

**FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer Mr. Mark Mitchell – **5:00 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (*recited by all in attendance*)

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present: Cook, LaWrence, Mitchell, Viverette  
Absent: Coleman, Hayslett, Sherman  
Also Present: Dr. Gregory T. Jackson, Superintendent  
Mrs. Coretta Jackson, Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration & Operations  
Mrs. Marilyn Barnes, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Ms. Monique Johnson, Principal Medgar Evers PAC  
Dr. Sharon Rivers, Principal, Cottage Grove U.G.C.  
Ms. Chantel Jones, Assistant Principal Medgar/Cottage

Legal Counsel: **None**

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)**

Board President greeted and thanked all in attendance, then inquired if there were any comments from the audience.

**MR. SHAWN TAYLOR:** Stated that he would like to promote an Event that he was spearheading entitled a “Royal Gala.” Mr. Taylor went on to express that this event would be to promote Self-Esteem among young people, whom he believes are dealing with many social, mental, environmental issues, and believes championing them as Prince and Princesses, will be a great self-esteem vehicle for them.

He expressed that he would like to pass out handouts, and ended by requesting a monetary contribution from the District.

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Superintendent Jackson informed Mr. Taylor that the Board would take a look at his proposal and get back to him.

**MR. DANE PLACKO** (Fox 32 News): **MR. PLACKO** began by sharing financial information as it related to the Superintendent's contract. He asked about a provision in Superintendent's contract, should he leave, be dismissed, fired from the District. He asked members of the Board if they could explain the Superintendent's contract. He also gave figures as to the per pupil spending of the District, as opposed to the average per pupil spending of the State. He questioned why there was such a disparity in this figure?

At this juncture, **MR. DE KEA** present in the audience, and a consultant for the District, interjected that he would like to answer those inquiries.

**MR. KEA** pointed out where the District was financially and academically upon Superintendent Jackson's arrival, as opposed to where the District is presently. Mr. Kea pointed out the steady increase in test scores (and gave percentages for several years) in relation to State averages, and those of surrounding districts. He explained that the increase in test scores has increased year after year after year. **MR. KEA** addressed how schools in Illinois are funded. He stated that other districts have revenues from the various businesses, etc. and don't have to spend as much per pupil spending as our District.

**MR. KEA** went on to say that this salary was justified by the extreme improvement in academics, as well as, infrastructure changes/additions implemented in the District. He stated that the Superintendent's salary reflects the fact that by law Superintendent's contracts are performance based.

**MR. KEA** ended by expressing that he believed this line of questioning has its roots based in the "politics" of others supporting this type of quest. But did agree to sit with Mr. Placko at end of meeting.

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**BOARD PRESIDENT MITCHELL**, then called for a motion to approve agenda.

**AGENDA**

Motioned/Cook; Seconded/Viverette - to approve the agenda.

Roll Call:   Ayes:       Cook, LaWrence, Mitchell, Viverette  
              Nays:       None  
              Absent:     Coleman, Hayslett, Sherman  
              Abstain:  None  
              **4 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.**

**MINUTES**

Motioned/LaWrence; Seconded/Cook - to approve the minutes of **September 11, 2018 (Regular) and Public Hearing, 2018.**

Roll Call:   Ayes:       Cook, LaWrence, Mitchell, Viverette  
              Nays:       None  
              Absent:     Coleman, Hayslett, Sherman  
              Abstain:  None  
              **4 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** reminded members of the Board that they were in advanced receipt of his report. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** recommended favorable approval of his report as submitted. Then inquired if there were any questions. **THERE WERE NONE.**

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Board President then called for a motion to approve Report of the Superintendent.

Motioned/Cook; Seconded/LaWrence – to approve **PART A – REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT** as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: Cook, LaWrence, Mitchell, Viverette  
Nays: None  
Absent: Coleman, Hayslett, Sherman  
Abstain: None

4 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

**I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION**

**A. PERSONNEL (*Pending receipt of all personnel required documents and Illinois State Police and FBI criminal background clearance*)**

**1. AFTER SCHOOL TUTORIALS**

Authorization is being sought to hire the following personnel for After School Tutorials beginning on **Tuesday, September 25, 2018** and ending on **Tuesday, December 4, 2018**.

**Medgar Evers**

**Brinda Farr, Paraprofessional**

**2. APPOINTMENT**

Authorization is sought to appoint **Dr. Nancy Lopez** as Case Manager, Special Education working 2 days per week, at **\$72.00** per hour, 5 hours per day, **not to exceed 50** school days.

**B. ESTIMATED AGGREGATE TAX LEVY FOR 2018 (See reference #1)**

The Truth in Taxation Act (**35 ILCS 200/18-55 et:seq.**) affects all local government agencies, including school districts, community colleges and home-rule municipalities, which are authorized to levy property taxes. The basic requirement of the law has been reproduced for your information from the 2001-2002 State, Local and Federal Financing booklet for Illinois Public Schools.

One of the main requirements contained in the Truth-in-Taxation law, is that "At least twenty (20) days prior to the adoption of an aggregate levy, is that the local governing board estimates the dollar amount of the aggregate levy for the current year, exclusive of election costs. The recommended **2018** Calendar Year levy estimate is **\$4,665.200**.

Please keep in mind that this estimate is subject to change as more information becomes available.

**II. FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**A. MONTHLY ENROLLMENT (As of October 4, 2018)**

**MEDGAR EVERS SCHOOL**

<b>Pre-K</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Kdg</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>40</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>293</b>

**COTTAGE GROVE UPPER GRADE CENTER**

<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>45</b>
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<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>41</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>Out of District</b>	<b>11</b>
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>470</b>

**Report of Contacts (Attendance Officers):**

**Medgar evers:**

<b>Home Visits</b>	<b>Telephone Contacts</b>	<b>Parent Conferences</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>15</b>

**Cottage Grove:**

<b>Home Visits</b>	<b>Telephone Contacts</b>	<b>Parent Conferences</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>0</b>

**PART B - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS**

**MRS. CORETTA JACKSON** informed members that they were in advanced receipt of her report. **MRS. JACKSON** then inquired if there were any questions. **THERE WERE NONE.** **MRS. JACKSON** then asked for approval of report as submitted.

Motioned/Cook; Seconded/LaWrence - to approve **PART B - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS REPORT** as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: Cook, LaWrence, Mitchell, Viverette  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: Coleman, Hayseltt, Sherman  
 Abstain: None  
**4 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.**

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**I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION**

**A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Authorization is requested to pay Accounts Payable bills for October 9, 2018 in the amount of **\$354,458.95.**

**B. PAYROLL SUMMARY**

The following is the payroll summary for the month of August 2018 as detailed below:

September 14, 2018	\$188,074.71
September 28, 2018	<u>\$188,125.90</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$376,200.61</b>

**C. BUILDING RENTAL**

Authorization is requested for the use of the following facilities:

A. Date: October 9, 2018 - November 6, 2018  
Time: 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m./7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Tidye A. Phillips  
Contact: Pastor Shawn Aldridge  
Beyond The Veil Kingdom Ministries  
Purpose: Religious Purposes  
Cost: **\$75.00-Sunday/\$25.00 - Thursday**

**D. PETTY CASH**

Authorization is requested to replenish a Petty Cash for the following:

Office of Superintendent	\$191.16
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Building & Grounds	\$ 32.33
District Office	\$ 78.50
Cottage Grove	<u>\$167.12</u>
Medgar Evers	<u>\$172.45</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$641.56</b>

**E. IMPREST FUND**

Authorization is requested to replenish Imprest Fund in the amount of **\$800.00.**

**PART C - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**MRS. MARILYN BARNES** reminded members of the Board that they were in advanced receipt of her report. **MRS. BARNES** inquired if there were any questions? **THERE WERE NONE.** Mrs. Barnes then asked for acceptance of her report as submitted:

**I. FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**A. AFTER SCHOOL TUTORIALS**

After School Tutorials began on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 for students. At Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center there are **99** students enrolled, the daily average attendance rate has been **94% of the students in attendance.** At Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center there are **90** students who are enrolled, the daily average attendance rate has been **88% of students in attendance.** We will continue to keep our attendance at an acceptable rate. I would like to say KUDOS to the parents, teachers, students, and the administrative staff for all of their efforts thus far.

Students will continuously be encouraged to attend After School Tutorials to ensure they have the best learning experiences and opportunities that will help them to have a successful school year.



**B. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math)**  
***(See reference #1)***

Third and fourth grade students at Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center have been exploring the Early Engineering Lego Course through Tech Trep. Ms. Tutorow has begun the lessons, and the students are building away. The first lesson was called "Pinwheel." The students had to build a pinwheel out of Legos, and determine if it would spin fast or slow when using a fan.

This month I am featuring some pictures of the students who are participating in STEAM during After School. As you can see, the students are off to a wonderful start, and they are excited about STEAM.

**C. TEACHER EVALUATIONS**

Pre/Post Conferences and the evaluation process have begun. Both Building Principals and the District-Wide Assistant Principal are conferencing and completing classroom observations with teachers who are in rotation to be evaluated for the 2018-2019 school year.

Classroom observations include the implementation of expectations defined in the Ford Heights School District 169 Student Achievement Plan. This plan outlines the sequence of steps that must be taken, as well as, the activities performed to achieve student success. There are three (3) main elements: **specific tasks**, **time horizon**, and **monitoring provision**. During grade level and team meetings, the plan is discussed and monitored by Principals. When necessary, teachers are required to provide evidence of implementation or completion.

**D. PARENTS MONTHLY MEETINGS**

The Family Workshop Series has started and will be held each month at Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center in room 218 at 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The first meeting was held on Friday, September 14, 2018. The meeting was well attended by **12** parents, and the topic for the meeting was ***“Building a Positive Home & School Relationship: Communication is Key.”*** Parents and family members viewed a PowerPoint and short video clips that gave them tips and encouragement on how they can support their child at home, work with the classroom teacher, and participate during school events and functions. Parents play an important role in their child’s success, and these monthly meetings are opportunities to give them tools and support on how they can work with both schools as a partner.

At the end of last school year (2017-2018), parents were surveyed to ascertain the topics they wanted to learn more about in working with their child at home to support the school efforts, and their child’s success in school. As a result of the survey, the topics were chosen for the 2018-2019 Parent Workshop Series.

The next Parent Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 12, 2018. The topic will be “Academic Motivation.”

**E. DISTRICT-WIDE EVACUATION DRILLS**

The District has held four (3) mandatory emergency drills thus far for the 2018- 2019 school year. The emergency drills that have been held are as follows:

- Bus Evacuation Drill – September 14, 2018
- Tornado Drill – September 21, 2018
- Fire Drill – October 5, 2018

**F. MONTHLY BUILDING REPORTS (See references #2-4)**

Building reports were submitted by the following personnel:

**Monique Johnson**, Principal of Medgar Evers P.A.C.  
**Sharon Rivers**, Principal of Cottage Grove U.G.C.  
**Celestine Burrel**, District Wide Attendance Officer

**G. UPCOMING DATES**

**OCTOBER 8, 2018**

There will be no school in observance Columbus Day

**OCTOBER 12, 2018**

There will be a Parent Meeting at Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center at 11:00 a.m. All parents are welcome to attend!

**OCTOBER 16, 2018**

Students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon. Teachers and Paraprofessionals will have professional development from 12:45 p.m. until 2:45 p.m.

**OCTOBER 19, 2018**

Both schools will conduct Classroom Spelling Bees at first through eighth grades. Winners will advance to the School Wide Spelling Bee at each respective school that will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018.

**OCTOBER 19, 2018**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Ends

**OCTOBER 22, 2018 - OCTOBER 29, 2018**

Students at Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center will have hearing and vision screenings.

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**OCTOBER 22, 2018 – OCTOBER 26, 2018**

Students will participate in activities for **Red Ribbon Week** at both schools

**OCTOBER 26, 2018**

Parents will come and meet with their child(ren) teacher to discuss what he/she has been learning the first ten (10) weeks of school. Parents will receive their child(ren) report card on that day, as well.

**BOARD PRESIDENT MITCHELL** called on Principal Rivers and Principal Johnson to give a status update on the activities/happenings in their respective buildings.

**PRINCIPAL RIVERS** began by stating that Girls Basketball season had begun, and thus far there had been no losses. She then gave details of other invites for the Cottage Grove Band to participate in various events in and around the city of Chicago. Principal Rivers mentioned there was an invite to Chicago State and the Bud Biliken Parade. She expressed that during the Basketball season this year, the band would be playing during half-time. Principal Rivers expressed that all of Cottage Grove was so very excited and proud of and for the band.

**PRINCIPAL JOHNSON** informed members how the STEAM program was going and expressed that students were coming were so excited to be a part of this program and found it so very interesting, thus the attendance rate was extremely high for this After School Program.

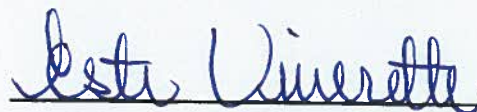
**BOARD PRESIDENT MITCHELL** called for a motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT: 5:22 p.m.**

Motioned/LaWrence; Seconded/Viverette - to adjourn meeting



Mr. Mark Mitchell, President



Mrs. Ester Viverette, Secretary