OFFICIAL MINUTES

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**LA GRANGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 105**

**COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

# CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the District 105 Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Lopez at 7:35 PM on Monday, August 23, 2021.

# ROLL CALL

Present: Sheila Bryck, Amy Flaherty Hartman, Elias Lopez, Candice Mares, Robert Sherman, Kelly Young

Late: None

Absent: None

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Mrs. Young, that the Board of Education adjourn and reconvene in closed session at 6:36 PM.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, Young, White; Late: None; Absent: None; NAY: None.

The Board met in closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, performance, and/or dismissal/resignation of personnel and collective negotiating matters.

**RETURN TO GENERAL SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Mrs. Young, to return to general session at 7:26 PM. The motion carried with a voice vote. After a brief recess, the meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

Present: Sheila Bryck, Amy Flaherty Hartman, Elias Lopez, Candice Mares, Robert Sherman, Kelly Young, Bryan White; Late: None; Absent: None.

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Ganan shared the following announcements:

* The District had a great first day with staff today. Their work together focused on building a community of belonging through dignity. You will see this priority guiding our decisions throughout the school year.
* The staff is eagerly awaiting the return of students to District 105. Starting Wednesday, the District will return to a 5 days a week full in-person learning.
* The District will begin the year with a strong focus on Social Emotional Learning. This focus will be present throughout the school year.
* The District has a Health Handbook that is posted to the website. The handbook is designed to be flexible. Based of changes in guidance by the health departments, Illinois State Board of Education and/or Governor Pritzker, the mitigation strategies may be adjusted during the school year.
* The summer programming offered this summer was a huge success with great participation by District 105 students. Dr. Ganan thanked all the staff that worked over the summer to provide this programming for our students. Listed below is a brief summary:
  + Achievers Summer School Program: 114 students
  + Traditional Elementary Summer School Program: 130 students
  + Gurrie Summer School Program: 25 students
    - Total of 269 student participants
  + Open Library – 780 visitors
  + Summer Family Book Club – 70 participants

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

Bob Sherman read the following policy on public comment procedures for the future.

The board understands the importance of public comments as a means of direct communication between our community and the school board. We share a passion for decision making that best educates our students while keeping them safe.  To that end let's remember to keep this portion of the meeting functioning with mutual respect.  Here are some guidelines to keep in mind for our public comments portion of the agenda:

* + Each person will be allotted 5 minutes for their comments.
  + You must state your full name and address when making a public comment.
  + Everyone in a school building must wear a properly fitting mask, including while making our public comments.
  + The audience will respect the speaker and the board by remaining silent until it is their turn to make a public comment.
  + You should not expect an immediate verbal response from the board during public comments.

Nick Smith submitted a comment to the Board. He was not at the meeting and President Elias Lopez read his comment listed below.

I am all for the mask mandate. However, I think everyone can relate that we all need breaks from wearing the mask. Not just pulling it down while eating or drinking but a break to cool the face, not smell your own breath and take 5 to relax with the mask off. Is there any discussion on giving the children schedule breaks during the day to remove the masks in a safe place?

I want my child and all the children to focus on leaning. I fear that when the children get hot in the mask they are going to fixate on how uncomfortable they are and not pay attention to what the teacher has to say. I would ask that just as we are all making changes for C19 that we try to offer some more breaks to remove the mask in a safe environment for the children so they can focus on learning and not, “this mask is making me hot!”

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Update on Full In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**

Dr. Ganan provided the Board with an update on the plan for the 2021-22 school year. Students will return to a full in-person learning model on August 25th. If a child has a medical contraindication to in-person learning despite having mitigation measures in place, the parent should contact Shelby Raney, Lead District Nurse. Dr. Ganan’s full presentation is posted to the website under the School Board tab. Listed below are some of the highlights:

* Masks will required based on the mandate issued by Governor J.B. Pritzker on August 4, 2021.
* Desks will be grouped striving for a 3 feet distance between student/desks. Tables can be used again.
* The daily self-certification form (MyMedBot) will not be required. Parents/Guardians will be required to sign a one-time self-certification form.
* Temperature checks and the use of desk shields throughout the day will not be required.
* If a student is required to remain at home due to a COVID-19 related absence, they will continue to connect with classroom learning. Within 24 hours of the initial absence, classroom teachers will provide the student with the necessary classroom resources to remain engaged with their learning.
* If a student is absent for a reason other than the COVID-19 related absence, students will have access to assignments made available on Seesaw or Google classroom but will not have direct access to the classroom via Zoom/Google meets.
* The Health and Safety handbook was emailed to parents on August 6, 2021 and is available on the District website.
* For lunch, students will be spaced, at least three feet apart, and will eat in a classroom or the cafeteria utilizing desk shields.
* All District 105 school buildings have ventilation and control systems which are designed to filter, circulate, and condition the air automatically, and are designed to meet all codes and regulations. In addition, room air filters/purifiers will continue to be placed in rooms to supplement the existing system.
* Masks must be worn at all times on busses and physical distancing of 3 feet will not be possible. Assigned seats/seating charts will be used to assist with contract tracing if necessary. Siblings/household contacts will be seated together. Families who are able to provide transportation to/from school outside of busses and encouraged to do so whenever possible.
* The District will utilize the SHIELD Illinois (state approved) RT-PCR saliva test to screen consenting unvaccinated individuals once per week. The District will also offer the BinaxNOW (state approved) diagnostic test for symptomatic individuals.

**Social Emotional Learning Supports**

Coleen Winterfield, Eilidh Hall and Erin Hall presented on the work that the administration and social worker teams accomplished over the past school year and this summer to prepare for a successful return to the 2021-2022 school year. Some of this work included structuring the master schedules to maximize time for Responsive Classroom practices, prioritizing the assessment calendar and planning meaningful professional development opportunities for staff. Over the past year, the administration and social work teams strengthened our existing community partnerships including: The LeaderShop, Pillars Community Health and Buddy’s Place to increase the level of support available for the students, staff and families. Social emotional updates will continue to be provided throughout the year.

**Strategic Plan Update**

Dr. Ganan informed the Board that during the 2019-20 school year, the District had a strong focus on the community developed Strategic Plan. Beginning in March 2020, the focus shifted to providing different instructional modes (i.e. remote and hybrid) as well as making sure that students and families had access to resources and other pandemic related supports. As the pandemic remains the reality, the District will continue to be highly focused on providing pandemic supports for students and families. The District will also return to focus on the Strategic Plan. Over the summer, the administrative team prioritized the plan’s strategies over the next five years. The vision is to re-engage with strategies implemented prior to March 2020 as well as implement new experiences. The following is the priority list for the 2021-22 school year.

**Re-Engage**

* SIOP – Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP). A research-based instructional model designed to ensure English Learners and other students have their content and language needs met in the classroom.
* Monitor fidelity of curricular unit implementation with a particular focus on acceleration.
* Balanced literacy-shared reading.
* Refine Multiple Tiered System of Supports(MTSS) process for both academic and social emotional learning.
* Extend learning opportunities via Community Connections Center.

**New Experience**

* Writing curriculum initial implementation.
* Self-directed professional development for staff.
* Balanced literacy-Guided reading Math interventionist program K-8.
* CT3 social studies standards inquiry study for middle school.
* Block schedule at Gurrie.
* Pre-K curriculum alignment.

**Budget Update**

Dr. Tolczyk presented a 2021-2022 budget overview. In his presentation, he shared that the District built the FY22 budget assuming a 3% increase of revenue and expenditures for this school year based-off the FY19 and FY20 budgets. The FY19 and FY20 expenditures were utilized up until March 2020 because these time periods represented a typical school year. The 3% expenditure increase is based on a projected CPI for 2022 to be slightly over 2.60%. The District is utilizing a 3% factor based on the constant increased cost to labor, food, gas, energy, and raw materials. This does not equate to a property tax increase.

In July and August, the Board is presented with an overview of the new budget along with the beginning balances for each fund. The budget hearing takes place in September and an advertisement is posted in the newspaper for 30 days prior to the hearing. The Board votes on the approval of the budget at the September Board meeting.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Acknowledgement of Gifts & Donations*

The Board gratefully acknowledged the donation of five cases of 16 oz. bottles of hand sanitizer from Home Depot in Countryside to the District.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. White, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. - Approval of Minutes, Regular, General, and Special – July 26, 2021

B. - Approval of Payment of Bills/Payroll

C. - Administrative Reports

1.) Curriculum/Instruction/Professional Development

2.) Business and Finance

3.) Technology

4.) FOIA

D.- Approval of Substitute List

On roll call, members voting AYE: Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

***Approval of Employment***

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 approve the employment of the following (pending fingerprinting reports):

1. Carl Burke Special Education Teacher at Ideal, at a salary of $76,500.00, effective August 23, 2021;
2. Allison Cherry, .50 Music Teacher at Seventh Avenue School, at a salary of $28,455.00 ($56,910.00), effective August 23, 2021;
3. Mariana Garcia, EL Paraprofessional at Ideal School, at a rate of $14.50 per hour, effective August 23, 2021;
4. Mayra Gonzalez, Lunchroom Monitor at Hodgkins School, at a rate of $13.00 per hour, effective August 25, 2021;
5. Michael Iazzetto, 4th Grade Teacher at Hodgkins School, at a salary of $51,156.00, effective August 23, 2021;
6. Maria Lopez, Lunchroom Monitor at Hodgkins school, at a rate of $17.01 per hour, effective August 25, 2021;
7. Pam Lopez, Lunchroom Monitor at Ideal school, at a rate of $16.25 per hour, effective August 25, 2021;
8. Elizabeth Meidinger, Math Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, at a salary of $45,747.00, effective August 23, 2021;
9. Lauren Richards, Speech and Language Pathologist at Hodgkins School, at a pro-rated salary of $44,774.88 (FTE $55,061.00), effective October 12, 2021;
10. Sarah Sieracki, Paraprofessional at Gurrie Middle School, at a rate of $15.50 per hour, effective August 23, 2021;
11. Sharon Stagaman, 6th Grade Teacher at Spring Avenue School, at a salary of $45,084.00, effective August 23, 2021;
12. Maria Tapia, EL Paraprofessional at Gurrie Middle School, at a rate of $14.50 per hour, effective August 23, 2021;
13. Donna Valtierra, 6th Grade Teacher at Spring Avenue School, at a salary of $45,084.00, effective August 23, 2021;
14. Sharon Dadepogu, Paraprofessional at Hodgkins School, at a rate of $14.50 per hour, effective August 23, 2021 (PENDING PARAPROFESSIONAL LICENSE)
15. August Domanchuk, Paraprofessional at Seventh Avenue School, at a rate of $14.50 per hour, effective August 23, 2021;
16. Pamela Pondel, Part-Time HR Administrative Assistant, at a rate of $20.00 per hour, effective August 25, 2021;
17. Brennen Connolly, Night Custodian for the District, at a rate of $14.50 per hour, effective August 24, 2021;

and a change of position for:

1. Jessica Colton, from a .80 Art Teacher to a 1.0 Art Teacher for the District, effective August 23, 2021;
2. Abigail McMahon, from a Summer Custodian to a Floating Custodian in the District at a rate of $14.50 per hour effective September 7, 2021.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

***Approval of Resignation***

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 approve the resignation of the following:

1. Kathleen Foldes, Paraprofessional at Ideal School, effective May 28, 2021;
2. Jennifer Garvonado, Speech Therapist at Hodgkins School, effective June 1, 2021;
3. Rosa Hernandez, Part-Time HR Administrative Assistant, effective August 9, 2021 (she never started);
4. Margaret Noga, Health and Science Teacher at Gurrie, effective June 1, 2021;
5. Emily Swiatek, Special Education Bridges Teacher at Ideal, effective June 1, 2021;
6. George Tolczyk, Business Manager for the District, effective September 1, 2021.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

***Second Reading and Approval of Press Policy 107***

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Young, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 adopt the recommended revisions to the following policies for Press Policy 107.

1:10 Scholl District Legal Status

1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements – **SEE CHANGES ON POLICY – UPDATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS**

1:30 School District Philosphy – **UPDATED DISTRICT MISSION TO MATCH THE STRATEGIC PLAN MISSION – *Empower student to make a difference in our world by assisting them to be self-directed, passionate, lifelong learners*.**

2:10 School District Governance

2:30 School District Elections

2:120E1 Guidelines for Serving as a Mentor to a New Board of Education Member

2:120E2 Website Listing of Development and Training Completed by Board Members

2:125E3 Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursement

2:130 Board- Superintendent Relationship

2:220E4 Open Meeting Minutes

2:220E7 Access to Closed Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Recordings

2:240 Board Policy Development

2:240E1 PRESS Issue Updates

2:240E2 Developing Local Policy

3:30 Chain of Command

5:10 Equal Employement Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program

6:145 Migrant Students

6:160 English Learners

6:170 Title I Programs

6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies

6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

7:220 Bus Conduct

7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities

7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

On roll call, members voting AYE: Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

***Approval of Short-Term Unpaid Leave Request***

Motion by Mrs. Bryck, seconded by Mr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 approve the short-term unpaid leave request of Shelonda Hopson, paraprofessional for the District, beginning August 23, 2021 through October 15, 2021.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

***Approval of Interim Business Manager***

Motion by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Mr. Lopez, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 approve the employment of Michael Zelek as Interim Business Manager effective August 24, 2021 at a rate of $800.00 per day.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

* Budget Hearing and Approval of Budget
* Approval of Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report
* Administrative Compensation Report
* Six-Day Enrollment Update
* Approval of Snow Removal Bid

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Lopez moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Sherman. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM on Monday, August 23, 2021.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

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Board President Board Secretary