

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 14, 2025 6:00 PM

Harlem Administration Center
8605 North Second St
Machesney Park, Illinois 61115

MINUTES

1. Call to Order of Regular Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. by President Sterling

2. Roll Call

Mike Sterling, Kurt Thompson, Aaron McKnight, Rebecca Carlson, Megan Hastings, Evelyn Meeks

Absent: Larry Smith

Other Attendees:

Kris Arduino, 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

Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Machesney Elementary students

Fine Arts Program,

Presenter: Abbi Edwards, Principal

4. Approval of Agenda

1st Carlson 2nd Thompson

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 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.

Presenter: Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

6. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: March 17, 2025

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

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

7.A. Awards and Recognitions

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

Machesney Fine Arts Program students performed the Machesney Song and You Can Count on Me.

8. Comments from the Community - none

9. Approval of Bills

9.A. Payables Summary

\$ 1,800,338.32

9.B. Voided Checks

9.C. Payroll Voucher(s) \$7,108,008.56

9.D. Accounts Payable Warrants \$8,908,346.88

Mr. Aurand reviewed the bills by fund totaling \$ 8,908,346.88

No questions

Motion to approve as reviewed

1st Hastings 2nd Sterling

Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

10. Communications and Committee Reports

10.A. Michael Sterling, President

10.A.1. Next Regular Board Meeting: April 28, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

10.A.2. Next Policy Committee Meeting: May 14, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.A.3. Recommendation to schedule an Organizational Meeting for Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to seat newly elected Board members and set 2025-2026 meeting

- Mike asked if we could have a special meeting this Thursday, April 17, at 5:00 for the Middle School roof as the bid is opened tomorrow and we can get started – *Unanimous consensus*

- Attended the musical at the Middle School which was amazing

- We will talk about mics at the high school and middle school – Josh noted we did the high school but we need to do the middle school

- Middle School plant sale is in progress

10.B. Kurt Thompson, Vice President

- The musical was wonderful with so much talent

- Everything was run by students, i.e sound and lights so what a great opportunity to learn

- Mammal Madness was great fun

- COTW was a great meeting reviewing new curriculums was great and will help students move forward and savings that were made are really wonderful; information was given on Huskie Points and this is a wonderful process for behavior issues but it is mostly about how students can earn points back after losing with great incentives and he would like to see this rolled down to the middle school; Ms. Yeager's class is doing a fantastic job on the weather on UTube on Fridays which weather equipment was provided by a grant

- Noted Mrs. Nelson's shows and performance with the students was wonderful, the Board likes to hear more singing and dancing from students

10.B.1. Next Business Services Committee meeting: May 14, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.C. Evelyn Meeks, Secretary

- Welcomed everyone to the meeting

- Apologized to the Machesney students for not attending the musical

- The group tonight had very clear voices and did an amazing job

- The talent in the artwork on display in the Board room is so great and she appreciates the teachers as well

10.C.1. Next Equity & Social Justice Meeting: May 14, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.D. Aaron McKnight, Board member

- loves seeing the students engaging and enjoying school

- mentioned that the COTW can be four to four and a half hours as that is the meeting where everything really happens and critical items are discussed so by the Board meeting we have thoroughly scrutinized these items

- Mike noted that you ask questions at COTW and it gives time for the administration to research any questions before the Board meeting so it is formalized at the Board meeting

- Terrell noted that Board members often ask questions and give the administration a chance to give those accurate answers

10.E. Rebecca Carlson, Board member

- Wished everyone a good evening

- Congratulated all Mammal winners

- Noted she loved watching the kids and is impressed with Abbi and how she teaches the kids and is doing a great job

- loves the high school artwork

- she is looking forward to graduation

10.F. Larry Smith, Board member - absent

10.G. Megan Hastings, Board Member

- Things that happened before spring break is that Educator's Rising competed at State and it was incredible, Harlem Yearbook also won bronze at State, Math Team qualified for State
- Shout out to Boys Bowling
- Harlem Middle School musical was incredible and the support from fellow students was great, with kids powering through technical difficulties
- we really have a great summer program and sports camps for 6-12
- Enjoyed the Middle School and High School presentations on discipline data at COTW and the push for restorative practices, i.e. high school point system where points can be taken away and earned back with incentives. It is good to see that we are have proactive positive discipline
- Noted that COTW is the meat and potatoes for all things and issues brought to the Board for approval and many questions are asked and researched by administration and brought back to the Board before approval
- Thanked all staff for presentations and preparation for the COTW

10.G.1. Next Education Committee meeting: May 14, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

11. Administrative Reports

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

11.A.1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests: (2) National Competitions, HHS Boys' Bowling June 6-10 and Educators' Rising for Nationals – flying for June 25 - 30

11.A.2. Recommendation to approve District Consolidated Plan

This shows all grants are working together and meshing

11.A.3. Recommendation to approve District Behavior Plan

Since we are in the top 20% for exclusion of students by discipline, we are required to submit for restorative practices

11.B. Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, Chief School Business Official

11.B.1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property: Parker Center, Administration Building, Loves Park, Marquette, Windsor, Olson Park and Ralston

11.B.2. Recommendation to approve Facility Requests: Student Council for Homecoming Week Hall fall decorating

11.B.3. Recommendation to accept February 2025 Treasurer's Report

11.B.4. Recommendation to approve the Harlem School District # 122 Fee information for the 2025-2026 school year, noting next year there will be a \$15 increase in K-5 registration from \$110 to \$125

- 11.B.5. Recommendation to approve a renewal agreement with Teaching Strategies Gold for one (1) year subscription at \$8,182.80 paid with local funds
- 11.B.6. Recommendation to approve a renewal agreement with Mystery Science for a one (1) year subscription at a total cost of \$13,560, paid with local funds
- 11.B.7. Recommendation to approve a one (1) year renewal agreement with Curriculum Associates for i-Ready Assessment for grades K-8 at a cost of \$48,336, paid with local funds
- 11.B.8. Recommendation to approve a renewal agreement with Curriculum Associates for MyPath for Loves Park Elementary and Harlem Middle School to purchase licenses at a cost of \$67,018, paid with SIG Funds-Harlem Middle School 3 year (\$36,463); SIG Funds-Loves Park 5 year (\$30,555)
- 11.B.9. Recommendation to approve a one (1) year renewal with AMIRA Learning for Istation en Espanol Program for a total of \$4,410, paid with Title IV
- 11.B.10. Recommendation to approve an agreement with MusicPlay Online for a one year subscription for a cost of \$1,000, paid with Title IV funds
- 11.B.11. Recommendation to approve a one (1) year renewal agreement with Second Step for online curriculum subscription for a cost of \$4,383, paid with Title IV
- 11.B.12. Recommendation to approve an agreement with DBQ Online for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a total cost of \$2,800, paid with Title IV
- 11.B.13. Recommendation to approve renewal with IXL Learning for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a cost of \$4,331, paid with IDEA Grant
- 11.B.14. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Fastbridge for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a cost of \$8,253, paid with IDEA Grant
- 11.B.15. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Formative (Newsela) for instruction and assessment platform for teachers at a cost of \$24,208, paid with local funds
- 11.B.16. Recommendation to approve a contract renewal with Brecht's Database Solutions, Inc. for Embrace IEP and 504 platforms and website access for \$18,682.14 for the FY26 school year, funded by the IDEA grant
- 11.B.17. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Edmark Reading for a one (1) year subscription at a cost of \$3,200, paid with IDEA grant
- 11.B.18. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Everway (News2You) for a one (1) year subscription renewal for a cost of \$45,547.33, paid with IDEA grant
- 11.B.19. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Readtopia for a one (1) year subscription for a cost \$2,606.74 paid with IDEA
- 11.B.20. Recommendation to approve a five year agreement with Panorama Education for the Harlem Middle School MTSS Team at a cost of \$57,396.25, paid with SIG funds
- 11.B.21. Recommendation to approve a one (1) year renewal with Edgenuity for student licenses at a cost of \$12,237, paid with local fund

11.B.22. Recommendation to approve a 5 year agreement with CommonLit for Harlem Middle School ELA Curriculum at cost \$28,570 per year, paid with SIG Funds

11.B.23. Recommendation to approve one (1) year agreement with CommonLit for high school ELA Curriculum at a cost of \$6,500, paid with local funds

11.B.24. Recommendation to approve an agreement with HMH for Spanish Language Arts Curriculum at a cost of \$48,008.20, paid with local funds

11.B.25. Recommendation to approve Professional Development Plan for implementation of the new curriculum at a cost of \$29,180, paid Title II (\$25,180) and Illinois Literacy Grant (\$4,000)

11.B.26. Recommendation to approve professional services with HMH Arriba la Lectura at a cost of \$14,060, paid with Title II (\$10,060) and Title III (\$4,000)

11.B.27. Recommendation to approve a required LETRS online course work at a cost of \$37,506, paid with Title II (\$11,970) and IDEA (\$25,506)

11.B.28. Recommendation to approve professional development with Common Lit 360 for the middle school (\$12,000) and high school (\$6,000) for a cost of \$18,000, paid with SIG grant (\$12,000) and Title II (\$6,000)

- Note that Rebecca Carlson thanked everyone for doing a wonderful job on the COTW presentations and cost reductions,

- Note that Michael Sterling thanked the team for being so well prepared for questions as well as Kurt and Aaron

Terrell also commended the staff for their presentations at COTW

11.C. Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

11.C.1. Recommendation to approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

9 Employments, 12 Transfers, 1 Leave of Absence, and 5 Federation Bank Requests

11.C.2. Resignations – 18 since the last meeting

11.D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

12. Consent Agenda

12.A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

1st Carlson 2nd Sterling

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

12.B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

12.C. Approve Facility Request(s)

1st Thompson 2nd Sterling

Thompson, Sterling, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13. ACTION ITEMS

13.A. Approve District Consolidated Plan

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.B. Approve District Behavior Plan

1st McKnight 2nd Hastings

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.C. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

1st Carlson 2nd Sterling

McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.D. Accept February 2025 Treasurer's Report

1st Thompson 2nd Hastings

Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.E. Approve the scheduling of the Organizational Meeting for Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to seat newly elected Board members and set 2025-2026 meeting dates

1st Carlson 2nd Hastings

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.F. Approve the Harlem School District # 122 Fee information for the 2025-2026 school year

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.G. Approve a renewal agreement with Teaching Strategies Gold for one (1) year subscription at \$8,182.80 paid with local funds

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.H. Approve a renewal agreement with Mystery Science for a one (1) year subscription at a total cost of \$13,560, paid with local funds

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.I. Approve a one (1) year renewal agreement with Curriculum Associates for i-Ready Assessment for grades K-8 at a cost of \$48,336, paid with local funds

1st Hastings 2nd Sterling

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.J. Approve a renewal agreement with Curriculum Associates for MyPath for Loves Park Elementary and Harlem Middle School to purchase licenses at a cost of \$67,018, paid with SIG Funds-Harlem Middle School 3 year (\$36,463); SIG Funds- Loves Park 5 year (\$30,555)

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.K. Approve a one (1) year renewal with AMIRA Learning for Istation en Espanol Program for a total of \$4,410, paid with Title V

1st Thompson 2nd Hastings

Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight

Amended Motion to approve a one (1) year renewal with AMIRA Learning for Istation en Espanol Program for a total of \$4,410, paid with Title IV

1st McKinney 2nd Carlson

Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.L. Approve an agreement with MusicPlay Online for a one year subscription for a cost of \$1,000, paid with Title IV funds

1st McKinney 2nd Thompson

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.M. Approve a one (1) year renewal agreement with Second Step for online curriculum subscription for a cost of \$4,383, paid with Title IV

1st Hastings 2nd Carlson

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.N. Approve an agreement with DBQ Online for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a total cost of \$2,800, paid with Title IV

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.O. Approve renewal with IXL Learning for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a cost of \$4,331, paid with IDEA Grant

1st Thompson 2nd Sterling
Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.P. Approve an agreement with Fastbridge for a one (1) year subscription renewal at a cost of \$8,253, paid with IDEA Grant
1st McKnight 2nd Thompson
McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.Q. Approve an agreement with Formative (Newsela) for instruction and assessment platform for teachers at a cost of \$24,208, paid with local funds
1st Thompson 2nd Sterling
Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.R. Approve a contract renewal with Brecht's Database Solutions, Inc. for Embrace IEP and 504 platforms and website access for \$18,682.14 for the FY26 school year, funded by the IDEA grant
1st McKnight 2nd Hastings
McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.S. Approve an agreement with Edmark Reading for a one (1) year subscription at a cost of \$3,200, paid with IDEA grant
1st Thompson 2nd Meeks
Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.T. Approve an agreement with Everway (News2You) for a one (1) year subscription renewal for a cost of \$45,547.33, paid with IDEA grant
1st Thompson 2nd Carlson
Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.U. Approve an agreement with Readtopia for a one (1) year subscription for a cost \$2,606.74 paid with IDEA
1st Carlson 2nd McKnight
Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.V. Approve a five year agreement with Panorama Education for the Harlem Middle School MTSS Team at a cost of \$57,396.25, paid with SIG funds
1st Thompson 2nd Hastings
Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings – 6 ayes
Motion carried

13.W. Approve a one (1) year renewal with Edgenuity for student licenses at a cost of \$12,237, paid with local fund

1st Meeks 2nd Thompson

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.X. Approve a 5 year agreement with CommonLit for Harlem Middle School ELA Curriculum at cost \$28,570 per year, paid with SIG Funds

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.Y. Approve one (1) year agreement with CommonLit for high school ELA Curriculum at a cost of \$6,500, paid with local funds

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.Z. Approve an agreement with HMH for Spanish Language Arts Curriculum at a cost of \$48,008.20, paid with local funds

1st Thompson 2nd Hastings

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.AA. Approve Professional Development Plan for implementation of the new curriculum at a cost of \$29,180, paid Title II (\$25,180) and Illinois Literacy Grant (\$4,000)

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.AB. Approve professional services with HMH Arriba la Lectura at a cost of \$14,060, paid with Title II (\$10,060) and Title III (\$4,000)

1st Thompson 2nd Hastings

Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKinney, Carlson, Hastings – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.AC. Approve a required LETRS online course work at a cost of \$37,506, paid with Title II (\$11,970) and IDEA (\$25,506)

1st McKnight 2nd Sterling

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.AD. Approve professional development with Common Lit 360 for the middle school (\$12,000) and high school (\$6,000) for a cost of \$18,000, paid with SIG grant (\$12,000) and Title II (\$6,000)

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 6 ayes

Motion carried

14. Announcements and Discussion:

Motion to go into closed session to discuss Employment of Personnel (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and Pending Litigation (5 ILCS 12/2(c)(11) at 7:03 p.m.

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

McKnight, Carlson, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

15. 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).

The Board took a brief recess and went into closed session at 7:12 p.m. and returned to open session at 7:57p.m.

16. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

All voted aye, Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Arduino,

Recording Secretary

ATTEST: Dated: _

President

Secretary