

CHICAGO RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 127 ½ -MAY 9th, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
BERNARD JUMBECK ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

PRESENT: C. Petropulos, J. Labudzik, T. Lammel, J. Grove

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Adam Thorns, K. Picciolini, F. Setaro,
M. Nothnagel, G. Youngberg, J. Bazian, C. Hillegonds, K. Burcheri, K. King

GUESTS: L. Harrod, A. Mallo

Mrs. Petropulos called the meeting to order at 5:17 P.M.

Roll Call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Petropulos then said the Board would be adjourning to Closed Session to discuss the selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance as defined in Section 2(c)(3). Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to adjourn at 5:17 P.M.. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 5:17 P.M.

Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Lammel seconded the motion to adjourn back into Open Session at 6:17 P.M. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Mrs. Petropulos read Agenda Item #4.0, which called for potential Board action on the Consent Agenda, which contained the following items:

Minutes of the April 25th, 2023 Meeting #1 – Open Session
Minutes of the April 25th, 2023 Meeting #2 – Open Session
Minutes of the April 25th, 2023 Meeting #2 – Closed Session
IASB Annual Dues \$4,656.00

Financial Reports

Payrolls and Bills for CRSD 127.5

Accounts Payable:

Voucher 1210	\$ 5,478.31
Voucher 1211	\$ 131,481.73

#1 MOTION
TO
ADJOURN
TO CLOSED
SESSION

#2 MOTION
TO
ADJOURN
TO OPEN
SESSION

Voucher 1218	\$1,511,962.33
Voucher 1219	\$ 6,326.95

Payroll:

#21	04/06/23	\$455,166.13
#22	04/21/23	\$425,698.93

Payrolls and Bills for Eisenhower Cooperative:

Accounts Payable:

Voucher 1192	\$ 98,222.34
Voucher 1200	\$ 359,094.48

Payroll:

#21	04/14/23	\$ 551,119.72
#22	04/28/23	\$ 529,337.63

Eisenhower Cooperative Personnel Items

April 2023 Fund Balance Summary

April 2023 Financial Condition

April 2023 Activity Account Summary

April 2023 Imprest Account Summary

April 2023 Highlight of Bills for Payment

#3 MOTION
TO
APPROVE
CONSENT
AGENDA

Mrs. Petropulos inquired to her fellow Board Members if there were any questions, to which there were not. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Lammel seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as outlined above. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik,-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Mrs. Petropulos then proceeded on to the next portion of the agenda, which was the Superintendent's Report. She turned the agenda order over to Dr. Thorns.

Dr. Thorns thanked Mrs. Petropulos and began his summation with an update on recent PTA activities.

He then provided the Board with information regarding current enrollment, stating enrollment for the month of April was 1,449 students. By comparison, enrollment for last month was 1,461 students (a decrease of 12) and enrollment from April 2022 was 1,465 students (a decrease of 16). He noted this is typical of this time of year, as many families in the district take advantage of lower airfares to travel overseas. He immediately added the District strongly discourages this as school is still in session and the children miss out on valuable instruction time.

Dr. Thorns then provided the Board with an update on current and vacant staffing positions within the District. He did add the District has been seeing an increase in applicants and hiring, and credited the Board of Education with keeping wages and benefits competitive with the surrounding area.

Next was information regarding 8th Grade graduation. This year's ceremony will be held at Richards High School on Wednesday, June 7th at 7:00 P.M. He requested any Board Member able to attend to contact Ms. Annette Robertson at Finley Jr. High by May 21st, 2023.

Dates for the upcoming IASB/IASA/IASBO Conference were then shared with the Board. Dr. Thorns said this year's conference, which is a joint conference with the Illinois Association of School Boards, the Illinois Association of School Administrators, and the Illinois Association of School Business Officials, will be held on November 17th-November 19th, 2023. Registration will open on Monday, June 5th. He encouraged any Board Member interested in attending to let Mrs. Bialczak know by Friday, June 2nd so the District can take advantage of early registration discounts.

Dr. Thorns then gave the Board an explanation of the Consolidated District Plan (CDP). He said the CDP allows grantees to answer one set of planning questions to meet the requirements for 12 federal formula grants. The original CDP was approved by the Board in 2020, but it now must be approved on an annual basis. Board action to approve the CDP for the 2023-2024 SY will be sought later in the meeting.

The Dyopath contract for the 2023-2024 FY was discussed next. Dr. Thorns said Dyopath provides IT managed services to the District, and the master service agreement entered into on July 1, 2019 is up for renewal. He noted there will be a 5% increase in cost from the original agreement due to inflationary costs, and more Level 2 support hours will be requested to keep pace with the needs of the District. Board action to approve this contract would be sought later in the meeting.

Dr. Thorns then spoke to the Board about the Consideration of Non-Binding Class-Size Recommendations, something that must be presented to the Board annually per the CREA (Chicago Ridge Education Association) contract. He did stress this is not something the Board needs to vote on – simply consider- and that they are non-binding, so they can change if needed. He said the goal is to keep the classroom size at the lowest number possible to achieve optimal learning for all students. As registration continues and numbers come in, he will keep the Board apprised of any hot spots he sees that would affect the numbers.

Stating he had one “Other” item, Dr. Thorns took the opportunity to thank the Board for coming to the many events that have taken place over the last few weeks, noting the band concerts, the art shows, the various celebratory student banquets and the Portrait of a Learner meeting. He said he understands this is a busy time of year for everyone, so their presence is appreciated by both the staff and students.

He then said he was finished with his summation and turned the agenda order back over to Mrs. Petropulos.

Mrs. Petropulos thanked Dr. Thorns and stated Presentations to the Board would be next.

Dr. Thorns interjected and said Ms. Lisa Harrod, a national education consultant who specializes in Special Education reform and comprehensive program reviews, was going to present to the Board her findings from an extensive audit she did of the District's Special Education program. Ms. Harrod came forward and provided the Board with a detailed explanation of what her objectives were in auditing the program, her process in doing so, whom she interacted with to gain her information, and her overall assessment and findings. She complimented the District's administration and special education staff for their openness and desire to work with her as a team to identify where improvements can be made. Upon conclusion of the presentation, the Board had several questions for Ms. Harrod, which she fully explained. Upon completion of the discussion, the Board thanked Ms. Harrod for her time and added they are looking forward to the next steps of implementing her plan. Ms. Harrod thanked the Board and exited the meeting at 8:05 P.M.

Dr. Thorns then invited Mrs. Nothnagel, Curriculum Director for the District, to come forward to do her presentation, "Building & Supporting a Foundation for a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)". Mrs. Nothnagel thanked all present and spoke about foundational changes she has been collaborating with Ms. Harrod on to take steps toward building a multi-tiered system of support within our schools. Mrs. Nothnagel explained what comprises MTSS and provided visuals to the Board to understand how this would work on a typical school day for a child at the elementary level and the Junior High level. The Board had several questions regarding this method, to which Mrs. Nothnagel fully answered. Upon completion of the discussion, the Board thanked Mrs. Nothnagel and continued forward with the agenda.

Since the Curriculum Director's Report was the next item on the agenda, Mrs. Nothnagel continued with her next topic, which was providing the Board with a progress update on the Summer School program for 2023.

Stating she had no "Other" items for the Board, Mrs. Nothnagel turned the agenda order back over to Mrs. Petropulos. Mrs. Petropulos thanked Mrs. Nothnagel and invited Mrs. Picciolini, the Chief School Business Official, to begin her summation.

Mrs. Picciolini thanked Mrs. Petropulos and began by providing the Board with an update on construction. She said the most obvious sign of progress were the walls that have gone up at Finley Jr. High and Ridge Lawn, but gave the Board a more detailed review of where each project was at. Additionally, she said a status report from Studio GC, the architects for the District, was included in each member's packet.

Mrs. Picciolini then informed the Board the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) – which is the pension fund for non-certified support staff – was increasing the employer's contributing rate from 4.77% to 5.68%. IMRF said this was mostly attributed to lower market performance and will cost the District an estimated \$17,000 this year.

Next for discussion was the tentative amended budget. Mrs. Picciolini explained an amended budget is presented each year to make adjustments for changes in revenues and

expenditures that occur during the course of the fiscal year, and included in each member's packet was a copy of the most current amended budget for the 2022-2023 FY. She highlighted the most notable changes to the Board, and said per requirement, the tentative amended budget is put on display for the public to view prior to the public hearing which will take place at the June 13th, 2023 Board Meeting. She added she will continue to adjust the budget up to that point. Although not required by law but is past practice of the District, the Board will be asked to approve the posting of the tentative amended budget later in the meeting

Stating she had no "Other" items to discuss with the Board, she turned the agenda order back over to Mrs. Petropulos.

Mrs. Petropulos stated Old Business would be next and read Agenda Item #10.1, which called for potential Board action to adopt or post for a second reading the following policies:

- 2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers
- 3:40-E Checklist for the Superintendent Employment Negotiation Process
- 4:40 Incurring Debt
- 4:60 Purchases and Contracts
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct
- 5:150 Personnel Records
- 5:260 Student Teachers
- 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
- 6:210 Instructional Materials
- 6:230 Library Media Program
- 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities
- 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

#4 MOTION
TO ADOPT
POLICIES

Dr. Thorns interjected and said to date, there has been no questions or comments from the community. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to adopt the above-listed policies. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove- YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Noting there were no additional items listed under Old Business, Mrs. Petropulos said New Business would be next.

#5 MOTION
TO DISPLAY
THE
TENTATIVE
AMENDED
BUDGET

Agenda Item # 11.1 called for potential Board action to display the 2022-2023 Tentative Amended Budget. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the Tentative Amended Budget for 2022-2023 FY. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #11.2 called for potential Board action to renew an Instructional Tech-

#6 MOTION TO
APPROVE
CONTRACT
WITH LTC

nology Coach contract with LTC in the amount of \$61,200.00. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the renewal of the contract. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#7 MOTION TO
APPROVE
CONSOLIDAT-
ED DISTRICT
PLAN

Agenda Item #11.3 called for potential Board action to approve the Consolidated District Plan for the 2023-2024 SY. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the plan. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#8 MOTION TO
APPROVE
PAYMENT TO
NWEA

Agenda Item #11.4 called for potential Board action to approve payment to NWEA in the amount of \$28,259.00 for MAP Reading Fluency and MAP Growth Grades K-12. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the payment as described above. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#9 MOTION TO
APPROVE
PAYMENT TO
CSI- RIDGE
LAWN

Agenda Item #11.5 called for potential Board action to approve payment to Construction Solutions of Illinois in the amount of \$216,534.00 for Building Additions and Renovation work done at Ridge Lawn School. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the payment. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#10 MOTION TO
APPROVE
PAYMENT TO
CSI- RIDGE
CENTRAL

Agenda Item #11.6 called for potential Board action to approve payment to Construction Solutions of Illinois in the amount of \$163,121.00 for Building Additions and Renovation work done at Ridge Central/Finley Jr. High. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Lammel seconded the motion to approve the payment. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#11 MOTION TO
APPROVE
PAYMENT TO
HELM
MECHANICAL

Agenda Item #11.7 called for potential Board action to approve payment to Helm Mechanical in the amount of \$232,222.49 for HVAC work done at Ridge Central/Finley Jr. High School. Mrs. Lammel moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the payment. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#12 MOTION TO
APPROVE
CONTRACT
WITH
DYOPATH

Agenda Item #11.8 called for potential Board action to approve contract renewal and payment to Dyopath in the amount of \$11,261.78/month for 2023-2024 FY. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the renewal and payment. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#13 MOTION
TO CHANGE
STUDY
SESSION TO
SPECIAL
MEETING

Agenda Item #11.9 called for potential Board action to change the May 23rd, 2023 Study Session to a Special Meeting. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the change. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Noting there were no items listed under Meeting Reports or Informational, Mrs. Petropulos said Public Participation was next, and invited anyone from the public to address the Board. No person came forward.

Mrs. Petropulos then said the President's Prerogative was next. She said she wanted to express her thanks to her fellow Board members for voting her in as President. She added it is a position she takes very seriously, and said her children have gotten a great education here.

Mrs. Petropulos then said she was seeking a motion to adjourn to Closed Session. Dr. Thorns interjected and said the Board would be adjourning to Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with the Open Meetings Act as defined in the Open Meetings Act, Section 2(c)(1), the discussion of Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or representative, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees as defined in Section 2 (c)(2), the discussion of security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, the staff, the public or public property as defined in Section 2(c)(8), and the discussion of minutes of prior meetings as defined in Section 2 (c)(21) for the purpose of review, approval, or release of such minutes. Dr. Thorns said the Board would not be discussing student discipline as defined in Section 2(c)(9), or litigation as defined in Section 2(c)(11).

#14 MOTION
TO ADJOURN
TO CLOSED
SESSION

Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:18 P.M. for the purposes stated above. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

MEETING CONVENED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:18 P.M.

Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to reconvene into Open Session at 9:09 P.M. Upon roll call: Mrs. Grove –YES, Mrs. Lammel –YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #17.1 called for potential Board action to approve the Consent Agenda which contained the following items:

Jeffrey Andersen, Physical Education/Health Teacher at Finley Jr. High,
\$66,027 (7MA+45) with start date of 08/21/2023

Morgan Crowley, Social Worker at Finley Jr. High, \$53,611 (MA+0) with a
start date of 08/21/2023

#15 MOTION
TO
RECONVENE
INTO OPEN
SESSION

Curt Hasan, 6th Grade Science Teacher at Finley Jr. High, \$46,197 (BA+0) with start date of 8/21/2023

Mary Barker, Early Childhood Pre-K Teacher at Ridge Central, \$44,022 (BA+0), with start date of 4/24/2023

Majeda Makhamreh, EL Teacher at Ridge Lawn, \$46,197 (BA+0) with a start date of 08/21/2023

Taminkat Rasheed, EL Teacher at Ridge Lawn, \$52,863 (7BA+15) with a start date of 08/21/2023

Rahmatullah Al-Juboori, substitute teacher at Finley Jr. High for Kaitlyn Van Kuiken, \$150/day with a start date of April 29th, 2023.

Victor Morris, current Float Custodian Districtwide, moving to Day Custodian at Ridge Central, \$17.00/hour with start date of 04/25/2023

Substitute Teacher List Containing the names of:

-Deema Ramadan

-Mikayla Sisk

-Kejaun Skanes

#16 MOTION
TO APPROVE
PERSONNEL
CONSENT
AGENDA

Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

The Board was then notified of the following resignations:

Matthew Bauer, Day Custodian at Ridge Central, with last day of employment April 14th, 2023

Ayat Hassan, 1st Grade Teacher at Ridge Lawn, with last day of employment June 9th, 2023.

#17 MOTION TO
APPROVE
CONTRACT
WITH EDU-
HEALTHCARE

Agenda Item #17.3 called for potential Board action to approve a contract with Edu-Healthcare for Danielle Hoover for Social Work services, \$73.00/hour for the 2023-2024 SY. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Lammel seconded the motion to approve the contract. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#18 MOTION
TO APPROVE
LEAVE OF
ABSENCE

Agenda Item #17.4 called for potential Board action to approve a leave of absence for Tahir Alitter, Parent Liaison at Ridge Lawn, beginning August 7th, 2023 and returning September 1st, 2023. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the leave. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#19 MOTION
TO PAY
INCREASE FOR
NON-UNION
EMPLOYEES

Agenda Item #17.5 called for potential Board action to approve FY 2023-2024 salaries for non-union employees in the amount of \$2.00/hour or 6%, noting whichever amount was the higher of the two. Mrs. Lammel moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the increase. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#20 MOTION TO
APPROVE 10
HOUR DAY
SCHEDULE

Agenda Item #17.6 called for potential Board action to offer employees a 10-hour day schedule from 06/12/2023 through 7/28/2023. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Lammel seconded the motion to approve the schedule. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#21 MOTION TO
APPROVE
HIRING
SEASONAL TECH
ASSISTANT

Agenda Item #17.7 called for potential Board action to approve hiring a seasonal technology assistant from June 5th, 2023 through August 18th, 2023. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the seasonal assistant. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#22 MOTION TO
APPROVE
HIRING
CUSTODIAL
SUMMER HELP

Agenda Item #17.8 called for potential Board action to approve hiring of custodial summer help from 06/5/2023 through 08/18/2023. Mrs. Grove moved and Mrs. Labudzik seconded the motion to approve the hiring. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#23 MOTION TO
AUTHORIZE
PREPARATION
AND
SUBMISSION OF
GRANT

Agenda Item #17.9 called for potential Board action to authorize administration to prepare and submit an application for the Community Oriented Policing Services School Violence Prevention Program Grant. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the preparation and submission. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#24 MOTION TO
APPROVE
RESOLUTION TO
RELEASE
CLOSED SESSION
MINUTES &
DESTRUCTION
OF VERBATIM
RECORDINGS 18
MONTHS &
OLDER

Agenda Item #17.10 called for potential Board action to approve the Resolution Releasing Closed Session Minutes and Destruction of Verbatim Recordings 18 months and older. Minutes to be released are from the meeting on March 14th, 2023. Recordings to be destroyed are from October 12th, 2021, October 26th, 2021 and November 9th, 2021. Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to approve the release and destruction. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

There being no other business before the Board, Mrs. Labudzik moved and Mrs. Grove seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 P.M.. Upon Roll Call: Mrs. Labudzik-YES, Mrs. Lammel-YES, Mrs. Grove-YES, Mrs. Petropulos-YES. Motion carried.

#25 MOTION
TO ADJOURN

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

President

Secretary