

# **OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT NO. 148**

### **DOLTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

The **MINUTES** of the **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Education, District No. 148, Dolton, Cook County, Illinois held at the Administrative Office in said School District at 7:00 p.m., on the **27<sup>th</sup> of October, 2011.**

#### **ROLL CALL**

After the Pledge of Allegiance the President, Joyce Jackson, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and directed that the roll be called. Upon the roll being called, the following members answered present; James Bendell, Larry Lawrence, Lamar Collins, and Joyce Jackson. The following members were absent; Valencia Wooten, Faith Gunter and William Gunter. Margaret Kostopulos, Attorney, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer P.C. , Superintendent Jayne Purcell, Assistant Superintendent Patricia Moore, Interim Business Manager Terry La Bella, Director of Support Programs Candace Dunleavy, Director of Technology Karen Marshall, Principals Kathy Conroy, Lisa Davis-Smith, Dot Jeter, Dell McFarlane, Shalonda Randle, Joanna Sharp, Michael Winston, Assistant Principal Torie Navarre and Board Secretary Joyce Selix were also present.

#### **VISITORS**

Joan Carreon, Jamie Haas, Andrea Rucinski, Jennifer Fitzpatrick, John Donermeyer, Re'mi Moyniman, Ronisha Dubose, Melvina Norwood, Kevin Reese, Prince Lowe, Lawanda Woods, Cynthia Marks, Tarnell Bowen, Alexia Gist, Patricia Benton, Kimberly A. Bell

#### **MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

Member Bendell moved and Member Collins seconded the motion that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 beginning at 7:04 p.m. be approved as written and direct the secretary to place them on file as a part of the official Board Minutes.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

#### **MINUTES - CLOSED SESSION**

Member Bendell moved and Member Jackson seconded the motion that the Minutes of the Closed Session held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 beginning at 8:40 p.m. be approved as written and direct the secretary to place them on file as a part of the official Board Minutes.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING**

Member Lawrence moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Thursday, October 20, 2011 beginning at 5:37 p.m. be approved as written and direct the secretary to place them on file as a part of the official Board Minutes.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **MINUTES - CLOSED SESSION**

Member Jackson moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Minutes of the Closed Session held on Thursday, October 20, 2011, beginning at 5:44 p.m. be approved as written and direct the secretary to place them on file as a part of the official Board Minutes.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **ADMINISTRATION-INFORMATION REPORTS**

Dr. Moore, Assistant Superintendent, reported that Open House Results showed that 42% of parents district-wide attended Open House this year versus 45% during the 2010-2011 school year. Dr. Moore said that six grade levels showed increased attendance however; we can always do better. A discussion was held focusing on ways to get parents to attend this event and become more involved in their child's educational needs. Joyce Jackson said perhaps the matter can be further discussed at the next Parent Advisory Committee meeting.

Dr. Dunleavy, Director of Support Programs, reported that every year the District Emergency Management Plan is updated. The Crisis Team meets with Dolton and Riverdale Police Departments to review and update the Plan. This year the District was able to supply phones from Sprint to Crisis Team Members for emergency use with no extra cost to the District.

Ms. Marshall, Director of Technology, reported that October enrollment stands at 2,450 students which is an increase of 37 students from last month.

## **PRESIDENT'S CALL**

Six Committees met since the last Regular Board Meeting. Summaries of the following Committees were presented: Policy Committee Meeting held on Thursday, October 6, 2011, District Leadership Team held on Thursday, October 6, 2011, Board Building & Grounds held on Thursday, October 13, 2011, Finance Committee Meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 2011, Ethics Committee Meeting held on Thursday, October 13, 2011 and the Parent Advisory Meeting was held on Thursday, October 20, 2011. The summary from Parent Advisory will be included in the November Board Packet. Mr. Lawrence thanked Park School for hosting the Parent Advisory Meeting and encouraged more Parents to attend and become involved in their child's education. Mr. Lawrence commented positively on the bullying presentation that was presented. Ms. Jackson also commented on the discussion that was held concerning full day kindergarten, giving costs for different scenarios that were discussed.

**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS  
REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP 2011**

The "Report to the Membership 2011" from the Illinois Association of School Boards was reviewed.

**BOARD RETREAT**

Board Members will be participating in a Board Retreat here at District Office on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ms. Alicia McCray from MILE and Ms. Kostopulos, District Attorney will be facilitating this workshop.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATE – FIRST CONSIDERATION**

The Board of Education took first consideration on the following policies:  
Policy 2:180 - Board Member Observation of Buildings and Grounds (New)  
Policy 2:190 - Board Member Use of District-Owned Tablet Computers (New)  
Procedure 7:340AP – Administrative Procedure – Student records – will be adopted as part of the policy  
6:240 - Field Trip Procedure will be adopted as part of Field Trip Policy  
5:125 - Personal Technology and Social Media: Usage and Conduct

**IASB/IASA/IASBO JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
November 18-20, 2011**

Board Members were reminded to mark their calendars for Friday, November 18 through Sunday, November 20, 2011 to attend the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference. Registration has been completed for all seven Board Members.

**NSBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
April 21<sup>st</sup> – April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012**

The National School Boards Association Annual Conference will be held April 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts. Registration has been completed for Ms. Jackson, Mr. Gunter, Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Wooten and Dr. Purcell. Housing will open on November 1, 2011.

**MOTION FOR CORRESPONDENCE**

Member Bendell moved and Member Jackson seconded the motion that the Correspondence which contained ONE resignation letter, as reviewed by the Board of Education be accepted as written and placed on file as part of the official Board Minutes.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**DISTRICT ITEMS OF INTEREST**

Ms. Karen Marshall, Director of Technology, and Mr. John Donermeyer, Data Analyst/Software Specialist, gave a power point entitled: "Technology...Bridging the Gap". The following vision for District 148 was presented: Technology is available and effectively supported for all students and staff; To provide global access to information; To meet the curricular needs of all learners; To refine critical thinking skills and foster creativity; To provide a medium for expression and communication; To collect, assess, and share assessment data; To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of administrative tasks and in conclusion to provide 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and proficiencies necessary for higher education and the workforce.

Mr. Prince Lowe, former Lincoln student, a University of Notre Dame graduate who has gone on to receive his Masters in Education, currently teaches at Thornridge High School, and now has set his sights on attending Harvard for his Doctorate, presented the Algebra Program. He is currently teaching Algebra I for high school credit to students from Lincoln at Thornridge High School. He has set expectations very high for these students and gave statistics which are supporting his claims. He spoke passionately about this program. Dr. Purcell commented that Mr. Lowe always said when he was at Lincoln that he would give back to the community and he is giving generously of his time and energies to this endeavor.

Board of Education Vice President Faith Gunter joined the Meeting at 7:36 p.m.

**ADOPT FIRST AMENDED AGREEMENT RESOLUTION  
SOUTH SUBURBAN SCHOOL PURCHASING COOPERATIVE**

Following a recommendation from the Finance Committee Member Lawrence moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education, Dolton West School District 148 adopt the First Amended Agreement Resolution with the South Suburban School Purchasing Cooperative for the purchase of material, supplies, equipment and services.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**APPROVE CONTRACT WITH KNUTTE & ASSOCIATES**

Following a recommendation from the Finance Committee Member Bendell moved and Member Lawrence seconded the motion that the Board of Education, Dolton West School District 148 approve the contract with Knutte & Associates for preparation of the Audits and Annual Financial Report (AFR's) for the years ending June 30, 2012, June 30, 2013 and June 30, 2014 priced at \$18,600, \$19,200 and \$19,800, respectively.

Mr. La Bella, Interim Business Manager, added that in reply to Mr. Lawrence's question at Finance that peer review is every three years.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**ADOPT RESOLUTIONS CAFETERIA PLAN**

Following a recommendation from the Finance Committee Member Jackson moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148 adopt the resolutions in the form of an amended Cafeteria Plan including a Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account and Health Flexible Spending Account effective September 1, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**APPROVE PURCHASE RETROSPECT BACKUP SOFTWARE**

Following a recommendation from the Finance Committee Member Faith Gunter moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, approve the purchase of an upgrade to the Retrospect Backup Software to properly backup files in the amount of \$590.30.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS

Member Faith Gunter moved and Member Jackson seconded the motion that the Board of Education accept the resignation of the following employee:

Linda Lopez, ten month Secretary, Lincoln School, effective September 16, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## EMPLOYMENT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Member Bendell moved and Member Lawrence seconded the motion that the Board of Education employ the following certified employees, for the 2011-12 school year at the following positions and at salaries based upon the following steps and lanes as determined by the most current Board/DEA Agreement in effect at any time during the 2011-12 school year, contingent upon satisfactory receipt of all required employment mandates:

Martin Kelly, Fifth Grade Teacher, Roosevelt Elementary, BA, Step 1, effective September 28, 2011 and

Victor Wells, Eighth Grade Social Studies Teacher, Lincoln Jr. High, BA+20 Step 6, effective September 23, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## RECALL TEACHERS WHO WERE DISMISSED AS PART OF REDUCTION IN FORCE

Member Jackson moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education, Dolton West School District 148 recall and appoint for the 2011-2012 school year the following teachers who were previously notified of their dismissal due to change of enrollment in the District. Said teachers will be reinstated with no break in service for purposes of calculating years of full time employment toward contractual continued service (tenure):

Sanaz Tabrizi, First Grade Teacher, Park School, effective September 19, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## EMPLOYMENT EXEMPT EMPLOYEE

Member Bendell moved and Member Lawrence seconded the motion that the Board of Education employ the following exempt employee effective the following date contingent upon satisfactory receipt of all employment mandates:

Kevin Reese, Custodian Night Supervisor, Twelve month, District Wide, effective September 26, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**EMPLOYMENT  
NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

Member Lawrence moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education employ the following non-certified employees effective the following dates, at the following probationary positions, and at salaries as determined by the most current Board/DSA Agreement in effect contingent upon satisfactory receipt of all employment mandates:

Errol Bailey, Full time Custodian, District Office effective October 3, 2011,  
Dwight Franklin, Skilled Maintenance, District Wide, effective October 11, 2011,  
Christine Johnson, Ten Month Secretary, Lincoln School, effective October 12, 2011 and  
Linda Lopez, Office Assistant, Washington School, effective September 19, 2011.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:  
 Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson  
 Nays: None  
 Motion Carried

**APPROVE BILLS AND ACCOMPANYING FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Member Jackson moved and Member Faith Gunter seconded the motion to approve the bills presented for payment for the month of October 2011 as printed under the Administration-Action Reports, Agenda Items H-2a - H-2m totaling \$870,725.03 and the accompanying Financial Reports, directing the secretary to place all reports on file for audit.

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	SUB-TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
a. Regular Bills	\$785,365.85		
b. District Band	416.01		
c. ECC Grant	13,348.94		
d. IDEA Grant	282.16		
e. Mentor Grant	439.56		
f. Safety Grant	1,525.50		
g. Title I	24,809.33		
h. Title II	9,234.74		
i. Supp GSA	10,356.62		
j. 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	2,446.83		
Subtotal		\$848,225.54	
k. Total Custodians Extra Time	4,992.49		
l. Total Secretaries Over Time	592.10		
m. Total Substitute Payroll	16,914.90		
TOTAL Overtime/Substitutes		\$22,499.49	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>\$870,725.03</b>

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:  
 Ayes:  
 Nays: None  
 Motion Carried

## **ACCEPT STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNT REPORT**

Member Lawrence moved and Member Bendell seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, accept the Student Activity Account Report as submitted.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **ACCEPT BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT**

Following a recommendation from the Building and Grounds Committee, Member Bendell moved and Member Jackson seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, accept the Buildings and Grounds Report as submitted.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:

Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

An opportunity was extended to the audience to address the Board of Education.

Ms. Lawanda Woods, 14201 S. Union, Riverdale, IL, parent, asked about the Riverdale Fire Department's Explorer Program and said parents never got the packets from the schools. She expressed disappointment in the low number of responses to this opportunity. Rev. Collins said he thinks there are eight students in the program and there is only room for thirteen.

Ms. Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Band Director, and Ms. Ronisha Dubose, Choral Director, spoke on "Saving the Arts" in District 148. They quoted and distributed information on the importance of these programs in the present and future of our students. Ms. Jackson remarked that the Board has made the Arts a priority in District 148 and made cuts in other areas to save the program. Dr. Purcell explained that programs have been distributed differently this year to provide equity to all schools.

Ms. Jamie Haas, First Grade Teacher at Lincoln asked the Board for math textbooks and/or to get her Smart Board working so she can use it instead of the textbooks. Mr. Winston and Ms. Navarre said there was a delivery of books to Lincoln that they were not distributed yet. Ms. Jackson referred Ms. Haas to Dr. Moore.

Mr. Re'mi Moyniman, who is an Assistant Head Master in a suburb of London, England said that he has spent the last two days at Washington School and loved it. He commented on the importance of Smart Boards and how great the technology is for students. They have been used in his building for eight years. Go the "Bulldog Beat" and thanked them very much. Ms. Jackson thanked him for his refreshing comments.

In that there were no other questions or comments from the audience, this portion of the meeting was closed.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Jackson stated that Rev. Collins had questioned the custodian overtime amount however Dr. Purcell explained that many absences were due to the suspensions of custodians. This created the need for overtime for workers who filled in for them.

Ms. Jackson stated that she has some materials including "A Guide to Successful School Board Membership" that fellow board members can take a look at. She also said the District Library contains the book "Roberts Rules of Order". The protocol for conducting a respectful and productive meeting is outlined. She urged board members to attend the Board Retreat.

Rev. Collins stated he would not be able to attend the Board Retreat. Ms. Jackson stated that the session would be videotaped for viewing by absent Members.

## CLOSED SESSION

Member Jackson moved and Member Lawrence seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, move into Closed Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss: Pending Litigation, 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (11), Performance of Specific Employee, 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1) and Student Discipline Cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (9).

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:  
Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried

## RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Member Jackson moved and Member Faith Gunter seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, return to Open Session at 11:27 p.m.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:  
Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried

## ACTIONS FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

### EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE

Member Collins moved and Member Jackson seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148 suspend employee 2011-10-27 effective October 24, 2011 for 30 days without pay and reassign him to a classroom upon his return.

On individual roll call, the following vote was taken:  
Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried

## ADJOURNMENT

Member Jackson moved and Member Lawrence seconded the motion that the Board of Education, School District 148, adjourn the Meeting held on October 27, 2011 at 11:30 p.m.

On roll call, the following vote was taken:  
Ayes: Bendell, Lawrence, Faith Gunter, Collins, Jackson  
Nays: None  
Motion Carried

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Joyce Jackson, President

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Lamar Collins, Secretary