

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEST HARVEY-DIXMOOR SCHOOL DISTRICT 147  
TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024**

The Board of Education of West Harvey-Dixmoor School District 147, Cook County, Illinois, was called to order by Board President Michael Smith, on TUESDAY, July 9, 2024 at 6:17 P.M.

**I. ROLL CALL - Present**

Board Members: Micheal Smith  
Mable Chapman  
Hazel Bowman  
Ronnie Lee  
Pamela Cudjo  
Bonnie Rateree

Remote: Terry Young

Absent: Ronnie Lee

Administration: Dr. Creg Williams, Interim Superintendent  
Dr. Jerry Jordan, Interim Superintendent  
Mrs. Cynthia Edwards-Jackson, CSBO  
Mr. Charles DiMartino, Interim CSBO

**APPROVAL OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**MOTION**

Member Bowman moved to approve the agenda as presented; Member Chapman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Hazel Bowman, Mable Chapman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION**

Member Cudjo moved to approve the minutes as presented. Member Bowman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Pamela Cudjo, Hazel Bowman, Mable

Chapman, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION** (ACTION) Member Smith asked for a motion to go into closed session for the purpose as permitted by provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2 et seq, it is expected that the Board will recess to closed session to consider information regarding: (1)the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District; (2)collective negotiation matters of deliberation of salary schedules; (3)imminent or probable litigation; (4)evidence or testimony presented in a closed hearing; and (5) student disciplinary matters.

### **MOTION**

Member Chapman moved to go into closed session; Member Cudjo seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Mable Chapman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Hazel Bowman, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0. (6:20 PM)

### **RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

### **MOTION**

Member Bowman moved to return to open session; Member Cudjo seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Hazel Bowman, Pamela Cudjo, Mable Chapman, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0. (7:08 PM)

### **CITIZEN INQUIRY**

1. Board Member Rateree spoke about how excellent the Juneteenth Celebration turned out and thanked everyone involved.
2. Member Chapman spoke about the District's Back-to-School Celebration and possibly partnering with other community organizations so that we don't have multiple or competing celebrations on the same day. Member Rateree stated that she has been in contact with a representative at the Village of Dixmoor regarding their Back-to-School Celebration that is already set for August 10, 2024.
3. Dr. Hartzol, Principal at King Elementary School, thanked the Board for the tuition reimbursement program to continue education and to thank Dr. Williams for the opportunity to better understand the financials with the monthly finance meetings.
4. Member Rateree invited all to visit the beautiful growing gardens that have been planted at Lincoln, King, Parks, and Washington Schools.

**APPROVE JUNE PAYABLES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,478,246.51.**

**MOTION**

Member Smith moved to approve the June payables; Member Young seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Michael Smith, Terry Young, Hazel Bowman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Mable Chapman; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**APPROVE JUNE PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$832,730.93.**

**MOTION**

Member Chapman moved to approve the June payroll; Member Bowman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Mable Chapman, Hazel Bowman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Policy Committee
  - Four policies to be adopted under New Business

**DISCUSSION**

Member Chapman informed the Board that:

1. PRESS Plus issue 114 has been submitted on July 2, 2024, to IASB. The Board will approve at this meeting.
2. PRESS Plus issue 115 update will be discussed at the next Board meeting.
3. The four policies noted under new business to be approved at this Board meeting.
4. Policy 2:250 to be updated adding to the section on Freedom of Information Officer; The Freedom of Information Officer must take and pass a FOIA Certification Exam through the IL Attorney General's Office."
5. All FOIA forms are to be entered as Exhibits to Policy 2:250. Each FOIA form to be added was explained by Member Chapman.
6. Policy 4:60 Administrative Procedures 4 is approved for adoption at this Board meeting.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **DISCUSSION**

1. Mrs. Cynthia Edwards-Jackson, CSBO, discussed the district's current financial standing, "Budget vs Actual Summary" as of July 3, 2024.
2. Member Cudjo was concerned about negative balances shown on the Budget Summary; Mr. DiMartino, Finance Consultant, addressed the concern.
3. Member Chapman inquired about the State Legislators removing the Township Treasurer happening next year and the district's plan of action moving forward. Dr. Jordan stated that the legislation has been passed and waiting on a signature from the governor. Member Cudjo suggested holding a Finance meeting prior to the next Board meeting with the Interim Treasurer to come up with a strategic plan for the district regarding the new legislation passed.
4. Introduction of Ms. April Branch, new Director of Technology, to the Board.

### **ACTION ITEMS (Consent Agenda)**

1. Approve ITsavvy LLC to provide a one-year warranty with Accidental Damage and Loss/Theft coverage for all chromebook computers in all District 147 schools.
2. Approve DYOPATH to provide district-wide IT services including integration, professional development, management, and Level 2 engineer support for all locations within the district.
3. Approve PowerSchool to provide subscription for the Enrollment Express to be used for registering students in District 147 schools.
4. Approve to ratify DYOPATH for professional services engineer hours used for District 147 technological needs.
5. Approve to ratify All-American Sign Company, Inc. to provide classroom signs for all District 147 schools.
6. Approve to ratify DSD Enterprises to cover holes for specific relocated clocks; and repair holes in brick and paint as required at Martin Luther King Elementary School.
7. Approve to ratify Midway Contracting Group, LLC to remove asbestos as required for installation of HVAC project at Martin Luther King Elementary School.
8. Approve to ratify Dunlap Construction, Inc. to remove weeds, bushes and trees in the center of the building at Washington Elementary School.
9. Approve Notable, Inc to renew license to provide Kami application to be used by all District 147 staff.
10. Approve to ratify Midwest Environmental Consulting Services to provide project management and air quality testing for asbestos abatement at Martin Luther King Elementary School.
11. Approve to ratify Midwest Environmental Consulting Services to provide project design and contractor bidding for ventilator abatement project at Martin Luther King Elementary School.
12. Approve to ratify Calumet City Plumbing Co., Inc. to excavate and repair

- plumbing and manhole in front of Lincoln Elementary School.
13. Approve Foxbright to provide hosting and maintenance for District 147 website.
  14. Approve TUFF SHED to provide Shed 1 storage shed to be placed outside of Lincoln Elementary School.
  15. Approve TUFF SHED to provide Shed 2 storage shed to be placed outside of Lincoln Elementary School.
  16. Approve Great Minds to provide Eureka Math pilot program materials to be used in first through eighth grades at Martin Luther King Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle Schools.
  17. Approve Writing by Design to provide writing curriculum for students in Special Education at all District 147 schools.
  18. Approve Writing by Design to provide writing curriculum for students in Kindergarten through eighth grade at all District 147 schools.
  19. Approve the Danielson Group to provide professional development for all staff on using the evaluation documents at all District 147 schools.
  20. Approve Non Public Facility Placement contract for student (KA) at AAA Academy.
  21. Approve Memorandum of Understanding between Youth Guidance and West Harvey-Dixmoor School District 147 for the continuation of the Becoming a Man (BAM) program for male students at Rosa Parks Middle School effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.
  22. Approve Zaner-Bloser to provide handwriting curriculum for students in kindergarten through fifth grade at Martin Luther King Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle Schools.
  23. Approve IXL Learning to provide intervention curriculum and professional development for students and teachers at all District 147 schools.
  24. Approve Frogstreet to provide preschool curriculum to be used at Lincoln Elementary School.
  25. Approve 95 Percent group to provide phonics program and curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade at Lincoln Early Learning Center, Martin Luther King Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle Schools.
  26. Approve to ratify a cost increase for Planera Architects to provide architectural, engineering, and construction related service fees for the HVAC program at Martin Luther King Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle Schools.
  27. Approve Accelerate Learning to provide science supplemental curriculum materials for teachers in sixth through eighth grade at Rosa Parks Middle School.

### **MOTION**

Member Cudjo moved to approve action items 1-27; Member Bowman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Pamela Cudjo, Hazel Bowman, Bonnie Rateree, Mable Chapman, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**APPROVE PERSONNEL REPORT TO INCLUDE EMPLOYMENT, RESIGNATION, RETIREMENT, AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE, CERTIFIED, CLASSIFIED, AND NON-UNION STAFF (Consent Agenda)**

1. Approve employment for Eric Pinedo, Physical Education Teacher, Lincoln Early Learning Center, and Martin L. King Elementary School; effective July 22, 2024.
2. Approve employment for Adelina Arteaga, Art Teacher, Lincoln Early Learning Center, and Martin L. King Elementary School; effective July 22, 2024.
3. Approve employment for Carmelita Wilson, 1:1 Paraprofessional, Rosa L. Parks Middle School; effective July 22, 2024.
4. Approve to ratify employment for April Branch, Director of Technology, District, effective July 1, 2024.
5. Approve employment for Jalen Davis, Custodian, Martin L. King Elementary School, effective July 22, 2024.
6. Approve consultant contract for Brenda Harris, Speech Pathologist, Rosa L. Parks Middle School, effective July 22, 2024.
7. Approve the resignation of Jason Steele, Band Director, Rosa L. Parks Middle School; effective June 14, 2024.
8. Approve employment for Samantha Coyle, Speech Pathologist, Lincoln Early Learning Center, and Martin L. King Elementary School; effective July 22, 2024.
9. Approve the resignation of Sparkle Rogers-Thompson, SPED K-2, Martin L. King Elementary School; effective June 14, 2024.
10. Rescind offer for Candicas Green, Occupational Therapist, District-Wide; effective July 3, 2024.

**MOTION**

Member Cudjo moved to approve the personnel items 1-10 with the removal of item #6; Member Chapman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 -Pamela Cudjo, Mable Chapman, Hazel Bowman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Accept honorarium for Martin Luther King Elementary and Rosa Parks Middle Schools' participation in a ISBE survey regarding SEL programs.
2. Policy 114 first read to be adopted on July 9, 2024 updated and submitted on July 2, 2024.
3. Update policy 2:250 - Access to District Public Records
  - a. Add to section 2:250 - Freedom of Information Officer; The Freedom of Information Officer must take and pass a FOIA Certification Exam through the IL Attorney General's Office."
  - b. Forms to be entered as Exhibits to 2:250

4. Adopt Policy 4:60 Administrative Procedures 4 on first read.
5. PRESS Policy 115 first read. Available in email from IASB dated June 11, 2024
6. Approve e-Learning program for School District 147.

### **MOTION**

Member Chapman moved to approve new business items 1-6; Member Bowman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Mable Chapman, Hazel Bowman, Pamela Cudjo, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

### **DISCUSSION**

1. Dr. Williams discussed New Business item #6 regarding the e-Learning program plan in place in the event of an emergency for e-learning. Once the plan is approved by the Board, it will be submitted to the Regional Office of Education.
2. Member Chapman discussed item #5 to ask the Board members to login to their PRESS Plus accounts to review PRESS Policy 115. The second reading of PRESS Policy 115 will take place at the August Board meeting.

### **CONFERENCE REQUEST APPROVALS**

1. Approve Araceli Salgado, Bilingual Coordinator to attend IRC's EmpowerCon Mini Conference at Moraine Valley College on July 23, 2024.
2. Approve Camille Robinson, Assistant Superintendent to attend Aspiring Superintendent Academy in Arlington, VA on July 10-July 12, 2024.

### **MOTION**

Member Cudjo moved to approve the conference request items 1-2; Member Chapman seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Pamela Cudjo, Mable Chapman, Bonnie Rateree, Mable Chapman, Hazel Bowman, Terry Young, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

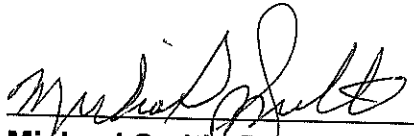
**ADJOURNMENT**

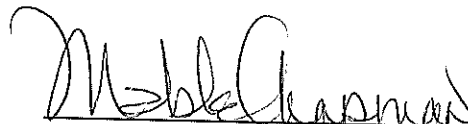
**MOTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board in open session, Member Chapman moved to adjourn the regular board meeting of West Harvey-Dixmoor District 147; Member Bowman seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: AYE, 6 - Mable Chapman, Hazel Bowman, Bonnie Rateree, Terry Young, Pamela Cudjo, Michael Smith; NAY, 0; ABSTAIN, 0; ABSENT, Ronnie Lee. The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

  
**Michael Smith, President**

  
**Mable Chapman, Secretary**