

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
OCTOBER 25, 2012

The Meeting was called to order at 7:55 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. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, and Mrs. Gray Everett. Absent: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons 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. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the consent grouping of routine items including the minutes from the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on September 27, 2012; payroll summaries for September 28, 2012 in the amount of \$834,309.72, and October 12, 2012 in the amount of \$840,130.16 and authorize Township Treasurer to pay the invoices dates October 25, 2012, consisting of 20 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Education Fund | \$852,279.20 |
| Tort Liability Fund | 131,379.93 |
| Building and Maintenance Fund | 282,502.73 |
| Transportation Fund | 175,638.18 |
| Total | \$1,441,845.04 |

Meeting open to the public. Crystal Pedroni, CTA President thanked Superintendent Davis-Jones and the School Board for a great working relationship during negotiations.

Special Committee Reports. None

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

C.C.A.

Mr. Scott stated this week we started our Partners4Results Assessment test for the first quarter. A big thanks to Dr. Scott for getting us up and running with that. Our staff has begun to identify students who have scored low on the Aims Web and Math assessments. We are working on **Individual Success Plans** to improve the scores of these individuals and we are incorporating parents to be partners in the success of their student. This past Friday, we sent our Language Arts and Mathematics teachers over to Thornridge for Teacher Articulation in both subjects. Our teachers came back with great information on improving reading scores and how to encourage students to read. At this meeting, they were given an outline of a program to reward students with points for reading books. We are trying to find ways we can incorporate this into our PBIS program. Our math department stated "that school district 149 was the only district to have its curriculum aligned to the common core standards that also aligned with district 205". So we are proud to say we are heading in the right direction. Principal Mentoring with Joel Bakrins has been very insightful over the past few weeks. He has really opened my eyes to the ends and out of the position, continued rigor and demands that a principal must endure. Big thanks to Mr. Bakrins. CCA will have plenty of activities starting soon, beginning with Project YESS next week. Also, we are preparing for Boys Basketball Tryouts this week. Congratulations to our girls' 7th and 8th grade basketball teams who are both undefeated in 6 games. This weekend they will be playing in Seton's Girl basketball Tournament. Lastly, we are preparing to have our first Safe Haven Drill this Friday.

S.O.F.A.

Ms. Slate stated The **School of Fine Arts** are moving onward and upward. Our students are excited about their education and the successes of participating in the Literacy and Numeracy Thematic Units on "It's Music Time!" We have ended with a knowledgeable of music genres through time. The S.O.F.A. school is beginning the second quarter with a thematic unit on "**Elections!**" We look forward to starting a **SOFA Government Council** in an effort to become leaders with a wealth of understanding on policies and procedures within our school and community. Our Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics teachers were a part of the Articulation meetings with surrounding teachers in neighboring districts. Our team is looking forward to using the information so that we meet the needs of our students that they may make gains academically in reading and math. This week, October 22nd- 24th, the S.O.F.A. students are taking the Partner for Results Quarterly Assessments. Our students feel comfortable and look forward to excelling in all areas of Reading/Language Arts and Math. Thanks for all of your help and dedication in making this possible, Dr. Scott and to Mr. Jerome Smith for assisting our team with the assessments. A big thanks to Mrs. Brodnax-Brown (Science Teacher) who every year faithfully has our students participating with School

District 205's annual science **"Biology Bowl!"** The students enjoy the experience. Remembering that safety is first, on Friday, our students will participate in the Safe Haven Drill, where we will proceed safely and quietly to the Sandridge Center. Thanks to Ms. Herndon, for the staff professional development on Differentiated Instruction! The staff walked away with more knowledge and understanding of D.I. They also asked can there be a part two? Project Y.E.S.S. will begin October 30, 2012. Students are asking to be a part of our afterschool program and we aim to please! Remember, **We are Champions!** I am proud to say that our students have worked hard to complete their essays and are looking forward to the reward of showcasing by wearing a School Of Fine Arts Blazer. The SOFA students have had the opportunity during lunchtime, on stage, to showcase their **SOFA IDLE** talents. How exciting to see what our children can really do! **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 Diekman School currently has 330 students enrolled. In an effort to close the achievement gap the staff and I have began the process of analyzing our ISAT data. We are continuing to implement practices learned from our professional development opportunities. Several Staff members will be participating in Professional Growth Workshops over the next 3 weeks. Some of the topics are Focused Portfolios, Bullying, and Developmental Relational Treatment of Autism & Sensory Processing Disorders. I am currently observing classrooms in order to conduct our instructional walkthroughs. Next month we will host our first Pre-K Parent Workshop. Staff will conduct a work shop where parents will learn effective reading strategies, participate in a read aloud and enjoy a make & take activity with their children. Students are visiting the library on a weekly basis. On October 17th, The Black Star Project/Real Men Read made very special visit to Diekman School. Three gentlemen came out to read to several classrooms. It was a Fantastic experience for all and the children enjoyed our special male guest. We have planned our 2nd Quarter Reading Incentive. Students will participate in "I Read to the Principal" Program starting the 2nd Quarter. All students will have their names placed on the Hallway display and acknowledged with bookmarks, pencils, erasers, buttons, and certificates. They are being recognized weekly, monthly, and quarterly for their efforts in academics and conduct.

Carol Moseley Braun

Mrs. Hayes stated October has been a wonderful month for CMB. I have been diligently visiting classroom and I am pleased to report that in accordance with The National Council for the Social Studies (1994) Act, which states that "social studies programs should include experiences that provide for the study of the principles and practices of citizenship in a democratic republic." In Ms. Greaves 4th grade classroom our students have been getting a strong civic education!!! By using the upcoming Presidential Election as her current event her students have been writing interview questions that they might ask the president if they have the opportunity to meet him, and they have been learning about the entire election process by voting on various issues and actually having a mock election of their own. All of these civic skills being taught in her classroom contribute to the goal of developing well-rounded, contributing, and responsible members of society for our students outside of the classroom. On Monday, October 22, Superintendent Davis-Jones allowed a few of the principals to participate in a Charlotte Danielson workshop at ISC4. By participating in this workshop we completed an in-depth study of the standards for performance in Charlotte Danielson's Professional Practice Model. We also explored the Illinois State Model for teacher evaluation, based on the Danielson Framework and learned to synthesize these components into a plan for evaluation that can be used in our schools in the near future. Thank you so much Superintendent Davis-Jones for allowing us to attend that invaluable workshop.

Berger Vandenberg

Mrs. Winters stated over the past weeks, she has met with each teacher at Berger to discuss a Professional Development Plan for Raising Student Achievement. In the meetings, we discussed their plan of action for the Tier groups, how to teach using the different modalities of learning, what are you doing to drive your instruction, how do you plan for the various learning levels, are we teaching students to look at their data and set learning goals, and so forth... These professional conversations were awesome, very meaningful, and provided me the opportunity to dialogue with my teachers about Instructional expectations, effective teaching and how we plan to ascertain these expectations. During our Grade Level Articulation meetings, teachers are working on devising a Writing Expectation Plan for their Grade Level. Our vision is to create a cohesive approach to writing across the grade levels. In keeping with the momentum of narrowing the achievement gap; October's instructional walk-throughs were based on student's being aware of the learning objective(s) for the lesson. From these results, teachers are posting and stating objectives to be learned from the students. Friday, October 26th is our fall parade entitled "Books Brought to Life". We are looking forward to students parading characters from their favorite book.

District Office

Ms. Herndon, 21st Century Learning Director stated I am happy to announce that all 75 smart boards are up and running in the classrooms throughout the district. To support implementation of this latest technology, all teachers in the district have been invited to attend the ICE CHIP Fall 2012 Mini-Conference entitled C.U.T.E. (Creative Utilization of Technology in Education.) The conference will provide professional development on using iPads, Google, smart boards and much more in the classroom. I am very excited about attending with some of our teachers and staff this Saturday, October 27th in Oak Forest. On Wednesday, October 10th I provided a workshop for the middle school teachers entitled, "Enhancing Your Instructional

Skills through Differentiation.” The information presented in the workshop was well received and the teachers are awaiting the next workshop in this series. Finally, on Tuesday, November 5th we will hold our final Kid’s College Training with our consultants from Educational Innovations. This training is being provided for building administrators, reading specialists, technology integration teachers, thematic coaches and special education teachers. In this training, we will learn how to gather the necessary data from the program to support the school improvement initiatives in the buildings. These reports will also assist the district in meeting the demands of RtI.

Dr. Garth-Young, Numeracy Coordinator stated I am pleased to report that, Ms. Herndon, 21st Century Learning Director, and I had the opportunity to participate in an on-line WGN9 Weatherbug Demonstration, October 5, 2012. It was concluded that students across the district would benefit from utilizing the most advanced technology available with an established and respected program that supports district-wide STEM initiatives. The school community will be on “safety alert” as it relates to lightning and severe weather. The district’s weather data and images will also be aired on WGN 9 television news to be shared with the viewing audience. Installation of the Weatherbug’s professional-grade weather station and lightning sensor, will allow us to track 27 different parameters and detect in-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning in real time. In addition to the STEM-based tools and activities provided, Weatherbug uses in-cloud lightning detection to provide advanced warnings of cloud-to-ground lightning and severe weather on various technical devices as well campus-wide alerts. We’ll be proud to join the thousands of schools, across the country, currently using Weatherbug. **WE BELIEVE** that our membership in the WGN 9 Weatherbug Schools Program will allow our students to “STEM FORWARD” and put School District 149 on the map, on mobile phones, tablets, computers, and WGN 9 television broadcasts! It should be mentioned that District 149 is sustaining our commitment regarding attendance at the TTTLP with full administrative participation. Pertinent information was shared concerning students’ reading assessment data. School District 205 uses the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test in which comparable data (students’ pretests and posttest) measures the degree of academic growth. It was determined that exposure to the resulting data allows feeder schools to provide the necessary professional development opportunities to our reading and language arts teachers. This will ensure that the middle schools are in accordance with the high school district. It is anticipated that our partnership with School District 205 will eliminate academic barriers as it relates to preparing our students for their high school journey. Radical change equates to victory! This “I” believe.

Board of Education’s Agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve a Leave of Absence request for Amber Hatchett, teacher With Compensation effective December 3, 2012 with an anticipated return date of January 22, 2013 for maternity. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITH COMPENSATION FOR AMBER HATCHETT

Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to approve the completion and electronic submission of applications for recognition of public schools as required by the Illinois School Code. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Gani, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE COMPLETION AND ELECTRONIC SUBMITT APPLICATIONS FOR RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS REQUIRED BY THE ILLINOIS SCHOOL CODE

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the following 8th grade proposed dates Friday, May 17, 2013 – dance, Monday, May 20, 2013 – class trip, Wednesday, May 22, 2013 – luncheon, and Thursday, May 23, 2012 – graduation. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE 8TH GRADE PROPOSED DATES

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the contractual agreement for Title 1 Supplemental Education Services with the following schools and providers: Berger-Vandenberg, Diekmam, & Carol Moseley Braun, Brain Hurricane; Caroline Sibley & New Beginnings Learning Academy, Jeremi Learning Illinois for the 2012-2013 school year as mandated by the *No Child Left Behind Act*. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR TITLE I SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES WITH BRAIN HURRICANE AND JEREMI LEARNING ILLINOIS FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Ghani to meet in executive session at 8:12 P.M. to consider student disciplinary matters, the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific

EXECUTIVE SESSION

employees of the public body, and litigation. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, Seconded by Mr. Castillo to resume regular session at 8:16 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

REGULAR SESSION

Correspondence.

Bulletin Reports. None

New Business. None

Old Business.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to accept the recommendations of the Student Disciplinary Committee to refer student 149-1213-001 to an alternative school for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR STUDENT 149-1213-001

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to accept the recommendations of the Student Disciplinary Committee and allow the ten day suspension for student 149-1213-002 stand as time served. In addition, the student must attend counseling as discussed in executive session in lieu of expulsion with further evaluation to occur after the end of the semester. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Ghani, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR STUDENT 149-1213-002

Motion Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the retirement agreement as discussed in executive session. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE RETIREMENT
AGREEMENT

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to adjourn at 9:52 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT

Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary