

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
3015 WEST 163<sup>RD</sup> STREET

PRAIRIE-HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL CENTER  
MARKHAM, ILLINOIS

JANUARY 4, 2016

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

Vice President Elaine Walker called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. She then led the Board and Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Roll Call**

The following members were present: Juanita R. Jordan, Dr. Gregory Jackson, Kathy Taylor, Elaine Walker and Barbara Nettles. Absent: Joyce Dickerson and Sharron Davis.

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

**C. JMA Architect-South Holland**

James Maciejewski of JMA Architecture presented a brief overview of his company and the services they provide. He stated that his company aims to save districts money. They have also secured grant funds in excess of 60 million dollars. He stated that they are a local company within 10 minutes from the districts. The Board then asked a series of prepared question of the firm and their ability to address the needs of the district.

Joyce Dickerson arrived at 6:15

**D. Moody Nolan- Chicago**

Renauld Mitchell, partner in charge of Moody Nolan Chicago. The company has been in business for 33 years. Mr. Mitchell presented a brief overview of his firm. He stated that they have offices in Ohio, Tennessee and Illinois.( He referenced the Malcolm X College as a major project that his firm has completed in the Illinois area.) He also stated that his firm is the largest African American firm in the United States. The board then asked a series of preselected questions

**E. STR-Chicago**

Jan Tanaguci presented a brief overview of STR-Chicago. He stated that they have been in business for 46 years and that they have been very successful in securing grants. Mr. Tanaguci informed the Board that 87% of their work is done in K-8 buildings and that they are leaders in S.T.E.A.M. He further stated that 99%

percent of their projects are done in education. They then answered a series of preselected questions from the board.

**F. TRIA- Burr Ridge**

James Ptrakos one of three owners of TRIA, introduced Thomas Szurgot another owner and Courtney Terveide interior designer. Mr. Ptrakos presented a brief presentation of the services provided by TRIA. He stated that 45% of their work is in education and municipal projects. He stated that they provide tailored services and that they have completed projects at the Country Club Hills Amphitheater retail project and Thornton High School. Mr. Ptrakos also stated that they will assist in grant writing. The Board then asked them a series of preselected questions.

**G. Approve Positive Connections Contract Severance**

No approval was needed

**H. New Business**

Dr. Patterson informed the Board the Leed certification was not pursued due to an additional cost of \$50,000.00. There was some discussion regarding initial assurances made by Arcon that proved false. As such, Dr. Patterson informed the Board that the new Junior High would not be leed certified.

Dr. Patterson informed the board that the Cheerleaders would like to attend an overnight state competition similar to what occurred last year. She stated that administrators and parents will stay with them and that the custodial staffs schedule will be adjusted.

Dr. Jackson informed the Board that he attended a Township Treasures meeting. He stated that he would like to have Mr. McDonnell attend a board meeting.

**I. Executive Session**

None.

**J. Adjournment**

Juanita R. Jordan moved and it was seconded by Kathy Taylor to adjourn the meeting. On roll call the following members voted aye: Dr. Gregory Jackson, Joyce Dickerson, Kathy Taylor, Elaine Walker, Barbara Nettles and Juanita R. Jordan. Nays: None. Absent: Sharron Davis.

**Motion Carried 8:05 p.m.**

Submitted By,

*Elaine Walker*

Elaine Walker, Vice President

*Kathy Taylor*

Kathy Taylor, Secretary