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 6:37PM on Monday, May 17, 2021.

# ROLL CALL

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

Late: Virginia Kogen

Absent: None

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education adjourn and reconvene in closed session at 6:38 PM.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, Young; Late: Kogen; 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.

**RETURN TO GENERAL SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Kogen, to return to general session at 7:19 PM. The motion carried with a voice vote. After a brief recess, the meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

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

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Ganan stated that he has heard some questions and he wants to clarify that as of right now the plan will be to start in-person learning on August 25th. The first day of school will be a full day until to 2:15 pm since it is a Wednesday.

Dr. Ganan recognized Loise Kulaga, a Science Teacher from Gurrie, was recently recognized by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for her work in providing service opportunities for student through the Every Monday Matters Club. Mrs. Kulaga started the club in 2010 and Gurrie students have participated in 35,000 hours of service!

Lucy Schoenecker, a 7th Grade student at Gurrie Middle School, was congratulated by Dr. Ganan for being selected as one of the 25 runners-up in this year’s Junior Scholastic Find Mapman Contest. There were 3,000 entries. Over the past seven years, Gurrie has had two champions and now nine students as runners up.

Dr. Ganan stated that originally discussing the Saliva Screening program for the FY22 school year was set to be on the May agenda. The State is coming out with some additional testing options, so this item will be discussed at the June 28th Board meeting.

Dr. Ganan congratulated the 8th Grade students on an amazing year! The Gurrie graduation will take place on Monday, May 24th and will be held outside at Gurrie Middle School.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

Grace Diaz, speaking as a parent and a taxpayer, read the following statement:

“Thank you for the opportunity to address the school board. I stand before you as a D105 parent and taxpayer. I would like to address the newly appointed leadership roles within the school board. I am grateful to the previous school board and current superintendent for all the hard work navigating our community during this pandemic. I believe that the number of years of experience that the previous school board brought to the table was the greatest asset to making tough decisions when there was no clear guidance. I am one to learn from past experiences and one of the greatest lessons I took away from this last presidency is to make sure to vote for the most qualified person to lead. When this school board had its election, I did just that. I voted for who was the most qualified to represent our community. I researched the candidates regarding their qualifications, experience and listened to their platform. One general consensus I heard from all the candidates on this new school board is the desire to lead our district with equity at its forefront. I am a proponent of equity and was excited that our community chose to value this initiative. I am asking you to answer me this: Where is the equity when five of the school board members out of seven are female and the two male board members hold the President and Vice President leadership roles and one of the female board member is in your stereotypical secretary role? There are two females on the board that I believe are more qualified for the President and Vice President position given their qualifications, number of years on the board, and having navigated us through one of the most trying times in history. What message is this board sending out to our children? It is not equity! I was hoping that this board would follow the example that our new presidency has set for Americans. As an American, I am proud that I am alive to witness the first Black/Asian female Vice President. I was looking forward for our community to follow those same footsteps and appoint the first qualified Latina female school board President in the history of the D105 school Board, but soon learned that the appointment was simply voted based on a nomination and not based on qualifications and years of experience. In order for us to start the equity initiative in our district, the school board has to lead by example and I ask that you reconsider the example you have set forth with these new leadership appointments. We all have a voice and I have decided to use my voice as a female community member and a mother of two beautiful daughters who wants them to know as well as all our daughters that through hard work and preparation, they can be leaders. I leave you with this….

you swore an oath and if you recall the oath states, “ I shall assist in establishing structure and an environment designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to attain their maximum potential”. That environment and message to our students start with the equitable reorganization of leadership roles within the school board.

Thank you again and I look forward to your response.”

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Metrics Update**

Dr. Ganan gave a brief update on the current metrics for District 105. The number of cases in LaGrange continues to go down and the District only detected one new student case through the Surveillance program. Dr. Ganan will give an update on the Surveillance program at the June Board meeting.

**Financial Overview**

Dr. George Tolczyk provided the Board with a financial overview that included budget data with fund comparisons from the last few years. The presentation included data on enrollment, which has slowly declined since 2016.

Testing for COVID-19 in the air was done on May 3 and 4th at all the schools and the positive results were shared. No COVID-19 was detected in any of the buildings. Mold testing will be done in the next round of testing.

A community member had asked about air conditioning being added to 4 of the 5 schools. George provided 3 different preliminary quotes on the costs associated with adding air conditioning. The District will be reestablishing a Finance Committee to help develop short and long-term financial plans and will discuss if air conditioning fiscally aligns with future needs and financial goals.

**ESSER 3 Presentation**

Dr. Ganan provided a presentation to the Board on ESSER. Since March of 2020, the federal government has passed three relief packages in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All ESSER funds must be sent by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

ESSER I – Allotment $196,023. This portion of the grant was used to support the following:

* Technology
* PPE Equipment
* Saliva Testing (15,489 test administered as of 5/11/2021). Cost as of 4/6/2021 is $137,598.50)

ESSER II – Allotment of $657,453. Thus far, this grant has been used to support the following:

* 7.2 additional positions to accommodate running both in person and full remote model programs.
* 5 additional overload sections/periods were added to support Gurrie’s in-person and remote programs.
* Currently the District has a balance of $293,147.88.

ESSER III – Anticipated allotment of $1,400,000

* The Board supported using some of this allocation to hire 5 Math Specialists. The District’s largest achievement gaps are in the area of mathematics.
* One additional English Language (EL) teacher.
* We have $293,147.88 of ESSER II funds to support the increase in FTE.
* Estimated remaining ESSER III funds = $1,033,148.88- there is a possibility of expanding beyond two years with the additional positions depending on student needs and adjustments made to future budgets.
* The District ESSER III committee will continue to identify needs and make recommendations to address student needs via this grant.

**Student Spotlight – SCOTY Award Winners**

The School Citizen of the Year (SCOTY) Award recognizes students who have been chosen by their schools as “good school citizens and models for others to emulate”. The award is given each year by West 40, a nonprofit educational service center, that provides support services to school districts in western Cook County. The following students are the SCOTY Award winners for 2021:

Gurrie Middle School/Remote Alyssa Hubbs

Gurrie Middle School/In-Person Genesis Nieto

Hodgkins Elementary School Jose Antonio Morales

Ideal Elementary School Hanna Bato

Seventh Avenue Elementary School Nora Grill

Spring Avenue Elementary School Mary Sandman

Remote School Caiden Kovel

A video with all the Principals and the Award winners was shown at the Board meeting. District 105 is very proud of all the winners.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Lopez, 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 Closed – April 26, 2021; May 3, 2021

B. - Approval of Payment of Bills/Payroll

C. - Administrative Reports

1.) District Goals

2.) Curriculum/Instruction/Professional Development

3.) Business and Finance

4.) Technology

5.) FOIA

D. - Approval of Additions to Substitute Teacher List

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

**ACTION ITEMS**

***Approval of Employment***

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

School District 105 approve the employment of the following:

1. Angela Deligiannis, .50 Band Director for the District, at a salary of $31,985 (FTE $63,970), effective August 23, 2021;
2. Emma Fornaro, 6th Grade Teacher at Spring Avenue School, at a salary of $46,661, effective August 23, 2021;
3. Daniel Kratt, 4th Grade Teacher at Spring Avenue School, at a salary of $51,156, effective August 23, 2021;

AND THE FOLLOWING SUMMER SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Mandy Kernagis, Achievers ’21 Coordinator, at a stipend of $3,000, effective May 17, 2021.

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

***Approval of Resignation***

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

School District 105 approve the resignation of the following:

1. Leticia Tinajero, Paraprofessional at Ideal School, effective May 28, 2021;
2. Jennifer Tuerk, .60 Speech Language Pathologist for the District, effective May 17, 2021;

AND THE RESIGNATION FOR RETIREMENT FOR:

1. Ann Chase, LLC Coordinator at Gurrie, effective May 28, 2021;
2. Ed Hood, Gurrie Middle School Principal, effective June 30, 2025.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Kogen, Lonsway, Lopez, Tucker, Bryck, Herndon; ABSENT: Hoffenberg; NAY: None.

***Possible Action of Employee Resignation Agreement***

This item was tabled and not presented for approval.

***Approval of Authorization for Summer Help***

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

School District 105 authorize the Director of Buildings and Grounds to hire 7 Summer Custodians.

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

***Approval of FY22 Technology Plan***

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Kogen, that the Board of Education of

School District 105 approve the FY22 Technology Plan as presented.

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

The specifics regarding the 1:1 Computer Take Home program were removed from the plan. A copy of the plan will be bound with the minutes.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*1:1 Computer Take Home Program*

Trish Murphy informed the Board that she is investigating alternative options with regard to security at home and primary students taking their device home each day. Trish informed the Board that one of the options that is available is offering securly at home for families. The District currently uses securly now. This adds another layer of security at home and parents can set it up to pause the internet on a device at dinner time or bed time. It can also flag alerts when bullying or self harm is detected.

One of the Board members suggested Trish speak to the classroom teachers about the benefits of bringing the device home for the younger students.

Trish will do some additional research on what is best for the students and give an update to the Board at the June 28th meeting.

*First Reading 5:20E – Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment*

This exhibit was originally adopted in 2018. The portions in green were supposed to be added in February of 2020. This was missed in 2020. The main change is ensuring

that the District has a mechanism for reporting and investigating a sexual harassment complaint

made against a board member by another board member or public official. The procedure can

be found in Policy 2:105. This exhibit will be presented to the Board at the June 2021 for a second reading and for adoption.

*Air Conditioning*

This item was discussed by Dr. Tolczyk in his Financial Overview. George provided 3 different preliminary quotes on the costs associated with adding air conditioning. The District will be reestablishing a Finance Committee to help develop short and long-term financial plans and will discuss if air conditioning fiscally aligns with future needs and financial goals.

*Summer Programming*

Kathryn Heeke and Coleen Winterfield provided the Board with an overview of the programming that will be taking place in District 105 this summer.

* **Traditional Summer School –** Approximately 240 students have been recommended for traditional summer school. Summer School will start on July 12 and will last 4 weeks, 4 days a week.
* **Achievers ’21 –** This is a new program that will be offered to all current students PK- 7th grades focusing on shorter, “microbursts” of learning in the areas of math and/or reading in the most essential grade levels and will, and will last one week at a time.
* **Summer Family Book Club –** This program will be offered again this year and the book they are reading this summer is *Who Was Amelia Earhar*t? Open library will also be available to students at all the school from June –August.
* **SUMMER CONNECT Program –** There are many activities planned for students including: “Take and Make” STEAM based experiences, *Summer Learning for All* online resources, IXL Math and ELA program with individualized learning paths, MAP to Kahn program with individualized learning paths, and Story and Math walks at each building.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

* Budget Presentation
* Approval of Increase in School Meal Fees
* Approval of Landscape Maintenance Agreements
* Approval of FY22 Regular Board Meeting Schedule
* Saliva Screener Program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mrs. Hartman moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mares. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM on Monday, May 17, 2021.

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

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Board President Board Secretary