

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149  
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2011

The Public Hearing on the proposed 2011-2012 Budget was called to order at 7:39 PM.

**Roll Call:** Present Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Gray  
Everett. Absent: Ms. Ghani and Mrs. Tillman

BUDGET  
HEARING

Budget hearing open to the public. No one wished to address the Board

**MOTION** by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, second by Mrs. Eldridge at 7:45 P.M. to declare the budget  
hearing closed. Roll call vote: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, and Mr. Castillo.

**MOTION CARRIED**

HEARING  
CLOSED

The Special Meeting was called to order at 7:46 P.M. by Mrs. Gray Everett, Board President, in  
the Board Room of the Administrative Center at 292 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois.

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said by the second and third grade student's of Carol Moseley  
Braun School.**

**Roll Call:** Present: Members: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and  
Mrs. Gray Everett absent were Mrs. Tillman and Miss Ghani. Also in attendance were  
Administrators: Mrs. Jones, Ms. Geddis, Ms. Harris, Dr. Warner, Dr. Scott, teachers and support  
personnel.

ROLL  
CALL

**Board President's Agenda**

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the consent grouping of routine  
items including minutes from the Regular Meeting held on August 25, 2011; payroll summaries  
for September 2, 2011 in the amount of \$803,947.63, & September 16, 2011 in the amount of  
\$814,975.05 authorizing Township Treasurer to pay the invoices dated September 22, 2011,  
consisting of 17 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

APPROVE  
MINUTES  
REQUIRED

Education Fund	\$571,363.77
Tort Liability Fund	276,561.34
Building and Maintenance Fund	106,281.12
Transportation Fund	111,425.64
Total	\$1,065,631.87

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to amend the Regular School Board Meeting dates as  
follows (due to scheduling conflicts): Thursday, October 27, 2011 to Wednesday, October 26, 2011; Thursday,  
November 17, 2011 to Wednesday, November 16, 2011; and Thursday, March 22, 2012 to Wednesday, March 21,  
2012. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION  
CARRIED**

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to accept the tentative budget presented; and hereby, declare it as  
our final budget for the fiscal year 2012. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and  
Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to authorize the submission of the final budget to the state  
agencies as required by Illinois School Code. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-  
Liggons and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to accept the FY 11  
Annual Financial Report (AFR) prepared by Klein Hall & Associates, LLC. Roll call

ACCEPT FY11  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL  
REPORT

vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Meeting open to the public.** Ms. Ramona Shelton commended the board and administrators for all the hard work they have done. She also expressed that she is on board with the vision that "Failure is not an option."

Crystal Pedroni, CTA President stated the installation of the sports programs at Dirksen Middle School has been very positive.

**Special Committee Reports.** None

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

### **Caroline Sibley**

Ms. Herndon stated Caroline Sibley School is enthusiastic about the 2011-2012 school year. We currently have 770 students enrolled at Caroline Sibley School. During Open House on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> our parents were able to hear about all the wonderful activities and enriching educational experiences their children will embark on over the next several months. During the general session in the gymnasium, the administrative team shared where we are with respect to I.S.A.T. and what our plans are to continue making progress. We also shared all the new district-wide initiatives being implemented by our School Board this year. After that the parents visited the classrooms where every teacher prepared a well thought out presentation in which they outlined their expectations with respect to academics and discipline. Every parent that was in attendance signed a school compact which details the expectations that were developed for all stakeholders, by all stakeholders. We had over 300 students represented at this year's Open House. We know that involving and informing our parents about our expectations is a critical role in school improvement. Our Darlene Gray Everett Boys and Girls Pre-Kindergarten Academy is off to a great start!! Ms. Colone and Ms. Williams are doing a fabulous job with our boys. The students are wearing their vests and ties daily and they look adorable. We are also excited to share that our Universal Breakfast started last week and is going smoothly. The parents were thrilled to hear about this new initiative during Open House. Through our grade level articulation meetings and after school workshops our teachers will be afforded the opportunity to collaborate and dialogue about the implementation of our new curriculum that was developed for reading and mathematics. Teachers will also utilize this time to collaborate and share ideas with regards to the data they have gathered from the reading benchmark test, placement test, Dibels assessment, and ISAT results.

### **New Beginnings Learning Academy**

Mrs. Franklin stated New Beginnings Learning Academy currently has an enrollment of 437 students. Our staff has been meeting weekly on Thursday mornings in grade level articulation meetings to analyze our current ISAT scores, implement curriculum needs, identify "best practices" and research supported strategies, and to build continuity across each grade level. Instructional building walk-throughs have been performed in every classroom and will continue to occur on a consistent basis. Open House was enjoyed by many families last week. During our general session, they had the opportunity to become informed of the awesome Board initiatives that are being put into place this year! To increase parent involvement, two parents were invited to speak about the importance of participating in school related events. Our parents were greatly encouraged and are looking forward to furthering partnering with us in closing the achievement gap! Thank you to Dr. Brown and Ms. Geddis for your support on this evening!

### **Berger Vandenberg**

Mrs. Winters stated Berger Vandenberg current enrollment is 351. We are steadfast this year in analyzing the ISAT data. This month's grade level meetings detailed teachers working to implement the new initiatives in our School Improvement Plan. Also, we are working to effectively implement and align the new curriculum with our Basal Readers. We have/will dedicate our staff focus each month on the Five Components of Literacy and Guided Reading. I have made it a priority to visit the classrooms and be visible. Open House was eventful and well attended. The college theme was a big hit at Berger among the parents. Teachers were given an opportunity to collaborate with parents about our school compact which details collaborative efforts and commitment on behalf of 655.

the teachers, parents, students and principal... Most importantly, we hope this will lead to the type of communication where parents, teachers and administration are partners.

## Diekman

Mrs. Davis stated Diekman School currently has 324 students enrolled. Our Open House was well attended. Parents were informed of the many School Board Initiatives being implemented this year.

Thank you Dr. Brown and Mrs. Harris for your continued support. Grandparent Day was Super Successful!!!. Our Grandparents enjoyed a fantastic visit with their grandchildren. All pre-K students have adjusted. The girls from The Darlene Gray Everett Boys' and Girls' Pre-Kindergarten Academy have adjusted very well and take pride in wearing their vest and ties daily. Mrs. Ransom and Mrs. Jordan have taken their class to the Science Room to begin engaging in the world of exploration. I am reviewing ISAT scores from last school year in an effort to begin discussions with my staff about student's strengths and weaknesses in reading and math. Classroom teachers have begun assessing students' academic levels to determine readiness skills. I am also analyzing the percentage of students who are not meeting the standards to develop a plan of action with teachers about how we can effectively teach strategies to help remediate the weaknesses in reading and math. We will continue to dissect our data to drive instruction and are committed to improving student achievement. We are looking forward to our monthly Reading strategies Workshop which begins in October. We are eager to implement the Electronic Grade Book this school year. Teachers have begun entering grades on line. Again, thank you to the School Board and Dr. Brown for this great initiative.

## Dirksen Middle School

Dr. Young stated that her grandparents were very pleased with the "Grand Parents' Day Festivities"! It was well attended and appreciated. An expression of gratitude is extended to our student performers as well as the assistance of our staff volunteers and the PPS Team. We would also like to acknowledge Mr. Brath and the Dirksen Middle School Band, for their commendable presentation. The undying support of our school board, the Superintendent and the central office is greatly valued. The Dirksen Middle School family fully embraced the slogan "**Failure is not an option, for I am COLLEGE BOUND**" via creative and optimistic hallway décor. We're confident that the seeds of "higher learning" have been planted and student academia will continue to blossom. Currently, the teaching staff is collaborating regarding the district web-based curriculum initiative. Our instructional team has designed a lesson plan template in accordance with the Power/Core Curriculum Standards. This will ensure consistency and accountability concerning the articulation of subject area instructional activities. Lastly, our extra-curricular activities are off to a great start! Kudos to Dr. Warner, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Slate, and Mr. Scott for their tremendous efforts towards organizing the "return" of the sports program! Special Thanks goes out to our coaches Mr. Russell, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Jeffrey for their passion, commitment, and dedication. We're looking forward to a spectacular sports season! Currently our enrollment totals equal 836 students.

## District Office

Shelly Jones, Associates Superintendent Thanked all principals, teachers, and support staff for assisting the schools in preparing for our college theme for Open House. It is our plan to have all schools transformed by parent teacher conferences in November. The District's motto speaks volumes into our children's lives about the great opportunities that can have by working hard and doing their very best in the classroom. Our team has met with the State Wide System of Support to schedule District and School Improvement Plan Dates through the Illinois Rising Star Reporting Process. Our first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2011. Full District Leadership Teams will begin meeting with the State Wide System of Support Team in November. We are working diligently to implement District Wide initiatives and our after school programs.

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo that the Board of Education meet in executive session at 8:05 P.M. to consider student disciplinary matters, the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to return to regular session at 7:45 P.M. Roll call: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

REGULAR SESSION

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the implementation of Homework Center Programs district-wide for the 2011-year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE  
HOMEWORK  
CENTER  
PROGRAMS  
DISTRICT-  
WIDE FOR  
2011-2012

2012 school  
and Mrs.

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve renewal with Otis Elevators for the 2011-2012 school year. Roll call vote: Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION**

contract  
Aye: Mrs.  
**CARRIED**

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the Telecommunications service invoice per the enclosure. Roll call vote: Aye: Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE  
CONTRACT  
RENEWAL

Forward  
Mrs. Jolly,

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to amend the copier Gateway, Inc. per the enclosure. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Jolly, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE  
INVOICE FOR  
FORWARD  
TELECOMMUN  
ICATIONS  
SERVICE

contract with  
Castillo, Mrs.

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the Calumet City Library. Roll call vote: Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION**

Aye: Mrs.  
**CARRIED**

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the grade proposed dates: Friday, May 18, 2012 dance; Monday, May 21, 2012 Wednesday, May 23, 2012 luncheon; and Thursday, May 24, 2012 Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and **MOTION CARRIED**

AMEND THE  
COPIER  
CONTRACT  
WITH  
GATWAY, INC.

following 8<sup>th</sup>  
class trip;  
graduation.  
Mrs. Jolly.

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to approve a \$25.00 daily for all substitute teachers candidates effective the 2011-2012 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

rate increase

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the contract with CARROLL Seating Company per the enclosure. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Correspondence.** None

**Bulletin Reports.** None

**New Business.** None

**Old Business.** None

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to adjourn at 8:16 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

657.

---

Darlene Gray Everett, President

---

Bertha Jolly, Secretary

