

**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 7:03 PM on Monday, July 22, 2024.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

The closed session of the regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Lopez, at 6:30 PM on Monday, July 22, 2024 in the Multi-Purpose Room at Seventh Avenue Elementary School, 701 S. Seventh Avenue Avenue, La Grange, IL 60525.

On roll call, members voting AYE: Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares, Sherman, White, Young; 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 a matter relating to an individual student.

Mr. White moved to return to general session, seconded by Mrs. Young. The motion carried with a voice vote. The Board returned to general session at 7:03 PM on July 22, 2024..

**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Ganan started the announcements thanking Mr. Fernando Gonzalez for his expertise and dedication throughout the air conditioning project. He thanked the custodial team for their hard work to continue to get the buildings ready for the school year. He thanked the secretaries, principals, technology department, and district staff for their positivity and collaboration while sharing space at Seventh Avenue this summer. He thanked Joanna Marek and Joe Pontrelli for their leadership in the Summer School program. He also acknowledged the Village of Hodgkins for their assistance in trimming the tree needed to install the ComEd power pole. He concluded with a thank you to everyone involved including the Board. Dr. Ganan expressed that he is looking forward to school starting in one month.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Lopez read the following correspondence addressed to the D105 Board of Education:

- 1) Note of appreciation from Mr. Scott Blumberg in regards to the continued support as he bids farewell to District 105 effective June 30, 2024; and
- 2) Note of appreciation from the D105 Teachers Association in regards to the collective bargaining process.

## **PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

Mr. Lopez read the following policy on public comment procedures.

“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 3 minutes for their comments.
- You must state your full name when making a public comment.
- 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.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

## **PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### ***Summer School Update – Jennifer Sabourin, Joanna Marek, Joseph Pontrelli***

Jennifer Sabourin, Joanna Marek, and Joseph Pontrelli presented D105 Summer Celebrations. It was presented that the summer school experience sets students up to feel confident about themselves as learners before entering a new school year. There were 141 students grades Pre-K through Grade 8, 43 Staff Members: Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Resource Teachers, and Specialists. All of the Summer School Staff are current D105 staff members. Other opportunities for the summer included the Summer CONNECT Program. Activities included Family Game Night, Library on the Lawn, D105 StoryWalks, and D105 Summer Camp.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### ***Traveling Board Meeting Locations***

Dr. Ganan presented that similar to the FY24 school year, he is proposing that the Board meeting locations rotate to different schools. The location will be aligned to the student presentation schedule. Here are the presentation dates/locations.

*July 22-Gurrie, August 26-Gurrie, September 23-Gurrie, October 28-Hodgkins.  
November 25- Preschool-Hodgkins, December 16-Gurrie, January 27-Ideal,  
February 24-Spring Avenue, March 24-Gurrie, April 28-Seventh, May 19-Gurrie, and  
June 23-Gurrie.*

### ***Second Reading Press Policy 114 Update***

The Board reviewed the Press Policy 114. There were no questions that were addressed at this meeting. Tonight the Board will be asked to approve the Press Policy changes as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB). The following policies are included in Press Policy 114:

2:40, Board Member Qualifications  
2:60, Board Member Removal from Office  
2:140, Communications To and From the Board  
2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure

2:265, Title IX Grievance Procedure  
 2:270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited. Revenue and Investments  
 4:20, Fund Balances  
 4:165, Awareness and prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors  
 4:190, Targeted School Violence Prevention Program  
 5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment  
 5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited  
 5:100, Staff Development Program  
 5:300, Schedules and Employment Year  
 6:60, Curriculum Content  
 6:185, Remote Educational Program  
 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities  
 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited  
 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment  
 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

### ***Advanced Math Program Update***

We will be hosting the accelerated 5th and 6th grade math classes at Hodgkins and Seventh Avenue this year. Information will be going out to families once student summer work is finalized at the beginning of August. We will run a similar schedule to the 23-24 school year:

- Hodgkins and Spring Avenue students will have class from 8:30 - 9:45 at Hodgkins.
- Spring Avenue students will be picked up throughout the neighborhood by bus in the morning and return to Spring Avenue at the end of math class.
- Ideal and Seventh Avenue students will have class from 10:30 - 11:45 at Seventh Avenue.
- Ideal students will be picked up at Ideal at 10:20 to go to math class and will return to Ideal at the end of class.

The rotation to Hodgkins and Seventh Avenue hosting the classes this year works well for multiple reasons. Most importantly, is space. At Hodgkins, we are able to host both the 5th and 6th grade classes in classrooms instead of using a cafeteria space. At Seventh Avenue, we are able to host classes in a classroom and utilize the classroom space in the library. This space is conducive to a classroom learning environment while still allowing for other areas of the library to be utilized. Our numbers continue to grow for both advanced ELA and accelerated math placement. Please see the table below for our current placement numbers. The appeals process will be finalized at the end of July and updated numbers will be shared in a weekly memo.

	23-24 Placement Numbers	New Auto-Qualifiers	Appeals	Total (including appeals)
5th Grade Accelerated Math	All new	29	8	37
6th Grade Accelerated Math	38	1	3	42
7th Grade Accelerated Math	31 (4 of these students are moving to double accel)	3	5	37
8th Grade Accelerated Math	36	4	3	43
Students attending LT Math				3
7th Grade Advanced ELA	All new	34	13	47
8th Grade Advanced ELA	44	3	1	48

### ***Food Service Vendor Bid***

For the past two years, the Hodgkin's Park District has hosted the West Suburban Consortium for Academic Excellence's Leadership conference. The conference takes place in the fall and includes 17 local school districts. Each group of middle school leader's is asked to identify an issue in their school/district and provide leadership in addressing the issue. Last year's group of 7th grade students, were passionate about changing our school lunch program. This team included: Collin Cassidy, Vanessa Garcia-Mancha, Lan Huynh, Makaela McGinnis, Evelyn Mendoza, Bodie Metz, Emma Morgado, Khyiree Nesbitt, Xcaret Nogueta-Nunez, Joselyn Sanchez

In order for this topic to qualify for this leadership project, this group of leaders had to research

- The state's Free and Reduced and Lunch program requirements.
- Full price costs for non-free and reduced lunch
- State nutrition requirements
- Menu options
- Companies ability to provide hot lunch that does not need to be cooked onsite
- Connect with students they know who attend other local districts to learn gain feedback on their current lunch program
- And of course, a taste test

Gourmet Gorilla was one of the students top choices during the taste test. As it turned out, Gourmet Gorilla was also the lowest bidder.

### ***Meal Pricing Rates for FY25***

District 105 is continuing to participate in the National School Lunch Program. For the 2024- 2025 school year NSLP participants need to go back to pre-pandemic operations. In order to comply with ISBE guidelines, District 105 needs to approve the 2024-2025 lunch pricing.

The 2024-2025 Breakfast and Lunch pricing is as follows:

- 1- The price of paid lunches increased \$0.25, from \$3.55 to \$3.80 for this school year.
- 2- Reduced prices for breakfast and lunch will decrease to remain in compliance with ISBE and NSLP. Breakfast will be \$0.30 and lunch will be \$0.40.
- 3- Also, per the State, adult, paid breakfast, and "milk only"/extra milk costs may be determined by us, depending on food and labor costs.
  - a. Adult Lunch Cost: The previous cost of an adult lunch is \$4.05, while next school year's price \$4.20.
  - b. Paid Breakfast Cost: we are looking at an increase of \$0.15 from \$2.60 to \$2.85 for the 24-25 school year.
  - c. Milk: per our contract with Cloverleaf farms, milk will cost us \$0.36 per carton. Therefore, we recommend a\$-0.02per carton increase-in our pricing moving it to \$0.36 for the 2024-25 school year.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price FY25</u>
Full Price Lunch	\$3.80
Reduced Price Lunch	\$0.40
Full Price Breakfast	\$2.85
Reduced Price Breakfast	\$0.30
Milk	\$0.36
Adult Meals	\$4.20

### ***Milk Contract Renewal for FY25***

Steven Smidl presented the proposed Prairie Farms – Milk Contract for FY25  
The District received the renewal for student milk from Prairie Farms. Please see pricing below:

	<u>FY24 Price</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>FY25 Price</u>
	\$		
White Milk	0.3475	\$ 0.0189	\$ 0.3664
	\$		
Chocolate Milk	0.3445	\$ 0.0192	\$ 0.3637

The above represents a 5.4% increase for white milk and a 5.6% increase for chocolate milk. This is in line with other districts milk increases and in line with CPI movement. We recommend moving forward with the increase as shown above for the 2024-25 school year.

### ***Air Conditioning Project Update***

Steven Smidl presented the following: The air conditioning project is ongoing at Hodgkins, Ideal, And Spring/Gurrie. Updates on each building are below:

Hodgkins The steel work for Hodgkins was installed and the chiller was installed at the end of last week. We did have an issue at Hodgkins with the location of the transformer. While we knew it would need to be placed very close to the building, we were under the impression that it would be positioned to be away from the historical section of the school. Unfortunately, ComEd informed us that it must be placed directly in front of the building in an area with very important historic significance. (This is due to where the electric panel needs to be located). We are working with our architect and a landscape design architect to help ensure that the area is preserved, and the transformer is “hidden” as much as possible.

Spring/Gurrie The team encountered an electrical issue with the new chiller to establish functionality after inaccurate measurements from the vendor of the chiller. Last week, we learned that the wiring for the chillers at all locations is too thick to secure in the chiller. The team has worked out a solution. We do not anticipate much, if any, additional cost to the District. With the amount of work between two schools, the team is finalizing the chiller with roofers.

Ideal The steel work was completed with the installation of the chiller last week. The electrical work for the chiller is being finalized after a similar issue occurred with the sizing of the cabling with Spring/Gurrie chiller. However, resolutions were identified to rectify the issue and electricians are running the wiring for the chiller from the transformer unit for connectivity.

As of now, we have used less than 10% of our allowance money. ComEd is still on schedule to begin this week despite the storms from the past week to turn on the transformers to provide power to the chillers.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Dr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. - Approval of Minutes, Regular, General, and Special –June 24, 2024

B. - Administrative Reports

- 1.) Curriculum/Instruction/Professional Development
- 2.) Business and Finance
- 3.) Technology
- 4.) FOIA

- C.- Approval of Payment of Bills/Payroll
- 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 Dr. Sherman, seconded by Mrs. Young, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the employment of the following:

- 1) Martha Flores Berg, Social Worker at Gurrie Middle School, at an annual salary of \$59,219.00, effective August 22, 2024;
- 2) Katharine Habraba, Student Services Coordinator for the District, at an annual salary of \$85,000.00, effective August 22, 2024.
- 3) Katherine Malik, Resource Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, at an annual salary of \$54,225.36, effective August 22, 2024;
- 4) Tracy Murray, Resource Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, at an annual salary of \$53,714.00, effective August 22, 2024;
- 5) Kayla Salinas, Night Custodian at Spring Avenue School, at an hourly rate of \$15.75, effective July 15, 2024;
- 6) Edith Adriana Torres Lemus, Night Custodian at Seventh Avenue and Ideal Schools, at an hourly rate of \$15.75 per hour, effective July 22, 2024 (pending results of background check); and
- 7) Dawn Marchese, Paraprofessional at Hodgkins School, at an hourly rate of \$16.25 per hour, effective August 22, 2024.

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

### ***Approval of Change of Position***

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve a change in position of the following:

- 1) Catherine Altobelli, Paraprofessional/Lunchroom Monitor at Spring Avenue School to Library Aide – LLC Coordinator at Spring Avenue School, effective August 22, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$15.52;
- 2) Sheila Helf, Paraprofessional at Seventh Avenue School to Library Aide – LLC Coordinator at Seventh Avenue School, effective August 22, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$19.71; and
- 3) Alicia Esparza-Conde, Paraprofessional-Bridges Program to Receptionist/Accounts Payable, effective July 23, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$20.50.

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

### ***Approval of Resignations***

Motion by Mr. White, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resignations for the following:

- 1) Madeline Chapp, Receptionist/Accounts Payable for the District, effective July 8, 2024;
- 2) Julie Dessauer, Resource Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, effective June 3, 2024;
- 3) Jacqueline Parra, Paraprofessional at Ideal School, effective May 31, 2024; and

And resignation for retirement (four year notice) of the following:

- 1) Jennifer Chadwick, Teacher Grade 6 at Seventh Avenue School, effective end of the 2027-28 School Year

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

### ***Approval of Leave of Absence Request***

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the FMLA Leave of Absence Request for the following:

- 1) Christina Albreski, Grade 4 Teacher at Ideal School, September 30, 2024 through January 12, 2025.

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

### ***Approval to Adjust Lunchroom Monitor Base Pay Rate to \$15 per Hour***

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the lunchroom monitor base pay rate of \$15.00 per hour effective August 26, 2024.

(The starting hourly rate of pay for the 2023-24 school year was \$13.75)

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

### ***Approval of FY25 Student Services Administrative Assistant Contract Renewal***

Motion by Mrs. Bryck, seconded by Mr. Lopez, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the FY25 contract renewal for the Student Services Administrative Assistant as presented:

- 1) Sandy Ruffner, Student Services Administrative Assistant, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

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

### ***Approval of FY25 Communications Coordinator Contract Renewal***

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Dr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the FY25 Service Contract renewal for the Communications Coordinator as presented:

- 1) Candice Barrette, Communications Coordinator, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

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

### ***Adoption of Press Policy 114***

Motion by Dr. Sherman, seconded by Mrs. Young, that the Board of Education of School District 105 adopt the recommended policy updates of Press Policy 114 as presented.:

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

### ***Approval of the Consolidated District Plan (CDP) for School District 105***

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Mr. White that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Consolidated District Plan to be submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education.

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

### ***Approval of Food Service Vendor Gourmet Gorilla for School Year 2024-25***

Motion by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the food service vendor Gourmet Gorilla for the school year 2024-25.

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

### ***Approval of Meal Pricing for School Year 2024-25***

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the student breakfast price per meal at \$2.85, the student lunch price per meal at \$3.80, and the adult lunch price per meal at \$4.20 for the 2024-25 school year. The reduced pricing to be approved for reduced price breakfast at \$0.30 and reduced price lunch at \$0.40 for the 2024-25 school year. Milk pricing to be approved at \$0.36 per carton.

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



### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- Spring Student Performance Update Presentation
- Budget – First Draft
- Air Conditioning Project Update
- Declaration of Closed Session Minutes
- Next School Board Meeting will be held at Seventh Avenue School on August 19, 2024

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. White moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mares. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM on Monday, July 22, 2024.

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

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Board President

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Board Secretary