

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER  
NOVEMBER 19, 2013

The Meeting was called to order at 7:26 P.M. by Mrs. Gray Everett, Board President, in the Board Room of the Administrative Center at 292 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by the kindergarten students from Caroline Sibley. From Ms. Bryant's class, Amani Shepherd, Alissa Elzey, Brian Harris, Omobolanle Ogbara, and Jeremiah Taylor. Ms. Carter's class, Ranetta Brooks, Alicia Duncan, Jalauni Johnston, Aaniya Jones, Mekyi Reed, and Isaiah Taylor. Ms. Gronendyke's class, Kimanii Price, Aaliyah Gibson, Takia Washington, Seneca Sykes, and DeShawn Clarke. Ms. Ray's class, Nakya Verrett, Kendrick Simpson, Peyton Christmas, Kailyn Fulton, and A'Niyah Branch.

**Roll Call:** Present: Members: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Gray Everett, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. Absent: Mrs. Tillman. Also in attendance were Administrators and support personnel. ROLL CALL

**Board President's Agenda**

**Motion** by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the consent grouping and routine items including the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held October 24, 2013, payroll summaries for October 25, 2013 in the amount of \$784,456.69, and November 8, 2013 in the amount of \$774,216.55, and authorize Township Treasurer to pay invoice dated November 19, 2013 consisting of 11 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

APPROVE INVOICE LISTING – 11/16/13

Education Fund	\$523,735.00	
Tort Liability Fund	14,278.00	
Building and Maintenance Fund	107,596.00	
Transportation Fund	302,215.00	
Total	\$947,824.00	

APPROVE PAYROLL SUMMARY – 10/25/13 & 11/8/13

Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to appoint School Board & district representatives to attend the annual National School Board Association Conference for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Ms. Ghani, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD CONFERENCE

**Meeting Open to the Public.** Ms. Joyce Hoskins, 14410 Drexel complemented the board on such a fine job they are doing and encouraged them to keep up the good work. Ms. Shelton, 15560 Paxton thanked the board for the parent club at NBLA. She informed them that she was a student at Caroline Sibley and a proud parent that supports the board 100%. In addition, she was grateful to Mayor Michelle for declaring November 15<sup>th</sup> as School Board Members Day in Calumet City.

**Special Committee Reports.** None

**Superintendent's Agenda.**

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

**Berger Vandenberg**

Mrs. Winters stated November 15, 2013, is National School Board Members Day. Each year the demands become greater for the school board members to help lead our community schools and students to be 21<sup>st</sup>

century learners and future global citizens. On behalf of Berger Vandenberg School's principal, children, parents and faculty members, we say "thank you" for meeting the needs of our community and your dedicated services. 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.

### **Creative Communication Academy**

Mr. Scott stated I'd like to pass on my well wishes to the members of Dolton School Board 149 during Board of Education Appreciation week. I'd also like to truly express my gratitude for the opportunity to attend the National Alliance of Black School Educators Conference. I was able to network with many professional throughout the educational field from all around the country and Canada. I was able to take classes and attend seminars that informed me on Common Core, Technology, Parenting, Community Building, and Principal and Superintendent Leadership. I got to meet Principals who also have the same concept school of communication. We were able to dialogue about some success, failures, and the future direction of our schools and education. I came back rejuvenated and on Fire for Monday and the rest of the year. I have many Ideas to share with my staff, colleagues, students and community. Again, thank you to the Board and District Office for giving me the great opportunity.

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the submission for the 2013 tentative tax levy as presented by Dr. Alicia Geddis, Deputy Superintendent & CFO. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE TENTATIVE TAX  
LEVY FOR 2013

**Motion** by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to authorize Dr. Alicia Geddis, Deputy Superintendent & CFO to enter into an agreement with SchoolReach for the purpose of anonymous reporting of Cyber Bullying on the hotline for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT  
WITH SCHOOLREACH

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to authorize Dr. Alicia Geddis, Deputy Superintendent & CFO to enter into a maintenance agreement with Copier Dynamics for the copy machines at Caroline Sibley School effective November 22, 2013 thru November 21, 2014. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT  
WITH COPIER DYNAMICS

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

AUTHORIZE JMS  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSOCIATES, LTD TO  
COMPLETE THE PROJECT AT  
THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani that the Board of Education meet in executive session at 8:16 P.M. to consider student disciplinary matters, the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and pending litigation. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo.

**MOTION CARRIED**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Motion** by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, seconded by Ms. Ghani to return to regular session at 9:16 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

REGULAR SESSION

**Correspondence.** None

**Bulletin Reports.** None

**New Business.**

**Motion** By Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons not to re-employ the employee as discussed in executive session. Roll call vote: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

NOT TO RE-EMPLOY THE  
EMPLOYEE

**Motion** by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mr. Castillo to accept the recommendation of the Student Disciplinary Committee for alternative placement for student 149-1314-004. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
STUDENT 149-1312-004

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to accept the recommendation of the Student Disciplinary Committee for alternative placement in lieu of expulsion for student 149-1314-003. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
STUDENT 149-1312-003

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve Dr. Alicia Geddis, Deputy Superintendent & CFO to apply for the Illinois State Board of Education School Maintenance for The Middle School and Berger-Vandenberg and the VTEO grant Management Program. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE ISBE SCHOOL  
MAINTENANCE & THE VTEO  
GRANT MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve a contract for the Safety Resident Truant Officer Mr. Bolden Jones for the 2013-2014 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

TO APPROVE SAFETY  
RESIDENT TRUANT OFFICER  
FOR 2013-2014

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to approve the District Office closed for rehabilitation work December 22, 2013 thru January 6, 2014. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Tillman, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE DISTRICT  
OFFICE CLOSED FROM 12-22-  
13-1-6-14

**Old Business.** None

**Motion** by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to adjourn at 9:36 P.M. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

ADJOURNMENT

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Darlene Gray Everett, President

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Bertha Jolly, Secretary