

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL SESSION  
HUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 162  
COOK COUNTY  
MATTESON, IL 60443  
October 28, 2008**

**Convened:** 7:05 p.m.  
**Adjourned:** 9:05 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alicia Rodman McCray, President, Ron Bean, Vice President, Kevin Murphy, Secretary, Evelyn Green, Shirley Green, Karen McCray, and Felix Simpkins

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dr. Blondean Y. Davis, Earnestine Foster, John Gibson, Lee Stanton, Tamara Dotson, Muriel Cozzi, Pat Ransford, George Faris, Jonathan Chestang, Tracy Middleton, Kimberly Amos-Davis, Jessica Washington, Kevin Schouten, Juliette Boyed, M. Ogletree, Linda Disney, Wonda Denny, Pat Fears, Anneta Sampson, Dwayne Bryant, Rachel Evans, Aretha Buckner, Beth Dumbauld, Brenda Calvin, Millie Lumpkin, Don Ransford, David Rupert, Natalie Kistner, Atsuko Atwood, Gwen Taylor-Chestang, Cassandra Cartman, Shernita Mays, Bryan Hale, Marie Muchnik, Eric Muchnik, Vernita Avent, Rob Tomic, Oscar Griffen, D. Lacey. D. Hill, Carolyn Palmer, Monica Benton, Alicia Evans, D. Harmon, Kerry Sharkey, Arnetta Smith, Ameythyst Smith, Linda Wrightsell, Rob Tomic, Roger Prietz, Denise Faris

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

President Rodman McCray called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and directed the recording secretary to make a roll call notation.

**Audience to Visitors Pertaining to Agenda Items**

Nothing at this time.

**Presentation of the Long Range Plan**

Dr. Davis played a video clip of Connie Kinnerson singing "Believe In Yourself." She said this song reflected her mood, hopes, and dreams and the future of the District.

Dr. Davis reflected on the beginning of her tenure in 2002 and said she believed then, as she does now, that the District can achieve any goal it sets. She said the District has unlimited opportunities and unlimited potential. Dr. Davis reviewed the enrollment and its growth over the years. She said the enrollment this year was 3,335 and she noted the District was a minority district. She said the free and reduced lunch students are increasing and there are foreclosures happening in the District. Dr. Davis reviewed that the District had built 12 classrooms during recent years and its composite score on ISAT has increased from 55 percent in 2001 to 81 percent in 2008. Where do we go from here? she asked.

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Mark Walzack, director of building and grounds and construction manager, and Eric Olson of Arcon Architectural firm reviewed the construction plans for Sauk, which include a commons area, performing arts center, relocation of offices, and relocation of the main entrance of Sauk to the east side of the building. Pictures of the addition were displayed. Mr. Olson said the plan was to create an open and inviting atmosphere with a glass entryway and clerestory windows.

Dr. Davis related that five years ago the District was awarded an unfunded construction grant for Sauk. Noting the school was in need of a commons, Dr. Davis said that ground would be broken in December for the new addition and it would open in August 2009.

Remarking that the District was a community of learners, Dr. Davis reviewed the initiatives that had been undertaken in the last six years.

Dr. Brian Ali outlined the plans for Learner Focused Instruction, which looks more at how students learn as opposed to how teachers teach. He related the instructional strategies that would be adopted to support this instruction.

Dr. Davis said the presentation tonight reflects the thinking and the conversations that occurred in formulating the Long Range Plan. She said the administration was sharing its philosophy and the educational approaches that would be adopted in the next few years. She thanked the Board for allowing her to think creatively. She said that three management positions were eliminated and she brought in two experts in their fields, Dr. Ali, a former superintendent in Kankakee and Dekalb, and Dr. Laura Murray, former superintendent of Homewood-Flossmoor High School district.

Dr. Murray addressed how the teaching of literacy and reading would be incorporated into the content areas. She noted that how children learn has changed over the past several years due to technology. Dr. Murray reviewed the research regarding the teaching of literacy and reading across all disciplines and she reviewed plans for Huth Middle School during the 2008-2009 school year, which included the school-wide and District-wide reading and discussion of the book, *We Beat the Streets*.

Yvonne Williams, director of special education and pupil personnel, discussed the allocation of resources to support students with special needs. She reviewed the responsibilities of the special education department. Mrs. Williams said that special education programs addressed the achievement gap between special education students and regular education students. She also discussed each grade's health requirements.

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Assistant Superintendent Lee Stanton reviewed the District's plans for staff development and the topics that have been presented, the teacher mentor program, new teacher meetings, and the focus of upcoming staff development programs.

Roger Prietz, director of technology, discussed technology's role in the District's educational program and the support it offers for instruction, assessment and communication. Mr. Prietz also reviewed technology initiatives.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Davis asked that the Long Range Plan be approved.

Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mr. Murphy, to adopt the 2008-2009 Long Range Plan as presented.

Mr. Bean said he was impressed with the depth of talent in the District. Mrs. McCray said she concurred and noted that the District's vision is beyond the scope of the average eye. She said it was clear that the District was moving forward.

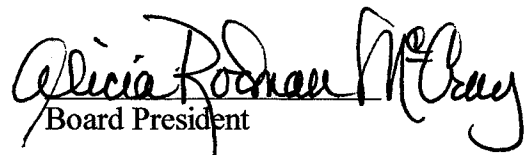
The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>NO</u>
Bean	
E. Green	
S. Green	
McCray	
Murphy	
Simpkins	
Rodman McCray	

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, President Rodman McCray adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

  
Board Secretary

  
Board President