

**WEST HARVEY-DIXMOOR SCHOOL DISTRICT 147 BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2007**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education , School District #147 was held on Monday, November 5, 2007 at the Elmer G. Kich Elementary School, 191 West 155th Place, Harvey, Illinois, President J.C. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

THE ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD WAS AS FOLLOWS:

PRESIDENT	J.C. Smith	Present
VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Smith	Present
SECRETARY	Mable Chapman	Present
MEMBER	Helen Randall	Present
MEMBER	Pamela Cudjo-Kelly	Present
MEMBER	Katie Jackson Booker	Present
MEMBER	Bonnie Rateree	Present

ALSO PRESENT:

SUPERINTENDENT	Dr. Alex Boyd
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT	Dr. Laurice Geanes
BUSINESS MANAGER	Sharlyne Williams

Special Presentations

A special presentation by Virginia Hines, school counselor at King Elementary, was made. She plans to personally fund \$350 scholarships for two student graduates of Rosa Parks , a male and female, each year up to a five-year period. The board appreciated her idea and thanked her for her generosity.

Recognition and a special tribute was made by Dr. Boyd to Board President J. C. Smith. A plaque was presented on behalf of the district to President Smith for 36 years of dedicated service. The audience and other board members congratulated and applauded President Smith for his milestone.

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION,
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2007**

MOVED:	MEMBER:	Katie Jackson Booker
SECONDED:	MEMBER:	Michael Smith

MEMBER(S) VOTING:

<u>AYES:</u>	<u>NAYS:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
J.C. Smith			Pam Cudjo-Kelly
Michael Smith			
Mable Chapman			
Helen Randall			
Katie Jackson Booker			
Bonnie Rateree			

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETINGS, MONDAY,
OCTOBER 15, 2007 AND MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2007

MOVED:
SECONDED:

MEMBER:
MEMBER:

Bonnie Rateree
Katie Jackson Booker

MEMBER(S) VOTING:

AYES:

J.C. Smith
Michael Smith
Mable Chapman
Helen Randall
Katie Jackson Booker
Bonnie Rateree

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Pam Cudjo-Kelly

CITIZENS INQUIRY

Shay Willis, parent was concerned regarding how the “lock-down” incident due to rumors of possible retaliation after a former student of the district was shot and killed, was handled at Washington School on November 1st. She said that the school’s precautions were a sorry attempt for safety measures and did not think that parents received adequate and timely communication regarding the incident. She also thought the actions taken were too drastic and that the precautions were disorganized.

Dr. Boyd responded that due to that rumor of retaliation, other area districts went on lock-down and our district decided to follow suit and performed what was necessary to safeguard the students. He applauded Cheryl Brown, the administrator at Washington School for her actions and efforts to protect the children at Washington

Board member Booker also complimented Ms. Brown on her actions and stated that in times of emergencies and scares, things may not go smoothly and as planned but the most important issue is to ensure safety of the children

Board member Rateree stated that the district could take this incident as a learning experience and use the imperfections to further develop the safety plan. She also encouraged parental involvement with the plan.

President Smith reiterated that the district does have a safety plan in place and that improvement may be necessary.

Dr. Boyd remarked that Ms. Brown was in charge of the Safety Implementation Plan for the district and was currently amending and updating it. Ms. Willis inquired on the parent involvement with the plan and Dr. Boyd stated that parents would have the opportunity to have input with the plan.

Veronica Bray stated that she volunteered at Parks the day of the incident. She said that everyone worked together that day and she was impressed with how smoothly and quickly the students were dismissed and sent home.

Wayne Tellis says that there was some slight confusion in the letter sent by the schools regarding the shooting threat incident. He says that it should have been clarified that the murdered person was a former student and not a current student.

Mr. Tellis’ other concern was for the lack of parent/community volunteers. He said that more adult participation is needed in the district to show students that we actually care and are concerned about them. The board agreed with Mr. Tellis, but also stated that while they would also like more parental involvement, it is up to the parents to choose to get involved.

Board member Randall remarked that she was still concerned about the overcrowded kindergarten classes at Washington school and also noted that the playground equipment there was deplorable and old. She wanted to know if Dr. Boyd planned to do anything regarding her concerns and issues.

PLACED ON FILE TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR SEPTEMBER 2007

MOTION TO APPROVE ADJUSTED ACCOUNTS PAYABLE PRE-LIST FOR OCTOBER 31, 2007 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$619,919.41

MOVED:	MEMBER:	Katie Jackson Booker
SECONDED:	MEMBER:	Michael Smith

Motion carried on the following roll call:
MEMBER(S) VOTING:

<u>AYES:</u>	<u>NAYS:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
J.C. Smith			
Michael Smith			
Mable Chapman			
Helen Randall			
Pam Cudjo-Kelly			
Katie Jackson Booker			
Bonnie Rateree			

Board member Randall questioned the ECHO bill and the high payment. She wanted to know if that was a monthly or annual payment. The business manager explained that the ECHO bill is a monthly payment. Board member Randall also questioned the ENI charges and wanted to know why the district was still making payments because she thought we only engaged into a 1-year contract. Dr. Geanes responded that we actually have a two-year contract with ENI and for this fiscal year, the total costs would be charged to the Title I Grant. Board member Rateree stated that ENI had given the impression that they would provide free services but now sees there is no free service. Board member Randall questioned the high electricity bill for Kich School. It was stated that utility costs under Kich school actually cover the district office and we still pay services for the entire building while we rent out to Illinois Youth Advocate, which we recoup a portion from rental income.

MOTION TO APPROVE ISDA RENEWAL APPLICATION AND UMBRELLA WAIVER FOR WEST HARVEY-DIXMOOR SD #147 PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2008

MOVED:	MEMBER:	Katie Jackson Booker
SECONDED:	MEMBER:	Bonnie Rateree

Motion carried on the following roll call:
MEMBER(S) VOTING:

<u>AYES:</u>	<u>NAYS:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
J.C. Smith			
Michael Smith			
Mable Chapman			
Helen Randall			
Pam Cudjo-Kelly			
Katie Jackson Booker			
Bonnie Rateree			

UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVED RESIGNATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING STAFF MEMBERS

Analisa Gonzalez-Instructional Aide at Washington Elementary effective August 20, 2007
Melonee Hodges-Teacher at King Elementary effective November 9, 2007
Todd Hall-Assistant Principal at Rosa Parks Middle School effective October 31, 2007

MOVED:	MEMBER:	Bonnie Rateree
SECONDED:	MEMBER:	Katie Jackson Booker

Motion carried on the following roll call:
MEMBER(S) VOTING:

<u>AYES:</u>	<u>NAYS:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
J.C. Smith Michael Smith Mable Chapman Pam Cudjo-Kelly Helen Randall Katie Jackson Booker Bonnie Rateree			

UPON RECOMMENDATION OF SUPERINTENDENT APPROVED CONFERENCE REQUESTS FOR THE FOLLOWING STAFF:

- 1) **Tonisha Sibley, Payroll Assistant** to attend *IASBO-Final 403(b) Regulations* at the Doubletree Hotel-Downers Grove, IL on November 6, 2007 paid through **District Funds**
- 2) **Benjamin Bailey, LRC Director-Rosa Parks** to attend *ISLMA 2007 Annual Conference-Making Powerful Learners* in Springfield, IL November 1-3, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**
- 3) **Robert Bulanda, Counselor-Lincoln School** to attend *RTI Tier I Training* in Matteson, IL on November 28, 2007 paid through **IDEA RTI Funds**
- 4) **Beverly Bucur, Reading Diagnostician** to attend *RTI Tier I Training* in Matteson, IL on November 28, 2007 paid through **IDEA RTI Funds**
- 5) **Cheryl Washington, Counselor-Washington School** to attend *RTI Tier I Training* in Matteson, IL on November 28, 2007 paid through **IDEA RTI Funds**
- 6) **Linda Bradburn, Literacy Coach-Washington School** to attend *RTI Tier I Training* in Matteson, IL on November 28, 2007 paid through **IDEA RTI Funds**
- 7) **Dr. Laurice Geanes, Asst. Superintendent** to attend *Raising Student Achievement* in St. Charles, IL on December 2-4, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**.
- 8) **Sandra Walls, Principal-King School** to attend *Raising Student Achievement* in St. Charles, IL on December 2-4, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**.
- 9) **Dr. Earnest Taylor, Principal-Washington** to attend *Raising Student Achievement* in St. Charles, IL on December 2-4, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**.
- 10) **Abigail Phillips, Principal-Rosa Parks** to attend *Raising Student Achievement* in St. Charles, IL on December 2-4, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**.
- 11) **Michael Juskelis, District Psychologist** to attend *Discipline of Students with Special Needs* in Alsip, IL on December 6, 2007 paid through **Flow-Through Funds**.
- 12) **Jerrilyn Parker, District Social Worker** to attend *Discipline of Students with Special Needs* in Alsip, IL on December 6, 2007 paid through **Flow-Through Funds**
- 13) **Debora Matthews, Special Education Director** to attend *Discipline of Students with Special Needs* in Alsip, IL on December 6, 2007 paid through **Flow-Through Funds**
- 14) **Abigail Phillips, Principal-Rosa Parks** to attend *Discipline of Students with Special Needs* in Alsip, IL on December 6, 2007 paid through **Flow-Through Funds**

15) Sylvia Jo-Burnsley, Counselor-Rosa Parks to attend *Discipline of Students with Special Needs* in Alsip, IL on December 6, 2007 paid through **Flow-Through Funds**

16) Cheryl Brown, Assistant to the Superintendent to attend *Boys and Girls are Different* in St. Charles, IL on December 2-4, 2007 paid through **Title I Funds**

MOVED: MEMBER: Katie Jackson Booker
SECONDED: MEMBER: Michael Smith

Motion carried on the following roll call:

MEMBER(S) VOTING:

AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

J.C. Smith
Michael Smith
Mable Chapman
Helen Randall
Katie Jackson Booker
Bonnie Rateree
Pam Cudjo-Kelly

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Secretary Chapman acknowledged the Lincoln School Newsletters and praised the school for printing them in English and Spanish.

She also noted an article in the Daily Southtown regarding the *Gotcha* winners at King School for outstanding behavior kindergarten thru fifth grade.

A letter nominating Nina Graham, 8th grade science teacher at Rosa Parks for a 2008 Golden Apple Teaching Excellence Award was read.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOVED: MEMBER: Bonnie Rateree
SECONDED: MEMBER: Katie Jackson Booker

Motion carried on the following roll call:

MEMBER(S) VOTING:

AYES: NAYS: ABSENT: ABSTAIN:

J.C. Smith
Michael Smith
Mable Chapman
Helen Randall
Katie Jackson Booker
Bonnie Rateree
Pam Cudjo-Kelly

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:36 P.M.

President, Board of Education, School District #147

Secretary, Board of Education, School District #147