

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
LA GRANGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 105
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the District 105 Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Lopez at 7:13 PM on Monday, August 28, 2023.

ROLL CALL

Present: Sheila Bryck, Amy Flaherty Hartman, Elias Lopez, Candice Mares, Robert Sherman, Bryan White, Kelly Young; Late: None, Absent: None

CLOSED SESSION

The closed session of the regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Lopez at 6:18 PM on Monday, August 28, 2023 in the Library Learning Center at Gurrie Middle School, 1001 S. Spring Avenue, La Grange, IL 60525.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

The Board met in closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, performance, and/or dismissal/resignation of personnel and a matter relating to an individual student.

Mrs. Hartman moved to return to general session, seconded by Mr. White. The motion carried with a voice vote. The Board returned to general session at 7:08 PM on August 28, 2023.

RETURN TO GENERAL SESSION

ROLL CALL

Present: Sheila Bryck, Amy Flaherty Hartman, Elias Lopez, Candice Mares, Robert Sherman, Bryan White, Kelly Young; Late: None, Absent: None

BUDGET HEARING FY24

Mrs. Hartman moved that the Board of Education of School District 105 open the Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Annual School Budget for School District 105, seconded by Mr. White.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Mr. Scott Blumberg presented the Budget for 2023-2024 (attached). The district will be adding a new Primary CD program in the education fund, an expense in the Operations and Maintenance Fund for a new district truck for the Buildings and Grounds Department transportation between buildings and snow removal during the winter when needed. Also, the transfer of funds

from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Improvements Fund to continue to support our district Air Conditioning Project and other future capital improvements. There were no questions presented by the audience.

Dr. Sherman moved that the Board of Education of School District 105 close the Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Annual School Budget for School District 105, seconded by Mrs. Young.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ganan thanked everyone for their flexibility in the opening of the new school year. Due to the extreme heat, it was decided to shorten the school days in the extreme temperatures. There is no need to add any additional days to the school calendar. He also thanked the custodial crew for their work in keeping the building temperatures regulated as best as possible.

The tennis courts are now open and are being used by the community. There has been a lot of positive feedback.

Dr. Ganan thanked everyone that helped out in the Countryside Wellness Fair at Ideal School. It was well attended by the community.

Dr. Ganan also shared that the D105 Foundation is sponsoring the annual Back to School Event/Movie Night on September 22nd.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Mr. Lopez read the following policy on public comment procedures.

“The Board understands the importance of public comments as a means of direct communication between our community and the school board. We share a passion for decision making that best educates our students while keeping them safe. To that end, let's remember to keep this portion of the meeting functioning with mutual respect. Here are some guidelines to keep in mind for our public comments portion of the agenda:

- Each person will be allotted 3 minutes for their comments.
- You must state your full name when making a public comment.
- The audience will respect the speaker and the board by remaining silent until it is their turn to make a public comment.
- You should not expect an immediate verbal response from the Board during public comments.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Persistence Data - Kathryn Heeke

This information was presented by the Director of Teaching and Learning, Kathryn Heeke. Our students' success as they move into high school is important information as we continue to grow our Accelerated and Honors programs. The D105 Teaching and Learning team uses 9th grade Persistence Data as one of many ways to assess the efficacy of these programs. The findings suggest that the number of 9th graders enrolled in Accelerated/Honors Classes from fall to spring remains consistent. This is parallel to the information for the Township.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Change to 2023-2024 School Year Calendar Due to Presidential Election Primary Election

Dr. Ganan explained to the Board: It has been confirmed that Ideal, Seventh Avenue, and Spring Avenue will be polling places for the March 19, 2024 Presidential Primary Election. Per the Cook County Clerk's Office, the law encourages school districts to close the school on election days or hold a teacher institute day on that day. Based on this information, it was approved to move the Teacher Institute/Professional Learning Day from Friday, March 8, 2024 to Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Because of this, March 8, 2024 will now be a regular student attendance day, and March 19, 2024 will be a student non-attendance day.

Air Conditioning Update

Mr. Scott Blumberg presented to the Board. The Pre-Bid Meeting was held on August 18, 2023 with a good turnout. The Air Conditioning Project bid opening will be held on August 30th. Mr. Blumberg will have a recommendation for Board approval at the September Board of Education meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. - Approval of Minutes, Regular, General, and Special –July 24, 2023
- B. - Administrative Reports
 - 1.) Curriculum/Instruction/Professional Development
 - 2.) Business and Finance
 - 3.) Technology
 - 4.) FOIA
- C.- Approval of Payment of Bills/Payroll
- D.- Approval of Substitute List

On roll call, members voting AYE: Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Employment

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Dr. Sherman that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the employment of the following:

- 1) Margaret Paige Bednash, Paraprofessional at Gurrie Middle School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 28, 2023;
- 2) Michelle Cedergren, Resource Teacher at Hodgkins Elementary School, at an annual salary of \$64,831.00, effective August 21, 2023;
- 3) Seema Choudhury, Speech-Language Pathologist at Ideal Elementary School, at an annual salary of \$60,173.41, effective August 21, 2023;
- 4) Sean Diller, .5 FTE Orchestra Teacher for the District, at an annual salary of \$29,875.79, effective August 21, 2023;

- 5) Melissa Esparza, Paraprofessional at Seventh Avenue School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 22, 2023;
- 6) Luciana Garcia, Paraprofessional at Gurrie Middle School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 22, 2023;
- 7) Violet Garcia, Paraprofessional at Seventh Avenue School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 22, 2023;
- 8) Brianna Imgruet, Music Teacher at Seventh Avenue and Ideal elementary School, at an annual salary of \$46,661.94, effective August 21, 2023;
- 9) Saul Marquez, Lead Custodian at Gurrie Middle School, at an hourly rate of \$21.00, effective August 28, 2023;
- 10) Jacqueline Parra, Paraprofessional at Ideal Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 22, 2023;
- 11) Araceli Pasillas, Paraprofessional at Ideal Elementary School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 22, 2023;
- 12) Lamark Washington, Night Custodian at Gurrie Middle School, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective August 28, 2023; and
- 13) Margaret Konrath, School Psychologist for the District, at an annual salary of \$75,000.00, effective August 28, 2023.

AND THE FOLLOWING LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS:

- 1) Jessica Hays, CD Teacher (temporary) at Hodgkins School
- 2) Elizabeth Sompolski, Gr 3 Teacher (FMLA Leave) at Spring Avenue School
- 3) Peter Sompolski, Gr 6 Teacher (Maternity Leave) at Spring Avenue School
- 4) Laura Theis, Gr 4 Teacher (Maternity Leave) at Ideal Elementary School

On roll call, members voting AYE: Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; Lopez, Mares; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of Change of Position

Motion by Dr. Sherman, seconded by Candice Mares that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the change of position of the following:

- 1) Sharon Dadepogu, part-time paraprofessional to full-time paraprofessional at Hodgkins School, effective August 22, 2023; and
- 2) Ana Velazquez, part-time bus monitor to part-time bus monitor and part-time paraprofessional at Hodgkins School, effective August 22, 2023.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Young, Bryck, Hartman; Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White; ABSENT: None; NAY: None

Approval of Resignations

Motion by Mr. White, seconded by Kelly Young, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resignations for the following:

- 1) Aleksandra Delevic, Paraprofessional at Spring Avenue School, effective June 6, 2023;
- 2) Saida Marquez, Lunchroom Monitor at Seventh Avenue, effective May 30, 2023;

- 3) Jennifer Milligan, Math Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, effective June 7, 2023;
- 4) Sergio Molina, Night Custodian at Gurrie Middle School, effective July 14, 2023. and
- 5) Jennifer Sutsser, Library Media Specialist at Gurrie Middle School, effective September 22, 2023.

AND RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 6) Christine Eck, Teacher at Spring Avenue School, effective at the end of the 2026-27 school year.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of FMLA Leave of Absence Request

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the FMLA Leave of Absence Request for the following:

- 1) Amanda Dahlin, Grade 3 Teacher at Spring Avenue School, beginning August 21, 2023 through tentatively October 23, 2023.2023; and
- 2) Timothy LaBud, English Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, beginning October 23, 2023 through February 1, 2024; and
- 3) Alexander Wilkinson, PE Teacher at Spring Avenue School and Ideal School, revised original request approved April 24, 2023. New dates are August 28, 2023 through October 5, 2023.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of Contract for Student Services Administrative Assistant

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the contract for the Student Services Administrative Assistant as presented.

- 1) Sandy Ruffner, Administrative Assistant to the Director of Student Services effective August 3, 2023 and ending no later than November 24, 2023.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of Change to the FY24 School Year Calendar

Motion by Mrs. Bryck, seconded by Mr. Lopez, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve change to the FY24 School Year Calendar as presented.

It has been confirmed that Ideal, Seventh Avenue and Spring Avenue will be polling sites for the March 19, 2024 Presidential Primary Election. Per the Cook County Clerks Office, "The law encourages school districts

on election days to close the school or hold a teacher institute day on that day with students not in attendance". Our plan is to move the March 8, 2024 teacher institute day to March 19, 2024. The day will be held at Gurrie. For security purposes, we will "lock down Gurrie" by locking the doors that connect Gurrie and Spring. Staff members will have access to Gurrie via the main office and their key fob.

There will be student attendance on March 8, 2024 and no student attendance on March 19, 2024

On roll call, members voting AYE: Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of FY24 Budget

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 adopt the annual school district budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of the Purchase of District Truck

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Dr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the purchase of a Ford F350 from Landmark Ford for \$55,046.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Approval of Hazardous Condition Transportation Resolution

Motion by Dr. Sherman, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of School District 105 adopt the following resolution regarding continuation of transportation reimbursement.

Since it was approved by the State in 1981, District 105 has applied for transportation reimbursement from the State of Illinois for the cost of transporting to school those students living in the Hodgkins and Ideal School attendance areas who live less than 1-1/2 miles from school, but would be exposed to a "serious safety hazard" if they walked to school. Since 1983, Districts must adopt the attached resolution annually in order to qualify for reimbursement.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Strategic Plan Overview
- Sixth Day Enrollment Update
- Adoption of Red Ribbon Proclamation
- Air Conditioning Bid Results

In closing, Mr. Lopez thanked the sponsors of the Countryside Wellness Fair. He thanked the City of Countryside, West 40 for their contribution of water for the event, Dr. Jennifer Rowe,

Director of Equity and Belonging at Lyons Township High School, and Dr. Jennifer Tyrrell, Principal at Lyons Township High School.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Lopez moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. White. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM on Monday, August 28, 2023.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Board President

Board Secretary