

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

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Calumet City School District No. 155 was called to order by President Davis at 6:30 pm. On the Roll, the following members were physically present and answered present; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, and Miller. Absent, Stern (joined the meeting later via telephone).

Also present were: Dr. Joseph Zotto, Adam Jordan, Tara Lawrence, Julie Stephan, Charlie Russ, and Valerie Wilhoite.

**Public Comment**

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Miller, a motion to open the floor to the public for comment. Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

There was no public comment.

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Miller, a motion to close the floor to the public for comment. Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

**Communications**

Member Oberman read the communications below:

- a. It is with deep sadness that we inform that Julie Hassel, our beloved Wentworth Intermediate School Principal, passed away on December 17, 2020. Our condolences and thoughts go out to her family, friends and colleagues.
- b. The City Council of Calumet City proclaimed that November 15, 2020 is to be recognized as School Board Members Day
- c. Retirement letter from Diana Pertchi, effective at the end of the 2020/2021 teacher school year

**Consent Agenda**

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Miller, a motion to approve the consent agenda items as listed in the Meeting Agenda (and below).

- a. Board Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting and executive session on December 10, 2020
- b. Minutes for the Public Hearing on December 10, 2020
- c. Retirement Letter from Diana Pertchi, effective at the end of the 20-21 teacher school year

Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

## **Finance**

Moved by Member Rising, seconded by Member Miller, a Motion to approve the gross payroll figure for the month of December, 2020 in the amount of \$598,045.92. Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0. .

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to approve the following pre-list of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents:

- Pre-list dated 12/22/2020 (Voucher #1136) in the amount of \$240,813.73.

Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Rising, a Motion to approve the following pre-list of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents:

- Pre-list dated 12/23/2020 (Voucher #1137) in the amount of \$898.64.

Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Moved by Member Franklin, seconded by Member Oberman, a Motion to approve the following pre-list of invoices and authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the appropriate documents:

- Pre-list dated 01/07/2021 (Voucher #1144) in the amount of \$110,671.17.

Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

## **Buildings and Grounds**

Dr. Zotto discussed the precision control systems bill, the rooftop units at WIS being near the end of their life and that he will be looking into replacing them soon as part of the five year facility plan, and the potential of using money from a new stimulus package.

## **Policy**

Dr. Zotto stated that he received the December update and will have the first reading of new policies ready for the February board meeting.

## **SCOPE**

Dr. Zotto discussed a potential stimulus package.

## **Teachers and Education**

Member Franklin read the enrollment total of 1,014 students.

Moved by Member Rising, seconded by Member Miller, a Motion that the Board approve the reassignment of Julie Kennefy-Schuljak from 1st Grade Teacher to Kindergarten Teacher at Wilson Elementary starting in the 2021-2022 School Year. Ayes; Davis, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 6-0.

Let the record show that the Board approved Member Stern to join the meeting via phone call and she did so at 6:38 pm.

## FOIA

Dr. Zotto read the FOIA report below:

<b>Date of Request</b>	11/17/2020
<b>Summary of Records Requested</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Names, positions, school they work at (if possible) and district email addresses of all employees of the district that work at a school.</li><li>2. It was offered that if it would be easier or less time consuming, the requestor was open to the district sharing the information about his nonprofit with the district instead of completing the open records request.</li></ol>
<b>Status of Response</b>	Attempts on 11/17/20 and 11/23/20 stating that the district would share the requestor's website link, message, and attachments with the all staff email group upon confirmation that this would fulfill his request were not responded to. The requestor responded on 12/10/20 that would be acceptable and an email was sent out to the all staff email group.

<b>Date of Request</b>	12/08/2020
<b>Summary of Records Requested</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The District's 12/31/2018 GASB 68 Report for the IMRF?</li><li>2. The amount of pension expense recognized under GASB 68 for the TRS?</li><li>3. The discount rate sensitivity analysis, health care trend rate sensitivity analysis, and OPEB expense for the THIS plan?</li><li>4. The discount rate, discount rate sensitivity analysis, health care trend rate(s), health care trend rate sensitivity analysis, and OPEB expense for the single employer OPEB plan?</li></ol>
<b>Status of Response</b>	Responsive records were sent on 12/10/20.

<b>Date of Request</b>	12/29/2020
<b>Summary of Records</b>	Any and all purchasing records from 09/29/2020 (mm/dd/yyyy) to

<b>Requested</b>	<p>current.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Purchase order number. If purchase orders are not used a comparable substitute is acceptable, i.e., invoice, encumbrance, or check number</li> <li>2. Purchase date</li> <li>3. Line item details (Detailed description of the purchase)</li> <li>4. Line item quantity</li> <li>5. Line item price</li> <li>6. Vendor ID number, name, address, contact person and their email address.</li> </ol>
<b>Status of Response</b>	Responsive records were sent on 12/31/20.

### Teachers and Education

Julie Stephan spoke on behalf of the teachers union and stated most are very happy with the stability of the district. She mentioned that teachers are excited to hopefully get students back into the buildings in small groups soon. She also mentioned that she would be putting together a survey for teachers to fill out regarding their feelings on a vaccine.

There was no report from the paraprofessional union.

### Unfinished Business

Dr. Zotto discussed the following topics:

- Revisiting a discussion in February regarding a plan moving forward
- A vaccine survey from the Cook County Department of Public Health regarding school nurses potentially administering a vaccine to staff members.
- Potential liability concerns regarding the administration of a vaccine with district staff or on district property.
- The potential for cook county staff to utilize district facilities to administer the vaccine
- The FFCRA leave expiring and the TRS guidance on what to do now
  - The Board gave Dr. Zotto a consensus approval to move forward with drafting MOU's to extend the FFCRA leave benefits for next meeting

### Executive Session

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board enter Executive Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(2), and Section 2(c)(9) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(2)(9). Ayes; Davis, Stern, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 7-0.  
Time: 7:02 pm

Moved by Member Long, seconded by Member Miller, a motion that the Board return to regular order of business. Ayes; Davis, Stern, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 7-0  
Time: 8:55 pm

### **Amendment to Assistant Principal Employment Agreement**

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion to approve amendment to employment agreement with Assistant Principal Charles Russ for the period from January 14, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Ayes; Davis, Stern, Oberman, Long, Rising. Abstains; Miller. Nays; Franklin. Motion carried, 5-1.

### **Adjournment**

Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Oberman, a motion that the Board adjourn. Ayes; Davis, Stern, Oberman, Long, Franklin, Rising, Miller. Nays; none. Motion carried, 7-0.  
TIME: 8:59 pm

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**Board President**

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**Board Secretary**