

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 28, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Education, School District 123, Cook County, Illinois, convened at 6:07 p.m. on Monday, August 28, 2023, at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Members Present: Carly Bishop, Ed Smykowski, Jay Lurquin and Brian Nichols.
Members Absent: Peter DeRousse, Jennifer Fortier and Adriana Sebek
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 6:07 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Smykowski, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, 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 real 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)(4).

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 7:05 p.m. by the President and upon the roll call, Brian Nichols, the President and the following members were physically present: Jay Lurquin, Ed Smykowski, Carly Bishop and Brian Nichols.

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

President's Report

President Nichols reviewed the presentation he gave at the opening day of Teacher's Institute on August 21, 2023. This presentation discussed the

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previous year's Board Listening Tour. Items noted were Community Culture, which includes parent engagement, educational priority and home support for behavior management; Student Needs, which includes behaviors, emotional needs, SPED placement, EL placement, student grouping and absenteeism; Facilities, which includes space management and security; and Education Operations, which includes curricular pacing, curricular change rate, staffing/resource allocation, enrichment program efficacy, supplies management, substitute usage/interventionists and assessments/grading. The results of the Board Listening Tour will be used in the strategic planning discussions. Mr. Nichols also presented a draft of the strategic planning process timeline.

Superintendent's Report

A. Dr. Enderle welcomed the Board to the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

- Superintendent Enderle's report included:
 - Dr. Enderle stated that school is off to a positive start. The schools ran smoothly with the unprecedented heat. Bussing is getting on track.
 - Dr. Enderle reviewed the FOIA requests this month which included:
 - a request from Vince Espi of Prairie State Wire, regarding contracts, payments, reports and communications with vendors providing diversity, equity and inclusion services from January 1, 2019 to present;
 - a request from Kathryn Smyser of NBC Chicago, regarding settlements resolving FOIA lawsuits;
 - a request from the Josiah Chatterton of Prairie State Wire, regarding Board member information;
 - a request from Vince Espie of Prairie State Wire, regarding substitute teacher information;
 - a request from Katy Smyser of NBC Uni, regarding requests to reconsider, ban and/or challenge any book or other material in the district's libraries or classrooms.
 - Summer School ran for 15 days from June 12-29 and July 10-13. There were approximately 550 students and 75 staff. New staff learned about D123 policies and procedures; curriculum, instruction and assessment, and multi-tiered systems of support.
 - Substitute teacher training took place on August 16th.
 - Institute Days included sessions on CKLA curriculum, math pilot, behavior management and discipline, and school safety protocols.
 - Summer projects included the Covington and Hannum media centers, OLHMS outdoor learning space, Hometown gym paint and office accessibility, Clear Armor installation, and exterior landscaping, painting and cement work.

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- Currently, student enrollment is approximately 3,251, which is 28 less than last year.
 - The open house schedule is as follows:
 - September 5th – Hannum
 - September 6th – Covington
 - September 7th – Kolmar
 - September 12th – Hometown
 - September 13th – Sward
 - September 14th - OLHMS
 - The Back to School Extravaganza took place on Saturday, August 26th. It was very well attended and thank you to all who volunteered.
- B. Business Office – Mike Loftin
C. Curriculum and Family Engagement – Kathy Gavin
D. Literacy and Intervention – Katy Spreitzer
E. Student Services – Sheleah Blissett
F. Operations – Leo Cassidy

It was questioned if the district could offer plow services to the private schools which would provide another revenue stream to the district and strengthen community partnerships. Mr. Cassidy discussed the district's current partnership with Beverly Companies who currently handles the majority of the district snow removal. While district staff currently handle some snow removal, at this point, administration is holding off on having them take on more snow removal responsibilities. It was confirmed that the district does snow removal at St. Nicholas because of their partnership with Kolmar school and allowing Kolmar staff and families to use their parking lot.

It was also asked if the buildings have any alarm system which would let the school offices know if a door or window opened. Classes with doors leading outside do have an alarm but only in the classroom. Administration will check with the architect to confirm the types of system asked about.

Consent Agenda

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

MINUTES

Minutes of June 20, 2023.

Closed Minutes of June 20, 2023.

Minutes of June 28, 2023.

Closed Minutes of June 28, 2023.

Destruction of the following closed session audio recordings, as per P.A. 93-523: July 12, 2021 and July 25, 2021.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bill List Report

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August 28, 2023

\$ 754,507.29 Education Fund Payroll, June 22nd, June 30th, July 7th,
July 21st, Aug 4th, Aug 18th
\$ 47,193.62 Teacher Pension Fund Bills, June 22nd, July 7th, July
21st, Aug 4th, Aug 18th
\$2,285,804.92 Education Fund Bills
\$3,087,505.83 Total Education Fund Expenditures
\$ 328,938.29 Operations & Maintenance Fund Payroll, June 22nd,
July 7th, July 21st, Aug 4th, Aug 18th
\$1,079,125.82 Operations & Maintenance Fund Bills
\$1,408,064.11 Total Operations & Maintenance Fund Expenditures
\$ 973.96 Transportation Fund Payroll, June 22nd, July 7th, July
21st, Aug 4th, Aug 18th
\$ 575,304.33 Transportation Fund Bills
\$ 576,278.29 Transportation Fund
\$ 88,064.87 FICA / Medicare & IMRF Fund Bills, June 22nd, July
7th, July 21st, Aug 4th, Aug 18th
\$ 99,282.75 Construction Fund
\$ 36,424.00 Debt Services
\$ 1,966.81 Tort & Judgement Fund
\$ 5,773.50 Municipal Retirement Fund
\$5,303,359.96 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

PERSONNEL

Resignations

Malik Curtis	Music Teacher	Kol/Cov
Yasmin Daraghma	Paraprofessional	Sward
Andres Flores	Lunchroom Supervisor	Hometown
Gregory Fox	SPED Teacher	OLHMS
Melanie Grzesik-Duffy	SPED Teacher	Covington
Trinity Lee	Art Teacher	District Wide
Jana Oliver	Social Worker	OLHMS
Victoria Ruge	SPED Teacher	Kolmar
Rory Sheahan	SPED Teacher	OLHMS
Yuu Suehiro	Title I Academic Support	Hannum
Jessica Sullivan	SPED Teacher	Kolmar
Mayra Tode	Spanish Teacher	OLHMS
Stephanie Waller	SPED Teacher	OLHMS

Certified Staff Recommendations (pending compliance with Board Policy and State and Federal law)

Daisy Alvarado	Teacher	Sward
Kimberly Blake	SPED Teacher	OLHMS
Kaitlyn Blanton	Teacher	Covington

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Todd Brennan	Teacher	OLHMS
Cheri Brodsky	Music Teacher	Cov/Kol
Kaitlyn Gruszkowski	School Counselor	Covington
Amy Kulaga	Teacher	OLHMS
Tatiana Long	Social Worker	OLHMS
Terrence Mikuta	SPED Teacher	OLHMS
Erin Moore	Title I MST	Hannum
Danielle Nally	PTP Teacher	Kolmar
Julie O'Connor	Teacher	OLHMS
Jennifer Parsons	SPED Teacher	Hometown
Kelli Picman	SPED Teacher	OLHMS
Serena Rahahleh	Teacher	Sward
Tasneem Rayyan	Teacher	Sward
Maureen Rubey	PTP Teacher	Kolmar
Allison Simon	Art Teacher	Han/Cov/Swd
Kathryn Smith	Teacher	Hometown
Hannah Spillane	Speech Pathologist	OLHMS
Anne Watson	PTP Teacher	Kolmar
Timothy Williams	Teacher	OLHMS
Support Staff Recommendations		
Yazmin Abarca	Health Office Aide/CNA	OLHMS
Jenna Bernier	Teacher Aide	Hometown
Ana DeAnda	Teacher Aide	Covington
Cori Leal	Instructional Aide	OLHMS
Natalie Cancel	Lunchroom Supervisor	Hometown
Melissa Casey Weber	Lunchroom Supervisor	Hometown
Kaitlyn Drew	Instructional Aide	OLHMS
Jennifer Escalera-Araujo	Teacher Aide	Sward
Julisa Gonzalez	Custodian	Covington
Katie Harlan	Lunchroom Supervisor	Hannum
Eileen Hunter	Instructional Aide	Hometown
Christopher Kennedy	Custodian	Covington
Emma Kennedy	Tech Support Specialist	District Wide
Alyssa Lozano	Teacher Aide	Kol/Cov
Alani Raddatz	Teacher Aide	Hometown
Blanca E Rodriguez	EL Teacher Aide	Sward
Dezray Torres	Teacher Aide	Hometown
Nancy Torres	Teacher Aide	OLHMS
Zeina Samhan	EL Teacher Aide	Hometown
Peter Lagioia	Supervisor of Bldgs/Gr	District Wide

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

Discussion I: Resolution to Fill Board Vacancy [4C]
This is the last step in filling the Board seat vacated by Jackie Lichter and filled by Carly Bishop. It was confirmed that Mrs. Bishop could vote on this as it is a vote on the process and not confirming her appointment.

Action II: It was moved by Mr. Smykowski, seconded by Mr. Lurquin to approve the Resolution of the Board of Education to fill Board Vacancy. Voting Aye:

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Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion carried.

Discussion II:

Fiscal Year 2024 Tentative Budget [3D, 4C]

Dr. Loftin gave an update on the FY24 Tentative Budget. This is the second reading of the tentative budget. The final budget will go to the Board for approval in September. The short-term view for the budget notes that property tax bills/collections will be late again this year. State EBF allocations continue to increase. ESSER funding is winding down. The longer term view for the budget notes that local property collection amounts are increasing due to property tax recovery levy law, increasing property assessments and high inflation. Options to consider are reducing the levy increase, refuse levy recapture funds, spend down fund balances, and/or the elimination of student fees. Dr. Loftin reviewed the budgetary assumptions which include the increase in local property tax revenues, EBF funding significantly increased, and the current year contractual salary increases. Dr. Loftin reviewed the tentative budget projection FY24 as of August 2023. He also reviewed the district revenues by source and expenses by object. It was noted that per Board policy, there should be a minimum fund balance of 25%, but the administration usually targets closer to 40%.

Action III:

It was moved by Mrs. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Smykowski, to approve the second reading of the FY2024 tentative budget. Voting aye: Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion passed.

Discussion III:

Capital Projects Update [3C, 3D]

Mr. Cassidy gave an update on the district capital projects.

- Covington Media Center is progressing. There was a delay in the glass wall so temporary walls are in place. This is expected to be in by September 11th. There was also a delay in some lighting fixtures so temporary fixtures are in place.
- Hannum Media Center is progressing. The light fixtures have been delayed and temporary fixtures are in place. The glass walls for the conference center are delayed but expected to be in by September 18th.
- The Hannum office was put back together by the first day of school. A temporary door is in place until the metal framing is redone.
- The OLHMS Tree Nursery Landscaping is expected to be completed shortly. The engraved sign is complete and fencing is being installed. The benches have been installed and the walkways have been completed.
- The OLHMS tuckpointing has been completed.
- The OLHMS ball field has been cleaned up and updated. The District partnered with the Oak Lawn Park District to remove weeds and refresh the infield.
- Hometown School landscaping has been completed.
- The Hometown School gym painting has been completed.

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- The Hometown School ADA Office door is in progress. There is an issue with the fob system that is being worked on and will hopefully be completed shortly.
- The Covington School office conversion is nearing completion. A storage closet on the second floor has been converted to an office. The HVAC team is waiting for a part in order to give the space air conditioning.
- Hannum / Sward / Covington LED conversion is completed. The last step in the LED conversion will be to convert the gyms and multipurpose rooms at OLHMS and Kolmar to LED.
- The district partnered with a community member who volunteered his services to do some exterior painting. Upon completion, the district hired him to complete other small painting projects. Projects included gym doors, railings, school entry ways, etc.
- Various cement projects have been completed at OLHMS, Sward and Hometown.
- Media Center Access controls have been completed.
- Various other painting projects throughout the district have been completed.

It was noted that over 80% of the work listed was grant funded.

Discussion IV:

Preschool Renovation IGA with Oak Lawn Park District [3C, 4B]
The IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with Oak Lawn Park District will allow D123 access to approximately 3,100 square feet of park district property to create a safe pick up / drop off space for the Gaddis building preschool center. A driveway will be installed to the south of the building off of Keeler Avenue and allow cars to go around the building and exit onto 93rd street. It is anticipated to go to bid around November with work to start over the winter.

Action IV:

It was moved by Mr. Smykowski, seconded by Mr. Lurquin, to approve the preschool renovation IGA with Oak Lawn Park District. Voting aye: Mr. Smykowski, Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Nichols.
Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion passed.

Discussion V:

World Vision 6K Race – September 23, 2023 [4C]
On Saturday, 9/23/2023, OLHMS will host a 6K race on behalf of World Vision that will help support clean water to children in need. In coordinating this event with the Village of Oak Lawn, Village officials are requiring D123 to provide a certificate of insurance with the village named as an additional insured for the event to proceed. In order for the insurance coverage to be valid, administration is asking the Board to sanction the event by Board action. This is an annual item. It was requested that the area affected by the 6K be given information in advance.

Action V:

It was moved by Mrs. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Lurquin, to approve the

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World Vision 6K Race on September 23, 2023. Voting aye: Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Lurquin, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion passed.

Discussion VI: Second Reading of Select School Board Policies: 2:170; 4:100; 7:305
Dr. Enderle reviewed the recommended policy updates. Most updates are minor. Administration has reviewed the updates and practices are aligned. Regarding policy 7:305, it was confirmed that the Concussion Oversight Team consists of the coaches, principal, assistant principals, athletic director and school nurse.

Action VI: It was moved by Mr. Lurquin, seconded by Mrs. Bishop, to approve the second reading of select school Board policies: 2:170; 4:100; 7:305. Voting aye: Mr. Lurquin, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion passed.

Discussion VII: Second Reading of Select School Board Policies for Review and Monitoring: 2:80; 2:80-E; 4:45; 5:230; 6:10; 6:190; 6:240; 7:275; 8:25; 8:95. These are policies which have not been updated in the last five years. Administratively, there are no issues with these policies. It was asked the purpose of policy 5:230 since it mainly refers to collective bargaining agreements and other disciplinary policies. This will be confirmed by the attorney, but it is thought that legally, this policy confirms the school personnel will maintain student discipline and the related policies get more detailed.

Action VII: It was moved by Mrs. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Lurquin, to approve the second reading of select school Board policies for review and monitoring: 2:80; 2:30-E; 4:45; 5:230; 6:10; 6:190; 6:240; 7:275; 8:25; 8:95. Voting aye: Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Lurquin, Mr. Smykowski and Mr. Nichols. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. DeRousse, Mrs. Fortier and Mrs. Sebek. The motion passed.

Discussion VIII: 2023-2024 District 123 School Safety Measures
Dr. Enderle reviewed the district school safety measures. Ongoing efforts include behavioral systems implementation; local law enforcement engagement; Beacon training; Threat Assessment Team and ERCM Teams; Emergency Notification System; Clear Armor Installation; and a security vulnerability assessment (sva). Action steps for the 2023-2024 school year include: reconvening our building ERCM teams; advertising and utilizing emergency notification system; promoting closed and locked doors in all learning environments; conducting safety vulnerability audits of each school building; updating emergency signage for learning environments; adding medical supplies to office and classroom go kits; collaborating with Oak Lawn Police & Fire departments to review and update D123 Reunification Procedures; and the tabletop exercise on October 31st.

A concern was noted about the safety of the glass walls that are currently being installed in the media centers. It was discussed that all spaces in the school buildings have some glass and the safety training will provide

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insight to staff on the proper ways to handle safety in different areas of the building.

Discussion IX:

Strategic Planning Process

The Board reviewed the draft Planning Process Milestones provided by Mr. Nichols. It was agreed to look into some consultants who may be able to facilitate the fine-tuning process and see what they have to offer. It was agreed that parent focus groups would be helpful. It was also agreed that the Board should create the plan, not have the administration do it. Potential facilitators will present at upcoming Board meetings to show how they can assist in the process. Once the Board has heard from facilitators, next steps will be discussed.

Future Meeting Previews

COTW Meeting – September 12, 2023 @ Hannum
Business Meeting – September 25, 2023 @ OLHMS

- FY2024 Final Budget
- 2023 Summer School Report
- Lane Changes

*These items are not to be intended as all inclusive

Board Comments:

Mrs. Bishop commented that the Back to School Extravaganza was a fun event and very successful. She noted that some areas are not very accessible and recommended extra chairs in various locations for those who may need them.

Adjourned – 9:50 p.m.

The next COTE meeting of the Board of Education will be held on September 12, 2023 at the Hannum School, 9800 S. Tripp Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on September 25, 2023 at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School, 5345 W. 99th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Secretary



President

