FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169 MINUTES TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, President Ester Viverette – at 10:01 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (recited by all in attendance)

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present:

Mrs. Ester Viverette, Ms. Jessica Gray, Mr. Mark Mitchell, Mrs.

Lera Cook, Mr. Joe Louis Sherman, Mr. James Coleman (Phone)

Absent:

Mr. Samuel LaWrence

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. LaDonna Harris, Executive Assistant Mr. David Wright, Director of Technology

Mr. William Gleason, Legal Counsel

Mr. Matt Gast, Region 55 UniServ Director, IEA/NEA

Ms. Kristy Kemper, Teacher Ms. Tamara Robinson, Teacher Ms. Elizabeth Michalski, Teacher

Ms. Matrina Eno, Teacher Ms. Ann Armstrong, Teacher

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)

None.

AGENDA

Board President Ester Viverette called for a motion to approve the agenda at 10:03 a.m.

Motioned/Sherman; Seconded/Mitchell - to approve the Agenda

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays:

None

Absent:

S. LaWrence

Abstain:

None

 ${\bf 6}$ ayes, ${\bf 0}$ nays, ${\bf 1}$ absent, ${\bf 0}$ abstain, ${\bf 0}$ present – motion carried.

MINUTES

President Ester Viverette called for a motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing and regularly scheduled board meeting of **May 6, 2025.**

Motioned/*Sherman*; Seconded/*Mitchell* - to approve the minutes of **May 6, 2025** Regular and Closed Session.

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Navs:

None

Absent:

S. LaWrence

Abstain:

None

6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON reminded members of the Board of Education that they were in advance receipt of his report, *inclusive of an addendum*. He went on to discuss personnel matters including the rescinded appointment of Angela Richards and the summer school appointment of Keith Stanton, Special Education teacher. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** also discussed proposed policies, which includes Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), the tentative budget ending in 2026, health, dental, life and vision insurance contracts and the upcoming summer youth recreation programs.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON then went on further to ask for approval to continue external auditing services with Miller Cooper. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** also informed the Board of a Notice of Increase in legal fees effective 07/01/2025 from Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle and Izzo at a rate of \$265 per hour.

Finally, **Superintendent Jackson** informed the Board that there was an addendum report provided that asks for authorization to approve a new hire, Georgia Pruitt, as a teacher and for the use of Tidye Phillips as a building rental on Saturday, June 21, 2025 for an upcoming daddy-daughter dance.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON ended by asking for favorable consideration and approval of his report, *inclusive of an addendum report*, as submitted and asked if there were any further questions. **There were none**.

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

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays:

None

Absent:

S. LaWrence

Abstain:

None

6 ayes, **0** nays, **1** absent, **0** abstain, **0** present – motion carried.

I. CLOSED SESSION

A. THAT PURSUANT TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169 WILL GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING: (1) THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE OR DISMISSAL OF A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE OF THE PUBLIC BODY (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)); (2) COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)); (3) STUDENT DISCIPLINARY CASES AND/OR MATTERS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) AND 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); AND (4) LITIGATION AGAINST, AFFECTING OR ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC BODY (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)).

II. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

A. PERSONNEL

1. RESCIND APPOINTMENT(S)

- a. Authorization is sought to rescind the 2025-2026 teaching appointment of Mrs. Angela Richards.
- 2. AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE SUMMER SCHOOL PERSONNEL

AUTHORIZATION IS SOUGHT TO HIRE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL FOR SUMMER SCHOOL 2025.

KEITH STANTON

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

(Any new appointment(s) shown above are pending receipt of all personnel required documents and Illinois State Police and FBI criminal background clearance.)

2. SALARY INCREASES

Authorization is sought to increase the salary of the following personnel by a range of zero percent **(0%)** to four percent **(4%)** for the **2025 -2026** School Year.

♣ Building Administrative Assistants

- (1) TWELVE (12) MONTH BUILDING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRINCIPAL MEDGAR EVERS
- (2) TWELVE (12) MONTH BUILDING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRINCIPAL COTTAGE GROVE

AUXILLARY PERSONNEL

(1) PARENT COORDINATOR

LENTRAL OFFICE EMPLOYEES

- (1) EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT
- (2) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS
- (3) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
- (4) PAYROLL COORDINATOR

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

- (1) SCHOOL NURSE
- (2) DISTRICT-WIDE STUDENT ADVOCATE

(3) SOCIAL WORKER

ADMINISTRATORS

- (1) ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS
- (2) ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION
- (3) BUILDING PRINCIPALS
- (4) ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
- (5) PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES COORDINATOR
- (6) DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

TECHNOLOGY

(1) TECH SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

B. PROPOSED REVISED POLICIES (See reference #1)

Consistent with Ford Heights School District 169's normal practice to conduct periodic reviews of its policies, the following policies are being submitted as needing to be **Revised**, **Adopted**, and/or **New** as listed below:

- School Board Board Member Oath and Conduct- 2:80 (Adopted 06/10/2025)
- Instruction Access to Electronic Networks 6:235 (Revised 6/10/2025)
- Instruction Administrative Procedure 1 -Acceptable Use of District's Electronic Networks - 6:235, API (Revised 6/10/2025)
- Instruction Administrative Procedure 3 -Development of an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Plan & AI Responsible Use Guidelines - 6:235, AP3 (Revised 6/10/2025)
- C. <u>APPROVE FISCAL YEAR (FY) ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, TENTATIVE BUDGET</u> (See reference #2)
- D. <u>AUTHORIZE HEALTH, DENTAL, LIFE AND VISION INSURANCE CONTRACTS</u> (See reference #3)

BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD: Our Health carrier will continue to be Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Authorization is sought to approve contract with BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD for the 2025 – 2026 School Year. Premium Percentage Increase 9.2% Premium amount \$869,221.00 yearly.

DENTAL CARE: Our Dental carrier will continue to be Delta Dental.

Authorization is sought to approve contract with **Delta Dental** for the 2025-2026 School Year. **Premium Percentage Increase 4%.** Premium amount **\$29,375.00** yearly.

LIFE INSURANCE CARRIER: MET LIFE (METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY): Met Life Insurance will continue to be our carrier.

Authorization is sought to approve contract with MET LIFE for the 2025-2026 School Year. Premium Percentage Increase 0%. Premium amount \$12,623.00 yearly.

BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD (EYEMED): Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be our carrier.

Authorization is sought to approve contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the 2025 -2026 School Year. Premium Percentage Increase 0%. Premium amount \$7,806.00 yearly.

E. <u>LITTLE DIVA'S SUMMER PROGRAM</u>

Authorize continuation of Lil Diva's Summer Program to be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, **beginning Monday**, **June 23**, **2025**, **and ending Thursday**, **June 26**, **2025**. There will be three (3) program supervisors: Mrs. Lera Cook, Mrs. Ester Viverette, and Ms. Jessica Gray.

Stipends of **\$1,000.00** each will be paid. Associated expenses will be those necessary for the running of the program.

F. Summer Youth Recreational Program

For the past seventeen (17) years, we have conducted the Ford Heights School District 169 Summer Youth Recreational Program, for the purpose of providing activities for our students during the summer months.

Program to be begin on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, beginning Monday, June 23, 2025, and ending Friday, June 27, 2025. Three (3) Program Supervisors will receive stipends of

\$1,000.00 each. They are: Mr. James Coleman, Mr. Joe Louis Sherman, and Mr. Mark Mitchell.

G. DISCIPLINE CONSULTANT FY 2025-2026

Authorize the continuation of Discipline Consultant, Mr. Samuel J. LaWrence, III for FY 2025-2026. The stipend to be paid \$1,000.00.

H. BOARD MEETING DATES FY 2025-2026

Authorization to approve the board meeting dates for FY 2025-2026.

Tuesday, July 8, 2025
Tuesday, August 5, 2025
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Tuesday, October 7, 2025
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Tuesday, January 6, 2026
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Tuesday, May 5, 2026
Tuesday, June 9, 2026

I. <u>AUDIT ENGAGEMENT</u> (See reference #4)

Authorize and approve Audit Engagement for external auditing services by Miller Cooper & Co., LTD, of Downers Grove, IL.

Audit fee \$36,300.00.

J. NOTIFICATION OF INCREASE IN LEGAL FEES (See reference #5)

Authorize and approve the rate modification of Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle & Izzo of its hourly rate effective July 1, 2025 to \$265.00 per hour which will continue to be billed in one-tenth of an hour increments for all attorneys.

III. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. Monthly Enrollment (As of May 31, 2025)

MEDGAR EVERS PRIMARY ACADEMIC CENTER

Pre-K	60	KDG	46
GRADE 1	56	GRADE 2	52
GRADE 3	40	GRADE 4	35
		Total	289

COTTAGE GROVE UPPER GRADE CENTER

GRADE 5	40	GRADE 6	38
GRADE 7	35	Grade 8	35
		TOTAL	148

TOTAL DISTRICT OUT OF DISTRICT GRAND TOTAL 437 19 456

REPORT OF CONTACTS (ATTENDANCE OFFICES):

MEDGAR EVERS:

HOME VISITS	Tele. Contacts	PARENT CONF.	LETTERS SENT HOME
1	225	0	3

COTTAGE GROVE:

HOME VISITS TELE. CONTACTS PARENT CONF. LETTERS SENT HOME

2 125 0 1

PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON reminded members that they were in advanced receipt of her report and inquired if there were any questions. There were none.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays: None

Absent: S. LaWrence

Abstain: None

6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

- A. Accounts Payable (\$549,533.95)
- B. PAYROLL SUMMARY (for the month of May 2025) as detailed below:

May 2, 2025\$231,838.60May 16, 2025\$245,594.58May 30, 2025\$205,217.24Total\$682,650.42

C. PETTY CASH (\$233.03)

PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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

She then asked for approval of report as submitted:

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

Roll Call: Ayes: E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays: None

Absent: S. LaWrence

Abstain: None

 ${\bf 6}$ ayes, ${\bf 0}$ nays, ${\bf 1}$ absent, ${\bf 0}$ abstain, ${\bf 0}$ present – motion carried.

I. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. DISTRICT HONORS CELEBRATION

There were several end-of-the-year activities students enjoyed. The District Honors Celebration is one of them which celebrates the accomplishments of our students. Those achieving academically, socially, and in various activities were recognized. The program celebrated our students and encouraged them to continue to do well in school.

Additionally, an added incentive award was bestowed upon students who excelled in mathematics. The Ming and Lisa Chang monetary honors were presented to students, kindergarten through 8th grades, who had the highest RIT (Rasch UnIT) goal and who made the most growth. Thanks to District 169, the Read to Succeed awards for reading were given to students who met the same criteria as in math, the highest RIT score and most improved on our local assessment. Furthermore, students in grades 3 though 8 received financial awards for attaining the highest score on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness based on the 2024 results.

B. PROJECTED ENROLLMENT AND REGISTRATION

The 2025-2026 school registration is in full swing. Again, there are registration options available to our parents: phone bank, pick-up and delivery option, as well as an online option where parents can complete the paperwork. In May 2024, eighty percent of our parents completed early registration packets by the last day of the

school year. This year, our goal by the end of June is for over 80% of our new and returning families to have completed and submitted registration packets for the 2025-2026 school year.

C. SUMMER ENRICHMENT ACADEMY

The Summer Enrichment Academy is structured to provide enrichment for students in prekindergarten through 7th once again extending the program to include prekindergarten. To better prepare students for kindergarten and 1st grade, students will receive instruction in foundational skills and social emotional strategies to prepare them for the coming school year.

D. FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAM GRANTS UPDATE

The Consolidated District Plan was submitted April 6th and approved April 29, 2025, after proceeding through four (4) levels of review. Now being authorized, the following subgrants will be submitted for approval.

They are:

- After School Programs
- Early Childhood Preschool for All 3-5
- Title I, Part A
- Title II, Part A
- Title IV, Part A

E. PROGRAMS ON SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2025

- June 2nd June 26th Summer Enrichment Academy
- June 19th Juneteenth Observed

F. MONTHLY BUILDING REPORTS (See references #1-3)

Building reports were submitted by the following personnel:

- ♣ Ms. Ollie Gill, Principal of Medgar Evers P.A.C.
- ♣ Dr. Sharon P. Rivers, Principal of Cottage Grove U.G.C.
- Mrs. Robin Norris, District-wide Attendance

At this juncture, President Ester Viverette called for a motion to enter into a closed session at **10:13 a.m.** to discuss the following: (1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of a specific

employee of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)); (2) collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)); (3) student disciplinary cases and/or matters relating to individual students (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); and (4) litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)).

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Sherman - to start a closed session.

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays:

Abstain:

None

Absent: S. LaWrence

None

6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present - motion carried.

President Ester Viverette called for a motion to close a closed session at **11:16a.m.**

Motioned/Mitchell; Seconded/Sherman - to close a closed session.

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays:

None

Absent:

S. LaWrence

Abstain:

None

6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

President Ester Viverette called for a motion to adjourn the regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:18 a.m.

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

Roll Call:

Ayes:

E. Viverette, J. Sherman, M. Mitchell

L. Cook, J. Gray, J. Coleman (Phone)

Nays:

None

Absent:

S. LaWrence

Abstain:

None

6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

Mrs. Ester Viverette, President

Ms. Jessica Gray, Secretary