

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 Monday, September 8, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Harlem Administration Center 8605 North Second St Machesney Park, Illinois 61115.

1. Call to Order of Regular Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. by President Mike Sterling
2. Roll Call-Mike Sterling, Kurt Thompson, Aaron McKnight, Diane McKinney, Diana Johnson, Rebecca Carlson, 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
Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations
Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Marquette 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 Regular & Closed minutes for August 18, 2025**
1st Johnson 2nd Sterling
McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson- 7 ayes
Motion Carried
7. Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations
 - A. Awards and Recognitions
Jason Blume introduced the middle school girls flag football team who participate in the Rockford Park District and Coach Brenna Mackey. Coach Mackey shared how the girls had the opportunity to play on Soldier field during a preseason game. She also mentioned how these girls are creating history playing a girls flag football. Coach Mackey stated that around 26 girls are wanting to play flag football and how awesome this is to see this sport come to life. She wished them best of luck this season.
8. Comments from the Community- *None*
9. **Approval of Bills**
1st Carlson 2nd Sterling
McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight-7 ayes
Motion Carried

- A. Payables Summary -\$980,361.91
- B. Voided Checks- \$40,259.35
- C. Payroll Voucher(s) -\$7,090,796.05
- D. Accounts Payable Warrants -\$8,071,157.96
- 10. Communications and Committee Reports
 - A. Diane McKinney, Board Member
 - Thank you for attending
 - Congratulations to Machesney Elementary teachers for being selected in the Burlington Partnership with adopt a classroom
 - Commended the Equity Team for the Sense of Belonging presentation and the HoLA on that presentation last week.
 - Thank you to Marquette Elementary students for the pledge
 - Congratulations to the middle school girls flag football
 - 1. Next Education Committee meeting: October 8, 2025
 - B. Diana Johnson, Board member
 - Ditto on what Diane McKinney said
 - Harlemites Breakfast at the VFW had 73 members come out, the oldest member there was 92 years old.
 - C. Rebecca Carlson, Board member
 - Impressed by the Marquette student reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
 - Looked at the new curriculum workbooks, enjoyed reading them
 - Hope the school year is going well for everyone
 - 1. Next Policy Committee Meeting: TBD
 - 2. Recommendation to approve First Reading of Policy 8:80 from September 3, 2025 Policy Committee
 - D. Aaron McKnight, Board member
 - Echoed previous Board Members comments
 - E. Evelyn Meeks, Secretary
 - Thank you for coming out tonight
 - Amazing job to the girls flag football team
 - Wish everyone a great rest of the week
 - 1. Next Equity & Social Justice Committee Meeting: October 8, 2025
 - F. Kurt Thompson, Vice President
 - Thank you to the Board Members for covering fantastic events that happen in the District
 - Thank you Jason for bringing in all of the great students and calling out their achievements
 - 1. Next Business Services Committee Meeting: October 8, 2025
 - G. Michael Sterling, President
 - Thank you to the community for reaching out whenever you see or hear something that we may not know
 - 1. Next Regular Board Meeting: September 22, 2025
- 11. Administrative Reports
 - A. Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
 - 1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests:
 - One travel- Volleyball Tournament in Hoffman Estates
 - B. Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations
 - 1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property:

2. Recommendation to approve Facility Requests:
 - HHS Field House Volleyball Events on 3/08/26
 - Parker Center Trunk or Treat events on 10/26/25
3. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Per Mar Security to update the monitoring system at Harlem Administration Center for a cost of \$3,540.
4. Recommendation to approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Bright Beginnings Bilingual Therapy, LLC to provide Speech & Language evaluations for 2025-2026 school year at \$1,000 per evaluation for Pre K-2nd grade students and \$1,400 per evaluation for 3rd-12th+ grade students, \$80 per hour for screening and miscellaneous services, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B & IDEA Pre-K.
5. Recommendation to approve partnership with ROE 17 for the middle school and high school science departments for continued implementation of OpenSciEd at a cost of \$6,400, funded by Title II.
6. Recommendation to approve an agreement with the Illinois MTSS Network to provide professional development to the Harlem Middle School Improvement Team at a cost of \$16,116, funded by School Improvement Grant.
7. Recommendation to approve a partnership with UPchieve to provide tutoring services for the 2025-2026 school year to low-income students for a cost of \$10,000, funded by School Improvement Grant.
8. Recommendation to approve a Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-02971 for Property Index No. 08-21-128-001 for the year 2024.
9. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Gordon Flesch Company to provide 6 copiers (Loves Park Elementary, Machesney Elementary, Maple Elementary, Marquette Elementary, Olson Park Elementary, Harlem High School Athletics) for a total cost of \$96,585.
10. Recommendation to approve agreement with CLEAR for add-on License Plate Recognition software for an additional monthly cost of \$279.47 per month.
11. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Challenger Learning Center to provide 6 mission expeditions to Mars for Machesney Elementary for a cost of \$4,600
- C. Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 1. Recommendation to approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum
Employments-18 Transfers-16
 2. Resignations-10
- D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent
 1. Recommendation to accept a donation from Progressive Components in the amount of \$5,000
 2. A Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) was submitted on July 30, 2025, by Meredith Monti requesting information about the employment of Michael Cross in the Harlem School District during the years 2014-2019. District's response dated August 13, 2025 with the inclusive documentation.
 3. Freedom of Information Act Request dated September 2, 2025 submitted by Peter Medlin of Northern Public Radio requesting information regarding digital copies of any contracts the district currently has for AI-based education services. The District responded to the requestor on September 4, 2025 with no records for the request.

4. Freedom of Information Act Request dated September 2, 2025 was submitted by CT Mills requesting copies of records related to district purchases and contracts for Core Curriculum purchases, Instructional Technology, and Common Assessment Software.
5. Freedom of Information Act Request dated September 2, 2025, submitted by Owen Wang of the Rockford Sun requesting names and honors of all students in your high schools recognized by the College Board as AP Scholars.

12. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

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

Motion Carried

B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

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

Motion Carried

C. Approve Facility Request(s)

1st McKnight 2nd Johnson

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

Motion Carried

D. Approve Gift to the District

1st Johnson 2nd Meeks

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

Motion Carried

13. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve First Reading of Policy 8:80 from September 3, 2025 Policy Committee

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

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

Motion Carried

B. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

1st Thompson 2nd Johnson

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

Motion Carried

C. Approve an agreement with Per Mar Security to update the monitoring system at Harlem Administration Center for a cost of \$3,540.

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

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

Motion Carried

D. Approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Bright Beginnings Bilingual Therapy, LLC to provide Speech & Language evaluations for 2025-2026 school year at

\$1,000 per evaluation for Pre K-2nd grade students and \$1,400 per evaluation for 3rd-12th+ grade students, \$80 per hour for screening and miscellaneous services, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B & IDEA Pre-K.

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

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

Motion Carried

- E. Approve partnership with ROE 17 for the middle school and high school science departments for continued implementation of OpenSciEd at a cost of \$6,400, funded by Title II.**

1st Carlson 2nd Johnson

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

Motion Carried

- F. Approve an agreement with the Illinois MTSS Network to provide professional development to the Harlem Middle School Improvement Team at a cost of \$16,116, funded by School Improvement Grant.**

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

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

Motion Carried

- G. Approve a partnership with UPchieve to provide tutoring services for the 2025-2026 school year to low-income students for a cost of \$10,000, funded by School Improvement Grant.**

1st Johnson 2nd Sterling

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

Motion Carried

- H. Approve a Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-02971 for Property Index No. 08-21-128-001 for the year 2024.**

1st Johnson 2nd Sterling

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

Motion Carried

- I. Approve an agreement with Gordon Flesch Company to provide 6 copiers (Loves Park Elementary, Machesney Elementary, Maple Elementary, Marquette Elementary, Olson Park Elementary, Harlem High School Athletics) for a total cost of \$96,585.**

1st McKnight 2nd Thompson

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

Motion Carried

- J. Approve agreement with CLEAR for add-on License Plate Recognition software for an additional monthly cost of \$279.47 per month.**

1st Johnson 2nd Thompson

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Johnson, Meeks, Sterling- 6 ayes; Carlson-no

Motion Carried

K. Approve an agreement with Challenger Learning Center to provide 6 mission expeditions to Mars for Machesney Elementary for a cost of \$4,600

1st Carlson 2nd Sterling

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

Motion Carried

14. Announcements and Discussion:

15. Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Employment of Personnel (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1),

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

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

Motion Carried

The Board went into closes session at 6:44PM; returned to open session at 6:53PM

16. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION

A. Approve recommendation for Administrator & At-Will Compensation for FY2026 school year

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

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

Motion Carried

17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:56PM

1st Carlson 2nd Johnson

All voted aye; motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Cook

Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Date:

President

Secretary