

**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 7:12 PM on Monday, May 20, 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 6:16 PM on Monday, May 20, 2024 in the Library Learning Center of Gurrie Middle School, 1001 S. Spring Avenue, La Grange, IL 60525.

The Board met in closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, performance, and/or dismissal/resignation of personnel, negotiations, and a matter relating to an individual student.

Mr. White moved to return to general session, seconded by Ms. Mares. The motion carried with a voice vote. The Board returned to general session at 7:00 PM on May 20, 2024..

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ganan wished all a happy and safe summer as this would be the last Board Meeting before summer break. He thanked the Seventh Ave Student Leadership Team for raising almost \$1,000 for the D105 Foundation by making and selling friendship bracelets. He announced that there would be an Open House to honor Ed. Hood on his retirement this Wednesday, May 22. The Open House will be held in the Gurrie gym for 5-7 PM. He thanked both Monica Diaz, (6th grade Hodgkins) and Jack Bhandarkar, 3rd grade Spring Ave) for being superintendents for a day.

Spring Avenue

During Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, we had the pleasure of welcoming Mason Driggers as our Principal for the Day, Michael Budde as our Assistant Principal for the Day, and Matthew Snell as Mrs. Jones. These young leaders embraced their roles with enthusiasm, participating in morning announcements, visiting classrooms, supervising lunch and recess, offering valuable feedback on school rules, assisting with special projects, and much more.

Gurrie

Each year Gurrie heads to LT along with other township middle schools for the LT Performance Day. This is an opportunity for kids from across the township to meet and compete. Many of them will be teammates starting next year in a variety of activities.

This year:

Of the 14 events Gurrie had the Individual Champion in 4 Events

- Brennan Monohan won the Mile in 5:22

- Tramario Roberts set a record for the highest vertical in LT Performance Day History with a 34.4 inch Vertical.
- Sal Alvarado also set a record with 127 Push-ups.
- Jesse Nunez- Garcia and Edgar Morales both won the Sit and Reach with 45 inches.

Hodgkins

Hodgkins student leadership is getting ready to present at the Annual Community Breakfast May 22nd, to unveil the upgraded library space and give out awards to all the community partners that supported the project and school.

Ideal

Dr. Ganan gave thanks to the Ideal PTO, who will be hosting the Mobile Ed STEAM Museum. This is a "pop-up" museum that will be in the gym on Tuesday, May 28th. Students will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on experiences in different stations including robots, virtual reality, 3D printing, art, engineering.

Seventh Avenue

Students are still focused on HERE and READY at 7th Ave. They started their countdown to summer break but also have lots of learning to wrap up! Recently a group of educators and their principal from Western Springs stop by to observe 7th Ave positive behavior systems in place.

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

Lyons Township High School Freshmen – School Perception Data FY24

Ed Hood and Lorena Mendoza presented to the Board. The survey is given to LT freshmen. The categories include: Life at Middle School, Learning at Middle School, Curriculum and Programming, and Overall Preparedness for LT High School. This year's data shows that D105 students feel very safe and heard during their time at Gurrie. They feel prepared academically for their Freshman classes at LT High School.

Math Programming Update

Director of Teaching and Learning, Kathryn Heeke presented to the Board. The focus of the Math Alignment Team has been to determine the best next steps for continuous improvement in Math instruction.

Recommendations for the District: Illustrative Math (K-8) and i-Ready Math (K-8).

Costs and Implementations: Print and Digital Materials: \$305,000 (6 year bundle at \$51,000 Prorated annual Manipulatives and/or Center Kits: \$25,000. One time cost upfront Materials + Manipulatives Costs - Not to Exceed • \$330,000 (Costs can be paid out over 2 years).

Measures of Success: Positive teacher feedback regarding changes in Math resources and accompanying professional support, Positive student feedback regarding level of challenge with Math programming, Long term: Improved math achievement and progress results (MAP, IAR) Measurable growth on Pre and Post program assessments.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Acknowledgement of Gifts and Donations

The Board gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following donation: \$500.00 to the D105 Connections Center from Calder Allstate, Oswego

Insurance Rates for FY25

Scott Blumberg presented to the Board the FY25 medical and dental insurance rates. Background: The district has approximately 240 individuals eligible for medical insurance, with 162 employees participating in some level of medical plans. Every spring, the District receives renewal rates from our broker, Vista National, for the benefits we offer. We can then make decisions along with the District's insurance committee as to how to move forward.

Medical Insurance The District currently offers four health insurance options through BCBS: a traditional PPO, two PPOs with a high deductible that qualify under the law for a Health Savings Account (HSA) and one HMO (Blue Advantage HMO). BCBS came to the District's insurance broker, Vista National, asking for a 6.6% increase in premiums. Originally BCBS said they could not negotiate this rate down but instead could look at credits. The District asked Vista to go back to BCBS for another review and BCBS came back with a 6.5% increase in premiums plus a credit of \$50,000. In addition, since the committee did not want to change from BCBS for the dental or vision offerings, that offers an additional 2% reduction in the renewal increase, bringing it to 4.5%. Due to the low increase, Vista felt it was a good time not to do marketing to negotiate a lower rate and rather continue to use that when it is needed to negotiate a lower renewal rate in future years. The District also held an insurance committee meeting to discuss the plan offerings and renewal. The renewal was presented to the committee and we all agreed we had the most value in keeping this status quo at this time.

Dental Insurance: Our dental plan renewal came back with a 10.6% increase in premiums. As mentioned in the medical section, having BCBS as our dental insurance provider provides a 1% savings to our medical premiums. Marketing did show a possible decrease with other dental insurance providers (one provider with a 14% decrease in premiums). However, through analysis of the decrease, the following was found:

- It would have no effect on the district contribution for dental.
- The insurance committee felt the 1% medical rate discount was worth sticking with BCBS for dental coverage.
- Over half of the current providers used by members would not be in network with this other provider when a disruption analysis was run.

The insurance committee recommends moving forward with keeping dental as is with BCBS. The District is in favor of this recommendation as it does not correlate to a financial increase.

Vision Insurance: The vision program is in a rate guarantee with BCBS, using the EyeMed network until July 1, 2025. The Insurance Committee does not see a current need to change the benefit or carrier. The recommendation is to continue with BCBS/EyeMed under the rate guarantee. The District recommends staying the course with the vision offering.

HVAC Controls Update

Scott Blumberg presented the following to the Board:

As part of our air conditioning project, there were some control updates needed to tie the new chillers and equipment into the HVAC Control System. Initially, HVAC contractors that bid on our AC project received a quote from Siemens for over \$700,000. Once we learned this, we began investigating new control systems and vendors. Knowing how high this cost was and our desire to move away from Siemens, our client advocate from Nicholas and Associates suggested that we could better use these funds to get Siemens controls and their proprietary system out of the District. We found this to be the case.

The District looked at a couple different solutions. We decided to utilize Syserco to install an Allerton (open source) control system. That work will be done as part of the HVAC project. Once this was decided, Syserco asked the District to come in and evaluate the setup and functionality of our current controls. In doing so, they found several deficiencies in the way our univents are wired. The deficiencies they found include:

- Modifying wiring for univents and controllers
- Adding shutdown interlock relays
- Modifying low limit logic of the existing controllers
- Re-setup actuator failure positions, shutdown logic, and alarm reporting
- Correct damper and valve actuator travel directions
- Replacing malfunctioning discharge air temperature sensors
- Replacing and test malfunctioning Face & Bypass damper actuators
- Replacing and testing malfunctioning hot water valve actuators
- Replacing failed freezestats

Siemens was the one that setup and maintained this faulty system in the first place. Since they are the only ones who can service their system, we were not aware of these deficiencies. (We knew that some things were not working properly, but did not know why the issues persisted). All of these deficiencies were discovered during Syserco's process and are outside of the scope of work inside of the contracted construction project. This comes at a maximum cost of \$195,350. Syserco has agreed that this will be billed on a time and materials basis for the work described above on straight time.

While we don't like that we are looking at this expense, we feel it is worth considering, and most likely moving forward with for two reasons:

1. The various issues we see throughout the buildings in the winter with heating will now be seen and felt during the warmer months when the chillers are on.
2. We want the air conditioning project to be 100% successful. Not completing this work will cause issues with the cooling that will take place throughout our buildings and could lead to temperature disparities between classrooms.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. - Approval of Minutes, Regular, General, and Special –April 22, 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: Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez, Mares; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Employment

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

- 1) Audrey Borling, Health/Science Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, salary dependent on the outcome of contract negotiations, effective August 22, 2024;
- 2) Lisa Gudmundson, Resource Teacher at Ideal Elementary School, salary dependent on the outcome of contract negotiations, effective August 22, 2024;
- 3) Kara Hjerstedt, Fourth Grade Teacher at Hodgkins School, salary dependent on the outcome of contract negotiations, effective August 22, 2024;
- 4) Ellen Murphy, Communication Development Teacher for the District, salary dependent on the outcome of negotiations, effective August 22, 2024;
- 5) Brooke Raush, Second Grade Teacher at Ideal School, salary dependent on the outcome of contract negotiations, effective August 22, 2024 (pending licensing); and
- 6) Tayesha Triplett, First Grade Teacher at Ideal School, salary dependent on the outcome of contract negotiations, effective August 22, 2024.

AND THE TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING SUMMER CUSTODIAL STAFF:

- 1) Sean Cherry, Summer Custodian for the District (returning), at an hourly rate of \$15.25, effective June 3, 2024;
- 2) Ashlyn Grelewicz, Summer Custodian for the District (returning), at an hourly rate of \$15.25, effective June 3, 2024;
- 3) Audrey Hultman, Summer Custodian for the District (returning), at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective June 3, 2024;
- 4) Genesis Nietes, Summer Custodian for the District (returning), at an hourly rate of \$15.25, effective June 3, 2024;
- 5) Matthew Perez, Summer Custodian for the District (new), at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective June 3, 2024; and
- 6) Kevin Trejo, Summer Custodian for the District (new), at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective June 3, 2024.

AND THE TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT OF THE FOLLOWING TECHNOLOGY SUMMER SUPPORT STAFF:

- 1) Sharon Dadeogu, Technology Summer Support for the District, at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective June 3, 2024; and
- 2) Jack Luttrell, Technology Summer Support for the District, at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective June 3, 2024.

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

Approval of Resignation

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

- 1) Aurora Flores, Paraprofessional at Gurrie Middle School, effective May 31, 2024;
- 2) Elizabeth Gonzalez, Night Custodian at Spring Avenue School, revised effective date of May 31, 2024;
- 3) Sergio Molina, Floater Custodian for the District, effective May 14, 2024; and
- 4) Laisha Morales, Lunchroom Monitor at Spring Avenue School, effective April 27, 2024.

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

Approval of Leave of Absence Request

Motion by Dr. Sherman, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Leave of Absence request for the following:

- 1) Amy Crawford, School Nurse for Spring Avenue/Gurrie Middle School, effective August 22, 2024 through return date of September 30, 2024;
- 2) Margaret (Maggie) Konrath, Psychologist for the District, effective October 7, 2024 through return date of January 21, 2024;
- 3) Araceli Pasillas, Paraprofessional at Ideal School, effective May 6, 2024 through May 31, 2024.

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

Approval of Summer School Internal Staffing

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Ms. Mates, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the hiring of the internal District 105 Summer School teachers, Summer School paraprofessionals, and Summer School secretary as presented.

Summer School Teachers: Rachel Dickerson, Lynn Halfpenny, Delaney Arreguin, Ella Gordon, Britta Zeisloft, Brenna Dittmer, Jaz'mun Brooks, Elisabeth Childers, Samantha Beilke, Sharon Stagaman, Priscilla Drenning, Jane Falvey, Bonnie McAuley, Michael Yena, Jennifer Kiley, Margaret Fishbeck, Alyssa Orosz, and Bethany Walsh.

Summer School Paraprofessionals: Catherine Altobelli, Maria Nietes, Bruna Bato, Karol Lindgren, Kelly Miller, Mariana Garcia, Veronica Horn, Nancy Garcia, Yareldi Carrillo, Sheila Helf, Sarah Sieracki, Gisela Solis, Maria Rodriguez, Alicia Esparza Conde, and Stacia Hayes.

Summer School Secretary: Jessica Fulgencio.

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

Approval of FY25 Calendar for the District 105 Board of Education Meetings

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 hold its regular business meetings on the fourth Monday of each month in the Library Learning Center at Gurrie Middle School, at 7:00 PM, with exceptions as approved by the Board.

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

Approval of FY25 Technology Presentation

Motion by Mrs. Bryck, seconded by Mr. Lopez, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Technology Plan as presented.

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

Approval of FY25 Insurance Rates

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the FY25 Insurance Rates as presented.

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

Approval of Syserco HVAC Control System Update

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Syserco HVAC Control System Updates as presented (not to exceed \$195,350).

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

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- First Reading Press Policy 114
- Tentative Budget Presentation
- Declaration of Closed Session Minutes
- Next School Board Meeting will be held at Seventh Avenue School Multi-Purpose Room on June 24, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. White moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mares. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM on Monday, May 20, 2024.

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

Board President

Board Secretary