

**FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, President Ester Viverette --
at 10:15 a.m.

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

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present:	Viverette, Gray, Cook, LaWrence, Sherman, Coleman (Phone)
Absent:	Mitchell
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. William Gleason, Legal Counsel Ms. Ollie Gill, Principal of Medgar Evers Mrs. Kim Y. Harper, Assistant Principal of Medgar Evers Mr. David Wright, Director of Technology Mr. Damaus Viverette, Director of Buildings and Grounds Cottage Grove Faculty and Staff

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)

There were none.

AGENDA

Board President Ester Viverette called for a motion to approve the agenda at
10:17 a.m.

Motioned/Sherman; Seconded/Gray - to approve the agenda

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

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MINUTES

President Ester Viverette called for a motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing and regularly scheduled board meeting of **July 7, 2026**

Motioned/***Sherman***; Seconded/***Gray*** - to approve the minutes of **July 7, 2026**
Regular and Closed Session

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Card received from the family of Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration and Operations, Mrs. Coretta Jackson, for the love and support shown during the bereavement of Mr. Robert Jackson.

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. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** went on to discuss personnel authorizations including the hiring of three new teachers, Phyllis Adkins, Tina Williams and Denise Williams. He also reminded the Board of the Bullying Policy 7.180 that has to be renewed, posted and submitted every two years to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON went on further to mention that SIKICH CPA, LLC., its external auditors, will be reaching out to them by way of email or phone communication.

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/Gray - to approve **PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** as submitted:

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

I. CLOSED SESSION

- A. 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. APPOINTMENT(S)

- a. Authorization is sought to appoint **Ms. PHYLLIS ADKINS**, as a **Teacher**, Cottage Grove Upper Grade Center, administratively hired pending board approval **effective, Wednesday, August 12, 2026**, for the 2026-2027 School Year – **M.A. + 30, Step K - \$66,448 salary**
- b. Authorization is sought to appoint **Ms. TINA WILLIAMS**, as a **Teacher**, Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center, administratively hired pending board approval **effective, Wednesday, August 12, 2026**, for the 2026-2027 School Year – **M.A. +15., Step K - \$65,139 salary**
- c. Authorization is sought to appoint **Ms. DENISE WILLIAMS**, as a **Teacher**, Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center, administratively hired pending board approval **effective, Wednesday, August 12, 2026**, for the 2026-2027 School Year – **M.A., Step F - \$56,447 salary**

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- d. Authorization is sought to appoint **MS. NANNETTE ANDERSON**, as a ***Volunteer Resource Aide***, Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center, administratively hired pending board approval **effective, Wednesday, August 12, 2026**, for the 2026-2027 School Year

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

2. RESIGNATION(S)

- a. **MS. SERENA SATTERFIELD**, Newly-appointed *Teacher* of Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center, has submitted a verbal resignation, effective ***immediately*** for the **2026-2027 School Year**.

B. APPROVAL OF ADDENDA FOR SUPERINTENDENT'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Authorization is sought for approval of Addenda for the Superintendent's Employment Contract.

C. PROPOSED REVISED POLICIES (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:

- ❖ **Students -Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment - 7:180**

PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON reminded members that they were in advance receipt of her report. Mrs. Jackson inquired if there were any questions. There were none. She ended by asking for favorable approval of her report as submitted:

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

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

**PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
AND OPERATIONS**

I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION

A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (\$1,261,238.44)

B. PAYROLL SUMMARY (for the month of July 2026) as detailed below:

July 10, 2026	\$104,842.14
July 24, 2026	<u>\$113,562.18</u>
Total	\$218,404.32

PART C – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

DR. SHARON P. RIVERS expressed to members that they were in advance receipt of her report. She went on to inform the Board of Education that Ford Heights School District 169 has moved to clear backpacks for students and every student will receive one during their first day of attendance. **DR. SHARON P. RIVERS** then inquired if there were any questions. **THERE WERE NONE.** She then asked for acceptance of report as submitted:

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

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

PART C-CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

I. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. SUMMER ENRICHMENT ACADEMY (SEA)

The Summer Enrichment Academy (SEA) proved to be a wonderful experience for our students. The 2026 summer program was a three-week district-wide effort and a remarkable success! SEA welcomed students third through seventh grade, who are gifted, talented, and/or creative in a supportive academic and social setting. Students were able to select three high interest, hands-on, critical thinking activities, which included: Checkers Club, STEAM Club, Mathematics Club, Film Club, Garden Club, Art Club, and Culinary Club. Our culminating activity commenced at Up Your Alley in Schererville, Indiana on Thursday, June 18th.

Special thanks to the Ms. Jones, Ms. Gill, Ms. Buchanan, Ms. Canales, Ms. Muhammad, Mrs. Norris, Ms. Clara Jones, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Williams, Ms. Ransom, Mr. Hesse, Ms. Hall, Ms. Harris, Ms. Smith, Mrs. Hayslett, and Mrs. Landfair for your hard work and continued support!

B. REGISTRATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

Early Registration for the 2026-2027 school year continues with the goal of having 80% of our students registered for the new school year which was met through the work of our registration team. Parents were encouraged to complete the registration packet sent through the mail and online or by phone. New families are able to register during registration on Thursday, August 6th and Friday, August 7th.

C. INSTITUTE DAYS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

The 2026-2027 school year will start on Wednesday, 12th, August 13th and Friday, August 14, 2026. This year, the 3-day Opening Institute will focus on recognizing years of service and other acknowledgments. State mandated training, along with professional development for each department will complete the day. Team building activities on the final day of the Opening Institute will continue as part of the program.

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D. FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAM GRANTS UPDATE

The Consolidated District Plan has been approved. Each year, the plan is developed and revised to provide programs that will support academic achievement. As a result of the approval, the following subgrants will be submitted for approval. They are:

- Preschool For All
- Title I, Part A
- Title IV, Part A

E. 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.

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

ADJOURNMENT: 10:26 a.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gray, LaWrence, Sherman, Viverette, Cook, Coleman
(phone)

Nays: None

Absent: Mitchell

Abstain: None

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

Ester Viverette
Mrs. Ester Viverette, President


Ms. Jessica Gray, Secretary