

BOARD OF EDUCATION                      PRAIRIE-HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF WORK SESSION                      DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL CENTER  
3015 WEST 163<sup>RD</sup> STREET                      MARKHAM, ILLINOIS  
MAY 4, 2015

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

President Mrs. Sharron Davis, called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. She then led the Board and Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

The following members were present: Juanita R. Jordan, Dr. Gregory Jackson, Elaine Walker, Joyce Dickerson, Kathy Taylor, Barbara Nettles and Sharron Davis, Absent: None.

Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Kimako Patterson, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Julia A. Veazey, Chief School Business Official & Human Resources, Dr. Alicia Evans, and Director of Student Services, Mrs. Carrie Ablin.

**3. Appropriations Testimony Debriefing**

Dr. Patterson informed the Board that she and Dr. Evans presented before the appropriation committee. She indicated that there was a cut in General State Aid or mandated categorical (Student Services and Transportation). She stated that it looks like the General State Aid will increase but other funds will decrease. Dr. Patterson stated that this may also include secondary schools.

Mrs. Jordan inquired about the pension funds and if the state spoke on the cost shift. Dr. Patterson stated that Dr. Evans is going to build our budget based upon 87% proration's in General State Aid. She stated If we get additional monies we will be in good shape.

Dr. Patterson also informed the Board that Pre-K and Early Childhood classrooms are being moved from Nob Hill School to Mae Jemison School. She stated that there is an already a bi-lingual resource teacher on staff at Mae Jemison School. She is hoping that the district will not get cited on the Pre-k program since there is a bi-lingual program at Mae Jemison School and there was not one at Nob Hill.

**4. PHSD 144 Foundation for Excellence in Education (Discussion)**

Dr. Patterson informed the board that the foundation for excellence in education has come about because we ask the same vendors for funds every year. She stated that she felt that it would be good to have our own pool of money to use for tech fair, scholarships, classroom grants etc.

Dr. Patterson then read the mission for the foundation. She stated that there are a lot of school districts that have foundations and that the majority of funds are donated through private citizens. She informed the Board that she will kick off the fundraising by donating \$500.00 to our Foundation.

Dr. Patterson informed the Board that she would like names for a start-up committee members. She then reviewed a list of potential start up committee members. She would like to have the Board of Directors in place by August of 2015.

She stated that the most successful foundations are supported by the Board of Education and the Superintendent with the main purpose of the foundation being to leave a legacy.

**5. 2015-2016 Administrative Salaries**

Discussed in Executive Session

**6. 2015-2016 Superintendent Compensation**

Discussed in Executive Session

**7. 2015-2016 Assistant Superintendent Compensation**

Discussed in Executive Session

**8. 2015-2016 Administrative and Non-Union Raise Recommendations**

Discussed in Executive Session

**9. RFP for Attorney (Discussion)**

Dr. Patterson inquired if the board would like to pursue seeking a new attorney or Keeping Robbins Schwartz. They discussed the possibility of seeking a new firm for the Foundation.

**10. Renewal of Preferred Meals Contract – Vended Meals for 2015-2016**

Dr. Evans informed the Board that we use Preferred Meals for the elementary schools. She stated that there will be a 3% increase for the 2015/16 school year. increase of 3%.

Dr. Patterson stated that the district spends over one million dollars on Preferred Meals each year.

There was a discussion regarding the district providing satellite meals from the Jr. High kitchen and the equipment that will be needed if the district provided satellite meals to other schools in the district along with the cost.

Dr. Evans stated that all meals are built around the commodities; which are used before any food is ordered from other vendors.

**11. 2013 Hazel Crest Commons PTAB**

Dr. Evans informed the Board that the Hazel Crest Commons on 183rd and Kedzie is seeking \$147,000.00 in a PTAB which will result in a tax refund of \$20,000.00 plus interest. She stated that the Edgewater Walk Condo in Tinley Park was included to

the PTAB for the district in error. Dr. Evans informed the Board that the attorney is suggesting that the District fight the PTAB.

**12. State Funding Update and its Impact on District Finances (Discussion)**

Dr. Evans and the Board discussed the impact of state funding on the district finances. She stated that there will be a cut in the General State Aid and the cut in the transportation budget.

**13. Awesome Transportation Contract**

Mrs. Ablin informed the Board that she would like to renew the contract for Awesome Transportation. She stated that they are used for transporting McKinney Vento students and that there will be no increase in the cost.

**14. Williams Transportation Contract**

Mrs. Ablin stated she would like to renew Williams Transportation. She stated that this is the only company that will go to the city of Chicago. She stated that there will be no increase in cost.

**15. Solliant Health Contract**

Mrs. Ablin informed the Board that she would like to renew the contract with Solliant Health. She stated that they provide Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Psychologists. The fee is \$68-\$74 dollars per hour.

**16. Go Solutions Contract**

Mrs. Ablin informed the Board that she would like to renew the contract with Go Solutions. She stated that they provide medicaid billing. They bill the state for services provided by the district employees.

**17. New Business**

Dr. Patterson inquired if the Board would like to have laptops ordered. There were several laptops that needed to be ordered (Ms. Taylor, Ms. Dickerson, Ms. Walker and Mrs. Jordan).

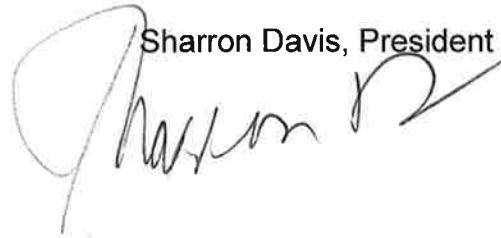
Dr. Patterson informed the board of a civil rights suit against the District filed by a Harvey parent.

**18. Adjournment**

Juanita R. Jordan moved and it was seconded by Dr. Gregory Jackson to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote all members present voted aye. Nays: None. Absent: None.

**Motion Carried 9:30 p.m.**

Submitted by:

Sharron Davis, President  


Kathy Taylor, Secretary  
