

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING VIA TELE CONFERENCE CALL
MARCH 26, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting was held via tele conference and the meeting was called to order at 7:27 P.M. by Mrs. Darlene Gray Everett, Board President.

The Pledge of Allegiance – Said by all.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Gray Everett, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. Absent: None
Also in attendance were: Dr. Shelly Davis-Jones, Twyla Harris, Cedric Lewis, Akil Khalfani, April Brown, Carmen Canales, Dr. James Cunneen, Board Attorney, James Vasselli and Board Attorney, Tiffany Nelson.

Public Comment on Agenda – Board Attorney Tiffany Nelson informed the Board of Education with clarity about the proposed resolution for the coronavirus. It’s an emergency function policy due to the COVID19 pandemic. It promotes social distances in including executive orders seven and ten, essentially it suspends some of the rules particularly as it relates to board meetings, it allows the open meeting to be conducted via telephone or electronic means. It gives the board the right to adjust meeting dates, times and locations during district-wide emergency closure it gives us some leeway particularly as it relates to the in person meeting.

The resolution that you are going to be considering this evening is a sample resolution from our office for finalizing. Our office is working on it and we will send the final version if approved to the board president for her signature. Make your motion to approve the ordinance and to authorize the board attorney to finalize the ordinance for the board president’s signature.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve and authorize the board attorney to finalize the ordinance for the board president signature.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mr. Castillo and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD ATTORNEY TO FINALIZE THE RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING THROUGH TELE CONFERENCE AND TO ENACT SUCH RESOLUTION AT THIS BOARD MEETING AND TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD ATTORNEY TO FINALIZE THIS RESOLUTION</p>
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Public Comments – There was no public comments made

Board Member Comments and Questions – None

Paraphrasing Mr. Lewis stated:

I want to give some clarity on the agenda regarding the payables, everything that is on the agenda we are paying for services that have been rendered. We are not paying for anyone who has not provided services to our students.

<p>MOTION by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Ms. Ghani to adjourn to Closed Session at 7:37 pm pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1)(2)(5) of the Open Meetings Act, matters, related for the purposes of consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of Dolton School District 149 and student discipline 5 ILCS 120/2 and (2). Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>CLOSED SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to come out of closed session at 7:57 pm and resume regular session.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>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

President Gray Everett asked if there were any questions on the Board President consent Agenda. Mr. Tillman asked that item G-4 be called separately. All in favor said “I”

Board President Consent Agenda

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the Board President Consent Agenda items 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1. Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held February 27, 2020.</p>	<p>APPROVE THE BOARD PRESIDENT CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2 and 3</p>
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<p>2. Approval of the payroll summaries for February 7, 2020 in the amount of \$1,015,174.11.</p> <p>3. Approval of the payroll summaries for February 21, 2020 in the amount of \$1,017,576.58.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to authorize the Board President board agenda item 4.</p> <p>4. Authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated March 26, 2020 consisting of 49 pages and chargeable to the following accounts:</p> <table data-bbox="203 850 901 997"> <tr> <td>Education Fund</td> <td>\$ 866,446.13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operations and Maintenance Fund</td> <td>\$ 139,736.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transportation Fund</td> <td>\$ 349,639.78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tort Immunity Fund</td> <td>\$ 73,866.76</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Total \$1,429,688.99</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Castillo. Nay: Board Member Mr. Tillman voted NO. MOTION CARRIED</p>	Education Fund	\$ 866,446.13	Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 139,736.32	Transportation Fund	\$ 349,639.78	Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 73,866.76	<p>AUTHORIZE THE BOARD PRESIDENT BOARD AGENDA ITEM 4</p>
Education Fund	\$ 866,446.13								
Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 139,736.32								
Transportation Fund	\$ 349,639.78								
Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 73,866.76								

Cabinet Reports –

Dr. Shelly Davis Jones – Emergency Management Update

Paraphrasing Dr. Davis-Jones stated:

- In an effort to be proactive with contagious incidents we met with our district and school based teams, CTA and SPCA.
- On March 3, 2020 a meeting was scheduled with our school nurses to develop an intervention plan on how to deal with students who came to school ill or with fevers. New laser thermometers were ordered for all schools and an inventory of supplies was conducted to ensure each school and all school nurses had supplies in case of triage. Mrs. Lusk and Mrs. Homere Randall attended a specialized training with Cook County on Pandemic Awareness and Protocols. These committed ladies came back and trained the rest of the district nurses on March 5th. Mrs. Harris hosted the meeting.

- We also met with Dr. Scott, Central Office Team, Building Principals, and Zetta Piggot Director of Organic Life along with First Student to set up meals on wheels to ensure our students could pick up their daily brown bag breakfast and lunch at their designated bus stops from March 17-30. Meals on wheels was posted on our website and phone blasts went out at 5pm and 8 pm.

Superintendent asked the board for directions to suspend the meals on wheels until further notice due to COVID19.

- Dr. Cunneen and I also met with Mr. Khalfani to devise a disinfectant program and schedule to disinfect the schools during the first week of school closures.
- The District leadership team, a few CTA Executive Board Members and the Balanced Literacy Coaches and our Special Education Cabinet met with Carolyn Franklin to begin creating academic packets for all students, accommodations for students with IEP's for all grade levels too support balanced literacy with the assistance of Dr. Policastro to be prepared for the first school closure.
- On March 12th letters regarding CDC and the IDPH went out to our entire staff on signs and symptoms and what to do in case a student was ill and what to do in case staff felt ill. A letter was also placed on our website. The Board President also put out website letter the community expressing how serious COVID19 is and what parents and children should do to minimize their risk.
- On March 16th all Academic Learning Packets were released with every student who attended school on that day and all academic packets and resources were posted up on each school's website page by Dr. Young and Jamar Everett. Letter and copies were also available at all schools until Friday March 20th. Phone blast went out at 5 pm and 8pm.
- On March 19th a well-being letter was emailed to all staff. On March 20 the Honorable J.B. Pritzker declared and Executive Order to extend the school closure until April 7th. Notification was shared with All staff via email, website for parents and phone blasts at 5 pm and 8 pm.
- Teachers have been asked to check in with parents and students weekly via phone calls or emails. They have also been encouraged to check their emails daily. I have worked with Dr. Young and the Tech Team to set up Microsoft IT Conferences to stay in touch with our team during this crisis.
- We are working with the CTA to determine how we will put grades in the grade book and be fair with our students grades since they were in school 8 of the 10 weeks of the third quarter. What we all agree at this point is that no student will fail. All grades are due in the grade book by April 1st at 11:59 pm. I have approached this question with IASA SWAT Team and the ROE Superintendent. I was hoping to have an answer today. I just received an email that stated it may be left in the hands of the local school districts and their unions.

- Spring Break is scheduled on the calendar for April 10th-17th.
- I have written a Commendation letter to all of the First Responders thanking everyone who worked with us during the first week of school closings and those who continue to work on the frontline during these unprecedented times.

Dr. James Cunneen – General Matters of the District

Paraphrasing Dr. Cunneen stated:

If you remember before we went out for bids I gave you a list of projected cost for the roof and the AC system for CCA. Those bids are in your packets, the architect recommendations and tally sheets are also in your packet. In essence the roofing came in slightly above what we were anticipating. However, the AC unit came in below. So, we are right on our projected spending. The architect has assured me that both of these companies especially Bud are good. We are very happy with the bids and presently we are negotiating with all the vendors. In the event that schools don't resume, we can start earlier and get the job completed before our deadlines.

We received a letter requesting from the board of education from First Student about paying future payments to First Student when students are not being transported. Mr. Lewis at the beginning of our meeting said on the bills payables, they were only billed for services rendered. First Student is asking for consideration for payments for non-services. They are stating that they have bus drivers and they want to pay them weather the district was paying for the transportation. I'm going to give you my opinion and let you discuss this. We have a contract that we will pay for services rendered, basically, the cost for transportation that comes out of our transportation fund and is funded by a transportation reimbursement form; this form is filled out every summer. It repays the district and is predicated by the number of students that rides the bus and the number of miles the bus drives. We will not be able to recoup any of the cost that goes on to the district. The payment to First Student would be just a general payment to them minus some fuel cost; we would have no assurances where that money would be going. Rather it is going directly to the bus company or the company itself. We also would be in a situation where some districts may be doing or and others are not, it leaves us somewhat vulnerable. It's my opinion that we sit down with all the districts in the south suburbs that use First Student and talk about what would be reasonable plan for this. I don't think one district should pay so much, and another pay another. The stimulus packet has a lot of compensation for workers and for our district to assume the cost for keeping First Students workers afloat would lead to precedent for all of our vendors. My suggestion to the board is to say to First Student that we would be open to listen to them and not just jump right in and pay for services that are not rendered.

Dr. Cunneen turned it over to Mr. Lewis, but he was not on the line.

Tiffany stated, like Dr. Cunneen said we would look into the contract to see if there is any language that we may need to consider.

Mrs. Crisler-Liggons asked Dr. Cunneen to explain again, they are asking us to pay them in advance for services that they may have rendered? Dr. Cunneen replied that is correct. Mrs. Crisler-Liggons then asked with the stimulus won't the company get money to take care of their employees? Why do we have to pick up that cost? Dr. Cunneen replied that's my point.

Mr. Tillman made a statement that anyone that is not an employee of the district and is not a vendor that is working at the time should not be getting monies from the district. First Students' bus drivers are not District 149 employees. That is really not our problem.

Lewis stated the payable was for services that were already rendered. I don't feel that we have an obligation to pay people or a company when they have not provided a service to us.

Old Business - None

All in favor to consent New Business items 1-4 say I. All said "I"

New Business

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to consent and accept the New Business Consent Agenda items 1, 2, 3 and 4.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accept the district's architect recommendation for the lowest responsible bidder, R.B. Crowther Co., for roofing and coating work at Dirksen Middle School. 2. Accept the district's architect recommendation for the lowest responsible bidder, J.L. Adler Roofing Sheetmetal, Inc., for roofing replacement at Diekman School. 3. Accept the district's architect recommendation for the lowest responsible bidder, Budd Mechanical Systems, Inc., for HVAC Multi Zone Replacement at Dirksen Middle School. 4. Motion to cancel all outside activities housed in the District buildings for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Jolly Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>CONSENT AND ACCEPT THE NEW BUSINESS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2, 3 and 4</p>
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Approval of Personnel

<p>1. MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to AMEND motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice of Dismissal and Non-Renewal of First, Second and Third Year Probationary Teachers.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>AMEND MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF DISMISSAL AND NON RENEWAL OF FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD YEAR PROBATIONARY</p>
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	TEACHERS AND TO APPROVE SAID RESOLUTION
<p>2. MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice of Dismissal and Non-Renewal of certain employees that are not included in the bargaining units and are grant funded.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mr. Castillo and Mrs. Jolly.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF DISMISSAL AND NON-RENEWAL OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE BARGAINING UNITS AND ARE GRANT FUNDED
<p>3. MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to offer Second, Third and Fourth Year Probationary Teacher Contracts per enclosed list.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	OFFER SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR PROBATIONARY TEACHER CONTRACTS PER ENCLOSED LIST
<p>4. MOTION by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Ms. Ghani to grant contractual continued service to the following teachers who will successfully complete their fourth year of probationary status.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	GRANT CONTRACTUAL CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS WHO WILL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THEIR FOURTH YEAR OF PROBATIONARY STATUS
<p>5. MOTION by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve Carolyn Franklin to conduct her dissertation study with St. Francis University and Dolton School District 149 and utilize results from NWEA 2019- 2021 from students in first through sixth grade and will provide the district with the University approval for human subjects.</p> <p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons and Mr. Tillman.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p> <p>Mrs. Gray Everett did the roll call vote.</p>	APPROVE CAROLYN FRANKLIN TO CONDUCT HER DISSERTATION STUDY WITH ST. FRANCIS UNIVERSITY AND DOLTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 149 AND UTILIZE RESULTS FROM NWEA 2019- 2021 FROM STUDENTS IN FIRST THROUGH SIXTH GRADE AND WILL PROVIDE THE DISTRICT WITH THE UNIVERSITY APPROVAL FOR

	HUMAN SUBJECTS
<p>Mrs. Jolly's call dropped at 8:54 pm, she rejoined at 8:55 pm</p>	
<p>Motion to group items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 all in favor said I.</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to group items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.</p> <p>6. Approve ZaRita Beal to participate in her Superintendent Internship with Concordia University and Dolton School District 149.</p> <p>7. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Donna Jackson effective June 2024.</p> <p>8. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Debra Vasquez effective June 2024.</p> <p>9. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Jacqueline Mack-Washington June 2024.</p> <p>10. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Micheline Simmons effective June 2024.</p> <p>11. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Suzette Ojermark effective June 2024.</p> <p>12. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Karen Turnbough effective June 2024.</p> <p>13. Accept the letter of intent to retire for Teacher Felicia Nunley effective June 2024.</p> <p>14. Authorize Intermittent FMLA for Kimberly Khan for remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.</p>	<p>GROUP ITEMS 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,11, 12, 13 AND 14</p>

<p>ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman and Ms. Ghani. MOTION CARRIED</p>	
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Approval of Agreements

Before the motion was read Mr. Khalfani stated:

After consultation we decided as a cabinet to complete the floor and stage. The stage tile is high in asbestos so we had an architect come out and give a scope of cost. We will use commercial tile for the stage.

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to Accept the recommendation of Akil Khalfani to enter into an agreement with Midwest Environmental Consultant Services for Asbestos Abatement at Dirksen Middle School for the gym stage in the amount of \$18, 896.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Castillo. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF AKIL KHALFANI TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MIDWEST ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AT DIRKSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE GYM STAGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18, 896.00</p>
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<p>MOTION by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to withdraw and reconsider the minutes for February 27, 2020. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly and Mr. Castillo. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>WITHDRAW AND RECONSIDER THE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2020</p>
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<p>MOTION by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to table the minutes for February 27, 2020. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Tillman and Mr. Castillo. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>TABLE THE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2020</p>
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Final Action on Closed Session Items

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the recommendation from the Disciplinary Hearing Team for student #149-1920-015 if needed. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani and Mr. Castillo. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DISCIPLINARY HEARING TEAM FOR STUDENT #149-1920-016 IF NEEDED</p>
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Adjournment

<p>MOTION by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo, to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge and Mr. Tillman. MOTION CARRIED</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>
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Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary