

**Board of Education  
School District No. 155  
Calumet City, Illinois**

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April 18, 2019**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by President Long at 6:00 p.m. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Stern, Oberman, Eveland, Crull, Valle, and Long. Absent; Davis.

Also present were: Kendra Rivers-Walker, Anthony Marinello, Michelle Hessler, Lamarr Miller, Charmaine Keys, Terri Fielding, Carlos Velasquez, Gertrude Winston, Norma Doyle, Claudia Alvarez, Teri Kic, Sharon Worrell-Schroeder, Andrew Morgan, Sharon Davis, Tasha Holloway, and Yvette Franklin.

President Long led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Student Acknowledgement**

Dr. Zotto introduced Michelle Hessler, Director of Student Services.

Ms. Hessler recognized three Pre-K students who were chosen by their teachers to be student of the month. She presented each of them with a certificate and took pictures with each of them.

Let the record show that Member Davis arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Dr. Zotto asked the Board if the presentation from the South Cook representative could be moved on the agenda to now. He then introduced Anthony Marinello from the South Cook Intermediate Service Center.

Mr. Marinello advised that each year, all districts undergo inspections. Out of the 315 buildings inspected in South Cook, District 155 is one of 12 to have a perfect score. This is the fifth year in a row to have a perfect score. He presented Mary Valle and Justin Valle with a certificate. Mary thanked the staff and teachers for their part. Pictures were taken with Mr. Marinello.

**Courtesy extended to the public for comments**

Moved by Member Crull, seconded by Member Valle, a motion that the Board open the floor to the public for comments. Unanimous voice vote. Motion carried, 7-0.

Ms. Alvarez informed the Board that today she was parked by the daycare at the end of the block and had to break up a fight. Dr. Zotto asked Ms. Alvarez to provide her information to Ms. Hessler for a follow-up.

Lamarr Miller discussed the instructional technology support agreement on the agenda and the possibility of partnering with neighboring districts.

A parent discussed the desire to have registration made into an electronic system so that parents would not have to physically go into the District each year to register.

Dr. Zotto advised that digitizing the registration process is a goal of the District and that the District was in discussions with Lansing, Lincoln, and Sunnybrook of an online registration pilot together. The District will be watching how those Districts do for guidance.

Moved by Member Valle, seconded by Member Crull, a motion that the Board close the floor to the public for comments. Unanimous voice vote. Motion carried, 7-0.

### **Communications**

Member Crull read the communications:

1. Thank you card from the Valle family for the plant sent by the District to the services of Myrtle Granado.
2. Amended retirement letter from Janice Lindsey, 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher, effective 6/30/2019
3. Retirement letter from Edwin Rodriguez, Physical Education Teacher at Wentworth Intermediate, effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.
4. Resignation letter from Maria Gonzalez, Part-Time Cleaner, effective 3/22/2019.

### **Consent Agenda**

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Crull, a motion that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as listed below. Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

- o Board Minutes for the Open and Executive Session of the March 21, 2019 Regular Meeting.
- o Amended retirement letter from Janice Lindsey, effective 6/30/2019
- o Retirement letter from Edwin Rodriguez, effective after the 2021-2022 school year
- o Resignation letter from Maria Gonzalez, effective 3/22/2019
- o FMLA leave requests for Barbara Simon, Nicholas Dwyer, Janice Lindsey, and Raquel Salazar
- o Honorable Dismissal List for Current Teaching Positions

### **Finance**

Moved by Member Valle, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board approve the gross payroll figure for the month of February 2019 in the total amount of \$643,955.32. Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Crull, a motion that the Board approve the following pre-lists of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents.

- a. Pre-list dated 03/22/2019 (Voucher #1214) in the amount of \$32,440.03

Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Valle, a motion that the Board approve the following pre-lists of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents.

- a. Pre-list dated 04/18/2019 (Voucher #1223) in the amount of \$560,628.03

Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board approve the Instructional/Technology Support Agreement with Becky Foellmer. Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; and Davis, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Crull, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board Approve the Contract Renewal Agreement with Preferred Meals Systems, Inc. for the second year of renewal for FY20 at a 2% increase for each rate.

Reimbursable Breakfasts (with milk)	\$1.8623
Reimbursable Lunches (with milk)	\$2.7570
Reimbursable After-School Snack	\$0.7282
Special Milk	\$0.3121
Reimbursable Summer Breakfast (with milk)	\$1.8623
Reimbursable Summer Lunch (with milk)	\$2.7570
Summer Breakfast (without milk)	\$1.6542
Summer Lunch (without milk)	\$2.5489

Member Davis asked if Preferred Meals ever came to address the Board. Dr. Zotto advised that they did come and present to the Board last year. Member Davis asked if they could see the meal plans for what they are providing. Dr. Zotto advised that the increase is specifically tied to the RFP that was put out three years ago. He discussed the language in the contract. He also advised that in terms of menu items, he could ask to revisit items and noted that they will be limited but he can continue to look for change.

Member Eveland stated that Preferred Meals has been the only bidder.

Dr. Zotto stated that the reason the amounts read the way they do is that you cannot round numbers off based on the contract language and that is directly reported to the state for accountability.

Davis, pass; Stern, nay; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye. Motion carried, 5-1-1.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board Approve and adopt the Preparation of Tentative Budget Resolution for FY20. Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board Approve and adopt the Prevailing Wage Resolution. Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board Approve the award of the agreement to the low bidder of the bundled services, Net56, Inc., for a period of three year, beginning on 07/01/2019, at a one-time fee of \$3,875.22 and a monthly rate of \$5,200.22.

Member Eveland asked how many bidders there were and Dr. Zotto advised that there were six bidders and this was the lowest bidder for the bundled services.

A question was raised regarding the monthly rate. Dr. Zotto advised that this agreement is for internet services and tied to E-Rate and the New Hope Foundation agreement who supported the bidding process. The services are bundled with a firewall. He advised that were this motion to not approved, the District would be without internet for a period of time. He discussed E-rate being complicated which is why a third party is involved and stated that although there is a one-time fee, 90% of that amount is reimbursed to the District and that 5% of that savings goes back to the agreement with the third party.

Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Nick Valle congratulated the Buildings and Grounds staff for the award presented from SCISC.

### **Teachers and Education**

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Valle, a motion that the Board employ Ma Alejandra Ramirez Zamudio, Part-Time and Substitute Cleaner, for the 2018-2019 School Year pending receipt of the required documents which include the Illinois State Background Investigation Report and placing her on the appropriate entry level pay. Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Member Crull read the enrollment total of 1,110 students.

**Policy**

Moved by Member Crull, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- a. Policy 5:340: Educational Support Staff - Longevity Pay

Oberman, aye; Eveland, pass; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye. Motion carried, 6-0-1.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Valle, a motion that the Board approve the first reading of the policies as listed on the meeting agenda:

1.

Policy Number	Policy Title
2:20	Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification
2:170 - AP	Administrative Procedure - Qualification Based Selection
2:250-E1	Exhibit - Written Request for District Public Records
2:250-E2	Exhibit - Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records
4:60-E	Exhibit - Notice to Contractors
4:100	Insurance Management
4:110	Transportation
4:110-AP1	Administrative Procedure - School Bus Post-Accident Checklist
4:110-AP3	Administrative Procedure - School Bus Safety Rules
4:110-E	Exhibit - Emergency Medical Information for Students Having Special Needs or Medical Conditions Who Ride School Buses
4:150	Facility Management and Building Programs
4:160-AP	Administrative Procedure - Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
4:170-AP2, E1	Exhibit - Letter to Parents/Guardians Regarding Student Safety
4:170-AP2, E2	Exhibit - Letter to Parents/Guardians Regarding the Dangers of Underage Drinking

4:170-AP2, E3	Exhibit - Letter to Parents/Guardians About Disruptive Social Media Apps; Dangers
4:170-AP2, E4	Exhibit - Letter to Parents/Guardians About Preventing and Reducing Incidences of Sexting
4:170-AP6	Administrative Procedure - Plan for Responding to a Medical Emergency at a Physical Fitness Facility with an AED
4:170-AP6, E2	Exhibit - Notification to Staff and Parents/Guardians of CPR and AED Video
4:170-AP7	<i>REPLACED BY 4:190-AP1: Targeted School Violence Prevention Program</i>
4:170-AP7, E1	<i>DELETED: Threat Assessment Decision Tree</i>
4:170-AP7, E2	<i>DELETED: Threat Assessment Documentation and Response</i>
4:170-AP7, E3	<i>REPLACED BY 4:190-AP2, E6: Targeted School Violence Prevention and Threat Assessment Education</i>
4:170-AP8	Administrative Procedure - Movable Soccer Goal Safety
4:175-AP1, E1	Exhibit - Informing Parents/Guardians About Offender Community Notification Laws
4:190	Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
4:190-AP1	Administrative Procedure - Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
4:190-AP1, E1	Exhibit - Targeted School Violence Prevention Program Resources
4:190-AP2	Administrative Procedure - Threat Assessment Team (TAT)
4:190-AP2, E1	Exhibit - Principles of Threat Assessment
4:190-AP2, E2	Exhibit - Threat Assessment Documentation
4:190-AP2, E3	Administrative Procedure Threat Assessment Key Areas and Questions; Examples
4:190-AP2, E4	Exhibit - Responding to Types of Threats
4:190-AP2, E5	Exhibit - Threat Assessment Case Management Services
4:190-AP2, E6	Exhibit - Targeted School Violence Prevention and Threat Assessment Education
5:250	Leaves of Absence
6:15	School Accountability

6:185	Remote Educational Program
7:190-AP3	Administrative Procedure - Guidelines for Reciprocal Reporting of Criminal Offenses Committed by Students
8:95	Parental Involvement

Dr. Zotto pointed out to the Board that starting with policy 4:170, new policies have been added and some are brand new that have to do with threat assessments and targeted school violence prevention programs. He advised that Officer Begeske and he are going through the policies to see if they are conflicting with any recent work that had been done with the police department and emergency response. If any parts conflict, Dr. Zotto will pull the policies if needed and revisit them in June.

Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

**SCOPE** - no report.

**FOIA**

Dr. Zotto read the FOIA report below:

Date of Request	03/25/2019
Summary of Records Requested	1. Copies of the last two multiyear Superintendent employment contracts approved by the School Board
Status of Response	1. Responsive records sent on 03/27/2019

Date of Request	04/01/2019
Summary of Records Requested	1. 2018-2019 base Superintendent salary for Dr. Zotto
Status of Response	1. Response provided on 04/02/2019

Date of Request	03/26/2019
Summary of Records Requested	1. Documents showing which buildings in the District have a storm shelter that meets minimum requirements of the ICC/NSSA Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters

	(ICC-500) 2. For school buildings that do not have a storm shelter that meets the minimum standards previously described, documents showing how and where children in each building are to be sheltered in case of a tornado emergency
Status of Response	1. District responded with no responsive records for the first request on 04/01/2019 2. District responded with responsive records for the second request on 04/01/2019

Date of Request	03/19/2109
Summary of Records Requested	1. Names and email addresses of any certified retiring staff for 2018-2019
Status of Response	1. Responsive records sent on 03/19/2019

**Teachers and Paraprofessionals Unions**

Norma Doyle congratulated the PTA for getting started.

**Unfinished Business**

Dr. Zotto spoke on the mold related issue at WJH and advised that the first set of reimbursement checks were cut back to the District today. He also advised that the insurance company is now backing off of saying they will cover the summer paint project. The project is moving forward but if they do not reimburse for it, it will need to be brought back to the Board. He advised that he is looking into the issue but wanted the Board and community to be aware of the update.

**New Business**

President Long discussed making a motion to have Dr. Zotto creating a committee with teachers and administrators to look into creating a full day Kindergarten program.

Dr. Zotto advised that although a motion cannot be added that is not on the agenda, if this is the will of the Board, a directive can be made to create a committee. Four Board members gave the directive to begin the creation of a committee to create a full day Kindergarten program and Dr. Zotto advised that he would report back at the next meeting.



Dr. Zotto advised that at the next Board meeting, a new Board will be seated and that if at that time, they choose another direction in regards to the topic, they can have a discussion then. The item will be added under the good of the District section on the next regular meeting agenda.

Member Eveland advised parents to get flu and measles shots.

Dr. Zotto advised that he is currently exploring options for updating the District's website as it is a bit outdated and noted this is in an effort for improved means of communication with parents and community members.

**Discussion for the good of the School District**

Dr. Zotto advised that Anthony Marinello presented earlier during the meeting in lieu of Dr. Doyle who was scheduled in this place on the agenda.

Dr. Zotto discussed the track and field and intramural soccer programs recently starting.

Dr. Zotto also mentioned the successful "Real Men Read" program that took place today at Wilson Elementary. Over 30 adults, including District Office members, took place and read to students. He noted that this was one of the biggest showings to date.

Dr. Zotto stated that during last October or November, he was allowed to engage in contract with Transformational Business Services who would provide support in going through a full cycle in terms of finances. During the May meeting, he plans to go through the budget, 5 year projections, and measures put into place in terms of things that will be presented at the May meeting.

Dr. Zotto presented Michelle Hessler, Director of Student Services.

Ms. Hessler discussed the Pre-K department and the hosting of five different interactive parents workshops. During the last event, 24 students were represented in the morning and 20 in the afternoon. She then discussed the upcoming spa day on 5/10 where parents are invited, given a full meal, and the students give them spa treatments. She also discussed the parent educational workshop on 6/4/19 where the paraprofessionals will take the students while parents are allowed to come in to take part in a workshop around speech, healthy eating, and collaboration.

Member Valle discussed the potential ukulele project and noted the age group would be recommended at 5th-8th grade students.

Attendees would not be charged, the funds would come from Title 1 dollars to purchase the ukuleles.

**Executive Session**

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(9), of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the employment, compensation, discipline, or performance of the public body and to discuss student disciplinary cases. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(9).

Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye; Long, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Time: 6:38 p.m.

Moved by Member Valle, seconded by Member Crull, a motion that the Board return to regular order of business. Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye; Valle, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Moved by Member Eveland, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board approve the Amendment to Superintendent's 2019-2024 Employment Agreement to correct inadvertent omission of Medicare Tax contribution, which is an existing benefit. Valle, aye; Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, aye; Crull, aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Moved by Member Valle, seconded by member Stern, a motion that the Board adjourn. Crull, aye; Valle, pass, Long, aye; Davis, aye; Stern, aye; Oberman, aye; Eveland, pass. Motion carried, 5-0-2.

Time: 7:05 p.m.

  
**President**

  
**Secretary**