

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Education

Harlem Consolidated School District # 122

A Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of Harlem Consolidated School District was held Tuesday, October 13, 2026, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Harlem Administration Center - Board Room 8605 North Second St Machesney Park, Illinois 61115.

1. Call to Order of Regular Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. by Mike Sterling
2. Roll Call- *Mike Sterling, Kurt Thompson, Aaron McKnight, Diane McKinney, Rebecca Carlson, Diana Johnson, Evelyn Meeks*
Cabinet Members: *Pam Cook, Recording Secretary*
Dr. Yarbrough, Superintendent
Dr. Shelley Wagner, Asst. Superintendent for Human Resources- ABSENT
Dr. Michelle Erb, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Jason Blume, Asst. Superintendent for Communication & Community Relations
Josh Aurand, Asst. Superintendent for Business & Operations
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Rock Cut Elementary students
4. **Approval of Agenda**
1st Thompson 2nd Carlson
Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling- 7 ayes
Motion Carried
5. The Mission of the Harlem Consolidated School District, as a vital part of the community, is to help diverse learners realize their unlimited potential by providing an educational program dedicated to academic excellence and the development of strong character in a safe and respectful learning environment.
6. **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from September 28, 2026, and Special Board Meeting—Board Workshop from September 30, 2026**
1st McKnight 2nd McKinney
McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, McKnight, Thompson- 7 ayes
Motion Carried
7. Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations
 - A. Awards and Recognitions
Katlyn, 5th grader at Machesney Elementary, was recognized for her work she completed as a fourth grader. The artwork was inspired by a sun-moon design from Mexico and used warm and cool colors, puffy paint, yarn, Sharpies, Styrofoam, glue, and tin foil. Her artwork will be displayed at the Harlem Administration Center Art Gallery.
8. Comments from the Community- none
9. **Approval of Bills**
1st Johnson 2nd McKinney
McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight- 7 ayes
Motion Carried

- A. Payables Summary- **\$785,070.31**
- B. Voided Checks- **\$0**
- C. Payroll Voucher(s)-**\$3,467,880.12**
- D. Accounts Payable Warrants- **\$4,252,950.43**
- 10. Administrative Reports
 - A. Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
 - 1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests: **none**
 - B. Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
 - 1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property:
Surplus declared is from Machesney and Loves Park Elementary, Transportation and Harlem Middle School
 - 2. Recommendation to accept July Treasurer's Report
 - 3. Recommendation to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Hagney Architects for parking lot and tennis court project at Harlem High School, parking lot and playground project at Machesney Elementary, parking lot and playground project at Marquette Elementary, and south parking lot project at Harlem Middle School
 - 4. Recommendation to award Hot Water Boiler Replacement at Harlem High School Project bid to Nelson Carlson Mechanical for a base bid of \$748,000 and Alternate 1 of \$202,000, for a total bid of \$950,000
 - 5. Recommendation to approve an agreement with HMH Into Reading for 4 days of in-person coaching for Rock Cut Elementary, at a cost of \$16,800, paid with School Improvement Grant
 - 6. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Safe and Civil Schools for virtual professional development for the middle school, at a cost of \$4,200, paid with School Improvement Grant
 - 7. Recommendation to approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Maria Ragonese to provide speech and language services at \$125/hour for 140 hours for a total cost of \$17,500, paid by IDEA
 - 8. Recommendation to approve the estimated annual 2026 Tax Levy
Josh Aurand reviewed the tax levy; a final tax levy is expected to be presented at the November 16 Board meeting following additional review at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 11. Josh is recommending to keep the 2026 tax levy under 5%.
 - ~~C. —Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources—~~ Dr. Terrell Yarbrough presented the Personnel Agenda & Addendum in Dr. Wagner's absence.
 - 1. Recommendation to approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum
*Transfers-3
 Employment-3
 Resignations-9
 Stipends- 8*
- D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent
 - 1. Freedom of Information Act request dated September 30, 2026 was submitted by Sheri Reid from SmartProcure requesting all purchasing records from July 1, 2026, to current. The District responded to the requestor on October 1, 2026, with responsive documents.
 - 2. Freedom of Information Act request dated September 18, 2026 was submitted by Oshea Smith from Sunlight Access requesting a summary of all purchase orders from March 1,

2026, to July 31, 2026. The District responded to the requestor on October 7, 2026, with responsive documents.

3. ESJ Update-Oct 22 at 4:30 PM at Harlem Middle School library- *Courageous Allyship*

11. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

1st McKnight 2nd Johnson

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney-7 ayes

Motion Carried

B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)- none

12. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

B. Accept July Treasurer's Report

1st Thompson 2nd Sterling

Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

C. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Hagney Architects for parking lot and tennis court project at Harlem High School, parking lot and playground project at Machesney Elementary, parking lot and playground project at Marquette Elementary, and south parking lot project at Harlem Middle School

1st McKnight 2nd Johnson

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

D. Approve to award Hot Water Boiler Replacement at Harlem High School Project bid to Nelson Carlson Mechanical for a base bid of \$748,000 and Alternate 1 of \$202,000, for a total bid of \$950,000

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

E. Approve an agreement with HMH Into Reading for 4 days of in-person coaching for Rock Cut Elementary, at a cost of \$16,800, paid with School Improvement Grant

1st McKinney 2nd Sterling

McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

F. Approve an agreement with Safe and Civil Schools for virtual professional development for the middle school, at a cost of \$4,200, paid with School Improvement Grant

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight- 7 ayes

Motion Carried

G. Approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Maria Ragonese to provide speech and language services at \$125/hour for 140 hours for a total cost of \$17,500, paid by IDEA

1st McKnight 2nd Sterling

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney- 7 ayes
Motion Carried

H. Approve the estimated annual 2026 Tax Levy

1st McKinney 2nd Johnson

Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson- 7 ayes
Motion Carried

13. Announcements and Discussion:

Dr. Yarbrough recognized District teacher and Dr. Erb for academic growth recognition efforts.

Diana Johnson mentioned the HCC and YMCA merger ribbon cutting on Oct. 22 at 10 a.m.

Aaron McKnight commented about the historical tax rate in continuing to come down.

Mike Sterling Mike mentioned of T-Shirt Tuesday has completed its first round visiting the school buildings. He thanked Dr. Yarbrough for including him on these visits to see different programs, teachers and students.

A. Mike Sterling — Board President

B. Motion to appoint the 2026 IASB Delegate to the 2026 IASB Delegate Assembly on behalf of the Harlem School District. (vote by consensus) *Diane McKinney was appointed as delegate of the 2026 Delegate Assembly by consensus*

C. Motion that the appointed 2026 IASB Delegate be granted the authority to vote on the IASB Resolutions at the 2026 Delegate Assembly solely in accordance with the consensus of this Board of Education on October 13, 2026. (vote by consensus) *Approved by consensus*

14. Executive Session to discuss Employment of Personnel (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Selection of a Person to Fill a Public Office (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3), Pending Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Student Discipline (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), Placement of Individual Students in Special Education Programs and Other Matters Relating to Individual Students (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10), Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the District (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the District (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), Self-Evaluation, Practices and Procedures or Professional Ethics (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16), Sale or Purchase of Securities, Investments or Investment Contracts (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7), Security Procedures (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8), Establishment of Reserves or Settlement of Claims as provided in Local Government and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(12), and Discussion of Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

15. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION

16. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 6:04 PM

1st McKnight 2nd Johnson

All Aye; Motion Carried

Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Cook
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

President

Date: _____

Secretary