

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2023, at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Members Present: Carly Bishop (via Google Meet), Adriana Sebek, Ed Smykowski, Jennifer Fortier, Jay Lurquin and Brian Nichols.

Members Absent: Peter DeRousse

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

Also Present: Community members, parents and staff

At 6:06 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mr. Smykowski, 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 7:00 p.m. and it was unanimously agreed to return to open session.

Open Session. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by the President and upon the roll call, Brian Nichols, the President and the following members were physically present: Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Bishop (via Google Meet), Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Absent: Mr. DeRousse

Admin Present: Dr. Enderle, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Loftin, Dr. Macchia, Mrs. Blissett, Dr. Gonzalez, 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.

Public Hearing: Dr. Macchia discussed the eLearning resolution as presented in the last meeting and was available for any questions. At 7:07 p.m., the public hearing on the Resolution to Adopt eLearning Program in lieu of the

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District's Scheduled Emergency Days opened. There were no public comments at this time. At 7:08 p.m., the public hearing closed.

### Action I:

It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to approve the Resolution to Adopt e-Learning Program in lieu of the District's Scheduled Emergency Days. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.

### President's Report

President Nichols visited each elementary school during the month of December and was excited to see the great things going on. He also attended several concerts at the schools. He thanked the staff for the wonderful work that they do and wished all peace, love and joy this holiday season.

### Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Enderle's report included:

- Dr. Enderle reviewed the FOIA's over the past month which included:
  - A request for information on curricula used to teach reading through grade 3 from Katherine Casey, Ed.S. of Science of Reading Illinois;
  - A request for information regarding IAQ and environmental testing for each school from Patrick Lee of IL State Volunteer for Change the Air Foundation; and
  - A request regarding the awarded results for the Early Learning Center project from Anthony Walk of the Chicago Laborers' District Council.
- Dr. Enderle gave an update on Teaching and Learning which included the following:
  - The creation of a Literacy Implementation Support team;
  - An update on the completion of the first math curriculum pilot and information on the start of the second math curriculum pilot which takes place after winter break;
  - A discussion on the OTUS Assessment Warehouse;
  - The changes in the Teacher Evaluation Plan which are due to legislation changes.
- The ROE completed the district's Health & Life Safety inspection on November 2, 2023. Based on the inspection results, school storage areas are being reorganized, new evacuation signs have been hung, and the certification of any expired extinguishers has been scheduled. Inspectors gave positive comments on the cleanliness and safety of our buildings.
- On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Board approved bids for the Early Learning Center. Demolition is scheduled to begin on December 19<sup>th</sup> and occupancy is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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- On November 9<sup>th</sup>, the district worked to purchase restructuring bonds at a lower than anticipated rate. The bonds are \$1.3 million, which is \$900,000 lower than originally anticipated. This makes the debt service payment more manageable and reduces the tax burden on our community.
  - Administration has begun preparing winter weather procedures.
  - The Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC) met twice this fall with approximately 15 families attending. The Special Education Parent Partnership met on November 15<sup>th</sup> with approximately 12 families. A representative from Park Lawn attended to discuss opportunities for assistance.
  - Dr. Enderle discussed the Holiday Giving Programs within our district:
    - My Joyful Hear provided approximately 230 gift bags with clothing, toys and child necessities;
    - The Elks and Lions Club provided clothing, toys and food for 40 families (90 students supported);
    - Feed 6 Meal Packing event took place on December 9<sup>th</sup> with approximately 140 volunteers packing 30,000 meals for local food pantry support.
  - The Winter Chorus concerts began on December 12<sup>th</sup> and continue through December 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Dr. Enderle reviewed the office winter break hours.
  - Dr. Enderle gave best wishes for a happy and safe holiday season.
- B. Business Office – Mike Loftin  
C. Curriculum and Family Engagement – Kathy Gavin  
D. Learning, Communication and Technology – Joe Macchia  
E. Literacy and Intervention – Katy Spreitzer  
F. English Learners – Patty Gonzalez  
G. Operations – Leo Cassidy

### Consent Agenda

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

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of November 13, 2023.

Closed Minutes of November 13, 2023.

Minutes of December 4, 2023.

Minutes of December 12, 2023.

Destruction of the following closed session audio recordings, as per P.A. 93-523: November 9, 2021 and November 15, 2021.

#### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Bill List Report

December 18, 2023

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\$2,266,080.56 Education Fund Payroll, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$ 197,326.61 Teacher Pension Fund Bills, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$. 718,296.70 Education Fund Bills  
**\$3,181,703.87 Total Education Fund Expenditures**  
 \$ 124,331.45 Operations & Maintenance Fund Payroll, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>,  
 Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$. 218,827.05 Operations & Maintenance Fund Bills  
**\$. 343,158.50 Total Operations & Maintenance Fund Expenditures**  
 \$ 486.98 Transportation Fund Payroll, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$ 201,055.86 Transportation Fund Bills  
**\$ 201,542.84 Transportation Fund**  
 \$ 105,092.94 FICA / Medicare & IMRF Fund Bills, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
 \$ Construction Fund  
 \$ Debt Services  
 \$ 2,557.00 Tort & Judgement Fund  
 \$ Municipal Retirement Fund  
**\$3,834,055.15 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  
 Budget Forecast Report

PERSONNEL

Resignations

Jennifer Krull	Paraprofessional	Sward
Colleen Safka	Teacher	OLHMS

Support Staff Recommendations

Joseph Heffernan	Sub Custodian	Districtwide
Tyana Herran	Teacher Aide	OLHMS
Ryan Mottl	P/T Sweeper	Districtwide
Sonia Valdez	Teacher Aide	Hannum

Certified Personnel (*pending compliance with Board policy and State and Federal Law*)

Austin Gannon	Resource Teacher	Sward
Kathy Magana	SPED Teacher	Kolmar

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

Discussion I:

Resolution Abating 2023 Debt Service Levy [3D]  
 Dr. Loftin reviewed the resolution abating the 2023 Debt Service levy. This is part two of the levy process. Last month the Board approved the levy at 5% in order to capture all possible funding. This abatement reduces the levy to approximately 3.5%.

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- Action III: It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mr. Lurquin to approve the resolution abating the 2023 debt service levy. Voting Aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Lurquin, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion carried.
- Discussion II: 2024-2025 Registration Fees and ELC Fees [3D]  
Dr. Loftin gave the formal recommendation to eliminate student fees beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and beyond and begin accepting the supplemental tax levy (recapture tax that replaces tax revenue lost to assessment challenges). It is also recommended that the Early Learning Center five-day preschool will be free to all in-district staff (no fees/tuition). It is recommended to allow D123 staff and Oak Lawn Park District FLASH staff who live out of district boundaries pay \$400 per month for 5-day 4-year-old preschool. Dr. Loftin reviewed the rationale and financial impact for families and community members.
- Action IV: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, to approve student registration fees and ELC fees as recommended. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Fortier and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.
- Discussion III: Kolmar Media Center Update [3D] [3C]  
Mr. Cassidy reviewed the Kolmar Media Center plans. Due to the holidays, it was agreed to adjust the bid opening to January 11<sup>th</sup>. The bid results will be presented at the January Business Meeting and the Board will be asked to approve recommendations at that meeting. Bid specs and budget for the Sward Roof project and tuckpointing will be presented at the January COTW meeting. A painting project for Hannum will be discussed at the February board meetings. It was confirmed that the Hannum entryway will be completed over winter break.
- Action V: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to approve going to bid for the Kolmar Media Center. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.
- Discussion IV: School Safety [3A][4C]  
Dr. Enderle presented the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Oak Lawn to Provide School Resource Officer Services. The SRO will be assigned to the district. The SRO will have an office at OLHMS but will go to the elementary schools as needed. It was confirmed that the SRO is not a disciplinarian and won't give consequences but is for a more educational role. It was confirmed that there will be an opportunity for families to meet the SRO and the SRO may have opportunities to participate in Parent Universities.
- Action VI: It was moved by Mr. Smykowski, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, to approve The Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide School Resource Officer Services to Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123. Voting aye: Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Sebek, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.

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Discussion V: First Reading of Tentative 2024-2025 School Calendar  
Dr. Enderle reviewed the school calendar process and presented Draft A and Draft B of the Tentative 2024-2025 school calendar. Both drafts meet the calendar criteria which include 176 student attendance days, no more than 182 staff attendance days and no more than five early dismissal days. Both drafts have spring breaks which align with our feeder high schools. The main difference between draft A and draft B is that draft B celebrates Casimir Pulaski day on March 31<sup>st</sup> instead of March 3<sup>rd</sup>. By doing this, this will take into account the election day on April 1<sup>st</sup>, which would be a non-attendance day. Eid also falls on March 31<sup>st</sup>, so this would allow our students who celebrate Eid a non-attendance day. The calendars will be presented to our parent organizations in January and the final draft recommendation and vote will take place at the February Business Meeting.

Discussion VI: Second Reading of Select School Board Policies: 2:20; 2:120; 2:200; 2:220; 2:220-E2; 2:220-E6; 4:10; 4:60; 4:130; 4:160; 4:130-E; 5:30; 5:190; 5:200; 5:210; 5:220; 5:250; 5:330; 6:15; 6:30; 6:50; 6:60; 6:230; 7:60; 7:70; 7:160; 7:190; 7:270; 7:285; 7:290; 8:30; 4:40-AP.

Dr. Enderle brought forth the recommendations for first reading of select school board policies. He discussed policy 5:210 Resignations which is designed to help stop the late term resignations. Resignations should be submitted up to 30 days before the first day of student attendance.

Policy 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students now would like schools to maintain a supply of undesignated oxygen tanks in the name of the district. Getting an undesignated supply may be difficult but the district will look into this. If the district is unable to get an undesignated supply of oxygen tanks, that part of the policy is void. It was agreed that training may be needed for the use of oxygen tanks.

Policy 7:60 Residence could allow children of non-resident employees to attend the district.

Action VII: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Fortier, to approve the second reading of select School Board Policies: 2:20; 2:120; 2:200; 2:220; 2:220-E2; 2:220-E6; 4:10; 4:60; 4:130; 4:130-E; 4:160; 5:30; 5:190; 5:200; 5:210; 5:220; 5:250; 5:330; 6:15; 6:30; 6:50; 6:60; 6:230; 7:60; 7:70; 7:160; 7:190; 7:270; 7:285; 7:290; 8:30; 4:40-AP. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Fortier, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Sebek, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.

Discussion VII: Second Reading of Select School Board Policies for Review and Monitoring: 4:30.  
This is a five-year review of this policy. There are no recommended updates for this policy at this time.

Action VIII: It was moved by Mrs. Fortier, seconded by Mr. Smykowski, to approve the second reading of select School Board Policies for review and monitoring: 4:30. Voting aye: Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Smykowski, Mrs. Sebek,

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Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse. The motion passed.

Discussion VIII: Strategic Planning Process  
A special meeting will be held on December 19<sup>th</sup> to review the existing plan and assess how to involve facilitation.

Future Meeting Previews Special Meeting – December 19, 2023 @ District Office  
COTW Meeting – January 9, 2024 @ Kolmar  
Business Meeting – January 22, 2024 @ OLHMS

- Designee to Prepare Tentative Budget
- Ed Foundation Financial Summary
- Tentative School Calendar
- Fiscal Year Budget Projections and Administrative Recommendations
- Fiscal Year Audit Report

Special Meeting – December 19, 2023 @ District Office

\*These items are not to be intended as all inclusive

Board Comments:

Mr. Lurquin wished a happy holiday season to all.

Mrs. Bishop thanked Mr. Fetchko and Mrs. McCarthy for a wonderful Feed6 event and highly recommended it to anyone who is interested in participating.

Mr. Nichols gave a recap of his Tri Conference experience. He was pleased with the sessions he attended including “Real World Board Scenarios” and “School Climate.” Mr. Nichols spoke with area Board presidents about setting up a structure for Board presidents to meet and discuss issues.

Mrs. Fortier wished all a happy holiday season. She also discussed Tri Conference sessions she attended regarding strategic planning.

Adjourned – 8:50 p.m.

The next Special meeting of the Board of Education will be held on December 19, 2023 at the District Office, 4201 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. The next COTW meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 9, 2024 at Kolmar School, 10425 S. Kolmar, Oak Lawn, IL. 60453. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on January 22, 2024 at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

  
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President

  
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Secretary