

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE
CENTER

APRIL 25, 2013

The Public Hearing on the amended 2012-2013 Budget was called to order at 7:39 PM.

BUDGET HEARING

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

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

MOTION by Mr. Castillo, second by Mrs. Eldridge to declare the budget hearing closed at 7:42 P.M. Roll call vote: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

HEARING CLOSED

The Meeting was called to order at 7:43 P.M. by Mrs. Gray Everett, Board President, in the Board Room in the Administrative Center at 292 Torrence Avenue in Calumet City, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. Absent: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani and Mrs. Tillman. Also in attendance were Administrators: Superintendent Dr. Jones, Dr. Geddis, Mrs. Harris, Ms. Herndon, Dr. Scott, Mr. Tolczyk, Dr. Garth-Young, administrators and support personnel.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Board President's Agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, second by Mr. Castillo to approve the consent grouping of routine items including minutes & executive session from Regular Board Meeting held on March 28, 2013; payroll summaries for March 29, 2013 in the amount of \$840,949.28 and April 12, 2013 in the amount of \$859,778.69 and authorize Township Treasurer to pay the invoice dated April 25, 2013, consisting of 18 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

APPROVE MINUTES
REGULAR MTG. &
EXECUTIVE SESSION OF
3-28-13

Education Fund	\$953,528.62
Tort Liability Fund	69,351.78
Building and Maintenance Fund	144,668.14
Transportation Fund	231,351.08
Total	\$1,398,899.62

APPROVE INVOICE
LISTING 4-25-13

APPROVE PAYROLL
SUMMARY OF 3-29-13 &
4-12-13

Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve a resolution authorizing the honorable dismissal of support staff pursuant to Section 5/24-12 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/24-12). Roll call vote: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVE A
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE
HONORABLE DISMISSAL
OF SUPPORT STAFF

Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mr. Castillo to appoint Darlene Gray Everett, Board President, to act as the district's representative on the Governing Board of the Illinois Association of School Boards. Roll call vote: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPOINT DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE ON
THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE ILLINOIS
ASSOCIATION OF
SCHOOL BOARDS

Meeting Open to the Public.

Crystal Pedroni, CTA President expressed to the board that the best decision they ever made was to split the Middle School into three schools. This brings new ideas, the kids are better and are proud of their work, and teachers are working together. In addition, Mrs. Pedroni shared that the board will really be pleased of what the kids are learning and doing. She thanked the board for allowing her to be a part of the team in the decision of the splitting of the schools.

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

S.T.E.M. Academy

Mr. Johnson stated early on in the year the organization ASTRA (Alliance for Science and Research in America) reached out to the S.T.E.M. Academy and asked for each 8th grade student to complete a career interest survey. Each student that completed the survey was provided with a free personalized College and Scholarship Match Report, based on their unique interest and career plans, featuring careers focused on using their STEM education. In addition, they will hear from colleges and universities seeking students and their particular post-secondary plans and qualifications. Your child may also hear from educational and career service providers offering products and services such as college admissions services, financial aid, career information, extracurricular enrichment and recognition programs.

Creative Communications Academy

Mr. Scott stated The Middle School was recently the site of the “Future Scholars Orientation”. Our students presented the concept of Creative Communications Academy. Our CCA students lead our incoming students around on a tour of our building introducing them to the teachers, subjects, and activities of CCA. They were presented with our news letter and entertained by a small flash-mob who performed to RESPECT by Aretha Franklin. Many of our incoming students seemed excited about the tour and even my daughter (who is also an incoming student) was very excited about the visit and said, she can’t wait until next year! We have just completed Terra Nova Testing and make-ups will continue throughout this week. Recently, I attended the Superintendents Commission and I was very impressed with networking and how cordial everyone presented themselves. I especially enjoyed the presentation of Mr. Steve Peters, whose main emphasis of improving student grades and behavior is predicated on the relationships you build with your students. No report...you receive no EFFORT! We had the Male Youth Summit at the Middle School. It was well received by the community, student and guest speakers. Many of the Speakers are excited about a return visit and / or strengthening the concept for the future. CCA’s School Leadership Team has completed its first 11 tasks of IIRC (Illinois Interactive Report Card). We’ve had a lot of thought provoking dialogue, ideas, and visions. We are anxious to see the future shape and direction of CCA. Thanks to Dr. Young for getting us started and on our way. CCA has started its thematic unit on advertisement! Our emphasis will be on billboards, magazines, and television commercials...We will be selling the concept of Creative Communication Academy. Students will write, research, advertise and act out their own script and television commercial. Creative Communications Academy was the winner of the ISAT Bowl of the Middle Schools. 6th and 8th grade both took first place and CCA took second for 7th grade. We completed ISAT testing on March 8th. Way to go to Mrs. Grimes’s 7th Grade class! Their class had perfect attendance all four days.

School of Fine Arts

Ms. Slate stated the fourth quarter has begun and the students have taken the **Third Quarter Assessments and the Spring Terra Nova II exams**. Our staff is eagerly waiting to view the data to see the growth in our students across the curriculum. Our School Of Fine Arts staff continues to use the information provided from the professional development workshops on Project-Based Learning and Partners for Results to help our students prepare academically, as well as, provide life-long skills for their future successes! On March 21st, I **attended the Superintendents Commission** where I had the opportunity to meet, greet, gain knowledge, and understanding of what is in store for the future of our educational and instructional leaders. I enjoyed the presentation of Mr. Steven Peters. He was true to his feelings on educating our children of today and having those relationships with them. He continues to work on improving our children’s mind which will help to improve their behavior! On Monday, March 25, 2013 we had enormous turnout, with standing room only for the **1st 2013 Male Youth Summit!** Gratitude of thanks goes to our leaders who had an opportunity to speak with our males to make this vision become a phenomenal reality! We will continue to empower and help our youth of tomorrow become productive citizens in life. **“Future Scholars of Tomorrow” Elementary to Middle School Transitions**, was held at the Dolton School District 149 Middle Schools on April 23, 2013. The elementary 5th & 6th students, teachers, and principals had an opportunity to visit and tour our School Of Fine Arts. The presentation and tours were guided by our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. We were glad to have a chance to show the elementary students what the middle school is all about. Thanks to Mr. Brath and

the Dolton School District 149 Middle Schools Jazz Band for showcasing the talents, the SOFA Crest Architects, and Tour Presenters & Scholars. Kudos to all that were involved! It was a job well done! We have come to the end of **Project Y.E.S.S.**...where our students had the opportunity to receive help academically with their homework, be involved with different clubs, and have some fun and excitement with the collaboration of the Dolton Park District. Thanks to the Board of Education for allowing our students to have a safe place to come to afterschool. At this time I'd like to report that all of our eighth students have taken the **Illinois Constitution** exam, and I am proud to say that they **all have passed!** We are continuing to empower our students in a positive direction because "**the roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet**". **We Believe...** that our school will provide students with the experiences and skills to help them reach their full potential academically and socially while instilling **Excellence, Humanization, and Pride!**

Diekman

Mrs. Davis stated the month of April has been very busy for Diekman School. The Diekman staff participated in an overnight retreat at the Eaglewood Resort in Itasca on April 12-13, 2013. Erin Bramscher (Reading Coach) and Dr. Kathleen Doyle (consultant from ISC-4) provided professional development based on the well-known book by Harvey & Goudvis, *Strategies That Work*. The workshop focused on the six research-based strategies proven to improve comprehension: making Connections, questioning, visualizing, inferring, determining importance, and synthesizing. Teachers also learned about the gradual release of responsibility model, a best practice for teaching new information. A highlight of the workshop was that each teacher received a free copy of the book *Strategies That Work*, which is full of lessons and ideas that teachers can use in their classrooms. We were also empowered by Stephen Peters, Motivational Speaker, Educational Leader and Author. He captured us with his powerful messages on how effective relationship building with children creates a culture of learning for student and school success. We ended the day team building with our colleagues from New Beginnings Learning Academy. Our focus was strategic planning, time management, listening, team problem solving. We had a great time!! On April 17th, 2013 we celebrated and recognized Diekman's Distinguished Scholars, students with perfect attendance, and many special awards. All students and many parents came out to celebrate this special event. Our Intermediate students went to the Field Museum as a culminating activity to their studies of Egypt. Students participated in a scavenger hunt while touring the museum. Their goal was to collect new information, make comparison, and share within their classrooms. Everyone had a great time. This trip educational and fun! We are excited to report that 2 students from the ICC Intermediate Cross Program transitioned in to the regular education classroom. Our goal continues to be to transition our students when their goals have been met or they have tested out and are ready to move on. Dr. Shelly Davis- Jones, Madame President, and School Board Members THANK YOU for supporting Diekman students and staff!!!

New Beginnings Learning Academy

Mrs. Franklin stated earlier this month, the staff at New Beginnings Learning Academy enjoyed the first ever joint staff School Improvement Retreat with Diekman School. During our retreat, NBLA focused specifically on Literacy Centers with our presenter, Jill Liapis, from the ISC-4 Center. In our joint session with DKM, we were inspired by Mr. Stephen Peters, motivational speaker on the topic of "Engaging All Learners". This was an outstanding and dynamic presentation that truly inspired us to take a closer look at how we provide learning for our students. We ended the day with team challenges that involved teaching us the value of strategizing, effective communication, and team collaboration. Thank you to Dr. Scott and Principal Jamie Hayes for supporting us at this event. We truly enjoyed ourselves and appreciate the opportunity for these valuable experiences! Our sixth grader students have enjoyed two great educational experiences within the last month. We were awarded the Bio-Diversity Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources that was approved by the Board earlier this school year. As a result, our students attended the Peggy Notebaert Museum and learned about erosion, and visited the Butterfly Conservatory. Earlier this week, our students participated in the Future Scholars of Tomorrow transition program at the Middle School. Both students, staff and parents were well impressed about the GREAT things that are happening at the middle school. They are excited and can't wait to attend next year! As we near the end of the school year, several P.B.I.S. incentives have been planned as a means to continue to support positive student behavior. We are looking forward to having a positive, productive end of the year!

Carol Moseley Braun

Mrs. Hayes stated friends and family of the community attended Carol Moseley Braun's first ever, Curriculum Fair. The event took place on the evening of April 18th, as students gathered, showcasing expertise in areas of Science, Math, Reading, and Social Studies. We had over 50 participants with Grades 1st through 6th represented. As parents, guests, and teachers found their way around the "standing room only" exhibition, students presented oral explanations of their projects ranging from basic to the most complex. The students showed up and showed off. We had over 100

parents who made the night successful by encouraging and listening to each participant. Carol Moseley Braun could not have had a better night to show how gifted our students are and what an inspiration they are to their peers! In another exciting event, Kemari Ffrench represented Carol Moseley Braun in the REGIONAL spelling bee competition hosted by the Coronata Council No. 3806 of the Knights of Columbus' on Saturday, March 23rd. I am pleased to report that Kemari Ffrench placed 1st in the REGIONAL Spelling Bee. In preparing our students for the rigorous Common Core standards in Writing, all of our 6th grade students have completed a two page report about their plans to prepare for their future college and/or career goals. These reports will be submitted to Superintendent, Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones. As always, I would like to personally thank Mrs. Gray-Everett, school board president, the school board members, Superintendent Dr. Davis-Jones, and the central office staff for their never ending support.

Berger-Vandenberg

Mrs. Winters stated Congratulations to Berger's 3rd quarter honor students. Wednesday, April 17th, thirty of Berger-Vandenberg's top academic achievers and most improved students in grades 3rd -5th received an opportunity to participate in our Academic Reward Trip for 3rd quarter. Our goal was to find a trip that would be rewarding in experience and offer exposure to our students. Thanks to the Beverly Arts Center of Chicago, our students were able to participate in a Drama and Dance workshop. The School Leadership Team continues to meet to discuss, examine and analyze Rising Star indicators...We believe that this process will continue to lend itself to the impact of academic excellence for Berger's students. The extra-curricular clubs are off to a great start. On behalf of the students of Berger, we say thanks to the School Board and Superintendent Dr. Davis-Jones for the after school clubs.

Central Office

Numeracy Coordinator Dr. Brigitte Garth-Young stated it is my pleasure to announce that the Future Scholars Orientation for the S.T.E.M Academy, Creative Communications Academy, and the School of Fine Arts was well received by the 5th and 6th graders from the district's elementary schools. The collaborative efforts between the central office, the building administration, the teachers, the custodial team, A viand's , and the student leaders, resulted into a feeling of excellence, pride, and humanization throughout the learning community.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the rejoining of the Illinois Elementary School Association for sports program at The Middle School effective 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Gray Everett, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE REJOINING
ILLINOIS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
FOR SPORTS PROGRAM

Motion by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the existing hazardous bus routes for the 2013-2014 since these routes remain unchanged, and to authorize submission to The Illinois Department of Transportation for reconsideration of potentially hazardous routes. Roll call vote: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE EXISTING
HAZARDOUS BUS
ROUTES FOR THE 2013-
2014 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the contract proposal for Win Learning a Personalized College/Career Readiness Program for students in 6th – 8th grade for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE CONTRACT
PROPOSAL FOR WIN
LEARNING A
PERSONALIZED
COLLEGE/CAREER
READINESS PROGRAM

Motion by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the amended budget prepared by Dr. Alicia Geddis, Deputy Superintendent and CFO for the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE AMENDED
BUDGET FOR THE 2012-
2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the amended audit prepared by Klein, Hall & Associates, LLC for the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE AMENDED
AUDIT FOR THE 2012-
2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Bulletin Reports. None

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo for the Board of Education meet into executive session to consider student disciplinary matters, the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

New Business.

Motion by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to change the Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2013 to Monday, May 13, 2013. Roll call vote: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

CHANGE THE BOARD MEETING DATES

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to accept recommendations of student as discussed in executive session. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT RECOMMENDATIONS AS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Old Business. None

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to adjourn at 11:09 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Gray Everett. **MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary