

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 20, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2021 as a virtual meeting at www.D123.org.

Members Present: Peter DeRousse, Adriana Sebek, Jay Lurquin, Julie Misner and Brian Nichols. Jackie Lichter arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Members Absent: Jennifer Fortier

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

Also Present: Community members, parents and staff

It was moved by Mr. DeRousse seconded by Mr. Lurquin, 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); the purchase or lease of a property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5); Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

Closed session discussions were completed at 7:09 p.m. and it was unanimously agreed to return to open session.

Open Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by the President and upon the roll call, Brian Nichols, the President and the following members were present virtually: Jackie Lichter, Peter DeRousse, Adriana Sebek, Jay Lurquin, Julie Misner and Brian Nichols.

President Nichols reported that the meeting was made into a virtual meeting in order to ensure there was a quorum due to outside issues with various Board members.

Admin Present: Dr. Enderle, Dr. Loftin, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Macchia, Mrs. Riha, Dr. Spreitzer Mrs. Goetz 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.

- Kristin Burke, district parent, addressed the Board regarding

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cameras at Hometown School, the removal of seclusion rooms throughout the district and making the district mask-optional.

President's Report

President Nichols expressed his gratitude to the staff for their resilience so far this year. He also thanked the district families for their resilience and fortitude this year. He wished everyone a safe and healthy Winter Break.

Superintendent's Report

- A. Superintendent Enderle's report included
- Dr. Enderle thanked the staff, district families and students for their patience and adaptability this year.
 - There were no FOIA's this month.
 - Dr. Enderle gave an update on Covid-19 status throughout the district. There is an uptick in cases and quarantines. Approximately 2% of the students and 2.7% of staff have reported testing positive. 10 student sections have been quarantined. Attendance rates have dropped approximately 2.6% since November. Approximately 7.4% of students have reported being fully vaccinated.
 - Mrs. Cynthia Riha, Director of Student Services, will be retiring at the end of this school year. The district is looking to hire a new director and posted the position on November 19th. Candidates are presently being screened and the goal is to bring a candidate before the Board in March.
 - The district is moving forward with the Educational Equity Initiative. The next steps are to develop an educational equity purpose statement; better understand the needs of district families through focus groups; and implement more leadership training.
 - In 2022, the Illinois State Report Card for schools will include an "Equity Journey Continuum." The district is waiting for further information on what this will entail.
 - The State of the District planning is currently underway. The district is looking at potentially having a State of the District presentation in each school building in order to comply with Covid restrictions. The tentative dates are in early March. More information will follow.
 - D123 has embarked on a partnership with Evergreen Park D124 and Moraine Valley which would allow parents of D123 students to participate in free ESL (English as Second Language) classes. The classes will be virtual and begin in January.
- B. Business Office – Mike Loftin
C. Curriculum & Family Engagement – Kathy Gavin
D. Learning, Communication and Technology – Joe Macchia
E. Operations – Leo Cassidy
F. Student Services – Cynthia Riha
G. English Learners – Angie Goetz

Consent Agenda

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

MINUTES

Minutes of November 15, 2021 and December 7, 2021.

Closed Minutes of November 15, 2021.

Destruction of the following closed session audio recordings, as per P.A. 93-523: November 11, 2019.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bill List Report

December 19, 2021

\$2,936,113.21 Education Fund Payroll, Nov 19th, Dec 3rd, Dec 17th
 \$ 267,095.43 Teacher Pension Fund Bills, Nov 19th, Dec 3rd, Dec 17th
 \$ 668,999.07 Education Fund Bills
\$3,872,207.71 Total Education Fund Expenditures
 \$ 149,342.45 Operations & Maintenance Fund Payroll, Nov 19th,
 Dec 3rd, Dec 17th
 \$ 156,238.23 Operations & Maintenance Fund Bills
\$ 305,580.68 Total Operations & Maintenance Fund Expenditures
 \$ 673.74 Transportation Fund Payroll, Nov 19th, Dec 3rd, Dec 17th
 \$ 424,906.02 Transportation Fund Bills
\$ 425,579.76 Transportation Fund
 \$ 143,287.38 FICA / Medicare & IMRF Fund Bills, Nov 19th, Dec 3rd,
 Dec 17th
 \$ Construction Fund
 \$ Debt Services
 \$ 24,623.52 Tort & Judgement Fund
 \$ 5,948.76 Municipal Retirement Fund
\$4,777,227.82 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

FY22 Budget Forecast

PERSONNEL

Resignations

Timothy Dugan	Instructional Aide	OLHMS
Angelica Maldonado	Teacher Aide	Hometown
Rocio Padilla	EL Teacher	Hannum
Dennielle Thomas	Instructional Aide	Hometown

Support Staff

Angelica Maldonado	Teacher Aide	Hometown
Robert McDonald	Maint. Aide/Delivery Driver/Warehouse	District Wide

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Unpaid Temporary Disability Leave
Amanda Gill Academic Support Spec. Hometown

STUDENT

Administrative Transfer of Student 21-005

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

Discussion I: Property Tax Relief Grant [3D][4C]
Dr. Loftin reviewed the above Property Tax Relief Grant as discussed in the December Committee of the Whole meeting. He clarified that the tax abatement would be for two tax years instead of one as earlier mentioned. This could allow homeowners approximately a \$253 reduction in their property tax bill (calculation was based on a \$250,000 home). The grant is only funded to \$47.9 million. Although Dr. Loftin does not feel the district will qualify this year, he would still like to apply annually.

Action II: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Lichter to approve the property tax relief grant. Voting Aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Misner and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mrs. Fortier. The motion carried.

Discussion II: TRS Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution [3D]
Dr. Loftin stated that this is a new requirement for TRS to add an optional companion savings plan. This would be a 457 plan, which is similar to a 401K plan. This has been heavily marketed to TRS members. Dr. Loftin reiterated that this is a requirement for TRS but not required by the district. It was confirmed that this would not be district funded but fully staff funded.

Action III: It was moved by Mrs. Lichter, seconded by Mrs. Misner, to approve the TRS Supplemental Savings Plan resolution. Voting aye: Mrs. Lichter, Mrs. Misner, Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mrs. Fortier. The motion passed.

Discussion III: Emergency Operational Plan Revisions [4B][3B]
Dr. Enderle reported that this is an annual item. D123 meets annually with the high school and elementary school partners and safety personnel to discuss school safety. D123 has a strong relationship with our village emergency personnel. Response time in our district is less than 60 seconds by our emergency responders. It was noted that the phone number listed for Covington school is the district number. After some discussion, the Board requested that the Covington phone number be updated prior to the Board voting on the revisions.

Action IV: It was moved by Mrs. Misner, seconded by Mrs. Sebek, to table the Emergency Operational Plan revisions until the January meeting. Voting aye: Mrs. Misner, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Lichter, Mr. DeRousse, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mrs. Fortier. The motion passed.

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Discussion IV:

2022-2023 Tentative School Calendar [3B]

Dr. Enderle reviewed the process for the district to plan the upcoming year school calendar. There should be a minimum of 185 school days in order to ensure 176 days of student attendance. There are 176 student attendance days, 5 emergency days, no more than 5 early dismissal days and no more than 182 staff work days. Historically, the district has planned for the first week of school during the third week of August and the final week in either the first or second week of June. Historically, there are approximately 55-60 days per trimester, 1.5 days in October and February for family conferences, approximately 6 late start days and no school on election days. There has been one week scheduled for Thanksgiving break and for Spring break and two weeks for Winter break. Historically, the district has no school on Good Friday and Easter Monday. The EDC reviews the tentative calendar in September and December and the staff is surveyed. The Board reviews the tentative calendar in December through February and the PTO/PTA/PTSA reviews in January and February. The Board takes action in February or March. The upcoming tentative calendar has a start date of August 15- August 16 and the first day of school will fall on August 17. The final day of school will fall on June 2nd as long as no emergency days are used. It was asked how the calendar aligns with the high school calendars. The tentative calendar aligns with Oak Lawn District 229's calendar. District 218 has not provided their calendar yet. It was asked if the district would still be using emergency days for snow days, or if we would move to E-Learning on those days. Dr. Enderle stated that the district is allowed up to five E-Learning days. Emergency days would be used for those days where events occur unexpectedly (unpredicted weather events, building emergencies, school bus emergencies, etc.). E-Learning days would be used when an event has been forewarned in enough time to plan for the E-Learning day.

Discussion V:

First Reading of Select School Board Policies: 2:20; 2:105; 2:110; 2:120; 2:220; 2:260; 2:220-E1; 2:220-E3; 2:220-E5; 2:220-E6; 2:220-E8; 3:40; 3:50; 3:60; 4:60; 4:160; 4:165; 4:170; 4:175; 5:10; 5:20; 5:30; 5:50; 5:90; 5:100; 5:120; 5:125; 5:150; 5:185; 5:200; 5:220; 5:330; 6:15; 6:20; 6:50; 6:60; 6:120; 6:135; 6:220; 6:340; 7:10; 7:20; 7:30; 7:60; 7:70; 7:80; 7:150; 7:160; 7:180; 7:190; 7:200; 7:210; 7:240; 7:250; 7:260; 7:290; 7:310; 7:340; 7:345

Dr. Enderle discussed new policy 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors. This policy was created in response to Erin's Law and requires schools to teach age-appropriate and evidence-informed health and safety education. This awareness education is for students, parents and training for staff. D123 has already taken a proactive approach to this with the use of the curriculum Be Seen Be Heard. The majority of updates listed this month are legal references and cross references regarding this policy.

Dr. Enderle reviewed policy 4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds which restricts use of pesticides within 500 feet during school hours. The district will also be required to provide written or telephonic notice if coal tar-based sealant is used on district property. Policy 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority recruitment clarifies 'work authorization status' and 'other crime of violence.'

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Policy 6:60 Curriculum Content wants clarification if the district provides anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution. It also needs clarification on if the Board offers NSES or developmentally appropriate consent education.

Policy 7:70 Attendance and Truancy adds mental/behavioral health reasons as an absence reason.

It was asked for clarification on policy 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program, if this policy is for kindergarten only or other grades. Dr. Enderle will review this policy further and provide information to the Board.

Discussion VI: First Reading of Select School Board Policies Undergoing a Five-Year Review: 4:120; 8:100
There have been no changes to these policies in the last five years.

Future Meeting Previews COTW – January 11, 2022 @ Kolmar
Business Meeting – January 24, 2022 @ OLHMS

- Fiscal Year Audit Report
- Designee to Prepare Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year
- Second Reading of School Board Policies
- Emergency Operational Plan Revisions

*These items are not to be intended as all inclusive

Board Comments:

Mrs. Misner attended the Ed Foundation Meeting on December 9th. The annual golf outing will be held on June 16th at Odyssey Golf Course. The Taco and Trivia Night earned approximately \$12,000. The Ed Foundation thanked the Board for attending and their support. The next Taco & Trivia Night will be moved to the Spring of 2023.

Mrs. Misner discussed the Tri Conference sessions she attended in November. She stated that safety, security, mental health issues and social emotional issues were key topics this year. The first session mentioned was by Richard Wystocki and discussed grooming behaviors in gaming programs. Mrs. Misner recommended that administration look into his program which works in conjunction with local police departments. Mrs. Misner also discussed the Safe to Help Illinois program, which is free to school districts. It is designed to support current curriculums and shows ways for kids to reach out if they are aware of a problem with another student or if they need help for themselves. Mrs. Misner recommended that the Board look into this program as well.

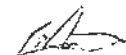
Lastly, Mrs. Misner thanked the staff for all their hard work and daily effort to keep our district running. She wished all happy holidays.

Mr. Lurquin wished Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas to all. He thanked the OLHMS community for welcoming his son to come speak. D123 graduate Matt Lurquin is in the army and received many letters from OLHMS students this year. He is in town and came to the school to meet with the classes who wrote to him and answer questions. Mr. Lurquin was very thankful for the warm welcome.

Adjourned – 8:36 p.m.

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The next COTW meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 11, 2022 at 7:00 at Kolmar Elementary School. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 24, 2022 at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.



President



Secretary