

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 162
COOK COUNTY
RICHTON PARK, IL 60471**

April 21, 2015

“Against All Challenges—This Will Be Our Finest Hour.”

REGULAR SESSION

Convened: 6:32 p.m.

Adjourned: 7:31 p.m.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Sandi Gordon

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Blondean Y. Davis, Doug Hamilton, Earnestine Foster, Mark Walczak, Yvonne Williams, Deborah Duskey, Linda Disney, Corey Levy, Michael E. Gettings, Derek Alexander, Pamela Powell, Narishea Parham, Bill Howard, David Rupert, Latunja O. Williams, Sheloanda Porche-Box, Brenda Calvin, Carl Cogar, Natalie Bumpers, Jo Ross, Pat Ransford, Gail Hartsough, Jason Streeter, Robert Tomic, Debbie Szczecina, Barbara Manning, Amanda Godin, Lara Reznick, Matthew Mondo, Mrs. Mondo, Mrs. Johnson, Rafalieta McKenzie, Tanisha Taylor, Jessica Washington

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Dr. Davis called the meeting to order and commenced the Board reorganizational meeting. Dr. Davis administered the oath of office to three newly re-elected Board members: Mrs. Alicia Rodman McCray, Mr. Ron Bean and Mrs. Karen McCray. All three were re-elected to a four-year term in the recent April election. The three join Board members Kevin Murphy, Evelyn Green, Sandi Gordon and Felix Simpkins. In addition, the Board elected its officers

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for the new term: Mr. Bean nominated and Mr. Simpkins seconded Mrs. Rodman McCray as Board president. Mrs. Rodman McCray was elected Board president by acclamation. Mrs. Green nominated and Mr. Murphy seconded Mr. Bean as Board vice-president. Mr. Bean was elected Board vice-president by acclamation. Mr. Simpkins nominated and Mrs. Green seconded Mr. Murphy as Board secretary. Mr. Murphy was elected Board Secretary by acclamation. Mrs. Rodman McCray conducted the remainder of the Board meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dr. Davis reviewed the “Dates to Remember.” She noted that the District would administer a second round of the PARCC exam again from April 27–May 22, 2015, as an end of the year assessment. Dr. Davis also commented that the 8th Grade Hall of Fame Dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Southland College Prep, on May 27, 2015. She noted that the annual dinner recognizes 8th graders for their academic achievement and citizenship.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Nothing at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Davis introduced Mrs. Heloise Smith, her new executive assistant. She noted that prior to joining the District, Mrs. Smith worked for Congresswoman Robin Kelly. Dr. Davis acknowledged the pending retirement of Ms. Fran Beukelman and Ms. Ruth Terry, long-time District psychologists. Dr. Davis noted that the kindergarten report card is in the process of being revamped.

Minutes

Regular Session, March 17, 2015

Six month review of Executive Session minutes, and declare them closed.

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Personnel

Employment

Approve the employment of Heloise A. Smith, executive administrative assistant, effective April 13, 2015.

Approve the employment of Anthony Sroka, custodian at Huth Middle School, effective March 23, 2015.

Approve the employment of Walter Brown, custodian at Indiana School, effective April 13, 2015.

Approve the employment of Susana Roa Maya, custodian at Arcadia School, effective April 13, 2015.

Resignations/Retirements

Approve the resignation of Carlo Robledo, custodian at Arcadia School, effective March 16, 2015.

Approve the resignation of LeSean Stewart, custodian at Sauk School, effective March 17, 2015.

Approve the resignation of Mary Lou Urbina, custodian at Matteson School, effective March 27, 2015.

Approve the resignation of Doris Green, lunchroom supervisor at Indiana School, effective April 2, 2015.

Approve the resignation of Leander Sweet, lunchroom supervisor at Richton Square School, effective April 13, 2015.

Approve the intent to retire of Fran Beukelman, school psychologist, effective June 29, 2015.

Approve the intent to retire of Ruth Terry, school psychologist, effective June 18, 2015.

Suspension

Approve the suspension, without pay, of Mozell Brown, custodian, for the period April 14, 2015–April 21, 2015.

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Termination

Approve the termination of Mozell Brown, custodian, effective April 22, 2015.

Policy Matters

Nothing at this time.

Annual Business

Approval of the Board of Education Meeting Dates.

The following regular meetings and special meetings of the Board of Education of Matteson School District 162 shall occur on the dates outlined below. Unless otherwise indicated, each of the below listed meetings shall be held at 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room of the Administration Center, located at 4601 Sauk Trail, Richton Park, Illinois 60471.

May 12, 2015
May 19, 2015
June 16, 2015
July 21, 2015
August 18, 2015
September 15, 2015
October 20, 2015
November 17, 2015
December 15, 2015
January 19, 2016
February 16, 2016
March 15, 2016
April 19, 2016
May 10, 2016
May 17, 2016
June 21, 2016

Approval of the agreement with McGladrey LLP regarding the performance of an audit of the District's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2015.

Mr. Craig Englert, assistant superintendent of business services, addressed the Board of Education on this matter. He stated that this is the time of the year that the District typically secures McGladrey LLP to perform the annual audit. He noted that McGladrey's proposal for services does not reflect a price increase over the past year. He further noted that the firm

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will implement, without charge to the District this year, a new, costly accounting standard (GASB 68).

Bill Listing – Authorization of the administration to pay the schedule of bills payable and authorize the District Treasurer to sign the checks dated April 21, 2015, in the amount of \$1,226,375.93.

Imprest Fund Reimbursement – Authorization to reimburse the District Imprest Fund in the amount of \$27,564.87.

Financial Statement – The March 2015 Financial Statement is presented for review.

Payroll Vouchers – Authorization for the District Treasurer to sign the payrolls dated May 15, 2015, and May 29, 2015, including all bills for payroll deductions and contributions by the school district.

Gifts and Donations

Nothing at this time.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Murphy

Green

Gordon

McCray

Simpkins

Rodman McCray

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mondo Family

Dr. Davis invited Mr. and Mrs. Mondo, parents of two students attending Matteson School, to address the Board of Education. Mr. Mondo spoke to the Board about a bullying matter involving their son at Matteson School. Mr. Mondo stated that there have been several incidents of bullying and that the incidents have escalated in terms of severity. He commented that he and his wife have contacted the school's administration on several occasions in order to resolve the matter. He stated, however, that the Matteson School administrators have failed to adequately address the issue and that the bullying has continued. Mr. Mondo remarked that he and his wife have had an opportunity to meet with Assistant Superintendent Doug Hamilton and Mrs. Deborah Duskey, special education director (in addition to the Matteson School administrative team), regarding the matter, and that with their assistance, he believes that appropriate steps are finally being initiated to resolve the situation. Mr. Mondo remarked that, unfortunately, it took five separate instances of bullying against his son before the situation was addressed. Mr. Mondo stated that he wants to ensure that Matteson School is a safe environment for his child.

Mr. Bean thanked Mr. Mondo for bringing the matter to the Board's attention. He commented that it was appropriate for parents to address the Board regarding such matters. He noted that, although the Board will not get involved in the actual implementation of measures to resolve the situation, the Board stands with and supports the District's administrators in their ongoing response to the Mondos' concerns. Mr. Bean stated that Mr. Robert Hall, the District's attorney, will communicate in writing with the Mondo family regarding the steps that the District is taking to resolve the situation.

Enrollment

Dr. Davis presented a comparative analysis of the District's student enrollment numbers as of March 13, 2015 and April 17, 2015. Dr. Davis noted that the District's yearend enrollment will be slightly under the 3,000 that she had initially anticipated. She stated that families who

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could not provide evidence of their residency in the District were “weeded out” this year, and that this has contributed to the District’s reduced enrollment.

March 13, 2015		April 17, 2015	
School	Total	School	Total
Arcadia	442	Arcadia	445
Huth	596	Huth	597
Illinois	441	Illinois	437
Indiana	398	Indiana	399
Matteson	378	Matteson	380
Richton Square	275	Richton Square	275
Sauk	394	Sauk	395
Out-of-District	41	Out-of-District	46
Totals	2,965	Totals	2,974

Olympia Fields Education Commission Grants

Dr. Davis announced that the Olympia Fields Education Commission, National Education Association Foundation, and Carol White PEP Grant-Year 2 awarded grants to several District 162 teachers:

Olympia Fields Education Commission					
Teacher Name	School	Project	Grade Level	Grant Amount	
Amie Leib	Huth Middle School	English Language Arts & Writing Focus Projects	7 th and 8 th	\$300	
Karen Lane	Huth Middle School	Exploratory Spanish	7 th and 8 th	\$396	
L. Green, K. Baker, B. Bradshaw, J. Collins, A. Daniels, A. Flanagan, D. Gant, S. Healy	Illinois School	Writing Curriculum	2 nd – 6 th	\$1,000	
Jennifer Krichbaum	Illinois School	Science and Social Studies Resource Materials	2 nd grade	\$1,000	
Kelli Malone and Nicki Gloude	Illinois School	Writing Curriculum	1 st grade	\$278	
Luann Parduhn	Matteson School	Technology for Students	1 st grade	\$712	
Kelly Richardson	Richton Square School	Hands-on Science Materials	Early Childhood and Pre-kindergarten	\$957	

National Education Association Foundation				
Teacher Name	School	Project	Grade Level	Grant Amount
N. Gloude, L. Green, J. Krichbaum	Illinois School	Developing smart centers that integrate technology, science, social studies into reading and writing concepts while engaging students in cooperative learning and critical thinking	1 st – 5 th	\$5,000
Carol White PEP Grant–Year 2				
Teacher Name	School	Project	Grade Level	Grant Amount
Matteson District 162 in partnership with Southland College Prep HS	N/A	Physical Education and Health Programming	All grades	\$159,000

Parent University 2015

Mrs. Yvonne Williams, chief special education officer, addressed the Board regarding the Parent University 2015 program sponsored by the District 162 and Southland College Prep special education departments, on Wednesday, April 29, from 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. The program will feature a variety of workshops for parents of students with disabilities. Topics will include the following:

- Raising Responsible Respectful and Resourceful Children
- Tools for Changing a Child’s Behavior
- School Transitions–Elementary through College
- Time Management/Organization Strategies
- Transferring School-based Skills into Everyday Life
- Advocacy for Effective Home/School Partnerships
- Hands-on Technology Lab Workshop for Parents
- Creating Sensory Environments for Children with Sensory Processing Needs

Mrs. Williams stated that this is the second year that the District has offered the Parent University program. Mrs. Williams noted that April is Autism Awareness Month. She discussed the various activities engaged in by District schools to raise awareness of autism. She stated that all District schools participated in grade- and age-appropriate activities to promote understanding and acceptance of differences, including wearing blue in honor of Autism Awareness Month, reading books, watching videos and movies, hosting guest

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speakers and assemblies, and creating bulletin board displays. Mrs. Williams noted that some schools sponsored fundraisers to support Autism Speaks. She announced that Illinois School staff and students have issued an ice bucket challenge to the school's administrators to raise money for autism research. The school has pledged to raise \$2,000.

Mrs. Williams stated that District 162 and Southland College Prep will team-up to participate in the Autism Walks fundraiser. Mrs. Williams introduced Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Johnson, District parents of autistic children. She noted that Mrs. Taylor has been active in leading and organizing the District 162/Southland Team effort this year. Mrs. Taylor addressed the Board stating that the parent support offered in the District has been a key to the success of the District's autistic students.

Dr. Davis stated that the minimum fundraising goal for the District 162/Southland Team is \$10,000.

Budget

Mr. Craig Englert addressed the Board regarding the budget. He stated that the state legislature passed a budget without funding sufficient to sustain it. He noted that the legislature has passed a bill that will reduce funding levels. As a result, the District will lose approximately \$65,000 in funding this year. Mr. Englert remarked that the reduction is not as bad as it could be. He also noted that there will be a slight reduction in the preschool grant.

LEGISLATION

Dr. Davis reported that the Illinois House of Representatives and Senate are both in session.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board will consider approval of the resolution authorizing intervention in property tax assessment proceedings.

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Mrs. McCray moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, to approve the resolution authorizing intervention in property tax assessment proceedings.

Mr. Craig Englert addressed the Board on this matter. He stated that the law firm representing the District in property tax appeals and tax objections has changed its name from Sruga, Hauser to Hauser, Izzo. He noted that due to the name change, Cook County requires a new resolution authorizing the District to utilize Hauser, Izzo to intervene on its behalf in such proceedings.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Murphy

Green

Gordon

McCray

Simpkins

Rodman McCray

The Board will consider approval of the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$3,500,000 General Obligation Refunding Limited School Bonds, Series 2015, of School District Number 162, Cook County, Illinois, for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of said School District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Mr. Simpkins moved, seconded by Mr. Bean, to approve the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$3,500,000 General Obligation Refunding Limited School Bonds, Series 2015, of School District Number 162, Cook County, Illinois, for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of said School District, providing for the levy of a direct

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annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Ms. Rafalieta McKenzie from Speer Financial addressed the Board on this matter. She stated that by passing this resolution, the District could save approximately \$230,000 over the life of the bonds. She noted that this would represent a six percent savings relative to interest rates. Ms. McKenzie further stated that the District's debt payment would be reduced by approximately \$20,000–\$25,000, annually. Ms. McKenzie stressed that the District would realize the savings in a reduction to its tax levy, not in a reduction to the Education Fund. She noted that this, ultimately, would be a benefit to the taxpayers.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Murphy

Green

Gordon

McCray

Simpkins

Rodman McCray

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES/REPORTS

Mrs. Green reminded the Board members that the SCOPE Spring Dinner is scheduled for April 27, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., at the Silver Lakes Country Club in Orland Park.

Mr. Bean invited Mrs. Mondo to address the Board. She declined.

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AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Rodman McCray adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.


President


Secretary