



**WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33**

Kristina Davis Ed.S., Superintendent
October 17, 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 regular meeting was held at Lemay Middle School on Thursday, October 17, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

Mrs. Rita Balgeman, Mrs. Morgan Banasiak, Mr. Tom Doyle, Mr. Chad McLean, Mrs. Janette Hernandez, and Mrs. Sandra Garcia were present. Absent: Mrs. Felicia Gills.

Changes or Additions

Addition to close session: reason 3, negotiation matters.

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 Morgan Banasiak shared her statement: “The other night, I went to my

daughter's softball hitting lesson. We had not seen her hitting coach in a while due to scheduling conflicts. My daughter has been struggling to hit in games lately, so it was good and a relief to finally see the coach. As I watched her, it struck me that to be great, we have to constantly practice, constantly strive to improve, and be willing to make changes and modifications to get us to where we want to be. My daughter has been so busy with high school swim, academics, Pep Club, NHS, and being a senior that she stopped her practice routine at home. The consequences have been a decreased hitting average.

I believe our jobs in this district are no different. We can't sit back on our laurels and watch children go by. We address a problem, make changes, evaluate the outcomes, and continue to adjust to have the outcomes we want. It is important for children to be encouraged to work for excellence. They will not do this by their selves. Everyone involved in a child's life needs to encourage them to work on their academics if we want to see success –teachers, principals, administration, the school board, and parents. A Portrait of a Graduate describes the basics we are looking to achieve – well-adjusted students who are prepared to address tomorrow's issues. We want students who are ready for high school. We want students who excel in their classes. Over the last few years, many different aspects have been looked at to help improve our student's learning and understanding. It's not a one-pronged approach, and it has caused a lot of changes in the district. A consolidation of elementary schools, a new preschool building where the children are together, a change in the dual language program, a middle school student advisory committee, and multiple committees to address enrichment, curriculum, and behavior. Teachers have had a lot of curriculum changes to address, the board has strived to be more available and transparent, and the administration has devised expectations and training to help move us forward. The administration has created a closer relationship with the high school to help in that transition. The only prong I can not address is the parents. This is a question that parents need to ask themselves. In this multi-pronged system, what have I done to make sure my child is academically successful? Have I gotten involved with their school, teachers, curriculum nights, and parent-teacher conferences? Have I set up a successful homework schedule? The other night my daughter worked on a level swing. Sounds simple enough, except that it involves more than just the bat. It involves level shoulders, no wrist rollover, not popping her head up in the swing, setting up her load and stepping at the right time, etc. This is a multi-pronged approach to make her a great hitter. Just like each prong in a child's life needs to address their academics in order to make them a great student and successful.

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Recognition - Turner's Superintendent for the Day

3rd-grade students Lukas H., Angelyn P., and Sarah D. participated in Superintendent for the Day on October 11, 2024. Mrs. Efrom presented Lukas and Angelyn during the board meeting. Lukas shared that he learned that the superintendent is responsible for overseeing how all of the students throughout the district are doing. During her time as Superintendent, Angelyn observed that students were paying attention, taking tests, and practicing with the materials.

Showcase - Turner's Showcase: 2nd Grade SEL/Health

Krisann Castro, SEL/Health teacher at Turner, presented Learning How to Respond to Unsafe Suggestions. 2nd-grade students Damian M., Ana K., Zoe B., and Melanie L. spoke on the different ways they can refuse unsafe behavior. Some examples are stopping and saying no, telling a parent or trusted adult, telling them, "I don't think that is safe," or letting them know you don't feel comfortable. They also passed response cards to board members and administrators to use while playing scenarios.

Board Salutes

The Board Salutes will be a standing item on the agenda starting with the February 3, 2022, board meeting. The Board of Education would like to recognize individuals of the District 33 community - which includes all staff members, students, bus drivers, parents/guardians, and guardians - for actions that build a positive culture and climate in District 33. This "shout-out" will become part of the official Board minutes under Board Salutes on the bi-weekly agendas.

Salute to: Brett Jacobson, Social Worker, Lemman Middle School

Submitted by: Sherri Massa, Director of Student Services

"Brett is a social worker at Lemman Middle School. His primary focus is on supporting students who have behavior concerns and may need to take a "pause" from their regular school day and think about more appropriate behavior. However, Brett jumped into completely unknown territory for the past month and supported Wegner students struggling with a new school year. When Maggie Lay and I first approached Brett about helping out at Wegner, he was very upfront about his experience of only being with older students. He acknowledged that his toolbox for supporting kindergarten students wasn't quite full, but he was more than willing to go where needed. Brett spent a month at Wegner, every day, learning more and more about kindergarten and 1st grade. From the first day, he jumped in and found ways to connect with students and staff. Brett went "Above and Beyond" to support Wegner, and we couldn't be more appreciative of his willingness to go where he is most needed."

Presentation - Multi-Tiered System of Support

Sherri Massa, Director of Student Services; Patrick Jecmen, District Senior Behavior Advisor; Kerry Duffey, SEL Teacher at IK; and Crystal Lizon, Instructional Coach at LMS, presented the work on MTSS. MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support) is an evidence-based model designed to meet the needs of all students academically and social-emotionally by ensuring that schools optimize data-driven decision-making, progress monitoring, and evidence-based support and strategies with increasing intensity to improve student outcomes. The MTSS action team will serve as a vehicle for promoting shared leadership, data-driven decision-making, and collaborative efforts to enhance the overall quality of education and school experience for students. The committee will focus on the academic and behavioral components of school improvement planning. The MTSS committee will be composed of members from the school's BLTs and PBIS teams to allow for seamless communication between schools and align the work of the district. Information also included the purpose of the MTSS action team, current behavior and academic work, and the next steps for the committee.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

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

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Superintendent News

Turner's Superintendent News.

The Superintendent News is to update the board and community on some of the many programs and activities occurring in the schools and the departments determined to help us accomplish the goals of the District Strategic Plan.

Goal #5: Effective and Innovative Use of Resources

School Improvement Plan Goal: Literacy Action Plan

- Literacy Action Plan, Action Step: Implement the use of technology to strengthen oracy across all grade levels.
 - Led by our Instructional Technology Coach, Daniela Vaca, Turner has implemented the Turner News Show, where students collaborate weekly to create a news report that highlights events and activities happening at Turner and beyond. This involves developing, revising, and reviewing scripts and video footage, which is then shared with the entire school community.
 - Their next step is to incorporate “Math Task of the Week” into the news report so students in each grade know their math task for the upcoming week. This is an action item in the 24-25 Math Action Plan.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approved the board meeting minutes of September 19, 2024, and October 3, 2024;
- Approve the contract renewals with the following vendors: Literacy DuPage, Fortinet, Oculus Arbor XR, and NWEA.
- Approved the list of bills dated October 7, 2024, through October 17, 2024, in the amount of \$1,090,230.18;
- Approved payrolls of September 13, 2024, in the amount of \$1,828,225.61, and September 30, 2024, in the amount of \$1,865,472.58;
- Approved imprest account from September 12, 2024, to October 8, 2024, in the amount of \$750.00;
- Approved the disposition of the audio tape of the Board of Education’s regular closed session dated March 23, 2023, and April 6, 2023. Meetings that are at least 18 months old and meet the State criteria are disposed of;
- Approved the Memorandum of After-school agreements with World Relief.
- Approved the personnel report;

0 Administration:

0 Certified:

3 Classified: Odaly Medina, Family Liaison at Saint Michael's, effective October 21, 2024; Veronica Castillo, Paraprofessional at Currier, effective October 28, 2024; Alexis Correa, Head Custodian at ESC, effective October 18, 2024;

4 Resignations: Michelle Betterman, Speech Language Pathologist - Assistive Technology at ELC, effective October 1, 2024; Mercedes Alverio, Family Liaison at Pioneer Preschool, effective October 25, 2024; Kathleen Gentile, Science Teacher at LMS, effective October 31, 2024; Jennifer Guzman, Paraprofessional at Indian Knoll, effective October 24, 2024;

2 Leaves: Jatin Radadiya, Nurse at Indian Knoll, effective February 3, 2024 - February 22, 2025; Rebecca Salvo, Math Teacher at LMS, effective March 31, 2025 - June 3, 2025;

0 Retirements:

Financial Reports

- The Board of Education reviewed the Treasurers' Report and Budget Report as of September 30, 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 since the last meeting.
- The Board of Education received a summary of each school's monthly activity accounts for September 30, 2024.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Constitutional Amendment for Consideration at the 2024 IASB Delegate Assembly* - Kristina Davis, Superintendent, led the conversation with the Board of Education regarding the annual resolutions during the Joint Annual Conference. Board members will review the information and will discuss and vote at the November 7, 2024, board meeting.
- *Proposed Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions for Consideration at the 2024 IASB Delegate Assembly and Appointment of District 33 Delegate to the 2024 IASB Delegate Assembly* - Board members will review the information and vote on a delegate at the November 7, 2024, board meeting.
- *Surveillance Camera Software* - Matt Ryan, Director of Technology, provided the Board of Education with information regarding the current surveillance camera software and the search for a new software provider. Further information will be provided in November.

Action Items

No action items at this time.

Information Items

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

- Full-service Community School Grant Award;
- Plan for Emergency Closure 2024-2025;
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Freedom of Information Report;
- Out of District placements;

- Short-term maternity leave report was shared;
- Student Chronic Absentee Report;
- Student Suspension Report;
- Truancy Referral Report;
- School Newsletters;
- Vandalism Report;
- No suggested items at this time.
- Board outreach - Morgan Banasiak attended the first GPAC (GATE Parent Committee) meeting. Kristina Davis and Lea DeLuca attended the first football game under the lights.
- No parking lot at this time.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Board members were provided with the committee update slideshow.
- No open comments at this time.

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

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