

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
AUGUST 25, 2016

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 7:41 P.M. by Mrs. Darlene Gray Everett, Board President, in the Board Room at the Administrative Center located 292 Torrence Avenue in Calumet City, Illinois.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Members: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Eldridge Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Jolly. Also in attendance were Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, Dr. Denita Scott, Twyla Harris, Cedric Lewis, Vedia Page, Gerald Scott, Michael Steele, Karen Slate, April Davis, Dr. Renata Patterson, Christal Walker, John Johnson, Gabrielle, Herndon, Jamie Hayes, April Brown, Carmen Canales, Dr. James Cunneen and Loren Mason.

Public Comment on Agenda

Board President Consent Agenda

Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to approve the Consent Agenda. The following Board Members voted aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Jolly. Board Member Tillman voted nay.

As part of the Consent Agenda, the following items were approved on the call of the roll:

1. The Minutes of the June 6, 2016 Special Board Meeting
2. The Minutes of the June 23, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
3. The Minutes of the July 11, 2016 Special Board Meeting
4. Payroll Summaries for July 15, 2016 in the amount of \$846,384.47
5. Payroll Summaries for July 29, 2016 in the amount of \$809,384.47
6. Payroll Summaries for August 12, 2016 in the amount of \$803,515.17
7. Authorize Township Treasurer to Pay Invoices Dated August 25, 2016, totaling \$1,143,467.18
8. Appoint Dr. Shelley Davis-Jones to Serve as the IMRF Authorized Agent
9. Reinstate Dr. James Cunneen as the Financial Assistant
10. Annual Agreement with LifeTouch
11. Intergovernmental Agreement with the Calumet Library
12. The Application for Recognition of School
13. Blue Cross Blue Shield Renewal From September 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017
14. The Stop Loss Coverage Policy From September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017
15. School Reach Messenger Company for the 2016-2017 School Year

16. Letter of Intent to Retire for Barbara S. Keaton-McGee
17. Letter of Intent to Retire for Willie Sutton
18. Formal Resignation of Joyce Hoskins
19. Formal Resignation of Tina Jemine
20. Formal Resignation of Shamara Carter
21. Formal Resignation of Cheryl Perry
22. Formal Resignation of Barbara Booker
23. Family Medical Leave for Jeannie Dryan
24. Family Medical Leave for Gwendolyn Jones
25. Family Medical Leave for Pat Andrews
26. Family Medical Leave for David Bockel
27. Intermittent Family Medical Leave for Dellnora Winters
28. Annual Agreement with Crisis Go for the 2016-2017 School Year

Special Committee Reports –None

Board of Education President’s Report

President Gray-Everett gave a brief report. Paraphrasing, she stated as follows:

“I have heard sad stories about the children of our District and their background and circumstances. That is why I am so proud of our theme this year, “Educating the Whole Child”. I am so proud of the initiatives put in place by the District in “Educating the Whole Child” based on these sad stories. For example, I am happy to support last year’s initiative of ensuring successful food sources for the children.

Now, our underprivileged students are fed as a branch of “Educating the Whole Child”. I am proud and overwhelmed by the most recent initiatives of the Superintendent, Staff and Dr. Cunneen in Educating the Whole Child and ensuring that all the children in the District have clean clothes. I will even wash the clothes myself.”

Superintendent’s Report

The Superintendent updated as follows:

District Wide Institute was well attended and the theme for the 2016-2017 school year is “Educating the Whole Child.” This involves educational, social emotional, physical and wellness of the whole child. Research confirms that students do better in school when these areas are fully addressed. It is our goal to assist our students more efficiently by providing breakfast, a mid-morning snack in all schools and dinner at the middle school when after school programs begin.

Educating the Whole Child involves opportunities for students to participate in collaborative situations in the classroom, introducing them to project based learning activities, where students can work in teams and learn using the constructivist approach. Taking field trips, engaging in classroom discussions based on selected readings from the lesson and encouraging students to always do their very best and be great leaders.

Empowering students to be great leaders begins with building relationships and then cultivating the relationships. Assigning students to serve as leaders in the classroom is a great place to begin. This year it is our hope that teachers will assist students in taking an active part in demonstrating their understanding of the core values of this district.

We look forward to continuing our work with the Center for Innovation and Improvement. We have completed our Smart Goal and 4 worthy targets last school year. Our goal this year is to develop adult practices and action steps that will be measurable and aligned to the newly created Smart Goal and Worthy Targets. Dr. Scott and Dr. Young will work collaboratively as we begin to enhance our time and efforts on curriculum, e- learning, and assessments.

ISBE will release the preliminary statewide results from the 2015-16 PARCC assessment. This assessment gives all adults more insight into what our students need in order to successfully complete their next challenge. The Illinois Report Card, available at the end of October, will include finalized statewide, district-and school-level data. It is my expectation that we will have the data analyzed for every school at the October 27th school board meeting. We will prepare letters to forward home in an effort to inform parents of the preliminary individual student results.

Old Business- None

New Business- Superintendent's Action Items

<p>Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to enter into a 1 year agreement September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 with Rhonda Davis Consultant for WIN Learning Program for the purpose of college career readiness training for teachers in 6th-8th grade for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight and Mr. Tillman-MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ENTER INTO A 1 YEAR AGREEMENT SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017 WITH RHONDA DAVIS</p>
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<p>Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to enter into a 1 year agreement with Assessment Consultant, Dr. Kathleen Hickey for the purpose of analyzing student data and improving student learning for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ENTER INTO A 1 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH ASSESSMENT CONSULTANT, DR. KATHLEEN HICKEY</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to Authorize Architect Planera and Associate to execute the agreement with Quality Control System to install HVAC System for the basement at Diekman School which is included in Phase I of the District's Site Improvement Plan. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AUTHORIZE ARCHITECT PLANERA AND ASSOCIATE TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the 1 year agreement with Maxims for School Nurse 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE 1 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH MAXIMS FOR SCHOOL NURSE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to approve the 1 year agreement with Soliant Health for Student Interpreter Services. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE 1 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH SOLIANT HEALTH FOR STUDENT INTERPRETER SERVICES</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Ms. Ghani to award position of Athletic Director for the Middle School Sports Program for 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Eldridge. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AWARD POSITION OF ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</p>
<p>Superintendent Davis-Jones asked the board to table item #7 that reads need a motion to review and approve the annual posting of the District's Organizational Chart for the 2016-2017 school year. Request was granted- STRICKEN ON THE CALL OF THE CHAIR</p>	<p>TABLE ITEM #7 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL POSTING OF THE DISTRICT'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to authorizing the President and Secretary of the School Board to enter into first year probationary teaching contracts, subject to compliance with the</p>	<p>AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE SCHOOL BOARD TO ENTER INTO FIRST YEAR PROBATIONARY TEACHING</p>

<p>Educational Reform Act of 1985, effective August 19, 2016 for the following: Deidra M. Hill – Preschool for All Teacher – MA+28 Step 1, Kimberly Elmore-Perkins – Pre-Kindergarten Expansion Teacher – BA Step 1, Aisha Gray – 4th Grade Teacher – MA+30 Step 1, Lillie Blackman – Social Worker – MA Step 1 and Catherine Gallagher- Kindergarten Teacher – MA Step 1. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>CONTRACTS</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to amend board policy 4:60 to state that "No vendor contracts shall include a rollover clause or automatic renewal clause or Evergreen clause, without specific Board approval." Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AMEND BOARD POLICY 4:60</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to enter into a contractual agreement with CT & Lawn Landscape who was awarded the bid for 2016-2017 with optional annual renewal for an additional 2 years. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Ghani.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH CT & LAWN LANDSCAPE</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Knight-Anderson, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Grandma Jones Day Care with the Preschool Expansion Grant for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH GRANDMA JONES DAY CARE</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the recommendation of U.S. Security & Associates Inc. for the 2016-2017 school year to place a Site Supervisor on salary and add an additional security officer to the current roster. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF U.S. SECURITY & ASSOCIATES INC. FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</p>
<p>Bulletins and Report - NONE</p>	
<p>Public Comment - NONE</p>	

Closed Session	CLOSED SESSION
Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to go into closed session at 8:23 p.m. for 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 MOTION CARRIED	
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. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Jolly. MOTION CARRIED	
Student Disciplinary matters. Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly and Ms. Ghani. MOTION CARRIED	
Motion by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to come out of closed session and resume the regular school board meeting at 9:15 p.m. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Jolly. MOTION CARRIED	REGULAR SESSION
Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Gray Everett . Also in attendance were Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, Dr. Denita Scott, Twyla Harris, Cedric Lewis, Loren Mason, April Brown and Carmen Canales.	ROLL CALL
Additional Action Items Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to award position of Safety Truant Resident Officer. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED	AWARD POSITION OF SAFETY TRUANT RESIDENT OFFICER

<p>Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to award 2 positions of Elementary School Secretary. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AWARD 2 POSITIONS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECRETARY</p>
<p>Mrs. Gray Everett chair stricken with consent of the Board item #3 which reads need a motion to award position of accountant for Business Office. – STRICKEN ON THE CALL OF THE CHAIR</p>	<p>TABLED item #3 need a motion to award position of accountant for Business Office</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to increase the Pre-K Expansion Parent Educator from part time to full time. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>INCREASE THE PRE-K EXPANSION PARENTS EDUCATOR FROM PART TIME TO FULL TIME</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to award a full time Curriculum Instructor for the Pre-K Expansion Program. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mrs. Jolly. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AWARD A FULL TIME CURRICULUM INSTRUCTOR FOR THE PRE-K EXPANSION PROGRAM</p>
<p>Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to accept the disciplinary hearing recommendations for student number 149-1516-016. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Eldridge. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ACCEPT THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENT NUMBER 149-1516-016</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to accept the disciplinary hearing recommendations for student number 149-1516-017. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Knight-Anderson and Mrs. Jolly. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ACCEPT THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENT NUMBER 149-1516-017</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to accept the disciplinary hearing recommendations for student number 149-1516-018. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ACCEPT THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STUDENT NUMBER 149-1516-018</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to approve the retirement addendum for Dr. Denita Scott’s Administrative Contract. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE THE RETIREMENT ADDENDUM FOR DR. DENITA SCOTT’S ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT</p>
<p>Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-</p>	<p>TO PROCEED WITH LITIGATION AS</p>

Liggons to proceed with litigation as discussed in executive session. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggon, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Jolly. MOTION CARRIED	DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Knight-Anderson to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Knight-Anderson, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Mrs. Crisler-Liggon. MOTION CARRIED	ADJOURNMENT

Correspondence-

Termination of TIF Notice from the Village of Dolton regarding I94 and Sibley Boulevard in your board packet as an FYI.

Dr. Cunneen started out by saying new teachers you think you just got a job, but you just joined a family and you can think of me as the old grandpa. “As we go through this I am sitting and listening and some of the family grows up from teachers to students. Mrs. Gray Everett told me at Institute we keep our family together and they grow and become wonderful members of our family and they emerge. Scott was one the teacher’s way back when and I was also thinking that I go see other school districts sometimes and I ask them what their mission is and they say oh, I have to check the handbook or it’s educating all students. That seems to be just words. Today, I’m listening to the three pillars Excellence, Humanization and Pride and do you know that’s lasted 25 years. Our superintendent keeps that alive for all of us. The talk at Institute Day kept it alive so when you ask some people in District 149 what the mission is they say three words Excellence, Humanization and Pride they live it and that’s what you are joining. You are joining a magnificent family and you will enjoy every moment of it so welcome!”

Dr. Cunneen reported to the Board that things are going well in Phase I of the 5 year Facility Improvement Plan. “Diekman School has new air handler, the new roof at the District Office and addressing the new control issues at New Beginnings Learning Academy and Carol Moseley Braun. He enlightened the Board with some good news and informed them that we are \$300,000.00 right now to the good on phase I. What we are asking you to do is use \$200,000.00 to put into repairs. For example, you get that call late at night saying the chiller is down at Caroline Sibley School what are you going to do? You have to replace it and where is the money? Now we will earmark the money for you so we will be able to say the chiller is down and we need a replacement it comes from this reserve fund. By being efficient and effective with our phase I we are able to put \$200,000.00 in the project and now we are going to call you

back to work to look at phase II and we will be doing that in about a month. Congratulation on a New Beginning!!”

Additional Reports

FOIA Accelerated Kindergarten Program – Requested a copy of the Board Policy.

FOIA-NBC/ Clear Channel – Regarding our lease agreement with clear Channel they wanted a copy of the invoices and what our annual fees are that we received as a district from the lease. We forwarded those in a timely manner.

Superintendent Davis-Jones picked one middle school and one elementary school principal to give their school report. She stated, “I’m going to start with New Beginning Learning Academy. Karen Slate she is under focus with the Center for Innovation and Improvement. I want to share with everyone here that she completed the Principals Cohort Program last school year. I would like to thank the school improvement team the entire, NBLA family, the team that worked on her plan that had to be approved first the State Board and then approved by this Board of Education. You, Dr. Scott serving as your capacity programmer and leader over this process was done extremely well you guys worked hard and we uploaded it electronically for the first time through to the State Board and to the Center for Innovation Improvement. We’ll start with Karen Slate, Mr. Steele from the STEM Academy and then we will turn it over to the cabinet.”

A. New Beginnings Learning Academy

Ms. Slate thanked to Superintendent Davis-Jones for an enlightening workshop on District Institute Day! The teachers are eager and ready to learn the expectations of getting our students on the right track. It is the mission and vision of New Beginnings Learning Academy to provide a positive school climate for our students that is conducive for learning. The students entered on the first day of school with magnificent smiles on their faces and are ready and up to the challenge of becoming Olympians for the new school year! New Beginnings staff is also excited to follow a great SIP and move forward in the right direction of becoming winners! The NBLA SIP team has developed the plan for the success of our students. We will review the testing data for the 2016-2017 school year and collaboratively work together to implement the district and school’s goal for improvement. Our Plan of Action is to work to our best ability to get it done! It is my goal to cultivate and encourage every staff member and students to exemplify the mission and vision of our School Board and Superintendent. Our grade level teams and cross-curricular teams will meet weekly to strategize the areas of improvement and implement the best practices for our students to succeed. Our staff will continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment

as well as promote a learning community characterized by student leaders with student-centered instruction and decisions, project-based learning, differentiated and rigorous instruction that will prepare them to be ready in the 21st Century. The passion and dedication that is within us will allow us to “Educate the Whole Child”, and instill the three pillars: Excellence, Humanization and Pride! Finally, I would like to thank the parents and community of New Beginnings for planting the seeds for us to help sow and grow in our garden! Thank you everyone for your continued support!”

Superintendent Davis-Jones asked Ms. Slate to share with the board what kind of vegetables the student’s are growing over in New Beginning’s garden. Ms. Slate joyfully informed the board the students have tomatoes, red and green bell peppers, cucumbers, collard and mustard greens, squish and beets growing in their garden.

B. S. T. E. M. Academy

“Mr. Steele stated the school year for the students and teachers at the S.T.E.M Academy are off to a great start. On Friday, August 19th, all district 149 employees participated in our opening Institute Day. Teachers at S.T.E.M participated in hands-on training related to the teacher evaluation process (My Learning Oasis) with our new partner Frontline Technologies. This training provided teachers with a brief overview of the evaluation process and how to effectively manage the key components of the Danielson model as it relates to ongoing teacher professional development and growth. On Friday, August 26th, the 7th and 8th grade math teachers at S.T.E.M Academy will be exploring “geo-bubbles” with their math classes throughout the day. This hands-on activity will expose all S.T.E.M. students to the type of learning we want them to experience on a regular basis. They will learn about surface tension, minimum surface, geo-panes, vertices, edges, and faces as it relates to geometrical shapes. This will be an open-inquiry activity that will allow students to hopefully ask a variety of questions of each other and the teacher. The implementation of the fall Terra Nova assessment will take place beginning Tuesday, August 30th. Students in both 7th and 8th grade will be tested in reading, mathematics, and language. The results from this assessment will be discussed in team meetings and used as a tool to drive instruction in the classroom. All students are encouraged to reach a minimum of 5 months of expected growth between this first assessment and the 2nd assessment which will be given in mid January of 2017. A special recognition will be given to those students that score in the 90th national percentile or higher on any part of the test. Teachers have already met to discuss possible incentives and motivational tools to encourage students to do their best on each assessment. All S.T.E.M. Academy staff and students will be invited to attend the annual back to school carnival which will be hosted at Caroline Sibley School on Saturday, August 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a great event to help kick off the 2016-2017 school year. On

behalf of all the teachers and staff at S.T.E.M Academy, I would like to wish everyone and a safe and productive school year.”

Superintendent Davis-Jones welcomed the new Technology Team Mr. Jamar Everett and Mr. Dion Wiley.

On behalf of Dr. Young, Jamar Everett reported, “Scholarship notes that a whole child education recognizes the importance and value of a comprehensive, multifaceted model of teaching and learning that occurs within a safe and supportive learning environment. Educating the whole child addresses and fosters the physical, psychological, socio-emotional, and intellectual aspects of a child’s development, creating a balance that is critical to their overall well-being. As we prepare students for their academic and professional futures, we strive to ensure that they have valuable learning experiences which allow them to communicate, collaborate, and become globally-aware digital citizens. To achieve these goals, the technology department has set in motion the following. The New Frontline My Learning Plan OASYS evaluation training for teachers and administrators; Installation of new teacher computers district wide; Submission of State reports via Dashboard Compliance Regulations; Reconfiguration of the Middle Schools Schedules in SKYWARD; E-Waste Management Program in rotation with E-Scrap; Wireless Infrastructure is ready for use; Strategic planning for the availability of 1-to-1 devices and other equipment leading towards the implementation of the E-Learning Program Pilot and Technological

Preparations for KIDS Testing is underway. Integrating technology into the curriculum is a priority for our school district. We believe that all children should have an equal opportunity to develop to their fullest potential with life skills that include digital, media, and informational literacy to evaluate content and use technology effectively, we believe.”

Superintendent Davis-Jones acknowledged her Sorority the women and ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated; Zeta Zeta Chapter out of Dolton, Illinois has donated for our Back to School Carnival 341 uniforms to our school district. “This is the second half of the uniforms they brought today and then in Dr. Walker’s office she has binds filled with a variety of uniforms from middle school as well as elementary schools in all the colors. We want to be able to bless any family or any child who is in need of a uniform and we want our children to look clean and fresh throughout the entire school year. This is one of our National Projects that we do every year and I’m glad that we are right out of Dolton and I’m also glad that they chose to do this project to help the children in our communities thrive and want to come to school. We have reasons to encourage and empower them so I want to thank my sorority on their behalf. We

worked all year and all summer to pull this off they came up with some beautiful Polo and IZod shirt for the middle school students to wear and feel comfortable. I just want to thank them again and hopefully win the National ZHOPE Project for doing and giving in the community.”

Superintendent Davis-Jones informed the Board about the E-Care Program that she applied for. “I received an email that talked about a program where Whirlpool in urban school districts are giving away free washer machines and dryers to encourage and build their attendance to be able to come to school with fresh and clean clothes. In Ohio, the principal washed about 2,990 items of clothes and those student attendances increased tremendously because the parents didn’t have to worry about buying groceries, going to the laundromat or buying soap powder. I want you to know that I applied for the E-Care Program for our school district and I was also blessed from Dr. Scott whether they give it to us or not she and I have a plan we are just waiting on the board’s direction. We will have a washer machine and dryer!! A guest teacher informed me that she has endless soap powder and she will also help and make sure that our children are fresh and clean.”

Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary