

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Members Present: Ed Smykowski, Jennifer Fortier, Jay Lurquin and Brian Nichols. Carly Bishop joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Members Absent: Peter DeRousse and Adriana Sebek

Administrators Present: Dr. Enderle, Dr. Loftin, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Macchia, 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.

- There were no comments at this time.

Discussion I: IAR Achievement Update  
Dr. Gavin gave an update on the Spring 2023 IAR Achievement results. Dr. Gavin reviewed how the summative designations are determined and noted that growth comprises 50% of the designation and absenteeism comprises 20%. The IAR measures readiness in grades 3-8, and the science assessment is only grades 5 and 8. Administration is proud of the growth shown in the Spring assessment but feels there is still a lot of work to be done. Dr. Gavin reviewed the state percentile analysis and the school proficiency analysis in both ELA and Math. Dr. Gavin presented a comparison with surrounding districts and noted that the curriculum coordinators in surrounding districts are in contact with one another for discussions on what is working in their districts.

Dr. Gavin reviewed the longitudinal proficiency data in both ELA and Math. It was noted that IAR tests were not taken in 2020. The pandemic showed obvious learning loss, but we are now almost to the levels of where we were in 2019 (pre-pandemic). Dr. Gavin also reviewed subgroup proficiency. It was noted that there is some overlap in the subgroups. It was noted that math achievement consistently lags behind ELA.

Administration feels that there should be a focus on professional development and scheduling (how to prioritize in schedule). Dr. Gavin discussed the OTIS platform and how it will help evaluate progress, strengths, cross-curricular opportunities, and areas to shore up. OTIS will provide an opportunity to delve deeper into strengths and weaknesses at a classroom level.

Discussion II: E-Learning Plan

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Dr. Macchia presented the E-Learning Update. In 2015 the Illinois State Board of Education established an e-learning pilot. E-Learning was to be used no more than five school days per year and would count as attendance days without the need to add emergency days to the end of the school year. E-Learning does not always mean "Electronic Learning." In spring 2019, D123 began researching and creating the D123 eLearning plan. D123 planned to have an eLearning "practice day" on March 16, 2020, which ended up being pushed back due to the pandemic. In spring 2020, D123 began emergency eLearning. Fall/Spring 2020-2021 the district was remote learning/hybrid learning, and by Fall 2021 D123 returned to the original eLearning plan.

E-Learning ensures five hours of instruction. Non-electronic materials are made available to students without required technology. Appropriate learning opportunities are ensured for students with special needs. Each student's participation is monitored.

Dr. Macchia reviewed the typical eLearning day schedule with begins at 8:25-8:55 for teacher planning and prep. From 9:00-2:00 there is a five-hour block of student engagement, instruction and timely support via email. From 2:00-3:30, there is review, planning, and preparation. The five hours of learning (300 minutes) should include 180 minutes of core activities (ELA, math, science, and social studies) and 120 minutes of encore activities (PE, music, art, library, etc.). Students will have up to two full days after a designated eLearning Day to turn in work for attendance credit. Attendance for an eLearning day can be modified in the gradebook up to five days after eLearning day.

Dr. Macchia reviewed the changes to the current plan. These include: additions to "1-Doc" Method (Seesaw, Google Classroom, Take-home folder); each faculty member has established a method to communicate expectations, relevant information, and distribute learning materials to district families on eLearning day; yearly, each classroom exercises with students on how they will access learning materials in the event of an eLearning day.

A public hearing will be held for the eLearning plan at the December Business Meeting of the Board of Education. It was confirmed that emergency days will always be embedded in the school calendar.

### Discussion III:

#### Kolmar/Sward Media Center Renovation Project

Mr. Cassidy discussed the Kolmar/Sward Media Center Renovation project. Kolmar and Sward are the final two district schools to have a media center renovation. Kolmar's renovation will take place in the summer of 2024, and Sward's renovation will take place in the summer of 2025. Sward needed to be rescheduled due to roof work which needs to take place prior to the renovation.

Mr. Cassidy reviewed the estimated cost to the Kolmar Media Center renovation which is approximately \$689,000. Key priorities for the media center are instructional space, maker space and a reading/soft space.

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Currently, there is an empty office next to the Kolmar media center, which is used on an as-needed basis. JMA recommended turning this space into a conference space.

Mr. Cassidy reviewed the current renderings of the media center plan. It was noted that details such as paint colors have not been decided yet. It was confirmed that the conference room would be soundproof so meetings will not be disturbed by instructional time in the media center. The main entrance to the media center will be the double doors and the single door near the maker space area will be an emergency exit. With safety always being a concern, it was noted that the north end of the media center could be used as a "hide place" if needed.

The conference room will include a white board and a projector. Currently the maker space area does not include a white board, but JMA and administration are working to see if there will be a place for one.

It was noted that Kolmar administration mentioned an issue with their office being congested. JMA provided some renderings to address this, but due to the cost, administration determined that this is not necessarily a priority at this time.

Board approval for going out to bid will be on the December Business Meeting agenda.

Future Meeting:

Business Meeting – December 18, 2023 @ OLHMS

- Proposed Registration Fees for Upcoming School Year
- Supplemental Tax Levy Resolution
- E-Learning Public Hearing and Resolution
- Kolmar Media Center Project Bid


Special Meeting – December 19, 2023 @ District Office

Board Comments:

Mrs. Bishop commented that the Beginning Band Concert, which was held earlier in the evening, was very impressive and entertaining. She complimented Mr. Kehl and Mrs. Lyons did a wonderful job.

Adjourned –8:44 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on December 18, 2023 at the Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois. The next special meeting of the Board of Education will be held on December 19, 2023 at the Administrative Office, 4201 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois.

  
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President

  
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Secretary