

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM
JANUARY 28, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting was held via Zoom and the meeting was called to order at 7:16 P.M. by Mrs. Darlene Gray Everett, Board President. She addressed communication issues with the public.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Castillo. Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all

Also in attendance were: Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, Dr. Twyla Harris, Cedric Lewis, Dr. Brigitte Garth-Young, April Brown, Carmen Canales, Dr. James Cunneen, Board Attorney, James Vasselli, Board Attorney Tiffany Nelson-Jaworski, David Ormsby, Carolyn Franklin, Dr. Vedia Page, Laura Wolf, Jamie Hayes, Dr. Nicole Robinson, BeNita Parker, ZaRita Beal, Renata Patterson, Christal Washington, John Johnson, Latricia Lewis, Jamar Everett, Alfred Thompkins, Sheila Colone, Kathy Mancine, Joyia Crims, Dona Gentles, Jennice Turner, Stephanie Wasserman, Sherry Dority, Danielle Franklin, Keisha Knight, Joshua Reyna, Jaime Sabador, Cherita Smith, Jeannie Dryan, Ernesta Ransom, John Shields, Erin Lewis, Tonia Leonhard, Shari Gomez, Secrett Stone, Kimberly Eldridge, William Watson, Suzanne Seifert, Maurice Turner, Yvette Shackelford, Chrishello Bonds, David Rigor, Elaine Landrum and Kimberly Khan.

Board Member Comments and Questions –

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons had a question on the payables page 13, cutting of weeds and grass removal of fallen trees/major debris. Dr. Cunneen answered with clarity.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons had a question on payables page 53, Home Depot Air Purifiers for Christ our Savior. Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones answered with clarity.

Mrs. Bertha Jolly asked if Christ Our Savior is closing in June? Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones stated yes.

Mr. Tillman had a question on the Board President Consent Agenda item number 9, Renew with School Messenger Renewal for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$6,300.00. Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones answered with clarity.

Mr. Tillman had a question on the Board President Consent agenda item number 13 and 14 and was requesting to see a copy of the contracts for Al Ronan, District Lobbyist and David Ormsby, Public Relations Consultant. Mrs. Gray Everett asked Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones if there were any changes in the contracts or any increases. Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones stated there were no changes and no increases. She emailed a copy of the contracts to all the Board members to review.

Mr. Tillman had a question on the agenda under Old Business item number 1, to reject the Board policy Deviation with Illinois Association of the School Boards from PRESS Plus Subscription to PRESS. Board Attorney James Vasselli answered with clarity. Dr. Cunneen gave more clarity to the question. There was further discussion and clarity on Press Plus by the Attorney and Dr. Cunneen.

Mrs. Gray Everett requested that in the Board President Consent Agenda payables for vendors that Mr. Lewis explain and ratify the payables. This needs to be in a motion to ratify page 24.

Mr. Lewis stated everything is completely in order as presented in the Board President Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked a question regarding page 24 in the payables. Dr. Cunneen and Mrs. Gray Everett explained and answered with clarity. Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones explained the error with Dr. Scott's over-time and Mrs. Gray Everett's name was stated as the person that approved it.

Mrs. Eldridge asked Mr. Lewis shouldn't you review the payables, isn't that your responsibility as the Business Manager? Mr. Lewis stated yes, absolutely it is my responsibility.

Mrs. Gray Everett stated I don't think anything was done intentionally and I don't take it that way. Just take it out and do not approve it that way. We will make a separate motion to modify the way it should be approved.

Correspondence - None

Bulletins and Reports - None

Cabinet Reports –

Carolyn Franklin - Math PD Plus

Carolyn Franklin reported, in the area of Mathematics, our District has been on a quest to find a math partner that would support a constructivist-teaching model and provide coaching for both our teachers and administrators. Professional Development Plus is an approved IL-Empower partner that we first became acquainted with in October 2020. Since then, we have had several meetings with Professional Development Plus, our administrative team, the CTA and collaborative meetings with all three entities combined to learn about their philosophy, practices, and framework and how they can support us in improving student math scores.

Professional Development Plus is currently working with us to design a customized data-centered/Common Core Math Framework. This framework would include professional development training and coaching for both our teachers and our building administrators. Instructional math coaches would be provided through their company. Leadership development, modeling, content acquisition sessions, classroom observation, co-planning and co-teaching are included in the coaching plan. In addition, teachers would be taught current research pedagogy and engage in the use of differentiated instruction and the use of math learning centers as well as balanced math to improve student achievement. Professional Development Plus would utilize the current resources that we already have in the district which include MyMath for the elementary schools and Envisions Math for middle school students. In addition, they would also use Stride Academy (a resource that we already use) to collect, measure and analyze student growth.

If selected and approved, Professional Development Plus would begin rolling out this framework at our March District Improvement Day. A needs assessment would be completed for each building and then these results would be used to build an individualized plan to address the needs of each school. Professional Development Plus is well equipped with the personnel, strategies and best practices to help us improve student achievement in math. Thank you to our School Board for considering Professional Development Plus as a math partnership for our district.

Dr. Davis Jones - Hybrid Blended Model Update

Superintendent Davis-Jones reported, I will share an update regarding the Hybrid Model. The transition team met this week to continue our discussion and proposed plans for possible in-person learning. We understand the significant challenges in providing quality instruction for both in class

and remote/e-learning students. The transition team has developed guidelines for teacher lesson plans when students return.

- 1) Students will attend school either remotely or in person (hybrid). Group A/B Monday and Tuesday is group A Wednesday all students on remote and Thursday and Friday Group B.
- 2) In the middle school teachers will move from classroom to classroom not students.
- 3) Asynchronous and Synchronous learning platform will be incorporated into daily instruction.

At the last meeting, I shared that the Hybrid transition team recommended that upon any in-person learning that we stagger the students back to school.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to use this approach as we have been made aware of many older siblings who are assisting younger siblings with remote/e-learning at home and so to stagger the 8th graders one week and then the rest of the student population could pose a problem for parents who are working.

We have been monitoring scientific data regarding the new variant strand of COVID-19 and believe we would like the Board to consider looking at the last quarter at the end of April 26th after spring vacation to begin the Hybrid Model.

As it stands right now, the students in 3rd-8th grade must take the IAR Assessment. The window opens March 15th-May 15th. The leadership team and principals will begin working to create tentative Hybrid schedules to ensure we have a testing schedule that supports the COVID-19 guidance for student and staff safety.

After careful consideration, and listening to the voices of our transition committee, teachers will have to return to the classroom one or two days a week to get acclimated back to the school environment around the 3rd week of March. The CTA and the administrative team believe it is important for teachers to transition back into the school environment before testing begins.

It is our plan to utilize two schedules A and B by school and use all computer labs with small groups of students and 6 feet social distancing under the direction of our architect. We would like the Board to consider a possible return for our teachers on April 26th and the Hybrid Model begin on May 3 for our students.

The buildings are cleaned, thermometer cameras are ready, COVID-19 guidance, decals, posters and procedures are set. The architect is working to create the design plan to address space in each classroom to ensure students are 6 feet apart. Plexi glass has been placed on teacher desks and in media centers. Extra plexi glass is also on hand, if needed. PPE, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, gowns and goggles are in all schools. Computer keyboards will need covers and antibacterial cleaner to keep the computers germ free after each student use. The district will continue to practice daily self-certification symptom screening.

Only students and staff members who are healthy should report to school for in-person testing. As such, Dolton School District 149 is requiring parents and staff to self-certify themselves daily prior to entering of the District's facilities. It should be noted that ALL staff member's temperatures will be taken upon arriving to work daily. If any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 are exhibited by staff or students, then they should remain home.

- **Fever of 100.4 or higher**
- **Chills**

- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
- **Headache**
- **Loss of taste or smell**
- **Nausea or vomiting**
- **Fatigue**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Congestion or runny nose**
- **Diarrhea**

The COVID-19 Tracker as of 1 28 2021 Positivity Rate

- Burnham, Illinois, 4.8% positivity rate and 7 day daily cases status is Very High
- Calumet City, 7.8% positivity rate and the 7 day daily cases status is Very High
- Dolton, Illinois 3.6% positivity rate and the 7 day daily cases is status is Very High
- South Holland, Illinois 3.9% positivity rate and the 7 day daily cases is Very High

A survey was sent to district staff about receiving COVID-19 vaccinations on campus hosted by medical professionals, if it becomes available. The result indicated the following.

36.51% said YES

27.78% said NO

35.71% said Not Sure

36% Yes

63% No/Not Sure

Of course, no decisions have been made this is our team sharing our thoughts with the Board. We clearly understand our actions and plans are all predicated on the scientific data, the safety of our staff, students, the BOE and any mandates from the Illinois State Board of Education.

Dr. Cunneen reported the Superintendent's report was very extensive and it included all the topics that needed discussion. They need direction from the Board on those topics the Superintendent proposed.

Business Session began at 7:58 P.M.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Eldridge. Absent: None.

Meeting Open to the Public for Comments for Board Agenda – No public comments were made.

Board President Consent Agenda

MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to accept the President Consent Agenda H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13 and H14 with ratifying the voucher on page 24 that states: educational consultant services for Dec. 17, 2020 - Dec. 28, 2020 14 days additional days approved by the board.

1. Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held December 10, 2020.
2. Approval of the payroll summaries for December 11, 2020 in the amount of \$932,070.08.
3. Approval of the payroll summaries for December 23, 2020 in the amount of \$942,411.60.
4. Authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated January 28, 2021 consisting of 55 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:

Education Fund	\$1,591,191.88
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$192,360.98
Transportation Fund	\$4,791.57
Capital Projects	\$272,994.48
Tort Immunity Fund	\$1,803.94
Total	\$2,063,142.85

5. Renew agreement with AAA Alternative Academic Achievement Academy for students from August 10, 2020 through May 26, 2021.
6. Need a motion to renew Agreement with Country Club Hills Tech and Trade Center for students for September 8, 2021 through June 16, 2021.
7. Renew the agreement with E-Scrap Technologies for the purpose of recycling and disposal of electronic waste.
8. Renew E-2 solutions for Trend Micro License Renewal for District Wide Computer Coverage from February 17, 2021 through February 16, 2022 in the amount of \$10,020.00.
9. Renew with School Messenger Renewal for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$6,300.00.
10. Need a motion to approve Intermittent FMLA for Susan Broniarczyk effective January 4, 2021 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

ACCEPT THE PRESIDENT CONSENT AGENDA H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13 and H14 WITH RATIFYING THE VOUCHER ON PAGE 24 THAT STATES: EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR DEC. 17, 2020 - DEC. 28, 2020 14 DAYS ADDITIONAL DAYS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

<p>11. Need a motion to approve Intermittent FMLA for Annette Mack effective January 5, 2021 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>12. Need a motion to approve Intermittent FMLA for Melissa Nawracaj effective December 10, 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>13. Need a motion to renew the contract agreement with District Lobbyist, Al Ronan with no increase effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.</p> <p>14. Need a motion to renew contract agreement for David Ormsby, Public Relations Consultant with no increase effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
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Old Business

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to reject the Board policy Deviation with Illinois Association of School Boards from PRESS Plus Subscription to PRESS.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>REJECT THE BOARD POLICY DEVIATION WITH ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS FROM PRESS PLUS SUBSCRIPTION TO PRESS</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to request and approve an emergency waiver of the current SFA per the Illinois State Board of Education for the 2021- 2022 school year.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>REQUEST AND APPROVE AN EMERGENCY WAIVER OF THE CURRENT SFA PER THE ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE 2021- 2022 SCHOOL YEAR</p>

New Business

<p>MOTION by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to approve abatement resolution for the property tax relief grant for tax year 2020.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE ABATEMENT RESOLUTION FOR THE PROPERTY TAX RELIEF GRANT FOR TAX YEAR 2020</p>
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<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve MOU/Internship for Amanda Phillips for Principal Leadership with Governors State University at no cost to the district. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE MOU/INTERNSHIP FOR AMANDA PHILLIPS FOR PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP WITH GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to accept the letter of resignation for Monica Malcolm Permanent Guest Teacher effective Friday, January 29, 2021. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FOR MONICA MALCOLM PERMANENT GUEST TEACHER EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021</p>

Correspondence–None

Bulletin and Reports - None

Public Comments–

Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones shared with the Board that the 8th graders, the 8th grade principals, teachers and parents are inquiring about the plans for a possible graduation. Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones thanked Christal Walker, ZaRita Beal and Dr. Robinson for having already taken the steps to gather the voices of our parents, students and staff members. A virtual graduation is safe and the Board allowed us to do that last year. We received the \$5,000 down payment back from Odyssey for last year’s 8th grade luncheon.

Superintendent Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones reported the parents would like their children to have cap and gowns. The 8th grade Principals submitted information to me about having yard signs and t-shirts. I am not sure if parents would agree to yard signs and t-shirts.

Lifetouch has given us their full COVID protocol procedures so that they could use our hybrid schedule to take the 8th grade graduation pictures in order to have virtual graduation. Our students need to have a cap and gown picture and we need to be able to use a hybrid schedule where we could bring them in small groups to utilize all of the COVID-19 self symptoms, certification checks and give the symptoms.

Student graduation pictures can be taken while parents wait on the sidelines at the school outside and then students can leave out.

Will the Board be gracious again this year because we will not have a \$14,000 luncheon? Will the Board be gracious enough again to allow us to have cap and gowns, to have pictures and to have a virtual graduation?

Lifetouch and Mr. Balfour with the cap and gowns are filling up fast in February. Everybody is trying to get everything in for the month of February and we need to get on board too if we can.

Mrs. Gray Everett asked if there were any suggestions and stated we can make that part of our Committee of the Whole meeting that we are looking to have in two weeks. Dr. Cunneen stated that can easily be part

of the Committee of Whole Meeting. Mr. Tillman stated, I think that is a very good idea Madam President.

Superintendent Shelly Davis-Jones stated one more thing Mrs. Gray Everett; I do have the supplemental report that was requested by the Board at the last Committee of the Whole meeting. I will forward it to all the Board members.

Mrs Jolly asked if that would be enough time to get everything set. Superintendent Dr. Davis-Jones answered with clarity.

Mrs. Gray Everett asked what date would work for the Committee of the Whole meeting. All of the Board Members agreed to February 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Closed Session

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to go into closed session at 8:19 p.m. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).</p> <p>Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(g)(2).</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>CLOSED SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to come out of closed session at 8:45 p.m. and resume regular session.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>RESUME REGULAR SESSION</p>

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. Absent: None.

Final Action on Closed Session Items, (if needed) - None

Adjournment

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to Adjourn at 8:46 p.m.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
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Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary