

FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025

The public hearing meeting was called to order by presiding officer, President Ester Viverette – **at 10:09 a.m.**

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

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present: Mrs. Ester Viverette, Mr. Mark Mitchell, Ms. Jessica Gray, Mr. Samuel J. LaWrence, III, Mr. Joe Louis Sherman
Absent: Mr. James Coleman, Mrs. Lera Cook
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

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

There were none.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)

There were none.

AGENDA

Board President Ester Viverette called for a motion to approve the agenda at **10:11 a.m.**

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

Roll Call: Ayes: E. Viverette, M. Mitchell, J. Gray, S. LaWrence, III., J. Sherman
Nays: None
Absent: J. Coleman, L. Cook
Abstain: None
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 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 **October 7, 2025**.

Motioned/*Sherman*; Seconded/*Mitchell* - to approve the minutes of **October 7, 2025** Regular and Closed Session.

Roll Call: Ayes: E. Viverette, M. Mitchell, J. Gray, S. LaWrence, III., J. Sherman
Nays: None
Absent: J. Coleman, L. Cook
Abstain: None
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 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 and addendum. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** went on to discuss the 2025 Tax Levy, applying to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Property Tax Relief Grant and the approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement that had been recently signed and sent from the District 169 Education Association, IEA/NEA to Ford Heights School District 169.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON also reminded the Board that the addendum that was provided to each of them included the resignation of Mary Robinson, Head Cook at Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center. It also included an updated property tax proceeding resolution and an amended contract for services from Matthew O'Shea Consulting, Inc.

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON then asked for favorable consideration and approval of his report and asked if there were any questions. **There were none.**

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

Roll Call: Ayes: E. Viverette, M. Mitchell, J. Gray, S. LaWrence, III.,
 J. Sherman
 Nays: None
 Absent: J. Coleman, L. 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 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. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AND CERTIFICATIONS – 2025 TAX LEVY (REFERENCE #1)**
- 1. 2025 Tax Levy Resolution (Exhibit I)**
 - 2. Resolution Regarding Application of Loss and Cost Factor to 2025 Tax Levies (Exhibit II)**
 - 3. Resolution to Instruct County Clerk How to Apportion 2025 Tax Levy Extension Reduction (Exhibit III)**
- B. FY 26 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF GRANT**

Authorization and direction is being sought by administration to apply to the Illinois State Board of Education for the FY26 Property Tax Relief.

C. APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169 COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND THE DISTRICT 169 EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, IEA/NEA

Tentative agreement is located under a separate cover for your review.

ADDENDUM ITEM(S):

A. PERSONNEL

LETTER OF RESIGNATION(S)

MRS. MARY ROBINSON, *Head Cook*, Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center, submitted a letter of resignation **effective immediately**.

B. UPDATED PROPERTY TAX PROCEEDING RESOLUTION (REFERENCE)

Members of the Board, per the office of Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle & Izzo, attached herewith is an updated property tax proceeding resolution.

C. AMENDED CONTRACT FOR SERVICES BETWEEN MATTHEW O'SHEA CONSULTING, INC. (CONSULTANT) AND FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169 (CLIENT) (REFERENCE)

Members of the Board, attached herewith is an amended contract for services between Matthew O'Shea Consulting, Inc. and Ford Heights School District 169.

I. **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

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

MEDGAR EVERS SCHOOL

PRE-K	60	KDG	47
GRADE 1	46	GRADE 2	56

GRADE 3	53	GRADE 4	40
		TOTAL	302

COTTAGE GROVE:

GRADE 5	33	GRADE 6	45
GRADE 7	35	GRADE 8	37
		TOTAL	150

TOTAL DISTRICT	OUT OF DISTRICT	GRAND TOTAL
452	17	469

REPORT OF CONTACTS (ATTENDANCE OFFICES):

MEDGAR EVERS:

HOME VISITS	TELE. CONTACTS	PARENT CONF.	LETTERS SENT HOME
2	245	1	5

COTTAGE GROVE:

HOME VISITS	TELE. CONTACTS	PARENT CONF.	LETTERS SENT HOME
3	125	2	4

B. PROPERTY TAX INTERVENTION

(REFERENCE #2)

Members of the Board, as a reference, attached is a copy of a request to intervene in tax appeal proceedings from Petrarca, Gleason, Boyle & Izzo. An extension of time request to submit evidence has been sent to the Property Tax Appeal Board as of 10/16/2025 and 10/30/2025 respectfully.

PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON reminded members that they were in advanced receipt of her report and she went on further to elaborate the details surrounding the 2025 Tax Levy and the adoption of its resolution and certifications.

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON asked the Superintendent for favorable consideration and approval of her report and asked if there were any questions. **There were none.**

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

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

I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (\$749,444.86)

B. PAYROLL SUMMARY (for the month of October 2025) as detailed below:

October 3, 2025	\$229,576.76
October 17, 2025	\$253,452.99
October 31, 2025	<u>\$203,417.37</u>
Total	\$686,447.12

C. PETTY CASH (\$183.00)

D. BUILDING RENTAL

A. Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025
 Time: 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Tidye A. Phillips
 Purpose: Repass
 Contact Person: Joe Louis Sherman

PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

DR. SHARON P. RIVERS expressed to members that they were in advance receipt of her report.

DR. SHARON P. RIVERS then asked the Superintendent for favorable consideration and approval of her report and asked if there were any questions. **There were none.**

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

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

I. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. SUMMATIVE DESIGNATION

Illinois has four summative designations within the statewide school accountability system: Exemplary, Commendable, Targeted, Comprehensive and Intensive. Targeted, Comprehensive, and Intensive schools receive additional support to build local capacity and improve student outcomes.

The Summative Designation for both Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center is *COMPREHENSIVE* and Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center is *COMMENDABLE*.

B. HIGH-TECH PBIS

Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is an evidenced based framework for supporting students' behavioral and academic, social, emotional, and mental health. the program improves social emotional competence, academic success, and school climate. The PBIS program has partnered with the Multi-Media Club and will now produce videos created and produced by the students. Each month,

character values and positive vignettes will be played throughout the district to highlight the positive work our students are doing.

C. ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Gratefulness is defined as the quality of being thankful, an appreciation for the good things in life, an outward expression through words or actions. It is also the character value for the month and is always a good time to demonstrate this act through a good deed or by repaying kindness towards someone else. As we prepare for Thanksgiving, gratefulness and generosity can be shown through a donation to our Annual Food Drive hosted by the National Junior Honor Society. Requests are made for students and staff to give non-perishable canned food items to the homeless and needy.

D. BAND PATRONAGE

The support of our music fans continues to grow. With their support, encouragement, and donations, our jazz and marching bands are able to participate in various competitions throughout the year. Many thanks to Dr. Brenda Robinson for her support of the music program.

E. PROGRAMS ON SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2025

- November 1st – Boys Basketball Tip Off
- November 2nd – Daylight Savings Time – Fall Behind!
- November 5th – Professional Development
- November 6th – Problem Solving Cottage Grove
- November 7th - Parent Meeting
 - Topic: *Guiding the Behavior of Young Children: Boundaries, Consistency and Consequences*
- November 10th – No School in Observance of Veteran's Day
- November 19th - Professional Development
- November 20th – Problem Solving Medgar Evers
- November 22nd – 26th – Regional Host IESA Girls Basketball
- November 26th – 28th – Thanksgiving Break

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

Building reports were submitted by the following personnel:

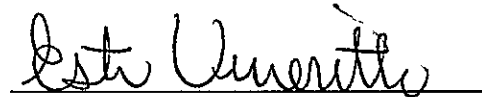
- ✚ Ms. Ollie Gill, Principal, Medgar Evers P.A.C.
- ✚ Dr. Sharon P. Rivers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Cottage Grove U.G.C.


± Mrs. Robin Norris, District-wide Attendance

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

ADJOURNMENT: 10:24 a.m.

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


Mrs. Ester Viverette, President


Ms. Jessica Gray, Secretary