

BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 149  
MINUTES OF  
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
February 23, 2023

The Regular Board Meeting was held via Zoom.

The Board Meeting convened at 6:52 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray-Everett, Ms. Jemine, and Mr. Castillo. Ms. Francisco joined the Zoom meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Let the record show that Mr. Castillo was present on Zoom but was experiencing technical difficulties and was unable to communicate. Mrs. Darlene Gray-Everett was also experiencing technical difficulties and voted when she was able to.

Also in attendance: Dr. Maureen White, Attorney Edward Wong, Janene Preston, Dr. Twyla Harris, Janice Opitz, Akil Khalfani, Laura Wolf, Dr. Brigitte Garth-Young, Dr. Dellnora Winters, Ernesta Ransom, Dr. Kathleen Hickey, ZaRita Beal, Christal Washington, BeNita Parker, Sparkle Tiffith, Nicole Taylor, Karen Slate, Dr. Nicole Robinson, Tia Williams, Lynn McAfee, Latricia Lewis, Gerald Scott, Christina Montgomery, Danielle Franklin, Jamar Everett, Alfred Thompkins, John Smida, David Ormsby, Sheena Dixon, Bree, Yvette Shackelford, Tonya Thomas, Connie, Denise Kyles, Javida Boddy, Cherita Smith, Cathleen Mancini, Ms. Lewis, Ali, and Valorita Lipsey.

**Board Member Comments and Questions:**

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons stated that it is refreshing to see people go the extra mile and gave a shot out to Principal Beal to see her outside with all the kids this morning.

Mr. Tillman also commented and expressed his appreciation.

**The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all**

**Cabinet Report**

Mr. Akil Khalfani reported on the new tires and door for the truck and thanked the board for approving the upgrades. Mr. Khalfani also presented on the HVAC system and quotes for the Abatement project.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked a question and Mr. Khalfani answered with clarity.

Ms. BeNita Parkers shared the positive impact of the Climate & Culture coaches, the PBIS impact, and the decreased suspensions.

Dr. Kathleen Hickey reported on the NWEA MAP data and shared her excitement about the growth percentage and stated that she has seen this level of excitement from staff and students since she has been here.

Mr. Tillman thanked Dr. White, the administrative staff, and everyone for their hard work. Mr. Tillman also commented on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. He referenced the annual statement of affairs from 2015. He is asking the board to be more diverse and inclusive.

### Consent Agenda

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons requested to move items F5-8 on the consent agenda for further discussion.

Mrs. Jolly asked a question regarding F4 and requested to move F4 for further discussion.

Board members agreed to table F4-8.

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mr. Tillman to ratify the Board poll to approve consent agenda items F1-F3 &amp; F9-F21.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting held on January 25, 2023</li> <li>2. Approval of the payroll summaries for January 6, 2023, in the amount of \$952,547.91</li> <li>3. Approval of the payroll summaries for January 20, 2023, in the amount of \$901,712.43</li> <li>9. Motion to approve employment of Iesha Curtis, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher</li> <li>10. Motion to approve employment of Mario Abney, Permanent Guest Teacher</li> <li>11. Motion to approve employment of Anthony Wilkins, Culture &amp; Climate Coach</li> <li>12. Motion to approve employment of Leah Joyner, Culture &amp; Climate Coach</li> <li>13. Motion to approve employment of Kim Mobley, Day-to-Day Substitute</li> <li>14. Motion to approve employment of Milina Carraway, Permanent Guest Teacher</li> <li>15. Motion to approve intermittent FMLA for Charmaine Smith</li> <li>16. Motion to approve intermittent FMLA for Vonceile Washington</li> <li>17. Motion to approve intermittent FMLA for Valorita Lipsey</li> <li>18. Motion to approve April 4, 2023, as an eLearning Day</li> <li>19. Motion to approve the holiday party on Friday, March 24, 2023, from 4-8 p.m. at Taureaux Tavern</li> <li>20. Motion to approve Spring Break time off for 12-month employees to work virtually on April 12 and 13, 2023</li> <li>21. Motion to approve summer office hours of 8:30 am - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Fridays off beginning July 3, 2023</li> </ol> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Jemine, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEMS F1-3 &amp; F9-21</p>
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### Adjourn to Closed Session

#### Closed Session

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to adjourn to a Closed session at 7:45 p.m.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Motion to convene to a closed session meeting for the purpose of discussing the following matters:</li> </ol>	<p>AGENDA ITEM G1</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of Dolton School District 149. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)</li> <li>• The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance. Or discipline, performance, or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).</li> <li>• Student Disciplinary Cases 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9)</li> <li>• Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).</li> </ul> <p>2. Motion to adjourn closed session meeting and reconvene open session meeting.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Francisco, and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	
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**Adjourn from Closed Session**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to adjourn the Closed session at 9:51 p.m.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Ms. Francisco, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM G2</p>
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**Final Action on Closed Session Items**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve student discipline decisions as discussed in closed session.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p>Nay: Ms. Francisco</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H1</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Jemine to approve employee discipline decisions as discussed in closed session.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Francisco, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H2</p>
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve retirement requests as discussed in closed session with the exception of two requests (F6 &amp; F8) that have been tabled for further review.</p>	<p>AGENDA ITEM H3</p>

<p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, Ms. Francisco, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the superintendent’s proposed reorganizational plan as discussed in closed session.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM H4

**Old Business**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the purchase of handheld radios and FCC License for the district from Onsite Communications for \$32,955.00.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Jemine, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM I1
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**New Business**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve attendance for Board Members, Superintendent, Cabinet Members, and Principals for the Superintendents’ Commission Conference of April 5 &amp; 6, 2023.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J1
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Francisco, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the purchase of 13 AED machines in the amount of \$20,280.00.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Francisco, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Gray-Everett.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J2
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the date of March 13, 2023, for Life Touch to take Board Member’s photographs.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J3
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve Board Members to attend the Superintendents’ Commission Dinner on April 4, 2023.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jemine, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM J4
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve Board Members to attend the Joint Gala presented by UNCF and the Superintendents’ Commission on March 1, 2023, at \$100.00 per participant.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Jolly, and Ms. Francisco.</p>	AGENDA ITEM J5

<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>	
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**Consent Agenda**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mr. Tillman to authorize the Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated January 26, 2023, February 8, 2023, and February 23, 2023, consisting of 90 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:</p> <table><tr><td>Education Fund</td><td>\$ 810,816.76</td></tr><tr><td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td><td>\$ 191,220.84</td></tr><tr><td>Transportation Fund</td><td>\$ 252,792.35</td></tr><tr><td>Capital Projects</td><td>\$ 13,374.00</td></tr><tr><td>Tort Immunity Fund</td><td>\$1,365,756.37</td></tr></table> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mr. Tillman, Ms. Francisco, and Mrs. Gray-Everett. Abstain: Mrs. Jolly and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	Education Fund	\$ 810,816.76	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 191,220.84	Transportation Fund	\$ 252,792.35	Capital Projects	\$ 13,374.00	Tort Immunity Fund	\$1,365,756.37	AGENDA ITEM F4
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Capital Projects	\$ 13,374.00										
Tort Immunity Fund	\$1,365,756.37										
<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to accept the letter of intent to retire from Dr. Twyla Harris effective June 30, 2023.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL TO VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Gray-Everett, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM F7										

**Meeting Open for Public Comments:**

No comments

**Adjournment**

<p><b>MOTION</b> by Ms. Jemine, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to adjourn the board meeting at 10:13 p.m.</p> <p><b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b> Aye: Ms. Jemine, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Ms. Francisco.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED</b></p>	AGENDA ITEM L
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Wilbur Tillman, President

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Bertha Jolly, Secretary