

BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 149
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
AUGUST 23, 2012

The Meeting was called to order at 7:50 P.M. by Mrs. Gray Everett, Board President, in the Board Room of the Administrative Center at 292 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Roll Call: Present: Members: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Tillman, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, and Mrs. Gray Everett. Also in attendance were Administrators: Superintendent Jones, Ms. Geddis, Mrs. Harris, Dr. Warner, Dr. Scott, Ms. Herndon, Dr. Garth-Young, Principals, Assistant Principals and support personnel.

ROLL CALL

Board President's Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve the consent grouping of routine items including minutes from the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held June 28, 2012; payroll summaries for July 6, 2012 in the amount of \$932,825.97, July 20, 2012 in the amount of \$744,882.69, August 3, 2012 in the amount of \$787,147.68 & August 17, 2012 in the amount of \$851,230.57 and authorizing Township Treasurer to pay invoices dated July 2, 2012 through August 23, 2012 consisting of 41 pages and chargeable to the following accounts as read:

APPROVE MINUTES -
REGULAR & EXEC.
SESSION – 6/28/12

APPROVE INVOICE
LISTING – 8/23/12

Education Fund	\$196,705.99
Tort Liability Fund	12,561.19
Building and Maintenance Fund	256,660.60
Transportation Fund	11,246.02
Health and Dental Fund	149,993.74
Total	\$627,167.54

APPROVE PAYROLL
SUMMARIES – 7/6/12,
7/20/12, 8/3/12 & 8/17/12

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the 2012-2013 Special Board Meeting for the purpose of self-evaluation, goal setting, strategic planning, Illinois Standard Achievement Testing review, and policy updates for Dolton School District 149. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, and Mrs. Tillman. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE 2012-
2013 SPECIAL BOARD
MEETING

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to appoint School Board and district representatives to attend the local tri-conference for the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Tillman, Ms. Ghani, and Mr. Castillo. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPOINT SCHOOL
BOARD & DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVES TO
ATTEND THE LOACL
TRI-CONFERENCE

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the tentative budget (FY13) and post for public inspection as required by the Illinois School Code. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Tillman, Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, and Ms. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE
TENTATIVE FY13
BUDGET

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Crisler-Liggons to establish the budget hearing for Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Tillman, and Ms. Ghani. **MOTION CARRIED**

ESTABLISH THE 2012-
2013 BUDGET
HEARING

Motion by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the reorganization and internal restructuring for the following schools for the 2012-2013 school year Berger-Vandenberg, Carol Moseley Braun, Caroline Sibley, and New Beginnings Learning Academy. Roll call vote: Aye: Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Ms. Ghani, and Mrs. Tillman. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE
REORGANIZATION
AND INTERNAL
RESTRUCTURING FOR
THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL
YEAR

Meeting open to the public

Since no one wished to address the Board, the Board resumed regular session.

The Superintendent requested the Principals to give their reports.

Special Committee Reports. None

Caroline Sibley

Danielle Graham-Harris stated I am the new principal at Caroline Sibley. Let me begin by first saying thank you to the Board of Education for allowing me to serve in district 149, and for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the foundation that will soon become an academic and educational legacy for the children of Dolton, Calumet City, South Holland and Burnham. I am truly appreciate and excited about this new endeavor. My vision for Caroline Sibley is to create a school environment that encourages the children to learn, that strengthens, supports and in some cases will re-build the student's academic foundation. Because teachers have the greatest affect on student achievement we want to ensure that our children have effective teachers with the proper resources to adequately assess student progress and tailor real-time instruction to their student's needs. A review of ISAT scores over the past 4 years reflects that Caroline Sibley has failed to meet AYP and has an averaged outcome of 59.8% in reading and 65.9% in math for grades 3 through 6. My goal for improving the teaching and learning outcomes will begin with establishing a system of instruction that will implement the Local Common Core State Standards, build teacher capacity, increase small group instruction and incorporate scaffolding. With the help of the district office, the assistant principals and Sibley teacher's we will set attainable goals for increase. We will tailor our professional development so that it is meaningful, practical and useful and most importantly, we will remain focused on our mission as educators to provide high quality instruction, a rigorous and relevant curriculum and an effective use of our data. Currently, we have 732 students enrolled and beginning on Monday, August 27th the students will begin the benchmark testing in reading. Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve in district 149.

Diekman

Mrs. Davis stated Diekman School is off to a great start! The building is clean, and classrooms are ready. Our students are excited to return to school. Parents, staff and students were pleasantly surprised to return to a beautifully landscaped building. Thank you to the "New Beginnings" School Board for this wonderful beautification project. Diekman School did not make A.Y.P. in reading or mathematics for the 2011-12 school years. Our quest remains to improve student performance in both reading and mathematics. We will continue to have high goals and expectations for both faculty and students. This year our School Improvement Team will collaborate with the Dr. Denita Scott and the RESPRO Team utilizing The Rising Star tool. We look forward to learning new strategies and tools to improve student learning and our instructional practices. We will also be implementing a new Title I School Improvement Plan. Ms. Erin Bramscher our full time Reading coach will enable us to provide interventions for a greater number of students. Our goal is to provide interventions for Kindergarten through Six grades. To help close the achievement gaps Diekman School will implement RTI utilizing a universal screener for early interventions. Our reading coach will provide staff with research based "best practices" and push in and pull out services. Additional support services to improve student growth in reading and math include MYON Reader program, and Kids College. The staff is anxiously awaiting training for the new Smart Boards. Students are excited and can't wait to use them. The Diekman PTA has pledged this year to support every classroom library with more books and materials. We are strongly committed and BELIEVE that we will make measurable growth with these necessary changes.

New Beginnings Learning Academy

Mrs. Franklin stated the students, parents and staff are off to a very smooth start at New Beginnings Learning Academy. Parents were extremely pleased about our registration process this year especially the fees being waived and no lunch forms or free breakfast and lunch for all students. Thank you to the School Board for this wonderful outreach to the community. Our vision for our students continues to be striving for excellence in both academics and behavior. NBLA did not make AYP in reading or mathematics this past school year. Therefore, our school leadership team will be working diligently to implement a new Title One School Improvement Plan, as well as working to identify, and then address specific indicators in Rising Star. We are looking forward to working with members from the RESPRO team, along with our own Dr. Garth-Young to help us establish a clear path to what we need to do as a staff to insure that our students receive the best possible education. Additional changes that are

currently underway include incorporating a common reading block for all grade levels. Through our SIP process, we will use this time to use centers and guided reading strategies to improve reading. Classroom libraries will also be examined, then organized to further support reading efforts. Data collected from IIRC, Terra Nova, and quarterly curriculum assessments will be used and progress monitoring will occur. Our new curriculum will be implemented with fidelity and used to guide our lesson planning. Best practices in math will also be researched, then reviewed and addressed in our School Improvement Plan. Our staff is looking forward to the use of Smart Boards across our building to help provide students with hands on experiences in addition to the use of the math manipulatives already in use. We are looking forward to using the MYON reader program (purchased last year) as well as Kids College to provide additional support in both reading and math. WE BELIEVE with these changes and our dedicated efforts of the students and staff of NBLA will make measurable growth and will be well prepared to meet the academic challenges that lie before us. I would like to extend a warm welcome to NBLA's new Assistant Principal, Ms. LaTisha Collins! She has made a wonderful new addition to our family and we look forward to working with her this school year!

Carol Moseley Braun

Mrs. Hayes stated First, I would like to acknowledge the Board of Education, the teachers at CMB and the Central Office team for the beginning of a new opportunity to improve the teaching and learning process for the 2012 -2013 school year. I would also like to thank our custodial team, for ensuring the building was clean, safe and ready for opening day and thank my administrative assistants for their support and diligence during registration. As you know, the choice letters were forwarded home to all parents that CMB must make some recommended changes to improve teaching and learning for all students. I want to personally thank the Board of Education for a chance at internally reorganizing and restructuring CMB. I have examined and analyzed the Spring ISAT Data and the results indicate that continuous intervention support is needed in reading and math in all benchmark grades. We will begin the planning phase of what this will look like for the upcoming school year. We are committed to working with our Superintendent, State Coaches, School Leadership Team, Teachers, Parents, and the Central Office Administrators to ensure that everyone is involved in the planning process. Although we did not make the needed gains of 85% we are still in the race to implement research-based strategies, add more supplemental resources, use more best practices, and provide meaningful professional development to enhance the delivery of instruction in every classroom. We know this will be a long term commitment but, I am confident that CMB is ready for the challenge. We want the best for our children and we will work to ensure that every child is afforded the best education. Please know that we will keep everyone informed of the internal restructuring and work collaboratively using the Shared Leadership Concept. Thank you all for giving us this opportunity to improve the teaching and learning at CMB. Our current enrollment count is 326.

Berger-Vandenberg

Mrs. Winters stated in looking at the planning phase of 2012-2013, I have had an opportunity to examine the 2012 ISAT scores; the ISAT scores revealed that Reading indicated a 3.2 growth module and Math a 1.6 growth module. Our desire this school year is to continue to aggressively address our vision of student achievement for Berger student's and continue on the upward slope of increasing student's performance. Our plan will include the examination of Berger's educational program and how to infuse common core with text complexity and text dependent questions, depth and rigor in our curriculum, being data driven, Professional Development, and Guided Reading. In addition, we will continue to implement our School Improvement Plan initiatives. In closing, I would like to thank the school board and Central Office Administrators for their continuous support to the BV family. I would also like to thank our custodial team for making the school ready and accessible to the administration, teachers and students. Thanks to my office team for all of their hard work and patience over the past few weeks.

School of Fine Arts

Ms. Slate stated I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your confidence in believing in me as a Principal/Instructional Leader of the School Of Fine Arts. Thank you to the Central Office Team, Dr. Cunneen, Mr. Bakrins, Dr. Cavey, our Administrative Assistant (Mrs. Billingsley), Teachers, and Staff of the School Of Fine Arts in their commendable efforts with the smooth process of registration. The School Of Fine Arts would like to say thank you for the opportunity to begin a fresh new start for the 2012-2013 school year. It is under your leadership, guidance, and assistance in this process of creating the small schools concept that we believe that we are off to a fantastic start! We are glad to announce that this change has been accepted by our all of our stakeholders! Kudos to the S.O.F.A. teachers and

custodians who worked diligently through the summer to help get us off to a great start!! The building looks wonderful and bright! On September 5th & 6th the School Of Fine Arts goal is to assist our teachers through Professional Development, the rationale of how to implement the Collaborative Teaching Model to both general education and special education teacher. This will be presented by Kathleen Doyle of ISBE4. Technology is the way! Thanks to Dr. Scott & Mr. Jamar for the Social Studies training for our teachers. This training involved the use of technology with the use of I-Pads by our students and teachers in the classroom. Our students will be so excited to use the IPAD's for the Social Studies curriculum. The TEAM is very excited to learn new and innovative ways to help our students become successful academically. It is the mission and vision of the S.O.F.A. school to prepare students with interest in the arts to successfully pursue entry into an institute of higher learning by channeling their unique skills and talents through an intense, integrated academic and arts program that focuses on a whole-person developmental approach by incorporating the fine arts into 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 Pride, Humanization and Excellence! Currently, the School Of Fine Arts enrollment totals 220 students. The students were ready and well-dressed on the first day of school in their black polo shirts, tan khaki pants, black shoes, and black belts. Looking good S.O.FA.!

Science Technology Engineering Math

Mr. Johnson stated “**Creating 21st Century Scholars... Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow!**” is the motto of the S.T.E.M. Academy school family. The S.T.E.M. Academy teachers came together and worked diligently to embrace the S.T.E.M. philosophy and our team is committed to actively engaging students in problem solving techniques and exposing students to diverse technological experiences. Our vision at the S.T.E.M. Academy is to prepare our students for college and career readiness in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Our school parent community reacted positively to the restructuring of the school formerly known as “Dirksen Middle School”. The parents embraced the small school community concept whole heartedly. Some of the benefits of small school communities are: Higher student achievement, a decrease in violence and disruptive behaviors, an increase in attendance and graduation rates, and lastly it is more cost effective. During registration our parents expressed their excitement about the changes and pledged to be active partners in the learning process of their child's educational growth, and to participate actively in their child's educational community. The S.T.E.M. Academy teacher's are looking forward to ongoing professional developments. On Sept. 5 and Sept. 6, Dr. Kathleen Doyle will conduct a workshop on “Collaborative Teaching” and our teacher's are anxiously waiting for this date. Also, our Social Studies teacher's attended an I-Pad training facilitated by Dr. Scott, and they are excited about the opportunity to incorporate more technology into S.T.E.M curriculum. Building administration and office personnel have put forth a commendable effort concerning registration. Currently our enrollment totals at the S.T.E.M Academy are currently 232 students. We're looking forward to a great school year!

Creative Communications Academy

Mr. Scott stated this has truly been an exciting start for me and our new school...”Creative Communications Academy”. Our enrollment is currently 250 motivated students. Our children have been wonderful! They are excited and look very distinguished in their navy and khaki uniforms. I'm very optimistic that this will be a wonderful year by the enthusiasm that our teachers are showing at CCA. They are committed to intense differentiated instruction with the primary goal of getting every student to level and beyond. We plan to utilize data driven instruction, thematic units, large and small group activities, projects and student lead conference with the student. We plan to address the multiple intelligences of visual, auditory, and kinesthetic to obtain the best possible achievement and assessment of each individual learner. Our teachers are looking forward to more opportunities to drive instruction and co-teaching. Thanks to Dr. Scott for the integration of technology and use of Ipads into our social study classes for our children. We also have an upcoming professional development for the “Collaborative Teaching Model” on September 5th and 6th, presented by Kathleen Doyle of ISBE4 which I know will be

of great benefit for our staff as we move forward throughout the year. I am very pleased with all the support we have received from the parents in the community, Central Office, School District 149 Board of Ed, and Dr. Cuneen and his staff, Mary and Joel. I would especially like to thank my administrative staff, Ms. Jackson who has been a life saver. The custodians and Mr. Crean, for handling our building and making it very appealing, comfortable and clean. Also, our security staff (Officer Powell, Marshall, and Brown) who have been wonderful, going over and beyond the call of duty and have presented themselves extremely pleasant and professional. I am sure with this type of support and dedication from all, CCA will become the “light on top of the hill”. We are excited for the journey.

Ms. Herndon thanked the New Beginnings School Board, Superintendent Jones and Dr. Geddis for the opportunity to serve the district in this new position. She stated that she is eager to work with such an outstanding technology department. Rita Hall, John Smida and Jamar Everett have proven to be invaluable from day one. We are excited about the implementation of Kid’s College for the 2012-2013 school year. Kid’s College is an online service that presents standards-based content in reading, language arts, and mathematics. The students are motivated by arcade-style sports exercises to stay on task and attain correct answers. Kid’s College differentiates instruction for every student based on the student’s responses to question aligned to specific Common Core skills. The program also monitors the rate of correct and incorrect responses to provide parents, teachers and administrators with specific information about gaps in student knowledge. On August 2nd the building principals and assistant principals were thoroughly trained on the implementation of this program. On August 9th approximately 80 teachers and staff members were also trained. The feedback from both trainings was extremely positive and everyone is anxiously awaiting our kick off for the program. On August 21st the district held our first Educational Institute Day. The technology team utilized an iPad to record Superintendent Jones’s opening day message to the staff. They also provided us with the opportunity to speak with her via Skype during the morning session. Ms. Herndon, along with Ms. Jenna Kostanski, a third grade teacher at Caroline Sibley, presented “Get on BOARD the SMART Way” during the mini session workshops. Over 150 teachers, staff members and administrators attended this very informational workshop. The technology team is currently installing 75 smart boards in classrooms throughout the district. Teachers will receive ongoing training on effectively using the smart board in their classrooms.

Superintendent’s Agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Ms. Ghani to authorize its President and Secretary to enter into first year probationary teaching contracts, subject to compliance with the Educational Reform Act of 1985, effective August 20, 2012 for:

AUTHORIZE FIRST YEAR
PROBATIONARY TEACHING
CONTRACTS

Gino Barro at BA-Year 1 ESL District-Wide	Tera Graham at MS Year 3 Math 8 th SOFA
Keshia Mitchell at MA Year 1 Social Worker CCA	Steve Haddad at MS Year 1 Math 7 th CCA
Christina Snedeker at MA Year 1 Sci. 7 th SOFA	Shawn Cole at MA Year 5 Math 7 th STEM
Erin Bramscher at MA+18 Year 8 th Rdg. Sp. DKM	Kristen Granato BA Year 1 Special Ed. CS

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

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the Family Medical Leave Act request for Katherine Sargent, teacher effective the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE THE FAMILY
MEDICAL LEAVE REQUEST
FOR KATHERINE SARGENT

Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mrs. Crisler-Liggons to accept the resignation letter for Candace Isabelle, administrative assistant effective the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Tillman, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION
FOR CANDACE ISABELLE
ADMIN. ASSISTANT

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani 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: Mrs. Jolly, Ms. Ghani, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Tillman, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Eldridge. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVE COMPLETION & SUBMISSION FOR RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS AS REQUIRED

Motion by Ms. Ghani, seconded by Mr. Castillo to approve a 1 year contract with American Home Health Corporation for the purpose of health services for the 2012-2013 school year. Roll call vote: Aye: Ms. Ghani, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mrs. Tillman, and Mrs. Jolly. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVE 1 YEAR CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN HOME HEALTH CORPORATION FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to approve the consent grouping of contract renewals for the 2012-2013 school year for the following:

APPROVE THE CONTRACT RENEWALS FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

- a. Healthcare and Family services, for the purpose of administering Medicaid Health Claims;
- b. Majestic/Standard Security Self-Funded Health; Serve U RX Program; Dental and Stop Loss Insurance with Benefit Brokers & Consultants as Broker;
- c. Total Benefit Brokers (formerly BSSI) for third party administration of health and dental plan;
- d. School Reach for parent notification.

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

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Ms. Ghani to approve the consent grouping of No Child Left Behind mandates for the 2012-2013 school year for the following:

APPROVE THE CONSENT GROUPING OF NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND MANDATES FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

- a. Supplemental Education Service Fair;
- b. Intergovernmental Agreement with surrounding districts;
- c. Distribution of parental choice letters.

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

Correspondence. The Superintendent congratulated Darlene Gray Everett, Bertha Jolly, Lolita Crisler-Liggons, Zacarias Castillo, Pamela Eldridge, and Rayya Ghani for receiving the Master Recognition Award from the Illinois Association of school Boards. The awards will be presented at the upcoming South Cook Division Fall Dinner Meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at the Orland Chateau, in Orland Park, Illinois.

ECHO Joint Agreement thanked the board for their continued support in the participation of their annual golf outing.

April Davis sent a card thanking the board for the beautiful plant and their thoughts and prayers during her time of sorrow.

Bulletin Reports. None

New Business.

Motion by Mrs. Jolly, seconded by Mrs. Eldridge to allow the Superintendent to use her ten vacation days for which she worked for current time off to address a family emergency. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Tillman. **MOTION CARRIED**

ALLOW THE SUPERINTENDENT TO USE TEN VACATION DAYS TO ADDRESS A FAMILY EMERGENCY

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Castillo to direct the administration to seek a short extension for union negotiations scheduled for August 28, 2012 so that the administrative staff could address some issues that has arisen regarding grant funding. Roll call vote: Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Castillo, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Tillman, and Mrs. Crisler-Liggons. **MOTION CARRIED**

DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEEK A SHORT EXTENTION FOR UNION NEGOTIATIONS

708.

Old Business. None

Motion by Mrs. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Jolly to adjourn at 11:21 P.M. Roll call vote: ADJOURNMENT
Aye: Mrs. Eldridge, Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Crisler-Liggons, Mr. Castillo, and Mrs. Tillman.

MOTION CARRIED

Darlene Gray Everett, President

Bertha Jolly, Secretary