

**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 7:32 PM on Monday, December 19, 2022.

ROLL CALL

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

CLOSED SESSION

There was not a closed session held on this date.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Elias Lopez made the motion, seconded by Bryan White, to open the Public Hearing to consider the 2022 Tax Levy for School District 105. On roll call, members voting AYE: Mares, Hartman, Lopez, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

Mr. Scott Blumberg presented the highlights from last month's presentation on the 2022 Property Tax Levy. The proposed levy is \$25,469,641.00 which equals an increase of 5.92%. The extension is projected to be \$25,247,822.25. Components include: CPI capped at 5%, AV assumed to be up 3%, new property assumed of \$6,000,000. There were no questions from the Board or the attendees at the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Sheila Bryck made the motion, seconded by Candice Mares, to close the Public Hearing to consider the 2022 Tax Levy for School District 105. On roll call, members voting AYE: Lopez, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Mares, Hartman; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Ganan welcomed the Ideal School representatives to the Board Meeting. He thanked the students and staff for attending the Board Meeting. He congratulated the Gurrie wrestlers for their outcome at the tournament this past weekend. He congratulated the 7th and 8th grade Math Team for their fourth place finish at the Fenwick Math Competition. He congratulated all the participants and the Math Coach Mrs. Zalewska. He acknowledged the thank you that was received by the nursing staff for the Board's consideration in offering health benefits to the nursing staff. He wished Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all of our families, students, and staff.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Amy Hartman 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 read the comment either virtually or in-person
- 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 Board Meeting.

PRESENTATION

Responsive Classroom Morning Meeting Student Presentation-

Ideal Elementary School Staff and Students

Principal Eilidh Hall presented Responsive Classroom. It is an evidence-based approach that supports students both academically and socially. The morning meeting is just one small component of Responsive Classroom. The students and the Board Members were active together in this exercise. The exercise starts with a message that builds community within the classroom and schools.

Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) Presentation-

School District 105 LMS Team (Jennifer Sutsser, Tracy Renaghan, Barb Hobe, Cathy Nestlinger, and Joanna Marek) presented the Administrators of the Year Award Recipients: Kathryn Heeke and Trish Murphy. The team highlighted the growth of the libraries throughout the last fifteen years.

Audit Presentation- Presented by Chris Scalet from Evans, Marshall & Pease, P.C.

Mr. Scalet provided a brief summary of the audit. He stated that internal controls in the district were adequate. The audit is presented on an accrual basis. The financial profile score from ISBE to indicate the district's financial health is a score of 3.9/4.0. He stated that the score is tremendous and should not go unnoticed. He added that the Covid monies have allowed school districts to have a surplus of monies. He thanked Mr. Blumberg for his cooperation in the completion of this audit.

Long Range Facility Plan- Presented by George Demarakis from ARCON

Mr. Demarakis presented that the consultants have been conducting a facility assessment of all of the buildings: architectural, site, building envelope, roofing, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical. He explained that over the next ten years, the priority of these items will change. He explained that each item is estimated at current market conditions in 2022. There is an escalation factor for the changes that may occur. He talked about grouping projects together to maximize the cost benefits of similar projects. Mr. Demarakis stated that all of the buildings are currently in great shape.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Acknowledgement of Gifts and Donations/Correspondence

Dr. Ganan acknowledged a \$200 monetary donation from Veronica Cardenas to support the Thanksgiving Food Drive. He also acknowledged a thank you message that was received from the nursing staff for the consideration of offering medical benefits to the nursing staff.

Restructure of Lyons Township Treasurer's Office Board

Dr. Ganan explained that per the new code, rather than having the entire Lyon's Township Treasurer's Office Board be made up of candidates elected by voters, the school districts that are serviced by the LT Treasurer's Office will now have a combined total of three (out of seven) seats on the Board. These seats are broken into one and two-year teams. The description and process for filling these seats was developed by the Superintendents of 101, 102, 105, 106 and 107. (The Argo portion of the LT Treasurer's Office will develop its own rules and regulations for filling their available seats). There is no requirement that any particular district or board member fills these roles.

Dress Code Policy Revision Update

Dr. Ganan spoke about the dress code policy update. There was a dress code committee meeting comprised of elementary staff, middle school staff, administrators. There were some changes made to the dress code.

Some of the recommended changes to the current dress code are:

- Document starts out by recognizing that LaGrange School District 105 respects students' rights to express themselves in the way they dress.
- We spent a lot of time discussing whether or not this language needed to be included: *Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to approximately the upper thighs.* The teachers felt very strongly that this language remains in the dress code. With our "enforcement plan" now included and the fact that more than one person will be involved in any discussion about potential dress code violations, I do feel that any questions in this area will be handled appropriately
- The addition of a section/process for dress code enforcement
- The removal of the following language: *Clothing that is tight, revealing, or suggestive, including but not limited to, skirts or shorts that are shorter than mid-thigh, clothing with revealing rips or holes, tops with limited coverage (such as spaghetti straps, tube tops, crop tops, tops showing midriff, muscle tank tops, or-one shoulder tops), nightwear or items normally worn as undergarments but displayed as outerwear (such as bra tops or boxers), and tops or bottoms that reveal underwear are prohibited*
- Clarification of when pajamas and headwear other than for religious purposes are allowed. (Note: The staff team felt strongly that we continue our no hat policy. Other than having to monitor how the students are wearing their hats, Ed reminded the group about the gang problems we had in the past and how hats contributed to the issue).
- Tank tops, spaghetti straps and halter tops are no longer prohibited.
- Language is added that the administrator shall work with other staff to determine dress code violations.

Gurrie Assistant Principal / Principal Designee Discussion

Dr. Ganan presented: As agreed upon earlier this year, the District is looking to hire an Assistant Principal/Principal Designee for the 2023-2024 school year. The assistant principal role will be for one year as the intent is for the person hired in this role to assume the principalship when Ed Hood retires after the 2023-2024 school year. This provides the person selected for this role to work under Mr. Hood's strong leadership and role modeling for an entire year. During the 2023-2024 school year, this selected candidate will work under specific goals designed to help the District make the final determination if he/she will transition into the role of principal in 2024-2025. In the event that things do not go as planned during the 2023-2024 school year and want to move in another direction, we are legally sound to do so.

With this hire potentially impacting all D105 families, he will send a survey to all D105 parents. He also is looking for ways to involve a small group of parents in the interview process.

2023-2024 School Year Calendar Discussion

Dr. Ganan met with the District's calendar committee on December 6, 2022. Contractually we are required to meet with a team of certified staff members to provide input on the calendar. Paraprofessionals were also included in this meeting. Highlights include: Start date: August 23rd, end date: May 30th, first day back after winter break is January 8th and the first day after spring break is April 1st. May 31st will be an institute day in which staff will have time to complete/submit their self-directed professional development plan. The final calendar for 2023-24 will be adopted at the January 23, 2023 Board Meeting.

Student Attendance and Truancy Policy 7:70 Update

Dr. Ganan presented that in late October 2022, legislation was passed that required districts to update policy 7:70. However, Press Plus did not update the policy until late November. The policy updates are required to be approved by local school boards by January 13, 2023. Due to the timing of the release of the Press Plus updated policy (also reviewed by our attorneys) and the January 13, 2023 adoption date, this meeting is our only chance to adopt the policy. Since we updated this policy last February, our current policy 7:70 closely aligns to the new requirements.

MOU between La Grange School District 105 and Educational Support Professional Association- IEA/NEA

Dr. Ganan presented that the Paraprofessionals (ESP group) is very valuable to the district. The Board has agreed to provide a portion of the cost of Health Insurance for these employees based on his/her length of service. For single coverage, the percent paid by the Board for year 1 will be 50%, year 2- 60%, year 3- 70%, year 4- 80%, and year 5- 90%. Any employee currently employed with District 105 will receive insurance benefits commensurate to years of service to the district as outlined here. Family % paid by the Board will be as follows: the percent paid by the Board year 1- 18%, year 2-22%, year 3- 26%, year 4- 29% and year 5- 33%. This will be voted on later at this meeting agenda item 10D.

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 –November 14, 2022
- 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: Mares, Sherman, White, Young, Bryck, Hartman, Lopez; ABSENT: None; NAY: None.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Employment

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

- 1) Rosa Mercado, Night Custodian at Gurrie Middle School, at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective December 12, 2022;
- 2) Laura Thies, Long-Term Substitute Resource Teacher at Ideal School, effective November 28, 2022 through December 13, 2022. Laura completed a long-term substitute position at Spring Avenue School prior to this position.

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

Approval of Resignation

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Ms. Mares that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resignation of the following:

- 1) Shirley Paluch, Lunchroom Monitor at Spring Avenue School, effective December 15, 2022; and

Resignation for Retirement of:

- 1) Juliana De La Cruz, Bus Monitor for Preschool for All at Hodgkins School, effective December 22, 2022.

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

Approval of FMLA Leave of Absence

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

- 1) Arjeta Gjoni, Teacher at Gurrie Middle School, beginning tentatively April 3, 2023 through June 7, 2023.

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

Approval of MOU with Educational Support Professional Association 105

Motion by Mr. Sherman, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education of La Grange School District 105 and the La Grange South 105 Education Support Professionals' Association reflecting the parties' agreement as the insurance benefits that are offered to current and new employees with an implementation date of July 1, 2023.

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

Approval of Resolution Authorizing Tax Levy

Motion by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mrs. Bryck, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resolution authorizing the Tax Levy on the taxable property of School District 105 for tax year 2022 and that a copy of the certificate of tax levy be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

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

Approval of Certificate of Compliance with Truth in Taxation Act

Motion by Mrs. Bryck, seconded by Mr. Lopez, that the Board of Education of School District 105 adopt the certificate of compliance with the Truth in Taxation Act.

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

Adoption of Levy Reduction Resolution

Motion by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mrs. Young, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the adoption of the Resolution to instruct the County Clerk how to apportion the 2022 Tax Levy Extension Reductions.

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

Adoption of Resolution for Abatement of Debt Service Tax

Motion by Ms. Mares, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay debt service on the taxable general obligation bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2010C and general obligations refunding school bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2020.

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

Acceptance of FY23 Audit

Motion by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Mares, that the Board of Education of School District 105 accept from Evans, Marshall & Pease P.C. the regular, federal, imprest fund, and activity fund audit reports for FY22 and hereby file the above audit reports with the office of the Superintendent as a public record of the revenues and expenditures for the above-mentioned school funds.

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

Approval of Establishing FY24 and the Associated Budget Calendar

Motion by Mrs. Young, seconded by Dr. Sherman, that the Board of Education of School District 105 approve the resolution establishing FY24 and the associated Budget Calendar.

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

Adoption of Student Attendance and Truancy Policy 7:70 Revisions

Motion by Dr. Sherman, seconded by Mr. White, that the Board of Education of School District 105 adopt the recommended revisions to the following policy:
7:70 Attendance and Truancy.

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

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Approval of FY24 School Calendar
- First Reading of Press Policy 110
- Declaration of Closed Session Minutes
- Approval of Destruction of Closed Session Audio Recordings

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Lopez moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Hartman. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM on Monday December 19, 2022.

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

Board President

Board Secretary