

FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, President, Joe Louis Sherman
– at 10:00 a.m.

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

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present: J. Sherman, S. LaWrence, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (via phone)
Absent: J. Coleman
Also Present: Dr. Gregory T. Jackson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Coretta D. Jackson, Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration & Operations
Dr. Sharon P. Rivers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Gloria Lymore (via phone)
Mrs. LaDonna Harris, Executive Assistant to the Supt.
Mr. William Gleason, Legal Counsel
Mr. Mario Planera, Planera & Reid Architects (Guest)
Mr. Lee Reid, Planera & Reid Architects (Guest)
Athletic Director Timothy Williams (Guest)
Coach Shawn Aldridge (Guest)
Cottage Grove Basketball Team Players (12 Guests)

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)

Athletic Director, Timothy Williams and the 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach, Shawn Aldridge thanked the Board of Education for their support and resources provided to the boys' basketball team throughout their season. They went on to discuss their recent victory when they played upstate in Aurora and their eagerness to play downstate in Kankakee on February 10, 2024.

This time was also used to allow the individual players on the Panther Boys' basketball team an opportunity to introduce themselves and their positions on the team. A video recap of the Cottage Grove basketball team's journey over the season was shown to the members of the board and all other participants of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President, Joe Louis Sherman, called for a motion to approve the agenda at 10:16 a.m.

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Gray - to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: Ayes: LaWrence, Gray, Viverette, Sherman, Mitchell,
Cook
Nays: None
Absent: Coleman
Abstain: None
6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President, Joe Louis Sherman, called for a motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing and regularly scheduled board meeting of **January 9, 2024**.

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Gray - to approve the minutes of **January 9, 2024**.

Roll Call: Ayes: LaWrence, Gray, Viverette, Sherman, Mitchell
Nays: None
Absent: Coleman, Cook
(Lera Cook lost connection by phone at approximately 10:17a.m.)
Abstain: None
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you cards received from the Boyett family to President Joe Sherman and the Board of Education regarding the support shown to their family during the death of their loved one, Mr. Sylvester Boyett.

PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON reminded members of the Board that they were in advanced receipt of his report. Dr. Jackson went on to discuss the recent enrollment of migrant families and the need for bilingual paraprofessionals due to language barriers. Due to the purchase of the SAAVAS curriculum four years ago, there is a component identified in that curriculum that allows students to be taught in both English and Spanish language. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** went on further to discuss the HVAC system pipes that burst at Tidye A. Phillips and what the insurance will cover. He informed the board that the section of the Boys and Girls Club, however, was now back open.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON continued his report by informing the Board of Education that the annual interest earning statement from Dr. Robert Grossi, our Bloom Township Treasurer, will be available during the March 2024 meeting. He finalized his report by speaking to the plans to start architectural design plans through Planera and Reid which will comprise of \$3.9 million of the \$5.1 million in bonds that had been issued this past December.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON asked guests, Mr. Mario Planera and Mr. Lee Reid to speak to the proposed repairs, renovations and/or construction projects at the district's schools. In summary, the west side of the roof, multiple exhaust fans and eight HVAC systems are in disrepair at Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center. In addition, the installation of automated thermostats will help control the temperature in the building. New HVAC systems will then reduce energy and operating costs. At the Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center, the multi-purpose space will be converted into a state of the art classroom of the future space. The concrete walk at the entrance of the auditorium will be replaced and a new electronic bleacher system will be installed in the gymnasium.

Also, unrelated to the architectural proposed renovations/construction projects are the smaller repairs, renovations, construction and beautification projects at Tidye A. Phillips that the district will be performing. The estimated cost of the work at Phillips combined is estimated to cost in aggregate approximately \$115,000. **BOARD MEMBER GRAY** then asked if there are any other intentions of the Tidye A. Phillips building at this time. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** responded by reminding the Members of the Board that the plan to eventually sell this facility to a suitable buyer is still in the works.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON ended by asking for favorable approval of his report as submitted and if there were any questions. **There were none.**

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Viverette - to approve **PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: Gray, LaWrence, Mitchell, Sherman, Viverette
 Nays: None
 Absent: Coleman, Cook
 Abstain: None
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

I. CLOSED SESSION

- A.** That pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(10) and Section 2(c)(11) the Ford Heights School District 169 (FHSD 169) Board of Education goes into Closed Session to discuss the employment, compensation, and/performance of a specific employee of FHSD 169 and or matters regarding students. Any items needing approval will be voted on during the open session.
(POSSIBLE ACTION)

II. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

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

1. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Authorization is sought to appoint **MRS. KATHRYN PETTIS**, as a part-time *Social Worker*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, Tuesday, February 6, 2024**, (*Administratively approved*) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$58.00 per hour**
- b. Authorization is sought to appoint **Ms. JUANITA GUZMAN**, as a *Paraprofessional*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, Thursday, February 1, 2024**, (*Administratively approved*) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$34,214.46 prorated salary**
- c. Authorization is sought to retroactively approve the appointment of **Ms. CELESTINE BURRELL**, as an *8th Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, January 2024**, (*Administratively approved*) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$2,450 Stipend**
- d. Authorization is sought to retroactively approve the appointment of **MRS. DIANE RICHARDSON**, as a *7th Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, January 2024**, (*Administratively approved*) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$2,450 Stipend**
- e. Authorization is sought to appoint **Ms. MAKAYLA ROBINSON**, as a *Substitute Teacher*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, Monday, February 5, 2024**, (*Administratively approved*) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$125.00 per day**
- f. Authorization is sought to appoint **MRS. IRIS RODGERS**, as a *Substitute Teacher*, Ford Heights School District 169, **effective, Friday, February 16, 2024**

(Administratively approved) for the 2023-2024 School Year - **\$125.00 per day**

2. RESIGNATIONS

- a. **Ms. TANIA RICHEY**, Substitute Teacher – Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center, has submitted a Letter of Resignation, effective **Friday, February 9, 2024** for the **2023-2024 School Year**.

B. RETROACTIVE APPROVAL OF JANUARY 9, 2024 POLICIES (SEPARATE COVER)

Authorization is sought to approve **revised, adopted** and/or **new** policies retroactive to January 9, 2024.

- ❖ School Board – **Exhibit** – Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records – **2.250 E2 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ School Board – Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure – **2.265 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ General School Administration – Administrative Personnel Other than the Superintendent – **3:50 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ General School Administration – Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal – **3:60 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Operational Services – Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds – **4.160 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Operational Services – **Administrative Procedure**- Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds – **4.160 AP (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ General Personnel – Staff Development Program – **5.100 (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Instruction – **Administrative Procedure**- Care of Students with Diabetes – **6.120 AP (Revised 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Students – School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools – **7.50 (Adopted 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Students – **Administrative Procedure** – School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools- **7.50 AP (Adopted 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Students – **Administrative Procedure** – Prevention, Identification, Investigation, and Response to Bullying- **7.180 API (Adopted 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Students – Teen Dating Violence Prohibited – **7.185 (Adopted 01/09/2024)**
- ❖ Students – Student Behavior – **7.190 (Revised 01/09/2024)**

- ❖ Students - Exemption from Physical Education - 7:260 (Revised 01/09/2024)
- ❖ Students - Administering Medicine to Students - 7.270 (Adopted 01/09/2024)
- ❖ Students - Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention - 7.290 (Adopted 01/09/2024)

C. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO REPLACE REGISTRAR** *(See reference #1)*

Authorization is sought to approve the bond resolution appointing Amalgamated to serve as bond registrar on the District's outstanding 2013A and 2014A bonds.

D. **APPROVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL PLANS** *(See reference #2)*

Authorization is sought to approve Planera and Reid Architects to prepare all construction related plans and documents and to allow for bids for construction work to be performed at Medgar Primary Academic Center and Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center for an approximate amount of \$3,900,000.

E. **ACCEPT FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS (AS FOLLOWS): (DELIVERED UNDER SEPARATE COVER)**

Accept Ford Heights School District 169's Annual Financial Reports as submitted and listed below, for Fiscal Year ending *June 30, 2023*. Enclosed herewith for your acceptance are the following financial reports. They are:

- ✚ LETTERS FROM MILLER COOPER AND Co., LTD.
- ✚ BOUND ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (AFR) FROM MILLER COOPER AND Co., LTD.
- ✚ ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS (AFR) TO ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION FROM MILLER COOPER AND Co., LTD. (LOOSE BOUND)

****BLOOM TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF SCHOOLS ANNUAL INVESTMENT REPORT FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 (WILL BE PROVIDED AT A LATER DATE)***

F. **APPROVAL OF RESCHEDULED APRIL MEETING**

Authorization is sought to reschedule the *Tuesday, April 9, 2024* board meeting to *Wednesday, April 10, 2024*.

III. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. MONTHLY ENROLLMENT (AS OF JANUARY 30, 2024)

MEDGAR EVERS SCHOOL

PRE-K	60	KDG	53
GRADE 1	48	GRADE 2	43
GRADE 3	34	GRADE 4	43
		TOTAL	281

COTTAGE GROVE UPPER GRADE CENTER

GRADE 5	42	GRADE 6	34
GRADE 7	33	GRADE 8	36
		TOTAL	145

TOTAL DISTRICT	OUT OF DISTRICT	GRAND TOTAL
426	12	438

REPORT OF CONTACTS (ATTENDANCE OFFICERS):

MEDGAR EVERS:

HOME VISITS	TELEPHONE CONTACTS	PARENT CONFERENCES
0	358	12

COTTAGE GROVE:

HOME VISITS	TELEPHONE CONTACTS	PARENT CONFERENCES
0	274	5

PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS was unavailable to be present due to a state school audit which was underway. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** reminded members that they were in advanced receipt of the business and operations’ report and informed them that their 1099s would be available for distribution at the conclusion of today’s meeting. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** ended by asking for favorable approval of this report, as submitted. **There were none.**

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Gray - to approve **PART B - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS** as Report as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: LaWrence, Gray, Viverette, Sherman, Mitchell,
 Nays: None
 Absent: Coleman, Cook
 Abstain: None
 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (\$549,022.60)

B. PAYROLL SUMMARY (for the month of January 2024) as detailed below:

January 12, 2024	\$234,393.43
January 26, 2024	\$241,737.85
Total	\$476,131.28

C. PETTY CASH (\$136.17)

PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

DR. SHARON P. RIVERS reminded members of the board that they were in advance receipt of her report and she inquired if there were any questions. **THERE WERE NONE.**

Motioned/Viverette; Seconded/Mitchell - to accept **PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION** as submitted.

Roll Call: Ayes: LaWrence, Gray, Viverette, Sherman, Mitchell,
 Nays: None
 Absent: Coleman, Cook
 Abstain: None
 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

At this juncture, President Sherman called for a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:42 a.m.

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Viverette - to adjourn meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: LaWrence, Gray, Viverette, Sherman, Mitchell,
Nays: None
Absent: Coleman, Cook
Abstain: None
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.



Mr Joe Louis Sherman, President



Mrs. Ester Viverette, Secretary