

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING, JULY 26, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 6:04 p.m. on Monday, July 26, 2021 at the Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Dr. Enderle

Also Present: Community and district residents

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.

Mary Kelly Smith, district parent, addressed the Board regarding her concerns with children wearing masks.

Allison Murphy, district parent, addressed the Board regarding her opposition to mandatory masking.

Scot Jones, district parent, addressed the Board asking for the freedom to choose. He also questioned why the district has not yet released their plan for the upcoming school year yet.

Cathy O'Shea, community resident, addressed the Board requesting that critical race theory be removed from the curriculum. She also discussed her concerns with the possibility of inappropriate material being taught in the school district. Lastly, she agreed that masks should be optional.

Laura Forberg, addressed the Board regarding her opposition to critical race theory.

Allison Murphy, district parent, requested to use up the last of her five minutes time to address the Board regarding her opposition to critical race theory in the schools.

A community resident addressed the Board stating that the state is bullying the children through the School Board and noted that the School Board should take a stand.

Kristin Jones, district parent, addressed the Board stating that the district needs to release its plan for the school year now. She also stated that she is opposed to Covid-19 testing in the schools.

Dr. Enderle clarified that the results of the districtwide survey will be released at the next Lunchtime Live. It was also stated that the plan for the upcoming school year is expected to be released by the

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end of the week.

It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mr. DeRousse to adjourn to closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); 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); the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).

The Board returned to open session at 10:37 p.m.

Board Comments:

Adjourned – 10:38 p.m.

The next special meeting of the Board of Education will be held on August 4, 2021 at the Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois.

Secretary

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Sam [Signature]
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President

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Brian Nichols
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