

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 162  
COOK COUNTY  
RICHTON PARK, IL 60471  
February 16, 2016**

*“We take the dreams and hopes of our children and give them wings.”*

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Convened: 6:30 p.m.**

**Adjourned: 8:31 p.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alicia Rodman McCray, President; Ron Bean, Vice President; Evelyn Green; Karen McCray; Sandi Gordon; Felix Simpkins (arrived at 6:31 p.m.)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Murphy, Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dr. Blondean Y. Davis, Doug Hamilton, Earnestine Foster, Mark Walczak, Yvonne S. Williams, Deborah Duskey, Linda Disney, Michael E. Gettings, David Rupert, Latunja O. Williams, Sheloanda Porche-Box, Natalie Bumpers, Pat Ransford, Jo Ross, Carl Cogar, Narishea Parham, Pamela Powell, Bill Howard, Gail Hartsough, Stephanie Healy, Jason Streeter, Cory Gold, Brenda Calvin, Robert Tomic, Camilla Covington, Amanda Godin, Lara Reznick, Debbie Szczecina, Jessica Washington

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Mrs. Rodman McCray called the regular session to order at 6:30 p.m. and noted that there was a quorum. Mrs. Rodman McCray directed the Board secretary to make a roll call notation. Mr. Simpkins arrived at 6:31 p.m., after the roll call.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Dr. Davis reviewed the “Dates to Remember.” Dr. Davis reported that the Cook County Clerk’s Office requested that the District close on March 15, 2016, due to the primary elections. Dr. Davis made a correction to the Dates to Remember, stating that the District will administer the PARCC test—not the ACT Aspire—to students in 3rd–8th grades, from March 8–18, 2016.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Nothing at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mrs. Green to approve the Consent Agenda dated February 16, 2016, and every item contained therein:

Dr. Davis asked Dr. Doug Hamilton, associate superintendent, to address the Board about the approval of the school-wide Title I Comprehensive Plan Report (Item 1. under Annual Business). Dr. Hamilton stated that Title I, formerly known as “No Child Left Behind,” will now be known as the “Every Student Succeeds Act,” effective the 2017–18 school year. He stated that the District’s schools are moving from being Targeted Assistance schools to School-wide Assistance schools. He further stated that this process falls under the Rising Star program. Dr. Hamilton recognized the efforts of Dr. David Rupert, the District’s Coordinator of Academic Support, and the building administrators for their work in completing the application process.

Dr. Hamilton explained that, until now, the District’s schools (Huth Middle School, Illinois School, Indiana School, Richton Square School, and Sauk School) were considered Targeted Assistance Schools. As such, the District’s schools could use federal funds to support a small number of students who were struggling academically in reading and mathematics. Dr.

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Hamilton explained that as a School-wide Title I School, the District can use federal funds to support *all* students who are struggling, both socially and academically, in any academic area. Dr. Hamilton provided the following overview of the School-wide program:

### **School-wide Program Purpose**

- It is a comprehensive reform strategy designed to upgrade the entire educational program in a Title I school.
- The primary goal is to ensure that all students, particularly struggling learners, demonstrate proficient and advanced levels of achievement relative to the state's academic achievement levels.

### **Why Go School-wide?**

- To serve all students at the school-level
- To combine federal, state, and local funds to provide programs at the school level
- To allow for additional flexibility in funding programs and services to serve the academic and social needs of all students

### **Becoming a School-wide School**

- Each School Leadership Team engaged in a thorough planning process in the fall.
- Each team conducted a comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school.
- Teams used data from that assessment to develop a comprehensive plan.
- The plan will be reviewed annually.

### **Minutes**

Regular Session, January 19, 2016

Executive Session, January 19, 2016, and declare them closed.

### **Personnel**

#### *Leaves*

Approve the maternity leave, under FMLA, for DeAnna Adams, teacher at Arcadia School, effective February 8, 2016, through May 2, 2016.

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Approve the maternity leave, under FMLA, for Kelli Malone, teacher at Illinois School, effective April 4, 2016, through May 15, 2016.

Approve the maternity leave, under FMLA, for Alicia Kuiper, teacher at Illinois School, effective April 4, 2016, through May 15, 2016.

Approve the leave of absence, under FMLA, for Roderick Stewart, teacher at Huth Middle School, effective January 25, 2016, through March 18, 2016.

Approve the change in dates of the maternity leave for Keshia Steele, social worker at Sauk School, from the original period of April 4, 2016, through May 13, 2016, to the new period of April 4, 2016, through June 6, 2016.

Approve the maternity leave, under FMLA, for Amanda Gunty, teacher at Indiana School, effective February 16, 2016, through April 29, 2016.

Approve the leave of absence, under FMLA, for Anthony Urban, teacher at Huth Middle School, effective January 27, 2016, for up to twelve weeks.

*Notice to Remedy*

Approve the resolution authorizing notice to remedy to be served on teacher Robert Schleicher.

*Resignations*

Approve the resignation of Robyn Radford, social worker at Huth Middle School, effective January 29, 2016.

Approve the resignation of LaDonna Taylor, tray washer at Matteson School, effective January 20, 2016.

**Policy Matters**

Nothing at this time.

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**Annual Business**

The Board will consider the approval of the school-wide Title I Comprehensive Plan Report for all schools in Matteson District 162.

**Bill Listing** – Authorization of the administration to pay the schedule of bills payable and authorize the District Treasurer to sign the checks dated February 16, 2016, in the amount of \$1,086,904.21.

**Imprest Fund Reimbursement** – Authorization to reimburse the District Imprest Fund in the amount of \$22,259.75.

**Financial Statement** – The January 2016 Financial Statement is presented for review.

**Payroll Vouchers** – Authorization for the District Treasurer to sign the payrolls dated March 15, 2016, and March 30, 2016, 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

Green

Gordon

Simpkins

McCray

Rodman McCray

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*Enrollment*

Dr. Davis presented an overview of the District's enrollment from January 15, 2016, through February 11, 2016:

<b>Membership January 15, 2016</b>	
<b>School</b>	<b>Total</b>
Arcadia	455
Huth	575
Illinois	401
Indiana	374
Matteson	345
Richton Square	245
Sauk	374
Out-of-District	48
<b>SD 162 Total</b>	<b>2,817</b>

<b>Membership February 11, 2016</b>	
<b>School</b>	<b>Total</b>
Arcadia	458
Huth	566*
Illinois	403
Indiana	373
Matteson	353
Richton Square	252
Sauk	374
Out-of-District	49*
<b>SD 162 Total</b>	<b>2,828</b>

\*Data from PowerSchool

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**Changes in Membership from January 15, 2016, to February 11, 2016**

Schools	1/15/16	2/11/16	+/-	Explanation
Arcadia	455	458	+3	Lost one student in 3rd grade; gained one student each in kindergarten and 1st grade and gained two students in 2nd grade
Huth	575	566*	-9	Lost four students in 7th grade and five students in 8th grade
Illinois	401	403	+2	Gained one student each in 3rd and 7th grades
Indiana	374	373	-1	Lost one student each in 5th and 6th grades; gained one student in 4th grade
Matteson	345	353	+8	Gained one student each in 2nd and 3rd grades and gained six students in 1st grade
Richton Square	245	252	+7	Gained five students in preschool and two students in kindergarten
Sauk	374	374	0	Lost one student in 5th grade; gained one student in 6th grade
Out-of-District	48	49*	+1	Lost one student in 3rd grade; gained one student each in 2nd and 7th grades
<b>SD 162 Total</b>	<b>2,817</b>	<b>2,828</b>	<b>+11</b>	

\*Data from PowerSchool

**Note:** Data for May 2008 and May 2010 are unavailable; yellow highlighted data are the latest data available for those years.

Schools	May 2007	April 2008	May 2009	Feb. 2010	May 2011	May 2012	May 2013	May 2014	May 2015	Aug. 2015
Arcadia	561	527	571	579	556	537	519	477	447	418
Huth	660	672	654	645	630	596	603	641	599	557
Illinois	473	458	487	490	449	437	424	471	434	438
Indiana	501	494	457	434	428	436	430	424	399	379
Matteson	561	529	492	540	530	435	444	403	380	368
Richton Square	187	196	201	172	213	255	245	260	275	268
Sauk	468	464	436	436	477	458	449	378	395	386
Out-of-District	72	71	55	52	55	49	46	44	46	41
<b>SD 162 Total</b>	<b>3,483</b>	<b>3,411</b>	<b>3,353</b>	<b>3,348</b>	<b>3,338</b>	<b>3,203</b>	<b>3,160</b>	<b>3,098</b>	<b>2,975</b>	<b>2,855</b>

Dr. Davis stated that the District does not need Richton Square School or Illinois School. She noted that other District schools have the space to absorb the students currently attending these two schools. She stated, however, that she will monitor enrollment for two years before making a decision about the possibility of closing Richton Square School and Illinois School. Dr. Davis noted that closing Richton Square School will not provide a cost savings to the

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District. She noted that the District would have to renovate Matteson School in order to absorb the smaller children of Richton Square School, which would be costly. Dr. Davis said that closing Illinois School would save the District money, but that she would take a “wait and see” stance before making a final decision on closing the school.

Dr. Davis stated that she would be making some personnel adjustments at the March 2016 Board meeting as a result of the District’s projected budget deficit and the drop in enrollment.

Mr. Craig Englert, assistant superintendent of business, addressed the Board regarding the District’s projected budget. He stated that the lack of a state budget, the possibility of a property freeze, and potential pension fund problems could negatively affect the District. Mr. Englert also stated that the District’s federal funding allotment could be flat if not decreased. He noted that the District is taking a conservative position and will continue to monitor enrollment.

Dr. Davis commented that Park Forest and Olympia Fields have older constituents with fewer young children. She remarked that most of the population growth in the District is coming from Matteson and Richton Park.

Mr. Bean asked Dr. Davis why it was important to approve a balanced budget and maintain an appropriate fund balance. Dr. Davis requested that Mr. Englert respond to Mr. Bean’s question. Mr. Englert stated that the District ended last year with approximately 105 days cash on hand in the operating funds. Mr. Englert stated that amount of cash was enough to allow the district to get through the months between the time when real estate taxes are distributed plus provide a very small amount of money for emergencies. He noted, however, that amount of cash on hand is not excessive. In fact, the Illinois State Board of



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Education (ISBE) only gives its highest financial rating for cash reserves to districts that maintain at least 180 days cash. Mr. Englert stated that the District has had an informal goal of \$15,000,000 in fund balance across all funds. He stated that even if it achieves that goal it would still not put the District in the state's highest category for day's cash on hand but would provide the District with additional money to do larger capital projects that need to be accomplished without having to issue debt. Mr. Englert stated that if the District were to spend money in excess of its revenue, its cash reserves would begin to erode and eventually put the District into a position of having to borrow money to meet short-term cash requirements.

Mr. Englert stated that tapping into the District's reserves would be an indication of an unbalanced budget. He and Dr. Davis stressed that the District will not use its reserves. Dr. Davis stated that the District must live within its means and that reserves are for emergency use only.

Mr. Englert stated that he made conservative assumptions in the projected budget. He noted that the District's operating fund is \$10 million and that the goal is to have \$15 million in reserves.

Mr. Bean commented that the District's reserves should not be seen as a means of offsetting cuts.

#### *Math Progress Workshops*

Dr. Davis presented the following overview of the Math Progress workshops entitled, "Show Me, Help Me, Watch Me"—Building Math Competence, hosted by Dr. Barbara Radner, executive director of the Center for Urban Education at DePaul University. The workshops emphasized standards of mathematical practice, clarified teachers' repertoire of modeling

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and guiding strategies, showed teachers how to integrate math practice standards in assessment, and established formative assessment and response systems. Fifty-one participants (teachers, administrators, and District Office staff) attended the first workshop on January 30, 2016. The second workshop was held on February 20, 2016. During this workshop, teachers were required to bring examples of math word problems that they used in the classroom along with a few different student responses to the same problem.

Dr. Davis praised Dr. Radner for offering the math workshops to the District's staff. Dr. Davis further stated that the District must address the issue of students losing knowledge over vacations and breaks. She said that the District must offer bridge activities for students and their families.

Mr. Simpkins stated that the District has taken the lead in shoring up students' abilities in math and science. He further stated that he sees deficiencies in math and English that require remediation in some of the students attending Prairie State College. He commended Dr. Davis for devising a strategy that will help District students close the deficiency gap.

### **LEGISLATION**

Nothing at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board will consider approval of the Resolution authorizing a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the School District.

Mr. Simpkins moved, seconded by Mrs. McCray, to approve the Resolution authorizing a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the School District.

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Mr. Craig Englert presented a brief overview of the supplemental tax levy. He noted that the District will not have to authorize another supplemental tax levy until 2021.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Green

Gordon

Simpkins

McCray

Rodman McCray

**OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

**BOARD MEMBER ISSUES/REPORTS**

Nothing at this time.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Nothing at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mrs. Green, that the Board go into executive session to consider information regarding student discipline cases and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or public officials, collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, or the sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts.

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The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Green

Gordon

Simpkins

McCray

Rodman McCray

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:25 p.m.

**FINDING OF FACT**

Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mrs. McCray, that this Board of Education, having considered the Hearing Officer's reports regarding the student discipline matters at issue and having discussed these matters in executive session, adopt the findings of fact included in the Hearing Officer's reports of the hearings regarding the recommended expulsions of Student B, Student C, and Student D, which hearings occurred on February 2, 2016, and February 5, 2016.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

YES

NO

Bean

Green

Gordon

Simpkins

McCray

Rodman McCray

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**EXPULSION**

Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mr. Simpkins, that this Board of Education vote to expel Student B, Student C, and Student D for the remainder of the 2015–2016 school year, beginning immediately through the last day of student attendance in the 2015–2016 school year, which is scheduled to occur on June 3, 2016. Student B, Student C, and Student D are eligible to attend Summer School beginning in June 2016, and these students' performance in Summer School will be considered in connection with the decision regarding each student's promotion to the next grade level or retention in the same grade level in which the student was enrolled during the 2015–2016 school year.

The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote:

**YES**

**NO**

Bean

Green

Gordon

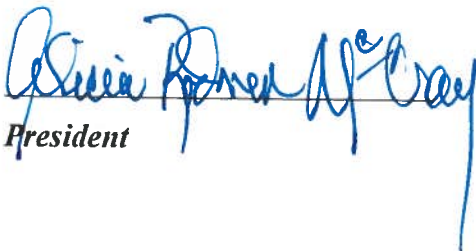
Simpkins

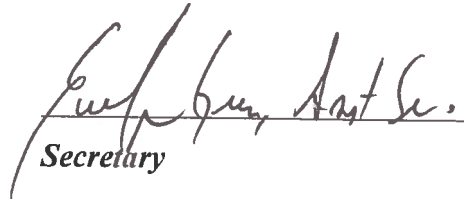
McCray

Rodman McCray

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Rodman McCray adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

  
*Rodman McCray*  
**President**

  
*Secretary*  
**Secretary**