

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, February 17, 2026, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Harlem Administration Center - Board Room, 8605 North Second St., Machesney Park, IL 61115.

1. Call to Order of Regular Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. by Mike Sterling
Roll Call *Mike Sterling, Aaron McKnight, Kurt Thompson, Diane McKinney, Rebecca Carlson, Diana Johnson*, Absent: *Evelyn Meeks*

Other Attendees: *Pam Cook, Recording Secretary*

Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

Joshua Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

Nominate Diana Johnson as Secretary Pro-Tem

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

All aye- Nomination Approved

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Loves Park Elementary students

3. Approval of Agenda

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

**Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson-6 ayes; Meeks- Absent
Motion Carried**

4. 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.

5. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2026; Special Board for Public Hearing minutes for January 26, 2026; & Special Board meeting minutes and Closed Session minutes for January 27, 2026:

1st Johnson 2nd McKinney

**Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried**

6. Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

A. Awards and Recognitions

-HMS Cheer Team Black was recognized for their achievement at the IESA State Cheer Competition for placing 11 out of 26 teams. This is the first time the middle school team has been to this competition. Team Black performs routines to music with more elite stunts like doing flips in the air. This was a long season for them. Coach Stark and Coach Aaron commended them for dedication and hard work.

-Mr. Tim Perian and Mr. Jeremy Toledo introduced five students from the high school that qualified to go to ILMEA All State. One student is from band, three students are from choir

and one student went for Future Music Educators seminar. Mr. Perian highlighted the rigorous audition process and the honor of being selected. Mr. Toledo elaborated on the intense selection process for the All-State choir and the honor of being selected. The five students shared their experiences at the conference, including the rehearsals, performances, and the impact of the event on their musical development.

7. Comments from the Community- none

8. Approval of Bills

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

McKnight, McKnight, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent Motion Carried

A. Payables Summary- *\$1,181,100.24*

B. Voided Checks- *\$1,837.65*

C. Payroll Voucher(s)- *\$7,268,502.11*

D. Accounts Payable Warrants-*\$8,449,602.35*

9. Administrative Reports

A. Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests:

-IHSA Boys State Bowling; Jan.29-Feb1 Fairview Heights IL

-IL Coal Grant Oral Histories; Sparta IL March 18-22

-IHSA Wrestling Sectionals; Barrington IL Feb. 13-14

2. Presentation of 2026-2027 District calendar

Michelle Erb presented the 2026-27 District Calendar. There were 130 responses; most were positive. 1st semester and 2nd semester are only two days difference; Graduation is May 23, 2027-seniors won't have to be out of school for too long before graduation; tried to align with surrounding districts.

3. Recommendation to approve District Behavior Plan

-Michelle Erb addressed the ISBE Discipline Plan, explaining the focus on reducing exclusionary practices and the adjustments made to the district's policies; She also highlighted the use of in school suspensions and detentions as alternative to out of school suspensions, and the on-going evaluation of data to ensure equitable practices.

B. Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property:

2. Recommendation to accept December 2025 Treasurer's Report

3. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Legends Global for the rental of BMO Harris Bank Center on Saturday, May 23, 2026, for graduation ceremonies

4. Recommendation to renew auditing services contract with Sikich at a cost for FY26 at \$44,250, FY27 at \$45,500, and FY28 at \$46,750

5. Recommendation to approve an agreement with AYA Healthcare Inc. to provide a Speech and Language Pathologist for a short term FMLA leave at a cost of \$100 per hour at 37.5 hours per week, for a total cost of \$48,750.00, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B

6. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Sunbelt LLC to provide a Speech and Language Pathologist for a short term FMLA leave at a cost of \$112 per hour at 37.5 hours per week, for a total cost of \$54,600.00, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B

7. Recommendation to approve a subscription for 300 FastBridge Licenses and Professional Development for a cost of \$2,355, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds

8. Recommendation to approve 4 days of coaching for Into Reading Coaching for a cost of \$15,120 and 4 days of coaching for ReadyMath Coaching for a cost of \$9,600; for a total of cost of \$24,720, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds

9. Recommendation to approve the purchase of Wilson Just Words Program for \$21,861, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds
- C. Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 1. Recommendation to approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum
 - Employments-8**
 - Transfers-4**
 - Resignations-20**
 - Leave of Absence-1**
- D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent
 1. Freedom of Information Act request dated January 1, 2026, was submitted by Owen Wang from Rockford Sun requesting copies of all vendor contracts over \$1,000 for the current school fiscal year. The District responded to the requestor on January 16, 2026, with the inclusive document.
 2. A Freedom of Information Act dated January 6, 2026, was submitted by David Arvayo from the Painter District Council No.30 requesting any properties owned, maintained, or operated by Harlem School District No. 122, including, but not limited to, schools, administrative buildings, or any other facilities owned or maintained by the school district built before January 1, 1978. The District responded on January 20, 2026, with the inclusive documents
 3. Freedom of Information Act request dated January 15, 2026, was submitted by Chris Miller requesting copies of any existing records that describe purchasing or contracting approval authority within your School District. The District responded to the requestor on January 26, 2026, with the inclusive documents.
 4. A Freedom of Information Act request dated January 3, 2026, was submitted by Shari Reid of SmartProcure requesting any and all purchasing records from 10/3/2025 to current. The District responded to the requestor on January 30, 2026, with the inclusive documents.
 5. Freedom of Information Act request dated December 11, 2025, was submitted by Chad Szekeres of Devine 180 requesting access to records held by the district related to the current security system and life safety solutions, support and maintenance agreements, contracts and equipment which would have been purchased and/or installed in the past 5 years. The District responded to the requestor on February 4, 2026, with the inclusive documents.
10. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum
 - 1st McKnight 2nd McKinney**
 - McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight-6 ayes; Meeks Absent**
 - Motion Carried**
 - B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)
 - 1st Thompson 2nd Sterling**
 - Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent**
 - Motion Carried**
11. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Approve District Behavior Plan
 - 1st McKnight 2nd Sterling**
 - Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Johnson, Sterling-5 ayes; Carlson-no;**
 - Meeks-Absent**
 - Motion Carried**
 - B. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property
 - 1st McKnight 2nd McKinney**
 - Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent**

Motion Carried

- C. Accept December 2025 Treasurer's Report
1st Johnson 2nd McKinney
Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- D. Approve an agreement with Legends Global for the rental of BMO Harris Bank Center on Saturday, May 23, 2026, for graduation ceremonies
1st Johnson 2nd Sterling
McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- E. Approve renewal of auditing services contract with Sikich at a cost for FY26 at \$44,250, FY27 at \$45,500, and FY28 at \$46,750
1st Carlson 2nd Johnson
Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- F. Approve an agreement with AYA Healthcare Inc. to provide a Speech and Language Pathologist for a short term FMLA leave at a cost of \$100 per hour at 37.5 hours per week, for a total cost of \$48,750.00, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B
1st Carlson 2nd Johnson
Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- G. Approve an agreement with Sunbelt LLC to provide a Speech and Language Pathologist for a short term FMLA leave at a cost of \$112 per hour at 37.5 hours per week, for a total cost of \$54,600.00, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B
1st Carlson 2nd McKnight
Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- H. Approve a subscription for 300 FastBridge Licenses and Professional Development for a cost of \$2,355, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds
1st Carlson 2nd Sterling
Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- I. Approve 4 days of coaching for Into Reading Coaching for a cost of \$15,120 and 4 days of coaching for ReadyMath Coaching for a cost of \$9,600; for a total of cost of \$24,720, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds
1st McKinney 2nd Johnson
Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
- J. Approve the purchase of Wilson Just Words Program for \$21,861, paid with School Improvement 1003(a) Funds
1st Thompson 2nd McKnight
McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson-6 ayes; Meeks-Absent
Motion Carried
12. Announcements and Discussion:
Mike Sterling read the MOU that was agreed upon by Harlem Federation of Teachers regarding coaching stipends. The MOU emphasized the recognition of prior coaching experience and the equitable treatment of coaches.

Aaron McKnight raised a question about of coaches who step down and don't coach or an extended period of time but remain employed. The sport can change over time and may not have the same experience as they once had.

Mike explained this is where professional development comes into play and there is a hiring process to evaluate their experience as a coach.

Elana Schelling-Tufte explained the importance of maintaining experienced coaches within the district and the benefits of the MOU in ensuring equitable treatment for all coaching positions.

- 13. Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Employment of Personnel (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and Discussion of Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) 1st McKnight 2nd Sterling Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Sterling- 6 ayes; Meeks-Absent Motion Carried**

The Board took a brief recess at 6:59PM and went into Closed Session at 7:03PM; returned to Open Session at 7:09PM

14. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION
None

15. Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:10PM
1st Johnson 2nd McKnight
All aye; Motion Carried**

Meeting adjourned at 7:10PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Cook
Record Secretary

ATTEST:

President

Date: _____

Secretary