

Minutes of Committee of the Whole

The Board of Education

Harlem Consolidated School District # 122

A Committee of the Whole of the Board of Education of Harlem Consolidated School District was held Wednesday, February 11, 2026, beginning at 4:30 PM in the Harlem Administration Center - Board Room, 8605 North Second St., Machesney Park, IL 61115

1. **EQUITY:** (Approximately 60 minutes) started at 4:48

Administrator: Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

A. Roll Call: ~~Evelyn Meeks~~, Mike Sterling, Jason Blume, Terrell Yarbrough, Pam Cook, Union Leah Krippner/designee

E Team members:

Loves Park- Christy Grace

Machesney-Abigail Edwards

Maple-Emily Bork

Marquette-Brad Kolar

Olson Park-Marya Nelson

Parker Center-Erin Anderson

Ralston-Scott Rollinson

Rock Cut- Ryan Reinecke

Windsor-Kelsie Scarpetta

High School-Kyra Newnam/ Jeremy Bois

Middle School-Jennifer Curless

B. Meeting Minutes Consensus: November 12, 2025- yes

C. Goal Statements

D. Public Comments (if any)- *none*

E. Discussion Items

1. School Climate & Culture

HHS- The high school basketball team got to play at Pfizer stadium in Milwaukee. While the team was there the stadium was celebrating Black History Month. Two of Harlem students were on the Milwaukee news talking about what this experience meant to them.

HMS- Staff was given a survey asking Why do you think students come to school? The top response was friendship and peer connections. Students were given a question What are the top three reasons you want to come to school? The top three reasons were Friendships and social connections, Sports, Clubs or activities, and School events.

LP- The school store sold yo-yos, big success; trimester assemblies, students' birthdays were announced every day then they would get a birthday pencil; staff would get birthday cards and a gift to their favorite restaurant and the PTO would to an appreciate gift; there is a family literacy night and a monthly food night.

MC-Machesney has staff celebration and student celebration as well as their trimester assembly. PBIS activities, Skymall and PTO activities. A community mural was unveiled today showing that everyone is welcome at Machesney Elementary.

MP- Maple is adding some experiences students to close out the year, like adding school store dates, getting Maple t-shirts, encouraging field trips all grades, free skate night, family dances, and an end of the year block party. Trying to honor the experiences of Maple School

MR- Elephant size kindness activity where students would show kindness to their peers. A Step into my Shoes activity in the gym gave the students an opportunity to learn more about their peers. The Sense of Belonging Survey data was shared that all but one data point went up.

OP-Students will have the opportunity to share their lessons learned and memories earned and will be displayed. Parent will have a corresponding Facebook page fill out for their favorite memory. Olson Park has t-shirts planned for all staff and students will receive. A family dance is planned in March. PTA is purchasing a build your own mascot for every student and looking into a planetarium assembly.

PC- Each Kindergarten class went to the Burpee Museum to learn about dinosaurs and fossils. The music concert will revolve around dinosaurs. There was a family dance night where \$5 got you in to dance and do crafts for a couple of hours.

RA- Celebrating Literacy Math Night was part of the Art Fair and the Book Fair celebrations. The theme was Scales & Tails. There were live animals like a snake, a lizard, big tortoise. It was well attended. Also, Black History month was celebrated with an interactive bulletin board displayed with black persons in history.

RC- The Reading Buddy program- On D Day fifth graders to first graders classrooms and pair up. The first graders will read to the fifth graders either outside or in the gym, different locations. This gives them a chance to bond and form relationships and enhance some reading skills.

WN- Had a couple of bulletin boards- one is showing different languages that says “love you” and the other is Black History month. Morning announcements where a special person or a situation is read.

F. New Business

1. Other Items

G. Announcements and Updates

1. a. Next Meeting Date: March 4, 2026

b. Equity Monthly Themes

H. Adjourn at 5:15PM