



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent  
August 15, 2024, Board Briefs

Rita Balgeman, Board President  
Morgan Banasiak, Board Vice President  
Tom Doyle, Board Secretary  
Chad McLean, Board Treasurer

Felicia Gills, Board Member  
Sandra Garcia, Board Member  
Janette Hernandez, Board Member

The Board of Education's special meeting was held at Lemay Middle School on Thursday, August 15, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance**

Mrs. Rita Balgeman, Mrs. Morgan Banasiak, Mr. Tom Doyle, Mr. Chad McLean, Mrs. Felicia Gills, Mrs. Sandra Garcia, and Mrs. Janette Hernandez. Absent: none.

**Changes or Additions**

No changes or additions at this time.

**Shared Agreements:**

1. *Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.*
2. *Respect staff and other board members and their opinions.*
3. *Be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1).*
4. *Allow everyone to complete their thoughts.*
5. *Commit to shared leadership.*
6. *Respect confidentiality.*
7. *Adhere to our belief in our students' full potential and successful future.*

**Strategic Plan Goals**

*Goal #1 – Student Growth and Achievement*

*Goal #2 – Learning Culture of Equity, Engagement & Agency*

*Goal #3 – Professional Culture of Teamwork & Continuous Improvement*

*Goal #4 – Family Engagement & Community Partnerships*

*Goal #5 - Effective and Innovative Use of Resources*

**Shared Agreements Reflection**

At the July 18, 2013, meeting, the Board of Education finalized their “shared agreements” and agreed to begin each regular board meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The agreement's purpose is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work.

Board Member Chad McLean shared his statement: “At our last advertised public meeting, we did not meet because we did not have a quorum. This reflection is more pointed than most. We have just had the first no-meeting event in over 15 years in District 33.

While this event was due to some planned absences and unforeseen events, we as a board have been having issues with attendance at meetings this past year. This

non-meeting is a wake-up call for us to change this trend. I am reflecting on several of our Shared Agreements. These are respect of staff and other board members, be willing to see through the eyes of 7 people and commit to shared leadership.

As a board, our presence and attention shows respect to the staff and fellow board members who spend time and effort to prepare for the meeting. There is also the public expectation that we will meet and function as a governing body of a very important public service, the elementary education of our children.

We are struggling to see through the eyes of 7 people when we do not have all of us in the room for important discussions and decisions. This has become an issue in the last school year, and the district is not as well served.

We need to show our commitment to shared leadership by being present to share the leadership role that we have been given. We have a board of 7 to benefit from 7 points of view. A key focus of administration in the last year has been accountability for all. We, as a board, need that same focus. Thank you for your service.”

### **Recognition/Showcase/Presentation**

#### ***Presentation***

##### ***Summer Construction Update***

George Demarakis, from Arcon, provided an update to the board on all the construction that took place during the summer of 2024. Attention was focused on 3 schools: Gary Pioneer and Turner this summer. This completes the air conditioning project with all buildings having air conditioning.

George also highlighted the plans for construction during the 2025 summer and provided an update on the McAuley project.

##### ***5 Essentials Presentation***

Cathy Park, Director of Assessment and Accountability, shared with the Board the 2024-2025 5Essentials survey results taken by students, staff, and parents. The 5 Essentials survey was taken in the Spring of 2024. The state requires this survey; it's the leading indicator of school improvement and reliably predicts school success.

#### **E.T.A.W.C. Statement**

No E.T.A.W.C. statement at this time.

#### **Public Comment**

No public comment at this time.

#### **Consent Agenda**

The Board of Education conducted the following business on a consent agenda as follows:

- Approved the board meeting minutes of July 11, 2024;
- Approve the contract renewals with the following vendors: BrainPop, ARC-School Pace Connect, Discovery Education, Committee for Children (Second Step), and Renaissance (Freckle).
- Approved the list of bills dated July 13, 2024, through August 1, 2024, in the amount of \$3,763,828.01, and August 2, 2024, through August 15, 2024, in the amount of \$3,793,588.10;
- Approved payrolls of July 15, 2024, in the amount of \$406,779.74, and July 31, 2024, in the amount of \$338,257.43;

- Approved the disposition of the audio tape of the Board of Education’s regular closed session dated January 19, 2023, and February 2, 2023. Meetings that are at least 18 months old and meet the State criteria are disposed of;
- Approved the personnel report;
  - 1 Administration: Sara Gillmar, Interim Assistant Principal at Pioneer Preschool, effective August 7, 2024;
  - 14 Certified: Murphy Garcia, Dual Language Teacher at Currier, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Alethea Hicks, Enrichment Science Teacher at LMS, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Zachary Manibog, Physical Education Teacher at Turner, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Melissa Trippett, Dual Language Teacher at Turner, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Taylor Ford, Preschool Teacher at Pioneer, Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year, Danielle Rooney, Kindergarten Teacher at IK, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Maria Jose Arocha Santiago, Preschool Teacher at Pioneer Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Christy Perez, Language Arts Teacher at LMS, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Brooklin Swierenga, Dual Language Teacher at Gary, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Alicia Ehrhard, Elementary Teacher at Wegner, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Donald Hoener, Learning Behavior Specialist at LMS, effective 2024-2025 School Year, William Moore, Math Teacher at LMS, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Maclaine Bartelt, Preschool Teacher at Pioneer Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Brenda Guerrero, Dual Language Teacher at Wegner, effective 2024-2025 School Year;
  - 6 Classified: Tiffany Kennedy, Paraprofessional at Turner, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Ana Santiago, Paraprofessional at Indian Knoll, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Hibali Alzaidi, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Karen Delgadillo, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year; Estefany Castro, Utility Custodian at ESC, effective August 26, 2024; Josephine Chavez, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective 2024-2025 School Year;
  - 15 Resignations: Dulce Sosa de Herrera, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective July 12, 2024; Jose Bermudez, Math Teacher at LMS, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Melissa Diaz Munoz, Instructional Coach at Pioneer Preschool, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Crystal Hernandez, Elementary Teacher at Wegner, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Olesia Mohline, Dual Language Teacher at Wegner, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Lizeet Sepulveda, School Psychologist at Wegner, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Jessica Valdez, Preschool Teacher at Pioneer Preschool, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Keith Kucera, Learning Behavior Specialist at LMS, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Kathy Grogan, Enrichment Teacher at LMS, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Sara Schrandt, LBS1 at Pioneer Preschool, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Karina Bucio, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective end of 23-24 School Year; Michaela Juckins, Speech Language Pathologist at Pioneer Preschool, effective August 7, 2024; Miriam Garcia Munoz, Paraprofessional at Pioneer Preschool, effective August 8, 2024; Tamar Friedman, Social Worker at Turner, effective August 8, 2024; Rocio Garcia, Lunch Supervisor at Currier, effective August 9, 2024;
  - 1 Leave: Katherine Fortuna, Part-Time Library Aide at Currier, effective August 26, 2024-November 18, 2024;
  - 1 Continuous Employment: Rosario Arteaga, First Year Dual Language Teacher at Currier, effective 2024-2025 School Year;

**2 Retirements:** Mark Truckenbrod, Director of Human Resources at ESC, effective July 1, 2025; Ilona Truckenbrod, Literacy and Numeracy Teacher at Pioneer Preschool, effective July 1, 2025;

- Staff Transfers - Building and position transfers for the 24/25 school year.

### **Financial Reports**

- The Board of Education reviewed the Treasurers' Report and Budget Report as of June 30, 2024, and July 31, 2024, along with the financial charts;
- The Board of Education received a financial report from Karen Apostoli, Executive Director of Business and Operations, stating that the district received \$1,205,673.00 in Evidence-Based Funding; \$413,654.00 in Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Title IVA; \$409,730.00 in IDE Flow Through; and \$2,847,329.00 in Other Federal Programs since the last meeting.
- The Board of Education received a summary of each school's monthly activity accounts for June 30, 2024, and July 31, 2024.

### **Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action**

- *1st Reading of Policies* - The Board reviewed the 1st reading of the policies as follows: Policy 2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses; Policy 2:125-E1 Exhibit - Board Member Reimbursement Form; Policy 2:125-E2 Exhibit - Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form; Policy 2:160 Board Attorney; Policy 2:160-E Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney; Policy 2:70 Vacancies on the Board of Education - Filling Vacancies; Policy 2:70-E Exhibit - Checklists for Filling Board Vacancies by Appointment; Policy 4:15 Identity Protection; Policy 4:70 Resource Conservation; Policy 4:80 Accounting and Audits; Policy 5:130 Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information; Policy 5:180 Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity; Policy 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal; Policy 5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions; Policy 5:310 Compensatory Time-Off; Policy 6:110 Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program; Policy 6:140 Education of Homeless Children; Policy 6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction; Policy 7:170 Vandalism; Policy 7:300 Extracurricular Activities. The Board will review and vote at the September 5, 2024 board meeting.
- *403b Consultant* - The Board voted to approve the contract with TCG Consulting for the 2024-2025 school year.
- *Administrative Update* - The Board voted to approve Mark Truckenbrod as Interim Principal of Wegner School, appoint Sarah Burnett as Director of Human Resources, and appoint Mark Truckenrod as Human Resources Generalist.
- *Food Service Contract 2024-205 school year* - The Board voted to approve the food contract for the 2024-2025 school year to Aramark.
- *McAuley Abatement and Mitigation* - The Board voted to approve the contract for Abatement/Mitigation Work, Scope of Work No. 2 &3, at McAuley School to Midway Contracting Group LLC.
- *Secretary to the Superintendent and Board of Education* - The Board voted to approve the annual salary adjustment with exempt FLSA for the secretary to the Superintendent and Board of Education.

**Action Items**

- *Illinois Association of School Boards* -The Board voted to approve annual membership dues to IASB for the 2024-2025 school year.
- *Equipment Disposal* - The Board voted to approve the disposal of 1 broken chair, 2 broken colorations mobile classroom drying racks, 8 tables, 1 1979 Kodak Carousel, 1 Seerite 6x6 Opaque Projector, 1 broken chair (art room), 1 chair (speech room), 1 broken chair (room 21), 2 wooden bookshelves and metal bookshelf, 1 file cabinet, and 1 Kodak Carousel 4600 Slide Projector.
- The Board approved the resolution for the Hazardous Bussing 2024/25 school year.
- *LEND Dues* - The Board voted to approve the continued membership in the Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND).
- The Board approved the resolution for the continuous use of Mobile Classrooms.

**Information Items**

The Board of Education received/reviewed/discussed the following informational items:

- Summer school and back-to-school update.
- Committee information to sign up.
- Enrollment and staffing update.
- Power School update.
- Threat Assessment Protocol for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Freedom of Information Report.
- Short-term maternity leave report was shared.
- No suggested items at this time.
- No board outreach at this time.
- Parking lot- Sarah B. shared the positive feedback emails she has received from staff regarding the use of “Public School work” for mandatory compliance.

**Report of District Committee Meetings**

- Open comments - Morgan congratulated the board and administration for the IASB recognition District 33 received. District 33 was one of 46 schools that earned this recognition and have a press release on the school board page.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

**Adjournment**

The above review of action taken by the Board of Education at their regular meeting is provided in an attempt to keep you informed. If you have any questions regarding any of the information provided or wish to discuss any of the items, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,

**Kristina Davis, Ed. S.**

Kristina Davis,  
Superintendent of Schools