

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 25, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Members Present: Peter DeRousse, Jennifer Fortier, Jackie Lichter, Adriana Sebek, Jay Lurquin, Julie Misner and Brian Nichols.

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Dr. Enderle, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Loftin, Dr. Spreitzer and Mr. Cassidy

Also Present: Community members, parents and staff

Open Session The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by the President and upon the roll call, Brian Nichols, the President and the following members were physically present: Peter DeRousse, Jennifer Fortier, Jackie Lichter, Adriana Sebek, Jay Lurquin, Julie Misner and Brian Nichols.

Admin Present: Dr. Enderle, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Loftin, Dr. Spreitzer and Mr. Cassidy.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mr. Nichols read the Mission Statement.

Public Comment President Nichols stated that citizen comments were allowed to address the Board. Public comment would be limited to 30 minutes with each person being limited to five minutes.

- No one came forward at this time

President's Report

President Nichols deferred his report.

Superintendent's Report

- A. Superintendent Enderle's report included:
- Dr. Enderle reviewed the FOIA's submitted for this month.
 - The Board Listening Tour will begin this week. The purpose of the listening tour is to allow staff to provide input and feedback for goal setting and the strategic plan.
 - Summer School registration continues to be underway. At this point there are approximately 330 students registered for the Summer Launch program. The district anticipates approximately 100 students to participate in the ESY and EL classes.
 - The district has been approved for funding from the Preschool for All grant as well as the Early Childhood Construction Grant for the Gaddis Preschool plan. The district is looking to have 10 classrooms with sinks and storage space; parent usage space;

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indoor gym; outdoor areas; and an updated drop-off/pick up road to the south of the building.

- The district has been approved for the Elevating Educators Bilingual Grant. This grant provides a pipeline for bilingual and ESL endorsements. This will offer \$8,000 in tuition reimbursement opportunities and may assist in teacher recruitment.
 - On April 18th, administration met with the city of Hometown regarding some possible partnering opportunities. The development of two pickleball courts behind Hometown School was discussed along with a potential community garden, foldable bollards and school safety.
 - The D123 Education Foundation will be hosting the Taco & Trivia Night on May 5th. At this point there are approximately 25 volunteers and 30 tables along with many prizes and donations. The Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for June 15 at Odyssey Golf Course.
- B. Business Office – Mike Loftin
C. Curriculum & Family Engagement – Kathy Gavin
D. Learning, Communication and Technology – Joe Macchia
E. Literacy and Intervention – Katy Spreitzer
F. Student Services – Sheleah Blissett
G. Operations – Leo Cassidy

Canvass of Election Results April 4, 2023

President Nichols reviewed the election results from the April 4, 2023 election. Jennifer Fortier received 24.56% of the votes; Adriana Sebek received 17.93% of the votes; and Ed Smykowski received 18.72% of the votes.

Mr. Nichols thanked Julie Misner for her many years of dedication and service to D123. Mrs. Nichols congratulated Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Sebek and Mr. Smykowski and she welcomed Mr. Smykowski to the Board. She thanked the Board, staff and administration.

Action Item I:

It was moved by Mrs. Misner, seconded by Mr. Lurquin, to approve the canvass and to declare the results of the School Board election held on April 4, 2023. Voting aye: Mrs. Misner, Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. DeRousse and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BOARD REORGANIZATION PROCESS

- The newly elected Board members stated the Oath of Office.
- Jay Lurquin was appointed the President Pro Tempore.
- Mr. Nichols was nominated for the position of President of the Board of Education by Mrs. Fortier. As no other members were nominated, Mr. Nichols was declared President of the Board of Education for the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123.
- Mr. Lurquin was nominated for the position of Vice President of the Board of Education by Mrs. Lichter. As no other members were

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nominated, Mr. Lurquin was declared the Vice President of the Board of Education for the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123.

- Mrs. Fortier was nominated for the position of Secretary of the Board of Education by Mr. Lurquin. As no other members were nominated, Mrs. Fortier was declared the Secretary of the Board of Education for the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123.
- Mr. Nichols was appointed to the position of representative to the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB). Mr. Nichols was recorded and declared appointed representative to the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Governing Board for the period of May 2023 to April 2024.
- Mrs. Fortier was appointed to the position of representative to the South Cooperative Organization for Public Education (SCOPE). Mrs. Fortier was recorded and declared the appointed representative to the South Cook Organization for Public Education (SCOPE) for the period May 2023 to April 2024.
- Mrs. Sebek was appointed to the position of representative to the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 Educational Foundation. Mrs. Sebek was recorded and declared appointed representative to the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 Educational Foundation for the period May 2023 to April 2024.
- As all Board members assigned a school to participate as liaison, Ed Smykowski confirmed that he will be Board Liaison to Covington School.

At 6:46 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mrs. Sebek, to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing: the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9); Security procedures, school building safety and security and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).

Closed session discussions were completed at 7:45 p.m. and it was unanimously agreed to return to open session.

Resume to Open Session: It was moved by Mr. DeRousse, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to resume open session. Voting aye: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None.

Discussion I: Board and Committee of the Whole Meeting Dates from May, 2023 to April, 2024.
The Board reviewed the dates scheduled for the Board and COTW meetings. With few exceptions, COTW meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month and Business meetings are scheduled for the last Monday of the month.

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- Action III: It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mrs. Sebek, to approve the regular Board and Committee of the Whole meeting dates from May 2023 to April 2024. Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None.
- Discussion II: Time frame for Regular Monthly Meetings of the Board of Education.
- Action IV: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Lichter, to approve the time frame for regular monthly meetings of the Board of Education to begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m., or earlier. Closed sessions will be conducted between 5:45 and 7:00 p.m. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Fortier and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None.
- Discussion III: Legal Counsel of Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123. The district has had a long-standing relationship with both the law firms of Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle & Izzo, LLC and Engler Callaway Baasten & Sraga, LLC. It was confirmed that these law firms are not on retainer but are usually contacted first as needed. The district is able to use the services of another firm if wanted/needed.
- Action V: It was moved by Mrs. Lichter, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to approve the law firms of Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle & Izzo, LLC and Engler Callaway Baasten & Sraga, LLC, as Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 legal counsel. Voting aye: Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. DeRousse, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mr. DeRousse, to approve/adopt the Consent Agenda that included the following items:

MINUTES

Minutes of March 20, 2023.

Closed Minutes of March 20, 2023.

Minutes of April 11, 2023

Destruction of the following closed session audio recordings, as per P.A. 93-523: March 2, 2021 and March 15, 2021.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bill List Report

April 24, 2023

\$2,968,731.39 Education Fund Payroll, March 24th, Apr 7th, Apr 21st
\$ 279,121.38 Teacher Pension Fund Bills, Mar 24th, Apr 7th, Apr 21st
\$ 512,151.33 Education Fund Bills
\$3,760,004.10 Total Education Fund Expenditures
\$ 167,707.05 Operations & Maintenance Fund Payroll, Mar 24th,
Apr 7th, Apr 21st
\$ 452,260.13 Operations & Maintenance Fund Bills
\$ 619,967.18 Total Operations & Maintenance Fund Expenditures

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\$ 702.36 Transportation Fund Payroll, Mar 24th, Apr 7th,
Apr 21st
\$ 268,159.38 Transportation Fund Bills
\$ **268,861.75 Transportation Fund**
\$ 140,784.18 FICA / Medicare & IMRF Fund Bills, Mar 24th, Apr 7th,
Apr 21st
\$ Construction Fund
\$ 2,000.00 Debt Services
\$ 90.00 Tort & Judgement Fund
\$ Municipal Retirement Fund
\$4,791,707.21 TOTAL ALL EXPENDITURES

Summary of and Board Approved Payables by Fund

ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Imprest Fund-Category Summary Report
Fund Balances
Revenue Recap Summary
Expense Recap Summary
FY23 Budget Forecast

PERSONNEL

Resignations

Tsegaye Keszczewski	Teacher	OLHMS
Shannon Merrion	Teacher	Hometown
Tara Tamborski	Social Worker	Hannum

Retirement Requests

Kathleen O'Dwyer	Counselor	OLHMS
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Support Staff Recommendations

Christian Barrera	EL Teacher Aide	Hannum
Cassandra Schwoebel	Instructional Aide	Hometown

Additional Work Request 1

Additional Work Request 2

2023-2024 Non-CBA Salaries

2023-2024 Administrative Contracts

Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols.
Nay: None. Abstain: Mr. Smykowski. The motion passed.

Discussion IV: The Resolution for Dismissal of Educational Support Personnel 2023-001 from Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123, Cook County.

Action VII: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier to remove Action Item VI, the resolution for dismissal of educational support personnel 2023-001 from Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123, Cook County, from the agenda. Voting Aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Discussion V: FY2022 Fiscal Year Audit Report [3D]

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Dr. Loftin presented the FY2022 Fiscal Year Audit. This is a very late presentation and typically takes place in late Fall or Winter. The delay was due to staffing issues as well as an FMLA taken by the lead auditor. The AFR Compliance report will be sent to the Illinois School Board to show compliance. Not much has changed since the tentative audit report presented in February and the audit is a clean audit. D123 is at the highest level of financial recognition and has met the criteria for the Certificate of Excellence.

The audit begins in the summer where auditors will be onsite for two weeks. Auditors review personnel records, financials, treasurer records and financial policies to ensure compliance. Financial records are checked for irregularities. The minor finding on the single audit is that D123 was 11 days late in submitting the audit to the clearing house. This was due to the audit not being completed by the deadline.

It was confirmed that budgets and audits are available on the website. It was also confirmed that financial recognitions are posted on the website as well as on social media.

Action VIII: It was moved by Mr. DeRousse, seconded by Mrs. Sebek, to approve the FY2022 Fiscal Year Audit Report. Voting aye: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Discussion VI: Arbor Food Service Renewal 23-24 [3D]
D123 is currently in year four of a five year process. Next year, the district will need to go out to bid for food service. Arbor is requesting an increase of 8.3% over last year due to an increase in all raw costs. We follow paid equity guidelines for student lunches so the price burden is not too much on district families. To follow those guidelines, the increase can be 10 cents or more. We have more flexibility on the increase in a la carte items. The district has a good relationship with Arbor and has used Arbor since 2005. Prior to 2005, there was no hot lunch service.

It was confirmed that prior to going out to bid, the district will send out a survey of the food service program to district families and students.

Action IX: It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mrs. Lichter, to approve The Arbor Food Service renewal as presented. Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. DeRousse, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Discussion VII: FY23 First Student One-Year Transportation Renewal [3D]
Dr. Loftin stated that unlike food service, school districts are able to have an unlimited number of extensions after bid with transportation. The last time D123 went out to bid for transportation was 2013. We have a positive relationship with First Student and administration is hesitant to go out to bid unless we know for sure there will be other companies bidding as well. It is very risky to go to bid at this time because the district could get bids that are much higher than the current renewal.

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This year, due to a driver shortage, First Student looked at all D123 routes and consolidated/reworked bus routes. The district went from 22 routes to 16. While there were some complaints initially, by October things settled down and bussing has been running well. The consolidation/reworking of routes also saved the district approximately \$75,000-\$100,000 in transportation costs.

First Student is requesting a 10% increase. Administration is recommending the Board approve the renewal as presented.

Action X: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier to approve the First Student One-Year Transportation renewal as presented. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. DeRousse, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Lichter and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Discussion VIII: FY23 Richlee One-Year Transportation Renewal [3D]
Dr. Loftin presented the Richlee one-year transportation renewal. Richlee is asking for a 10% increase. D123 has used Richlee since leaving partnership with AERO. Richlee had trouble pairing routes with other districts as AERO did not want D123 pairing with any district participating in AERO. AERO has new administration and they appear to be more willing to pair routes in order to consolidate and cut costs.

Dr. Loftin expressed that he would be interested in getting an outside analysis for potential route consolidations. He also would be interested in possibly going to bid for Special Education transportation in the future.

Richlee has done a good job and there have been very few complaints. Administration recommends the Board approve the one-year transportation renewal.

Action XI: It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mrs. Lichter, to approve the FY23 Richlee One-Year Transportation renewal as presented. Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Discussion IX: Capital Projects Funding
Dr. Enderle stated that this is the first time since the OLHMS building was built that the district has had so many large capital projects planned. Dr. Loftin reviewed the funding for the projects. 83% of the proposed capital projects are grant funded. The estimated cost for the Covington/Hannum generators is \$140,400 with \$50,000 coming from the state maintenance grant and the balance being paid from the Operations & Maintenance Fund. The estimated cost for the OLHMS Signage/Tree Nursery/Outdoor Classroom was \$565,800 but has decreased due to changes in the plans. This will be paid from the Construction Fund. The estimated cost for the Hometown School Gym/Stage Ceiling renovation is \$168,500 and will be paid from the Construction Fund. The estimated cost of the LED Light Conversion at Hannum, Covington and Sward is \$50,500 with \$31,360 coming from the Comed Energy Incentive Grant and the balance paid from the Operations & Maintenance fund. The estimated

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cost of the Hannum/Covington Media Center renovations is \$1,275,000 and will be paid using Federal Stimulus ESSER/ARP grant. The estimated cost of the Sward/Kolmar Media Center renovations is \$1,000,000 with at least \$500,000 coming from the Federal Stimulus ESSER/ARP grant and the balance paid with the Construction Fund. The Gaddis Preschool Renovation is estimated to cost \$4,700,000 and will be paid for with the preschool grants.

Discussion X:

Capital Projects Update

Mr. Cassidy reviewed the bid process for the upcoming capital projects. If approved, the bid openings for the generators, OLHMS Landscaping project and Hometown gym/stage ceiling project will take place on May 16 and the review will be reported to the Board by May 17. It was noted that the Board is being asked to approve going out to bid. At the May meeting, the Board will be informed of the bid recommendations and will vote at that time if the project(s) should continue.

The Board reviewed the potential plans for the OLHMS landscaping project and the changes that have been made since previous reports. The benches for the outdoor classroom would be steel with a plastic coating. The benches will be on cement pads. There will also be a cement patch added in front of the sign. It was noted that the landscaping will be done in two phases and is listed as an alternate bid instead of two separate bids. Two separate bids could result in two separate landscaping companies on site at the same time. Also, by having an alternate bid, the Board will have the opportunity to delay phase II for a later time.

Mr. Cassidy discussed the paint issues at Hometown. It was determined that the paint chips are not due to any issues with the roof. It was also determined that condensation is not the issue. After discussing whether the area needs to be repainted at all, it was clarified that the paint chips will be sandblasted off but would not be able to remove all paint. It was therefore determined the best plan would be to sandblast and repaint. If approved, the project would not start until after summer school and there would be a three-week window to complete. Date specifications will be part of the bid process.

Action XII:

It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mr. DeRousse, to approve going to bid for the generator project. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Lichter and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Action XIII:

It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to approve going to bid for the OLHMS Landscaping project. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Lichter and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Action XIV:

It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mrs. Lichter, to approve going to bid for the Hometown School gymnasium/stage ceiling paint renovation. Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs.

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Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. The motion passed.

Discussion XI: First Reading of Select School Board Policies: 2:110; 4:60; 5:30; 5:90; 5:125; 5:150; 5:260; 6:135; 6:230; 8:20; 3:40-E.
Dr. Enderle reviewed the recommended policy updates. The majority of the updates are related to trailer legislation tied to Faith's Law. The updates would ensure the district is updating policies/procedures ensuring the district is conducting employment history reviews. Administration is working on implementing the practices to ensure compliance by July 1st.

Discussion XII: First Reading of Select School Board Policies for Review and Monitoring: 4:40; 5:285; 6:210; 8:70
Dr. Enderle stated that these are policies which have not been updated in the last five years. Administratively, there are no issues with these policies.

Future Meeting Previews Business Meeting – May 22, 2023 @ OLHMS

- Ed Foundation Annual Golf Outing
- Serious Safety Hazards in Effect
- Title I District Plan
- Upcoming Year Disciplinary Handbook
- Disposition of District Property

*These items are not to be intended as all inclusive

Board Comments:

There were no comments at this time.

Adjourned – 9:49 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on May 22, 2023 at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.



Secretary



President