

**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 7:16 PM on Monday, November 25, 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 6:15 PM on Monday, November 25, 2024 in the Library Learning Center of Hodgkins Elementary School, 6516 S. Kane Avenue, Hodgkins, Illinois.

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 7:16 PM on November 25, 2024.

RETURN TO GENERAL SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of School District 105 return to general session.

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

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ganan made the following announcements:

Hodgkins: He welcomed the Hodgkins preschool staff and welcomed their presentation on the Gold Circle of Achievement Award. This award is one of the highest accolades that can be given to the preschool program in Illinois.

Ideal: In partnership with the Ideal PTO and Ideal Social Workers, the Student Leadership team organized a Thanksgiving food drive for Ideal families. Each grade level was assigned a food item to donate. The student leadership team organized all the items and created 29 Thanksgiving

meal kits for our families. He thanked the Ideal PTO for donating the turkeys. Also he thanked the student leadership team for their act of kindness and service.

Seventh Avenue: Students have been working together as a class on Hallway expectations this month. Staff are celebrating a class when they demonstrate those Hallway expectations with a bright green 3B ticket (be respectful, be safe, be here and ready). Classroom goals were to earn 13 tickets to turn that in for a new board game for their classroom and for a 30 mins game time that they used today (Monday). 100% of the grades not only earned 13 but surpassed that all school behavior goal.

Spring Avenue: Spring Avenue had an incredible turnout for Family Literacy Night, which was titled *OUT OF THIS WORLD*. The event was a success, filled with fun, learning, and community spirit. A special shoutout to Mrs. Maganello and Mrs. Marek for their creativity, hard work, and dedication in organizing this event.

Gurrie: This month, Gurrie hosted a heartfelt Veterans Day event, where students and staff came together to honor and thank those who have served our country—a powerful reminder of the importance of gratitude and service. Gurrie is preparing for the 25th annual Thanksgiving Feast, a tradition celebrating our school's diversity and connections.

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

Preschool for All Program: Gold Circle of Quality Achievement – Preschool Team

The PFA Preschool for All (PFA) program in Illinois is dedicated to delivering high-quality preschool education for children aged 3-5 years old, with particular focus on those at risk of academic failure. The Gold Circle of Quality designation is the highest honor in ExceleRate Illinois, recognizing programs that have met rigorous standards in early learning and development, instructional excellence, staff qualifications, family services, and program administration. Future plans for D105 include: Expanding Inclusive practices, Providing training for staff on effective inclusion strategies, increasing collaboration between general and special education teams, enhancing support for families by offering resources and workshops to educate families on inclusion benefits, monitoring and evaluating progress, regularly reviewing data to assess growth

and identify areas for improvement, maintaining Gold Circle standards and implementing evidence-based practices and celebrating milestones to sustain excellence.

Auditor Presentation – Evans, Marshall & Pease, P.C. – Christopher Scalet, CPA

Due to the illness of the auditor, this presentation is postponed until December 2024 Board of Education meeting.

Tentative Tax Levy for 2024 Presentation – Mr. Steven Smidl

Mr. Steven Smidl presented to the Board. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Board minutes. The tax levy will be adopted at the December 16, 2025 Board of Education Meeting.

2024 Student Performance Update – IAR Results – Kathryn Heeke

Ms. Kathryn Heeke presented to the Board. Her presentation included the most recent IAR test results. The district growth in the percentage of students that meet or exceed grade level expectations across the board, it is clear that the district's commitment to these programs (like Foundations, SIOP, and TCI Social Studies) have the district moving in the right direction. The Teaching and Learning department is working with each school to work towards achieving these growth and achievement goals. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Board minutes.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Acknowledgement of Gifts and Donations

The Board gratefully acknowledges the donation of:
\$ 1,500 to Ideal School from Vulcan Materials Company Foundation and \$10,000 to Hodgkins School from Vulcan Materials Company Foundation.

ISBE/School Report Card Update

Each year, the Illinois State School Board releases a report card for the District and each school. The report card release and information on the report has been shared with families. It is required to recognize the report card at a school board meeting and post it on our website. A link to access the report card will be added to our webpage on Tuesday.
<https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/District.aspx?districtId=06016105002>

First Reading of Press Policy Issue 116

First Reading of Press Policy Issue 116 Press Policy Issue 116 includes 4 policy updates. According to our attorney, the only real changes were based on the Title IX updates and changes to 2.265. The Board approved the changes to Press Policy 2:265, Title IX Grievance Procedure at the August 19, 2024 school board meeting. This was due to the implementation date of the required changes. This was the major update in Press Policy 115. The other changes to Title IX related policies were based on ensuring that the District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Complaint Manager or designee shall process the a Title IX complaint under Board Policy 2:270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color and National Origin Prohibited.

Strategic Plan Development

Dr. Ganan discussed with the Board. In January, we will begin the process of developing D105's next strategic plan. In our district, this plan truly guides the work that we do and has been essential in helping us make significant progress over the past six years. Historically, the District has used Catalyst for Educational Change (CEC) to facilitate this community-driven work. After gathering some additional information and bringing some of the plan development work "in house", CEC provided an updated quote for this work. The new cost will be \$19,800. The initial quote was

for \$29,700. He stated that he did reach out to another strategic plan development facilitator. His goal was to get a better idea of what they offered and the cost of the work. The CEC plan provides a more in-depth approach to this critical work. It will include a “portrait of” a student, staff member and our system (the district). He stated that LT uses similar “portraits” (their plan was facilitated by CEC). This will help us to remain focused on preparing students for success throughout their K-12 educational experience. He recommends moving forward with CEC for a cost of \$19,800. He added: D105 recently received some carryover funds for Title grants. These funds will be used for the development of our new strategic plan.

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 –October 28, 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 Mrs. Young, seconded by Dr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the employment of the following:

- 1) Nitsia Flores, Paraprofessional at Hodgkins School, at an hourly rate of \$15.25, effective November 25, 2024 (pending licensing).

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

Approval of Resignation

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

- 1) Catherine Altobelli, LLC Aide at Spring Avenue School, effective November 15, 2024;
- 2) Ma Guadalupe Silva, Lunchroom Monitor at Ideal Elementary School, effective November 26, 2024; and
- 1) Edith A. Torres Lemus, Night Custodian at Ideal and Seventh Avenue Schools, effective November 26, 2024.

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

Approval of Leave of Absence Request

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

- 1) Rachel Skala, Assistant Principal at Ideal and Spring Avenue Elementary Schools, effective October 28, 2024 through February 7, 2024 (revised).

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

Acceptance of Audit FY24

Due to the illness of the auditor, this item will be presented in the December Board Meeting.

Approval of Tentative Tax Levy Tax Year 2024

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report for FY24 as presented.

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

Approval of CEC Proposal for the Development of the District's New 5-Year Strategic Plan

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the adoption of the resolution appointing D105 member Steven Smidl to the Lyons Township Trustees of Schools Governing Board effective September 23, 2024.

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

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Public Hearing on Proposed 2024 Tax Levy (Truth in Taxation)
- School Year 2025-26 Calendar Update
- Second Reading and Adoption of Press Policy 116
- Establish FY26 and Associated Budget Calendar
- Declaration of Closed Session Minutes
- Next School Board Meeting will be held at Gurrie Middle School on December 16, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. White moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Mares. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM on Monday, November 25, 2024.

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

Board President

Board Secretary