

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Reorganization of the Board of Education
Ridgeland School District 122, Cook County, Illinois
Held at District Office, Board Room
6500 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453**

April 19, 2012

1.) The meeting was called to order by Daniel Sodaro at 7:01 p.m.

2.) The Pledge of Allegiance was said and the Mission Statement was read.

3.) Roll Call

Present: Daniel Sodaro, N. Jean Werner, Pat Pulver, Mike Sawicki, Steve Niceforo

Absent: Timothy Landingham, Christine Wendt

Also Present: Tom Smyth, Superintendent

Julie Shellberg, Assistant Superintendent

Eric Trimberger, Assistant Superintendent

4.) Academic Spotlight

Lieb Principal, Mr. Greg Porod, introduced Lena Jadrawi, a student at Lieb Elementary School who recited an acrostic poem she wrote on Diversity. Lena's poem was selected as a winner of the 2012 PTA Reflections Contest held by the Illinois PTA District 34. Lena's work has also advanced to the state level.

5.) Comments from Visitors Regarding School or Agenda Items and Petitions

No visitors requested to address the Board.

6.) Election of President Protempore and Secretary Protempore

a.) Nominations for President Protempore

Member Sodaro asked for nominations for President Protempore.

Member Pulver was nominated.

It was moved by Member Sodaro and seconded by Member Werner that nominations for the office of President Protempore be closed. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

It was then moved by Member Sodaro and seconded by Member Werner that Member Pulver be unanimously elected as Board President Protempore. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

Member Pulver took over the position of Board President Protempore.

b.) Nominations for Secretary Protempore

President Protempore Pulver asked for nominations for Secretary Protempore.

Member Sawicki and Member Niceforo were nominated.

It was moved by Member Pulver and seconded by Member Werner that nominations for the office of Secretary Protempore be closed. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

With two nominations, a roll call vote was taken.

Nominee Member Sawicki – Pulver, Niceforo, Werner
 Nominee Member Niceforo – Sawicki, Sodaro

Member Sawicki won the roll call vote.

It was then moved by President Protempore Pulver and seconded by Member Sodaro that Member Sawicki be declared Board Secretary Protempore. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

Member Sawicki took over the position of Secretary Protempore and began taking the minutes.

7.) Election of Officers

a.) Nominations for President

President Protempore Pulver asked for nominations for President

Member Sodaro was nominated.

It was moved by Member Pulver and seconded by Member Niceforo that nominations for the office of President be closed. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

It was then moved by member Pulver and seconded by Member Niceforo that Member Sodaro be unanimously elected as Board President for a one-year term of office.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Pulver, Niceforo, Werner, Sodaro, Sawicki

NAY: None

Absent: Wendt, Landingham

The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

Member Sodaro took over the position of Board President.

b.) Nominations for Vice-President

President Sodaro asked for nominations for Vice-President.

Member Landingham was nominated.

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Pulver that nominations for the office of Vice-President be closed. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted “AYE”. The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

It was then moved by President Sodaro and Member Pulver that Member Landingham be unanimously elected as Board Vice-President for a one-year term of office.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Pulver, Niceforo, Werner, Sodaro, Sawicki

NAY: None

Absent: Landingham, Wendt

The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

Member Landingham will take over the position of Vice-President.

c.) Nominations for Secretary

President Sodaro asked for nominations for Secretary

Member Werner and Member Wendt were nominated.

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Pulver that nominations for the office of Secretary be closed. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted “AYE”. The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

With two nominations, a roll call vote was taken.

Nominee Member Werner – Pulver, Niceforo, Wendt, Sodaro, Sawicki

Nominee Member Wendt – None

Member Werner won the roll call vote.

It was then moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Secretary Protempore Sawicki that Member Werner be declared Board Secretary for a one-year term of office.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Pulver, Niceforo, Werner, Sodaro, Sawicki

NAY: None

Absent: Landingham, Wendt

The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

Member Werner assumed the role of Secretary and began taking the minutes.

8.) Declaration of Board Meeting Night

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Pulver that the regular meetings of the Board of Education be at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month, excepted as noted, that the approved schedule of regular meetings be published and that a copy of that schedule be attached to the minutes. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

9.) Designation of District Bank and Newspaper

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Niceforo that the depository for District 122 funds be First Midwest Bank of Oak Lawn. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Sawicki that the official newspapers for District 122 be the Southtown/Star and Reporter Newspapers. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

10.) Appointment of Counsel

a.) Franczek Radelet

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Niceforo that the law firm of Franczek Radelet be appointed counsel for all District non-special education legal services at a fee of \$500 per Board meeting, and a rate for all other services not to exceed \$260 per hour.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Sawicki, Pulver, Niceforo, Sodaro, Werner

NAY: None

Absent: Landingham, Wendt

The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

b.) Sraga Hauser, L.L.C.

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Sawicki that the law firm of Sraga Hauser, L.L.C. be appointed counsel for all District special education legal services at a fee of \$200 per hour, and a rate for all other services not to exceed \$200 per hour.

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

AYE: Sawicki, Pulver, Niceforo, Sodaro, Werner

NAY: None

Absent: Landingham, Wendt

The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

11.) Appointment of Auditor

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Pulver that the firm of McGladrey & Pullen, Ltd. be appointed as auditor for District 122. There being no objection to the motion, all

members present voted “AYE”. The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

12.) Authorization of President and Secretary to Sign Payroll Vouchers

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Pulver that the President and Secretary be authorized to sign the district's payroll vouchers. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted “AYE”. The motion carried 5-0-0-2.

13.) Appointment of Committee Members by President

Standing and Special Board Committees

- a.) Finance/ Review of Bills – Sodaro, Pulver, and Sawicki
- b.) Buildings and Grounds – Werner and Wendt
- c.) A.E.R.O. Governing Board - Niceforo
- d.) Board Policy Committee – Landingham and Werner
- e.) IASB Delegate and Alternate – Pulver and Sawicki
- f.) SCOPE - Sawicki

14.) Approval of Consent Agenda (✓)

It was moved by Member Niceforo and seconded by President Sodaro that the Board approve the following items as specified in the individual items: ✓15a.) Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012; ✓15b.) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012; ✓15c.) Closed Session Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012; ✓15d.) Special Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012; ✓16a.) Current Bills; ✓16b.) Township School Treasurer’s Report; ✓17a1.) Employment – Sayida Baste; ✓17a2.) Employment – Lauren Vieni; ✓17a3.) Employment – Kevin Kuzanek; ✓17a4.) Employment – Claire McGraw; ✓17a5.) Employment – Elizabeth Sauter; ✓17a6.) Employment – Elizabeth Maskill; ✓17a7.) Employment – Alejandra Govea; ✓17b1.) Leave of Absence – Marie Chavosky; ✓17b2.) Leave of Absence – Takreed AbuRabah; ✓17c1.) Resignation – Jill Poetz; ✓19a.) Press PLUS Updates for Adoption; ✓20a.) School Fees for the 2012-2013 School Year; ✓20b.) Press PLUS Updates for First Reading; ✓20c.) AERO Budget; ✓20d.) Student/ Parent Handbook for the 2012-2013 School Year; ✓20e.) Roofing Project at Lieb Elementary School; ✓20f.) Corrective Action Plan; ✓20g.) Balanced Literacy Program; ✓20h.) Grade Level Book List; ✓20i.) Grading Scale and ✓20j.) Resolution 12-016, Approving Feasibility Study to Examine Grade Level Centers.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

AYE: Sodaro, Sawicki, Pulver, Niceforo, Werner

NAY: None

Absent: Landingham, Wendt

The motion carried 5-0-0-2*.

* Member Pulver abstained from items √15c.) Closed Session Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012 and √15d.) Special Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012.

15.) Approval of Minutes

√a.) Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012.

√b.) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2012.

√c.) Closed Session Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Closed Session Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012.

√d.) Special Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Special Meeting Minutes of April 4, 2012.

16.) Financial Reports and Bills

√a.) Current Bills

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the current bills in the amounts of:

\$	721,304.61	in the Education Fund
\$	50,288.45	in the Building Fund
\$	103,029.41	in the Transportation Fund
\$	1,522.73	in Debt Services
\$	55,571.12	in Site Improvement
\$	1,391,856.34	in Gross Payrolls

√b.) Township School Treasurer's Report

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Township Treasurer's Report for the month of March as prepared.

c.) The District 122 Summary Sheet for March – Informational item for the Board.

d.) RPA Account Summaries – Informational item for the Board.

17.) Personnel

a.) Employment

√1.) Sayida Baste

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Sayida Baste as a Full-Time Speech and Language Pathologist for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 6, Step 1.

√2.) Lauren Vieni

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Lauren Vieni as an Eighth Grade Language Arts/ Literature Teacher at Simmons Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 2, Step 2.

√3.) Kevin Kuzanek

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Kevin Kuzanek as a Sixth Grade Math/ Social Studies Teacher at Simmons Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 1, Step 2.

√4.) Claire McGraw

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Claire McGraw as a Sixth Grade Math/ Science Teacher at Simmons Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 1, Step 2.

√5.) Elizabeth Sauter

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Elizabeth Sauter as a Seventh Grade Spanish/ Social Studies Teacher at Simmons Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 2, Step 3.

√6.) Elizabeth Maskill

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Elizabeth Maskill as a First Grade Teacher at Lieb Elementary School for the 2012-2013 school year starting at Lane 3, Step 4.

√7.) Alejandra Govea

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the employment of Alejandra Govea as the English Language Learner Coordinator for the 2012-2013 school year at a salary of \$65,000 as presented.

b.) Leave of Absence

√1.) Marie Chavosky

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the leave of absence for Marie Chavosky beginning on April 12, 2012 as per Article XIV, Section 8 of the *Agreement between the Board of Education and the Ridgeland Council of Local 943*.

√2.) Takreed AbuRabah

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the leave of absence for Takreed AbuRabah beginning on September 22, 2012 as per Article XIII, Section 1 and Article XIV, Section 2 and 8 of the *Agreement between the Board of Education and the Ridgeland Council of Local 943*.

c.) Resignation

√1.) Jill Poetz

Under the consent agenda the Board accepted the resignation of Jill Poetz.

18.) Notices and Communications

- a.) AERO Governing Board Meeting Update – Informational item for the Board.
- b.) Benedictine Voices Article – Principal Greg Porod was highlighted by Benedictine University in their recent *Benedictine Voices* magazine. A copy was provided for the Board.
- c.) ISC 4 Health/Life Safety Visit – The ISC4 completed a Health/ Life Safety Inspection on March 28th and 29th. The inspection went very well and the buildings have already begun working on the corrections needed.
- d.) SCOPE Governing Board Meeting – SCOPE is hosting a meeting on school reform. Board Members interested in attending should RSVP to Superintendent Smyth.
- e.) Columbus Manor Playground Equipment – Jacob Sodaro and several of his friends located a balance beam that was stolen from Columbus Manor during the reconstruction of the park. The beam was down at a creek being used as a bridge to cross.
- f.) IASB Delegate Assembly – Informational item for the Board.
- g.) Faculty Leader Meeting Minutes – Informational item for the Board.
- h.) Simmons Summer Reading List and Past Literacy Night Selections – Informational item for the Board.
- i.) Board and Administrator – Informational item for the Board.
- j.) Red Ribbon Block Party – Informational item for the Board.
- k.) Responsible Pension Reform Summit – Informational item for the Board.
- l.) ISBE Focus Monitoring – The ISBE recently received the Ridgeland School District 122 corrective action plan that was submitted in response to the focus monitoring they completed in January. ISBE was very pleased and impressed with the plan. They noted one correction the District needs to make to the plan. Data Days for staff will need to include time for discussion on the amount of time special education students spend in the general education classroom, and to continue to find ways to increase that time. Any agendas, presentations, and notes will then need to be uploaded/ reported to Rising Star.

19.) Unfinished Business

√a.) Press PLUS Updates for Adoption

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the second reading for adoption of the following policies as updated and amended: Policy 2:120, Board Member Development (Board of Education); Policy 2:120 E2, Website Listing of Development and Training Completed by Board Members (Board of Education); Delete Policy 2:190, Mailing Lists for Receiving Board Materials (Board of Education); Policy 2:200, Types of Board of Education Meeting (Board of Education); Policy 2:220 E2, Motion to Adjourn to Closed Meeting (Board of Education) and Policy 2:220 E6, Log of Closed Meeting Minutes (Board of Education).

20.) New Business

√a.) School Fees for the 2012-2013 School Year

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the registration fees for the 2012-2013 school year.

√b.) Press PLUS Updates for First Reading

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the first reading of the following policies as updated and amended: Policy 4:110, Transportation (Operational Services); Policy 4:170, Safety (Operational Services); Policy 5:125, Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct (General Personnel); Policy 5:190, Teacher Qualifications (Professional Personnel); Policy 5:220, Substitute Teachers (Professional Personnel); Policy 5:260, Student Teacher and Interns (Professional Personnel); Policy 5:285, Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers (Educational Support Personnel); Policy 6:50, School Wellness (Instruction) and Policy 6:110, Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School (Instruction).

√c.) AERO Budget

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the AERO Budget for the 2012-2013 school year as presented.

√d.) Student/ Parent Handbook for the 2012-2013 School Year

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Student/ Parent Handbook for the 2012-2013 School Year.

√e.) Roofing Project at Lieb Elementary School

Under the consent agenda the Board accepted the bid from RB Crowther in the amount of \$222,650 for the Roofing Project at Lieb Elementary School.

√f.) Corrective Action Plan

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the Corrective Action Plan for Ridgeland School District in response to the Illinois State Board of Education Focus Monitoring Report.

√g.) Balanced Literacy Program

Under the consent agenda the Board adopted the Balanced Literacy Program for Ridgeland School District 122.

√h.) Grade Level Book List

Under the consent agenda the Board adopted the Grade Level Book List for Ridgeland School District 122.

√i.) Grading Scale

Under the consent agenda the Board approved the proposed grading scale as presented.

√j.) Resolution 12-016, Approving Feasibility Study to Examine Grade Level Centers

Under the consent agenda the Board adopted Resolution 12-016, Approving a Feasibility Study to Examine Grade Level Centers.

21.) Comments from Visitors on New Business

Tevelle Gudino, 9714 S. Marion, presented to the Board a petition signed by 40 parents at Columbus Manor requesting that each grade level have no less than two teachers.

22.) Comments from Board Members

Member Niceforo congratulated Lieb on a successful Family Game Night. The turnout for the Wheel of Wisdom was great and looked like everyone had a great time.

Secretary Werner mentioned that she was sorry she missed the Kolb Family Reading Night. She said that Staley the Bear, the Chicago Bears mascot, is one of her favorite assemblies to watch.

Members also thanked Jacob Sodaro and his friends for finding and returning the balance beam for the Columbus Manor Park.

23.) Closed Session for Topic(s) Allowed Under the Illinois Open Meetings Act*

It was moved by Secretary Werner and seconded by Member Niceforo that the Board enter into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2. The Board entered into Closed Session at 7:40 p.m.

It was moved by Secretary Werner and seconded by Member Niceforo that the Board return to Open Session. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted "AYE". The motion carried 5-0-0-2. The Board returned to Open Session at 8:39 p.m.

24.) Possible Action after Closed Session

N/A

25.) Future Business

April 27 Progress Reports Distributed
 May 18 No Student Attendance: Teacher Institute
 May 23 Simmons 8th Grade Graduation
 May 28 Memorial Day: No School
 May 31 End of 3rd Trimester
 Last Day of School: 1 Hour Day
 Report Cards Distributed

26.) Adjournment

It was moved by President Sodaro and seconded by Member Niceforo that the meeting be adjourned. There being no objection to the motion, all members present voted “AYE”. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

► Routine business/ action items in these categories will be taken up under the consent agenda unless a member of the Board requests that a particular item(s) be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion and/or to record a dissenting vote.

* A concise Closed Session for topic(s) allowed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act may be held prior to action on the remainder of the agenda. The topic(s) to be discussed will be included in the motion to go into Closed Session. No votes or other business will be discussed while in Closed Session. When the Board comes out of Closed Session, action can and may be taken.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education