed the educational and community engagement components of the program, which include presentations for students, staff, and parents, school safety awareness events, and assistance in identifying potential resources and grants to support school safety initiatives.

Mr. Tillman asked how administrators are notified when a report is submitted through the system.

Mr. Lowery explained that notifications are sent by email to multiple designated administrators rather than a single individual. He stated that the notifications use different visual indicators based on the type of concern reported, allowing administrators to quickly identify the nature and urgency of the report.

Mrs. Crayton asked whether notifications are distributed to multiple individuals within the District.

Mr. Lowery confirmed that multiple administrators receive the notifications to increase the likelihood that a report is promptly seen and addressed. He also explained that students can access the reporting system through any internet-connected device, including District Chromebooks.

Mrs. Crayton asked whether students could use the system to report vaping and other incidents occurring in areas such as bathrooms, entrances, and playgrounds.

Mr. Lowery confirmed that these types of concerns can be reported through the system. He further explained that the personal crisis reporting feature allows students to communicate when they are experiencing concerns at home or need additional support and services.

Mr. Lowery addressed potential misuse of the MyPAL system and explained that repeated false or prank reports can be identified and addressed by administrators. He also discussed the importance of educating students about the difference between "snitching" and reporting legitimate safety concerns.

Mrs. Crayton asked what would be needed from the Board to move forward with the program.

Mr. Lowery explained that the District and Board would determine a date for the program launch and related school safety event. He recommended involving families, community members, and local officials in the launch and stated that he would assist with community outreach and promoting the District's school safety initiative.

Committee Reports – None

Board President Report –

Mr. Tillman reported on a recent news story regarding the retirement package provided to former Superintendent Dr. Maureen White and stated that he wanted to provide additional context regarding information presented in the article. He acknowledged that the District's standardized test scores remain below the state average but emphasized the academic progress made during Dr. White's tenure. Mr. Tillman stated that when Dr. White arrived in District 149, approximately 2% of students were meeting state standards, compared with approximately 24% currently. He credited the improvement to the collective efforts of teachers, administrators, support staff, students, and District leadership.

Mr. Tillman also addressed comparisons made in the article regarding Dr. White's compensation. He stated that District 149 was not among the highest-paying districts referenced and that the District's student academic growth exceeded that of the ten higher-paying districts included in the comparison.

Mr. Tillman recognized Dr. White for continuing to volunteer her time to assist with teacher contract negotiations following her retirement. He reported that Dr. White recently spent approximately eight hours assisting the negotiating team and declined compensation for her participation.

Mr. Tillman stated that the District's focus moving forward is on the future under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Brown. He expressed confidence in Dr. Brown's qualifications and leadership and in the District's continued progress.

Mr. Tillman discussed the District's facilities improvement plan and noted that renovations are nearing completion on the third and final school building included in the plan. He recognized JMA Architects for its work in helping the District create cleaner, safer, and more modern learning environments.

Mr. Tillman discussed the potential partnership with MyPAL Schools and stated that the technology could provide an additional layer of school safety by providing communication and reporting tools for students and parents. He noted its potential use in addressing bullying, personal crises, conflicts, and other emerging safety concerns.

Mr. Tillman recognized Board Member L'Tanya King and stated that her professional experience in information technology will provide an opportunity for leadership in modernizing the District's technology systems, including classroom instruction, administrative operations, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies.

Mr. Tillman emphasized the importance of developing community partnerships and recognized Big Brothers Big Sisters and Sister Strong, noting that Sister Strong recently donated nearly 100 pairs of new shoes to the District. He also announced that the Village of Dolton and the Dolton Park District have expressed interest in entering into intergovernmental agreements with District 149 to expand collaboration and shared resources in support of students, families, and the community.

Mr. Tillman concluded by expressing optimism regarding the future of District 149 and its continued efforts to educate students, support families, strengthen the community, and create opportunities for student success.

Mrs. DeVasher-Williams raised a question regarding ongoing negotiations and Dr. White's continued involvement in the negotiation process.

Mr. Tillman stated that the matter would be discussed in closed session.

Public Comments –

Mr. Cleo Jones, President of the Dolton Park District Board of Commissioners and an Illinois Association of Park Districts Trustee, addressed the Board regarding the proposed intergovernmental agreement between the Dolton Park District and School District 149.

Mr. Jones expressed appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate with the District and stated that the Park District intends to make its resources and facilities available to support District 149 students and families. He discussed improvements taking place throughout the Park District, including new playgrounds, fitness and walking areas, improvements to Blackstone Park, and continued development of the Cal-Sag Trail. He

stated that the Park District looks forward to working collaboratively with District 149 to provide additional resources and opportunities for students and the broader community.

Mr. Jones also introduced Commissioner Willis Harris and spoke about his own longstanding involvement coaching youth in the community. He emphasized the importance of the District and community organizations working together to support students and strengthen the community.

Mr. Tillman clarified that the proposed intergovernmental agreement had not yet been approved by the Board and would be considered later on the agenda.

Dr. Nakita Cloud addressed the Board on behalf of Dolton Mayor Jason House. She welcomed Dr. Brown and conveyed the village's interest in partnering with District 149. Dr. Cloud stated that the Village looks forward to the proposed intergovernmental agreement and to opportunities for continued collaboration between the village and the District.

Mrs. Crayton addressed the Board regarding the Fathers in the Park program, which she stated began through CHARTERS (Children Have a Right to Educational Remedies) in 2009 and has held its Fathers in the Park celebration for the past 12 years.

Mrs. Crayton presented Mr. Tillman with the CHARTERS Youth Commission's 2026 Distinguished Fathers of the Community award in recognition of his dedication and impact on the lives of others.

Mr. Tillman thanked Mrs. Crayton for the recognition.

Mr. Crivens addressed the Board regarding his earlier request to attend the meeting remotely via video conference. He stated that he had sent a text requesting remote participation because he was delayed in traffic while returning from work. Mr. Crivens stated that, pursuant to Board policy and procedure, his request should have been presented to the Board for consideration and a vote while a quorum was physically present. He expressed concern that his request had not been brought before the Board and stated that all Board members should be treated equally, fairly, and respectfully.

Mr. Tillman responded that he had not initially seen Mr. Crivens' text message and later became aware of the request through Vice President DeVasher-Williams. He stated that efforts were made to establish a Zoom connection for Mr. Crivens; however, a presentation was in progress, and the Zoom connection could not be established until the presentation concluded.

Mr. Crivens responded that he believed he should have received a text or other communication advising him of the situation and reiterated his expectation that the same courtesy and respect be extended to all Board members.

Mr. Tillman reiterated that efforts were being made to accommodate the request but could not be completed before the presentation concluded.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked whether the District had received any FOIA requests.

Dr. Brown stated that she would check to determine whether any requests had been received.

Agenda Items

Mrs. DeVasher-Williams asked why expenditures in the Transportation Fund had increased.

Dr. Brown explained that the increase was attributable to charter transportation for field trips and a District-wide transition event for fifth-grade students entering the middle school.

Mrs. DeVasher-Williams also noted that there were no Tort Liability Fund expenditures reported.

In response to further discussion, it was confirmed that no Tort Liability Fund expenses were identified for the reporting period.

Additional clarification was provided that a portion of the Transportation Fund expenditures was related to special education transportation costs, which have increased across many school districts. Despite the increased transportation costs, the District remained under budget for transportation.

MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to approve authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated June 23, 2026, June 25, 2026, and July 16, 2026, chargeable to the following accounts: <table><tr><td>Education Fund</td><td>\$1,366,466.37</td></tr><tr><td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td><td>\$ 204,350.10</td></tr><tr><td>Debt Services</td><td>\$ 7,406.50</td></tr><tr><td>Capital Projects</td><td>\$ 443,767.32</td></tr><tr><td>Transportation Fund</td><td><u>\$1,112,706.08</u></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>\$3,313,314.14</td></tr></table> ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	Education Fund	\$1,366,466.37	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 204,350.10	Debt Services	\$ 7,406.50	Capital Projects	\$ 443,767.32	Transportation Fund	<u>\$1,112,706.08</u>		\$3,313,314.14	AGENDA ITEM H
Education Fund	\$1,366,466.37												
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	\$3,313,314.14												

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams removed items #I1, 3, 10-13, 17 & 21d from the consent agenda.

Mr. Crivens removed items I19 & 20 from the consent agenda.

MOTION by Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, seconded by Mrs. King, to approve consent agenda items I2, 4-9, 14-16, 18, 21a-c & e-o: 2. Approval of payroll summaries for June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$5,157.45 4. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting held June 18, 2026 5. Approval of IEP tool through Goalbook Toolkit, in the amount of \$7,875.00 6. Approval of MTSS subscription through Embrace, in the amount of \$3,276.00 7. Approval of subscription for SuperEval for SY 26/27, in the amount of \$2,613.00 8. Approval of Future Scheduling Training through Skyward, in the amount of \$4,550.00 9. Approval of SY 26/27 student assessments through NWEA, in the amount of \$34,450.00 14. Approval of Vocabulary Workshop for SY 26/27 through Sadlier in the amount of \$14,479.52 15. Approval of Grammar for Writing for SY 26/27 through Sadlier, in the amount of \$13,743.79 16. Approval of Middle School Science curriculum through Savvas, in the amount of \$46,025.58	AGEND ITEM I2, 4-9, 14- 16, 18, 21a-c & e- o
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18. Approval of the purchase of 12 chromebook carts for Caroline Sibley and STEM, through Palisade Technology, in the amount of \$22,560.00 6. Personal Report Resignation: - Approval of resignation of Joy Holverson, P.E. Teacher at STEM, effective June 26, 2026 - Approval of resignation of Delsia Aranda, Teacher at Carol Moseley Braun, effective July 31, 2026 - Approval of resignation of Helena Kuffour, GEC SPED Teacher, at Carol Moseley Braun, effective June 30, 2026 Employment: - Approval of employment of Shayna Coles, Director of Human Resources, at District Office, effective date TBD - Approval of employment of Toscnellis Slatton, Paraprofessional, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment of Marissa Spight, SPED Case Manager, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment of Lauren Anderson, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher, at SOFA, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment of Jacob Karp, ESL Teacher, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment of Joann Rhodes, Truancy Officer, at TBD, effective date TBD - Approval of employment of Samiyah Webb, Paraprofessional, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment Ekundayo Onwuachi, Culture Climate Coach, at Berger-Vandenberg, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment Thomas Wright, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher, at STEM, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment Rachel Bennett, 1st Grade Teacher, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 - Approval of employment of Khamisha Pointer, Culture & Climate Coach, at TBD, effective date August 10, 2026 ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	
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Adjourn to Closed Session

MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to adjourn to a closed session at 7:48 p.m. - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel of Dolton School District 149, 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) - Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for	AGENDA ITEM J
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the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	
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Adjourn from Closed Session at 8:40 p.m.

Final Action on Closed Session Items - None

Consent Agenda Items

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to approve payroll summaries for June 18, 2026, in the amount of \$2,439,202.88. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I1
MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crayton, to approve payroll summaries for July 2, 2026, in the amount of \$298,339.90. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Tillman, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I3

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked what grade levels were included in the i-Ready Curriculum.

Dr. Brown stated that the program is for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to approve the i-Ready Math curriculum, ELA & Math i-Ready assessments, Teacher Toolkit, and My Path for SY 26/27 through Curriculum Associates, in the amount \$268,543.67. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I10
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Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked which programs had been selected for summer enrichment.

Dr. Brown stated that the summer enrichment offerings include Nexlore, which provides the STEM program; The Hive, which provides the agriculture program; and Eleve 31, a filmmaking program.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked which specific programs Nexlore would provide.

Dr. Brown stated that Nexlore would provide coding, robotics, and drones.

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to approve the 2026 Summer Enrichment Program through Nexlore, in the amount of \$34,619.60. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I11
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Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked whether this was the first time filmmaking had been offered in the District.

Dr. Brown stated that it was not and explained that filmmaking and agriculture had previously been part of the District's CTE programming.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams asked whether an individual would be coming into the District to provide the filmmaking program.

Dr. Brown confirmed that an individual would provide the program.

MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Elston, to approve 2026 Summer Enrichment Program through Eleve31, in the amount of \$7,333.20. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I12
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Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that she was aware The Hive had provided services in the District the previous year; however, she expressed concern that she was unable to locate information online for The Hive Supply Company. She noted that the company information she was able to locate appeared to have a different email address and was related to beekeeping. Mrs. DeVasher-Williams asked whether the company had been verified as a legitimate business and whether other school districts could be identified as having utilized its services.

Mr. Tillman asked whether the company was currently performing work for the District.

Dr. Brown confirmed that the company has worked with the District for the past several years providing the CTE agriculture program and is responsible for the garden located behind the middle school.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams reiterated that she was unable to identify a website associated with the company.

Dr. Brown noted that the provider had previously made a presentation involving middle school students.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams again noted that the website being referenced appeared to be related to beekeeping.

Mr. Tillman reiterated that the company was currently providing the contracted services to the District and asked whether any additional verification was necessary beyond confirmation that the company was performing the work.

Dr. Brown stated that the matter could move forward and that she would follow up regarding the company's website information.

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. King, to approve the 2026 Summer Enrichment Program through The Hive, in the amount of \$7,800.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, and Mr. Tillman. Nay: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I13
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Mrs. De Vasher-Williams raised concerns regarding discrepancies in the vendor information provided. She stated that she located information for Palisades Technology Solutions, but could not verify a company under the name Palisade Technology. She noted differences between the documents provided, including the company name, logo, contact information, address information, and a misspelling in the address.

Dr. Brown noted that the documents contained the same address and appeared to have been prepared by different individuals.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams noted that one document appeared to be a quote and the other an invoice, which could account for some differences, but reiterated her concern regarding the differences in the company name, logo, and address information.

Dr. Brown stated that it was the same company and noted that the purchase involved two different types of Chromebook carts.

Mr. Tillman reminded Board members that, when possible, questions regarding agenda materials should be submitted prior to the meeting so information can be researched in advance.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams stated that her questions were being asked for the record.

Mr. Crivens asked whether the District had previously purchased Chromebook carts from Palisade and, if not, how the company became aware of the opportunity to submit a bid.

Dr. Brown stated that she would check the District's previous purchasing information.

Mr. Crivens expressed concern regarding the procurement process and stated that he wanted clarification regarding how the vendor learned of the opportunity and whether the purchase had been properly bid.

Dr. Brown clarified that the proposed purchase was for Chromebook carts rather than Chromebooks. She further explained that new carts were necessary because the District's current carts do not properly accommodate and charge the newer Chromebooks.

Mrs. Tillman noted that vendors frequently contact the District regarding upcoming bids, RFQs, and purchasing opportunities.

Mr. Crivens stated that the procurement process should be documented and that the District should ensure it receives the lowest responsible bid.

Mr. Tillman again discussed the benefit of submitting questions in advance when possible.

Mr. Crivens stated that Board members are permitted to ask questions during an open meeting and expressed the importance of having questions and concerns addressed publicly and reflected in the record.

Mr. Tillman clarified that he was not suggesting that Board members could not ask questions publicly, but encouraged advance questions when appropriate to help facilitate the meeting.

Mrs. De Vasher-Williams questioned whether the Board could vote on the purchase, given that the amount exceeded \$35,000 and the Board had not received information regarding the bidding process.

Mr. Tillman noted that certain specialized services or purchases may be treated differently but indicated that additional clarification was needed.

Mr. Crivens recommended that the item be tabled due to the unresolved concerns.

Item I17 was tabled until the next Board meeting pending further review and clarification.

Mr. Crivens asked whether the District had previously purchased furniture from KI.

Dr. Brown confirmed that the District had previously used KI for furniture purchases.

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to approve the purchase of furniture for Dickman, through KI, in the amount of \$38,909.54. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I19
MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. King, to approve the purchase of furniture for Caroline Sibley, through KI, in the amount of \$177,737.35. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I20
MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mr. Tillman, to approve the employment of Marilyn Barnes, Director of District Services, at District Office, effective date TBD ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crayton, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, and Mrs. De Vasher-Williams. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM I21D

Old Business - None

New Business

MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crayton, to approve quote from QMI for chiller repairs at Berger-Vandenberg, in the amount of \$27,894.43. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M1
MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. Tillman, to approve monthly agreement with Illuminate in the amount of \$10,000.00 per month. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M2

Mrs. DeVasher-Williams asked for an explanation of the role of the Thornton Township Trustees of Schools.

Dr. Robert Grossi explained that the Trustees of Schools serve as the custodian of funds for approximately 11 to 12 area school districts and provide consolidated financial services. State, federal, and local revenues are processed through the Trustees' office, which reconciles bank statements, posts revenues to District financial statements, and assists with payroll, accounts payable, and the processing of checks.

Dr. Grossi further explained that the Trustees' office is bonded and is led by Treasurer Dr. Nicole Terrell Smith with a supporting staff. He stated that a change in state law approximately two years ago altered the composition of the Board of Trustees from three elected trustees to representation from each participating school district.

Mrs. Crayton noted that Mr. Williams had previously served as an elected trustee.

Mr. Tillman added that the District had previously selected Ms. Janice Opitz to serve on the Board.

MOTION by Mrs. Crayton, seconded by Mrs. King, to approve appointment of Dr. Mellodie Brown as the Dolton School District 149 representative to serve on the Thornton Township Trustee of Schools Board . ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M3
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Mrs. DeVasher-Williams questioned the \$50,000 cost for executive coaching and mentoring services, noting that ISBE provides mentoring services at no cost. She asked why the District would pay for these services when a mentor could be provided through ISBE.

Attorney Centeno explained that executive coaching and mentoring services were included as a provision in Dr. Brown's employment contract, which allows her to select a mentor of her choice, subject to Board approval. The proposed provider represents Dr. Brown's selection pursuant to that contractual provision.

MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crayton, to approve Executive Coaching and Mentoring Services for SY 26/27 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, and Mr. Tillman. Nay: Mrs. De Vasher-Williams. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M4
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Mr. Crivens asked for clarification regarding the services provided by MyPAL Schools.

Dr. Brown explained that MyPAL is a school safety reporting system that allows students to report concerns such as bullying, firearms, vaping, and other safety issues. She stated that reports are transmitted to designated administrators so that concerns can be addressed. Dr. Brown further explained that reports can be submitted by scanning a QR code and completing the reporting form.

Mr. Crivens asked how MyPAL Schools came to the District's attention.

Dr. Brown stated that District representatives met the company at a conference and that a representative subsequently followed up with her regarding the program. It was also noted that a number of South Suburban school districts are beginning to utilize the program.

Mr. Crivens expressed support for providing students with a means to communicate safety concerns before an incident occurs. He emphasized the importance of maintaining the anonymity of individuals submitting reports in order to protect those who use the system.

MOTION by Mrs. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Crayton, to approve agreement for a safety alert system with The Smart Guys, for August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027, in the amount \$12,300.00. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Crayton, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. King, Mrs. Elston, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M5
MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. Crayton, to approve intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Dolton. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Elston, Mrs. Crayton, Mr. Crivens, Mrs. King, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M6
MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mr. Tillman, to approve intergovernmental agreement with the Dolton Park District. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Elston, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. De Vasher-Williams, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. King, Mr. Crivens, and Mrs. Crayton. MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM M7

Mr. Crivens requested that the stipend for coaching services provided for the summer basketball camp be placed on a future agenda under Old Business. He stated that the Board had previously been polled regarding the matter, but that the action needed to be formally ratified by the Board before payment could be made.

Dr. Brown thanked Mr. Crivens for bringing the matter to the Board's attention.

Adjournment

MOTION by Mrs. Elston, seconded by Mrs. King, to adjourn the board meeting at 9:14 p.m. ROLL CALL TO VOTE: Aye: ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED	AGENDA ITEM O
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Wilbur Tillman, President

Sheryl Tillman, Secretary