

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
OCTOBER 24, 2013

The Meeting was called to order at 8:17 P.M. by Mrs. Darlene Gray Everett, Board President, in the Board Room in the Administrative Center at 292 Torrence Avenue in Calumet City, Illinois.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Eldridge. Absent: Ms. Ghani and Mrs. Tillman. Also in attendance were Administrators, Teachers and Support Staff.

The Pledge of Allegiance. Was said by all.

Board President's Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the consent grouping of routine items including the minutes from the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on September 26, 2013; payroll summaries for September 27, 2013 in the amount of \$804,024.64, and October 11, 2013 in the amount of \$780,340.24 and authorize Township Treasurer to pay the invoices dates October 24, 2013, consisting of 22 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

Education Fund	\$993,198.51
Tort Liability Fund	13,204.06
Building and Maintenance Fund	272,765.15
Transportation Fund	288,746.52
Total	\$1,507,914.24

Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the new organizational chart as discussed in the special meeting of October 2, 2013. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting open to the public. Since no wished to address the board the regular meeting resumed.

Special Committee Reports. None

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

S.T.E.M.

Mr. Johnson stated we are pleased to report that we have completed our Quarterly Assessment for the first quarter, we are looking forward to using the results from data to drive instruction and increase test scores. We will analyst he data in our purpose and meaningful articulation meetings to devise appropriate direct instruction which will align with the Common Core State Standards. In reviewing the 2012-2013 ISAT data we noticed that the S.T.E.M. Academy students did well in the area of science. There is room for improvement in all areas that are tested for ISAT and we are working diligently to improve our scores. We are continuing to conduct classroom walkthroughs. The results from the walkthrough and we are using this feed back to improve instruction. Our girls' basketball team is going strong, they have a tournament this weekend at Seton Academy, currently their record is 5-2.

Carol Moseley Braun

Mrs. Hayes stated exciting things are happening at Carol Moseley Braun. To encourage our students to excel academically we are piloting "Stride Academy". The Stride Academy is a program that focuses on math, reading, and science through sports. This program enables us to monitor individual student progress and then utilize the information given to differentiate instruction that is best suited for the student. It is a great tool that will provide parents, teachers, and students with specific information geared to improve student achievement. Over the past 5 years in reading there has been a gradual increase of students moving from below standards to meeting the standards. In reviewing our 2012-2013 ISAT data the results show that our students did well in reading literacy and reading vocabulary however we still have work to do in an effort to reach our academic goal. The teachers and administrators are also working diligently to implement our School Improvement Plan. A specific goal within the plan is to concentrate on staff development in the area of reading. In the upcoming weeks we will have many opportunities for parents to play an active role within our school. Tomorrow we are expecting a nice turn out for our "College Day" Fall Parade. Our Primary and Intermediate Honor Roll Assemblies will take place on Friday, November 8th at 9:45 a.m. and our "Parent Coffee Club" meeting date is fast approaching. Our "Coffee Club" meetings are always packed with

valuable information and they provide a great opportunity for parents to learn key skills on how to provide assistance at home. We anticipate a full house at our upcoming events and we thank all our parents and students for their efforts and support.

New Beginnings Learning Academy

Ms. Slate stated the focus at New Beginnings Learning Academy is to become an exemplary school. By doing so, our teaching staff is continuing to review Data from ISAT 2012-13. It is important that we focus on each student's ability to read, comprehend, apply knowledge, to compute and solve mathematical problems and applications, as well as to articulate what they have learned according to the Common Core State Standards: According to the 2012-2013 ISAT data the 4th grade students improved overall in the areas of reading by 9%, mathematics by 9%, and science by 15%. The 6th grade students improved in the areas of reading by 25% and mathematics by 7% from. As we continue to analyze the data, we are restructuring our approach in direct instruction, the utilization of response to intervention strategies, as well as proper service delivery for both regular education students and special education students. In our Grade Level Articulation Meetings, teachers are working collaboratively to improve achievement with topics relative to Common Core State Standards which will help our students make appropriate academic gains. We are looking to see improvement over the course of this school year. Congratulations to the NBLA staff for maintaining Perfect Attendance during the months of August and September! It is the mission and vision to prepare students successfully through an intense, rigorous academic program that focuses on a complete developmental approach and provide the curriculum through a non-traditional style of teaching. **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!**

Caroline Sibley

Mrs. Franklin stated as we continue to review our current ISAT scores, we have identified that there was a significant increase in our 5th grade math scores from 56% in 2012 to 68% in 2013, which is a 12% increase. We have also identified a 3% increase in the number of students that went from meeting to exceeding in Reading for our 6th grade students. As we compare our current ISAT scores with the new cut scores for 2013, a decline is noted. This information has given us a better understanding on how the CCSS and incoming PAARC test will be assessed. We are preparing for these changes by increasing our focus on higher order thinking skills and shifting our teaching practices towards more student engagement activities. Dr. Klonsky (educational consultant) and the CS administrative team have been performing instructional building walk-throughs and having collaborative conversations on the teaching trends at CS. Our next steps involve sharing this data with the new School Leadership Team and then implementing a plan of action to address more impactful instruction through authentic learning activities. Tomorrow we are looking forward to enjoying our Fall Teacher Appreciation Breakfast to acknowledge our 32 perfect attendance staff members for the month of August and our 12 perfect attendance staff members for the month of September. We will also be celebrating all of our 1st quarter birthdays and other good news. Please feel free to come out and join us!

Berger Vandenberg

Mrs. Winters stated Berger Elementary School continues its mission of improvement in providing high quality instruction for every child. As you know, common core state standards have challenged students with more rigor academically. Despite the new standards, Berger Elementary has maintained steady progress in literature. Fourth grade has been the strongest level at Berger Elementary. In 2013, fourth grade students made gains in four areas, which include (1) literature, (2) number sense, (3) algebra, and (4) data analysis, probability, and statistics. Opportunities for growth are evident in fifth grade, where students dropped from 2012 to 2013 in all areas of the ISAT except literature. Through purposeful vertical articulation meetings, between fourth and fifth grade teachers, we will analyze benchmarks and other assessments and discuss at risk students monthly. We will look at strands and group students based on areas of need and provide remediation during the "Berger Basics" period. Students, who have met and exceeded the standards, will be challenged through engaging content, with opportunities for hands on and project based activities. School-wide, Berger is doing well in literature and reading comprehension. But there are several opportunities for improvement. We will continue to work hard to make a difference. Thanks to Ms. Washington for conducting our Bully-free Prevention assemblies. Friday, October 25th is our College Fall parade. In an effort to support our "College-Bound" theme for our Fall Celebration, each student was required to choose a college of their choice and create a poster that encourages and entices all students to want to go to college. We are looking forward to creative posters and college apparel that many of our students will be wearing.

Superintendent's Agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the Family Medical Leave of Absence request for Patricia Menard, custodian effective September 26, 2013 with an anticipated return time of 6 weeks for health reasons. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE FAMILY MEDICAL
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR
PATRICIA MENARD

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the Family Medical Leave of Absence request for April Davis, principal effective October 4, 2013 with an anticipated return date of December 1, 2013 for health reasons. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE FAMILY MEDICAL
LEAVE FOR APRIL DAVIS

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the Family Medical Leave of Absence request for Monica Fredrick, teacher effective October 21, 2013 with an anticipated return date of December 2, 2013 for health reasons. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE FAMILY MEDICAL
LEAVE FOR MONICA FREDRICK

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve extending a Family Medical Leave of Absence for Jaime Sabodor, teacher with an anticipated return date of December 16, 2013 for maternity. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE FAMILY MEDICAL
LEAVE FOR JAIME SABODOR

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the Family Medical Leave of Absence request for Valorita Lipsey, teacher effective February 3, 2014 with an anticipated return date of April 28, 2014 for maternity. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE FAMILY MEDICAL
LEAVE FOR VALORITA LIPSEY

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the intent to retire letter for Bobbi Williamson, custodian effective June 30, 2015. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE INTENT TO RETIRE FOR
BOBBI WILLIAMSON

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve State Mechanical Services to replace the piping to the hot water pump at Berger-Vandenberg School for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE STATE MECHICAL
SERVICES TO DO WORK AT
BERGER-VANDENBERG SCHOOL

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to authorize JMS Environmental Associates, Ltd., to complete the boiler room project at Berger-Vandenberg School for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

AUTHORIZE JMS ENVIRINMENTAL
ASSOCIATES, TLD TO COMPLETE
THE WORK AT BERGER-
VANENBERG SCHOOL

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to meet in executive session at 8:34 P.M. to consider student disciplinary matters, the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, and litigation. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, Seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to resume regular session at 10:21 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

REGULAR SESSION

Correspondence Stedman Graham thanked the Superintendent for the opportunity to speak at the National Black Superintendent Conference about the work of Identity Leadership. He would like to introduce the Student Identity Leadership Workshops in the district for students in grades 8-12. The primary mission of the workshop is to help young people in school, improve behavior, support independent learning, and academic performance.

Emily Carwell informed the Superintendent that the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program that she applied for has become available. Additionally, Congresswomen Robin Kelly would like to personally deliver the books on Monday, November 25, 2013 between the hours of 11:30 and noon to the school of her choice.

Bulletin Reports. None

New Business.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the new District Brand Color. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE NEW DISTRICT
BRAND COLOR

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to approve November 19, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. as the new date for the November's board meeting. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE NOVEMBER 19,
2013 AS THE NEW BOARD
MEETING DATE

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to accept the recommendations of the Student Disciplinary Committee to refer student 149-1314-001 to an alternative school for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year. In addition, Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
STUDENT 149-1314-001

Old Business.

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to appoint Mr. Donahue and Superintendent Davis-Jones to draw up a contract for the Safety Truant Residency Middle School Officer Mr. Bolden Jones. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPOINT
REPRESENTATIVES TO
DRAW UP CONTRACT FOR
BOLDEN JONES

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to amend Humberto Bernal's retirement letter to read 2016 as a retirement year instead of 2015 which was a district error. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

AMEND RETIREMENT
LETTER FOR HUMERTO
BERNAL

777.

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the computer labs and electrical wiring for PARRC Assessments. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE
COMPUTER LABS AND
ELECTRIC WIRING FOR
PARRC ASSESSMENTS

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to adjourn at 10:26 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT

Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary