

**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of the Board of Education**  
**District 201, Cook County**  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2026**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Board of Education of J. Sterling Morton High School, District 201 was called to order at 5:21 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at in the Garden Terrace Room at Morton District Office by Member Pesek.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Member Jaramillo-Flores called the roll and the following were present:

Members Fernando Godinez, Jessica Jaramillo-Flores, Mark Kraft and Jeffrey Pesek

Absent: Members Maria A. Gallegos, Dr. Margaret Kelly and Sandra Tomschin

Also, present Superintendent Dr. Michael Kuzniewski, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Josh McMahon, Director of Human Resources Randall Borgardt, Business Manager Nick Valderas, Attorney Karl Vogel, Board Clerk Connie Chapman and Assistant Board Clerk Sally Walsh.

**3. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Member Kraft moved to adjourn to Closed Session at 5:22 p.m. in the Board Room at the Morton District Office. Member Godinez seconded.

Ayes: Members, Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kraft and Pesek

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Members Gallegos, Kelly and Tomschin

Motion carried.

**4. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

4.1. Student disciplinary cases. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

4.2. 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 this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

4.3. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

- 4.4. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
- 4.5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
- 4.6. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6)

**5. MOTION TO ADJOURN FROM CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Member Godinez motioned to adjourn from Closed Session and Reconvene to Open Session at 5:38 p.m. in the Garden Terrace room at the Morton District Office. Member Jaramillo-Flores seconded.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kraft, Murga, Pesek and Villarreal  
Nays: none  
Abstain: none  
Absent: Members Gallegos, Kelly and Tomschin  
Motion carried.

**6. ROLL CALL**

Secretary Jaramillo-Flores called the roll and the following were present:  
Members Fernando Godinez, Jessica Jaramillo-Flores, Mark Kraft, Megan Murga, Jeffry Pesek and Adrian Villarreal

Absent: Members Maria A. Gallegos, Dr. Margaret Kelly and Sandra Tomschin

Also, present Superintendent Dr. Kuzniewski, Attorney Karl Vogel, Board Clerk Connie Chapman and Assistant Board Clerk Sally Walsh

**7. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** President Pesek led the pledge.

**8. RECOGNITIONS:** None

**9. REPORTS**

9.1. **Superintendent's Committee Reports:**

9.2. **Student Board Member's Reports:**

9.2.1. Megan Murga – Morton East

9.2.2. Adrian Villarreal – Morton West

9.3. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Kuzniewski reported.

9.4. **Assistant Superintendent for Compliance:** None.

9.5. **Assistant Superintendent of Educational Program's Report:** Dr. Joshua McMahon reported.

9.6. **Business Manager Report:** Nick Valderas reported.

9.7. **Executive Director of Human Resources' Report:** Mr. Randy Borgardt reported

9.8. **Principal's Reports:**

9.8.1. James Connelly – CTE School

9.8.2. Dr. Erin Kelly – Alternative School

9.8.3. Jose Gamboa – East Campus

9.8.4. Eric Ramirez – Freshman Center

9.8.5. Kristy Cavanaugh – West Campus

10. **AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS ONLY:** None

11. **ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT AGENDA**

Member Kraft motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Godinez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, and Villarreal

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Members Gallegos, Kelly and Tomschin

Motion carried.

11.1. **Approval of Minutes:**

11.1.1. Closed Session

11.1.1.1. Regular Board Meeting: March 11, 2026

11.1.2. Open Session

11.1.2.1. Regular Board Meeting: March 11, 2026

11.2. **Approval of Payroll:**

11.2.1. Education: \$7,747,320.48

11.2.2. Building: \$997,464.37

11.2.3. Transportation: \$1,313.39

11.3. **Approval of Bills for Payment:**

11.3.1. March 26, 2026: \$15,921.67

11.3.2. April 9, 2026a: \$59,280.13

11.3.3. April 9, 2026b: \$3,233,727.11

11.4. **Approval of Student Discipline**

11.4.1. 491906

Change of placement to alternate educational setting at the FC re-engagement for the remainder of the 2nd semester of the 2025-2026 school year.

- 11.4.2. 490353  
Change of placement to alternate educational setting at the Morton Alternative School PM program for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.
- 11.4.3. 473090  
Change of placement to alternative educational setting for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, the entire 2026-2027 school year and the first semester of the 2027-2028 school year at the Morton Alternative School.
- 11.4.4. 481779  
Change of placement to alternative educational setting for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year, the entire 2026-2027 school year and the first semester of the 2027-2028 school year at the Morton Alternative School.
- 11.4.5. **Expulsion(s)**
  - 11.4.5.1. 480136  
Expulsion held in abeyance pending the successful enrollment and participation at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year and the first semester of the 26-27 school year.

**11.5. Approval of Personnel**

11.5.1. Personnel Report

**ADMINISTRATION**

Kristina Cavanaugh	Executive Director of Safety & Alternative Educational Programs (transfer from Principal at West) <b>New Position Approved March 2026</b> <b>Effective: 07/01/2026</b>	District
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**CERTIFIED STAFF**

Michaelina Considine	Special Education Teacher (transfer from West) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective: Start of the 2026-2027 School Year</b>	East
Georgia Hiotis	School Social Worker (transfer from FC) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective: Start of the 2026-2027 School Year</b>	East
Jacob Paterkiewicz	Mathematics Teacher (transfer from East) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective: Start of the 2026-2027 School Year</b>	West
Gloria Rendon	Special Education Teacher (transfer from West) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective: Start of the 2026-2027 School Year</b>	East

## NON-CERTIFIED

### Non-Bargaining

Ellie Fallon	School Psychologist Intern <b>Effective:</b> 2026-2027 School Year	West
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Arlette Meza Gomez	Parent Liaison (transfer from Records Clerk at District) <b>Replacement for:</b> Vanessa Camacho <b>Effective:</b> 04/13/2025	FC
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### Teaching Assistants

Veronica Fernandez	Teaching Assistant (transfer from West) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective:</b> Start of the 2026-2027 School Year	East
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Russell Hall	Teaching Assistant (transfer from West) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective:</b> Start of the 2026-2027 School Year	East
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Sonia Rada	Teaching Assistant (transfer from West) <b>Transfer of FTE</b> <b>Effective:</b> Start of the 2026-2027 School Year	East
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## SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

### Summer Bridge

Jose Acevedo	Summer Bridge Teaching Assistant	FC
Sean Arana	Summer Bridge Dean	FC
Victoria Ayala	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Wendy Baxter	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Karl Benford	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Logan Brown	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Jamie Bueno	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Maximiliano Burgess	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Anmar Cabral	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Michaelina Considine	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Erica Coss	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Stefano Crancich	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Kyle Deger	Summer Bridge Counselor	West
Elizabeth DeGraff	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Benjamin Dobes	Summer Bridge Dean	FC
Elizabeth Dominick	Summer Bridge Nurse	FC
Alexandria Ellison	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Dalton Elkins	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Karen Flores	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Kent Frankfother	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Miranda Garcia	Summer Bridge Teacher	West

Liza Garrido Schwartz	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Jessica Gonzalez	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Jorie Grande	Summer School Librarian	West
Evan Gronlund	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Danita Guerrero	Summer Bridge Teaching Assistant	West
Leah Haft	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Kayla Harnish	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Juan Hernandez-Flores	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Rachel Hosek	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Lucy Jensen	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Zachary Kieffer	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Julianne Kostolansky	Summer Bridge Nurse	West
Saeed Kuzmar	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Kendall Lager	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Angel Magana	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Janet Montalvo	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Vanessa Montalvo	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Nicole McDowell	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Adilene Medina	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Maggie Morales	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Robert Murphy	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
James Nolan	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Kiara Olivares	Summer Bridge Clerical	West
Berenice Peralta	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Alexandra Platek	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
McKenna Powers	Summer Bridge Dean	West
Laura Prochot-Wisniewski	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Juanita Ramirez	Summer Bridge Teaching Assistant	West
Ella Reckamp	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Ella Reckamp	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Denise Reiter	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Nereida Rodriguez	Summer Bridge Counselor	FC
Carmen Salgado	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Miranda Salinas	Summer Bridge Clerical	FC
Angelica Samata	Summer Bridge Teacher	FC
Victoria Therriault	Summer Bridge Librarian	East
Erica Torres	Summer Bridge Clerical	West
Lissette Torres	Summer Bridge Clerical	FC
Mariana Valdez	Summer Bridge Teacher	West
Estela Valenciano	Summer Bridge Teaching Assistant	West
Gabriel Villanueva	Summer Bridge Counselor	FC
Adriana Villarreal	Summer Bridge Teaching Assistant	FC
 <b>Summer School</b>		
Christian Arenas	Summer School Teacher	West
Anne Biagi	Summer School Nurse	West

Sherrie Brassard	Summer School Teacher	East
Jake Brown	Summer School Teacher	East
Andrew Busse	Summer School Teacher	ALT
Michael Caruso	Summer School Teacher	East
Juanita Chacon	Summer School Clerical	West
Stefano Crancich	Summer School Teacher	West
Salandra Crockett	Summer School Dean	East
Stephanie Davila	Summer School Social Worker	West
Gordon Dezotell	Summer School Teacher	West
Kimberly Dominguez	Summer School Teacher	East
Matthew Edquist	Summer School Teacher	ALT
Jorie Grande	Summer School Librarian	West
Samantha Gutheim	Summer School Teacher	East
Michael Hasler	Summer School Teacher	West
Denisse Henriquez	Summer School Teacher	East
Carolina Hernandez	Summer School Teacher	East
Yolanda James	Summer School Teacher	East
Megan Jennings	Summer School Teacher	East
Stephany Juarez	Summer School Teacher	East
Alex Karr	Summer School Dean	West
Maureen Kattah	Summer School Teacher	West
Peter Kula	Summer School Teacher	East
Blake Lindholm	Summer School Teacher	East
Sarah Llort	Summer School Teacher	East
David Lopez	Summer School Teacher	ALT
Kevin Lopez	Summer School Security	ALT
Constandina Loumakis	Summer School Teacher	West
Michael McGlennon	Summer School Teacher	West
Kevin Melvin	Summer School Teacher	ALT
Rafael Mendoza	Summer School Teacher	West
Christine Miller	Summer School Teacher	West
Katya Miranda	Summer School Counselor	East
Nathaniel Moore	Summer School Teacher	East
Sebastian Mora	Summer School Teacher	East
Stephany Padilla	Summer School Teacher	East
Santos Patino	Summer School Clerical	East
McKenna Powers	Summer School Dean	West
Dea Qendro	Summer School Teacher	West
Mohammed Ramadan	Summer School Teacher	East
Ruben Reyes	Summer School Social Worker	East
Ruben Reyes	Summer School Social Worker	West
Patrick Riley	Summer School Teacher	West
Daisy Ruiz	Summer School Teacher	East
Leticia Ruiz	Summer School Library Clerical	East
Veronica Rundell	Summer School Teacher	East
Brett Rush	Summer School Teacher	West

Matthew Russo	Summer School Teacher	West
Maria Salgado	Summer School Counselor	West
Sarah Schoel	Summer School Teacher	East
Victoria Therriault	Summer School Librarian	West
Daniel Tondelli	Summer School Teacher	West
Erica Torres	Summer School Library Clerical	West
Leah Vaughan	Summer School Teacher	East
David Waldron	Summer School Teacher	West
Andre Wilson	Summer School Security	ALT
Rebecca Wilson	Summer School Teacher	West
Natalie Wodynski	Summer School Teacher	West
Enrique Yanez	Summer School Teacher	West
Alexandria Ziebell	Summer School Teacher	East
Martha Zurita	Summer School Teacher	ALT

### **AP Boot Camps**

Samuel Bonner	AP Boot Camp Teacher	East
James Dobrzanski	AP Boot Camp Teacher	East
Patrick Gierut	AP Boot Camp Teacher	East
Eloy Hernandez	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Barbara Kane	AP Boot Camp Teacher	East
Christian Lopez	AP Boot Camp Teacher	East
Kate Perek	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Mohammed Ramadan	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Silvestre Rodriguez	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Sara Svoboda	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Mariana Valdes	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West
Mark Yunker	AP Boot Camp Teacher	West

### **Enrichment Seminars**

Nayeli Arellano	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Daniel Fordney	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Itzel Gonzalez	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	East
Nathalie Guerrero-Ramirez	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Callie Helton	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Amalia Herrera	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Natalie Juarez	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Scott Katzberger	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Katelyn Klein	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Kevin Krizizke	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	FC
Brenda Lopez	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	FC
Marines Martinez	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Jacqueline Navarro	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	East
Kevin O'Toole	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	FC
Adrian Tovar	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Allison Tracy	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	FC

Mario Valdivia	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	FC
Charles Verdico	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	West
Iomil Villanueva	Summer Enrichment Seminar Teacher	East

### **Extended School Year (ESY)**

Perla Morales	ESY Teaching Assistant	ALT
Carolina Ruiz	ESY Teaching Assistant	ALT

### **LEAVES**

Priscilla Berry	Leave of Absence <b>Effective: 05/01/2026 – 05/26/2026</b>	West
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Arianna Chavez	Maternity Leave <b>Effective: 07/20/2026 – 07/31/2026</b>	FC
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Stacy Rusakiewicz	Leave of Absence <b>Effective: 04/10/2026 – 05/22/2026</b>	West
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### **SUSPENSIONS**

Employee #8713	<b>Effective: 04/15/2026</b>	
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### **RETIREMENTS**

Maria Rosa Calvillo	Full Time Food Service <b>Effective: 05/20/2027</b>	East
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Graciela Jaramillo	Full Time Food Service <b>Effective: 04/08/2026</b>	FC
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### **RESIGNATIONS**

Paola Leandro	Food Service Part Time <b>Effective: 03/17/2026</b>	West
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Lithza Mateo Nieves	EL Teacher <b>Effective: End of 2025-2026 School Year</b>	West
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Kristen McChesney	Teacher Appraisal Specialist <b>Effective: End of 2025-2026 School Year</b>	FC
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Miguel Ocampo	Food Service Part Time <b>Effective: 03/17/2026</b>	West
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Liliana Sanchez	Food Service Substitute <b>Effective: 03/27/2026</b>	West
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Justin Stringer	Dean of Students <b>Effective: End of 2025-2026 School Year</b>	West
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Michelle Villarreal                      Library Clerk    West  
**Effective: 05/26/2026**

Horacio Villegas                      10 Month Full Time Security    East  
**Effective: 03/31/2026**

**JOB ABANDONMENT**

Aaliyah Harper                      10 Month Full Time Security    East  
**Effective: 03/09/2026**

**11.6. Approval of Board of Education Travel and/or Expense Reimbursement in Accordance with Board Policy 2:125:**

11.6.1.      Board of Education  
                    2026 NASRO National School Safety Conference  
                    June 28 - July 2, 2026  
                    Funding Source: Local Funds

11.6.2.      Board Travel Reimbursement: Sandra Tomschin COSSBA

**11.7. Approval of Staff Travel and/or Expense Reimbursement in Accordance with Board Policy 5:60:**

11.7.1.      Patrick Riley and Daniel Delaney  
                    2026 Legislative Semester Community of Practice Workshop  
                    June 24-25, 2026  
                    Funding Source: Title II

**11.8. Approval of Student Travel:**

11.8.1.      Dalton Elkins, Brenda Lopez, 10 Morton East/FC Staff and 72 Students  
                    Snowball Retreat  
                    March 13-15, 2026  
                    East Troy, Wisconsin  
                    Funding Source: Student Funded

11.8.2.      Jennie Crownson, Eveelin Avila, Kent Frankfother and 7 Students  
                    State of Illinois History Day Competition  
                    April 26-27, 2026  
                    Springfield, Illinois  
                    Funding Source: Social Science Department

11.8.3.      Roman Emano, Stefanie Ammerman, Danielle Haas, Hector Hernandez  
                    and 24 Students  
                    Morton Adventure Club  
                    May 1-3, 2026  
                    Lake James, Indiana  
                    Funding Source: Student Funded

**11.9. Approval of Facility Requests:**

11.9.1.      Morton Class of 1971

- 11.10. **Approval of Contracts (Pending Final Legal Review and Negotiation [if necessary]):** None
- 11.11. **Approval to Bid or Quote:** None
- 11.12. **Approval of Bid Results:**
  - 11.12.1. PE Uniforms
  - 11.12.2. Student Uniforms
- 11.13. **Approval to Accept Donations/Grants:**
  - 11.13.1. Instrument: 3/4 Cello
- 11.14. **Approval to Dispose of District Property:** None

**12. ACTIONS ITEM(S):**

**12.1. Approval of Fee Sheet for the 26-27 School Year**

Member Kraft motioned to approve the Fee Sheet for the 26-27 School Year. Member Godinez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, and Villarreal  
 Nays: none  
 Abstain: none  
 Absent: Members Gallegos, Kelly and Tomschin  
 Motion carried.

**13. OLD BUSINESS:** None

**14. AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**15. BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS:** None

**16. DISCUSSION:** None

**17. CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**18. INFORMATIONAL ITEM:**

18.1. The next regular Board of Education Meeting will take place at Morton District Office on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, starting at 5:00 p.m. and going directly into Closed Session.

**19. ADJOURNMENT:**

At 5:51 p.m., Member Kraft moved to adjourn. Member Godinez seconded.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kraft, Murga, Pesek and Villarreal  
 Nays: none  
 Abstain: none  
 Absent: Members Gallegos, Kelly and Tomschin  
 Motion carried.

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Jeffry Pesek, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Jessica Jaramillo-Flores, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date