

**Regular Board Meeting
Board of Education School District No. 6
Lake County, Illinois
2800 29th Street, Zion, IL 60099
January 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

Roll Call

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and held the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Latoya Barnes, Ken Fielding, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, and Wesley Walker.

Absent: Netya Perez Rivera

Board member Netya Perez Rivera entered the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Administration and staff present: Julious Lawson, Superintendent, Stephen Carnes, Director of Human Resources, Jennifer Hoppen, Interim CFO, Samantha Snyder, Accountant/Grant Writer, Erik Youngman, Director of Teaching & Learning, Julio Ugarte, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Marianne Fidishin, Director of Special Education, and Kimberly Hall, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education Secretary.

Approval of Agenda

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Latoya Barnes.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Latoya Barnes, Ken Fielding, Margie Taylor, and Wesley Walker.

Nays: None.

Pass: Denise Lear

Motion carried.

Public Participation

There were no public comments.

Approval of Consent Agenda

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, which involves one roll call vote for all recommendations including the minutes for the December 16, 2024 Board Meeting.

It is the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following resignations.

- **Wiltse, Katrina**, intent to retire from the position of 4th Grade Teacher for West Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2028-2029 school year
- **Candelaria, Nydia**, resignation from the position of Human Resources Benefits Specialist for Zion Elementary School District 6, effective January 17, 2025

It is the Superintendent's recommendation to approve employment of the following personnel for the positions and dates of employment as indicated, subject to successful completion of the medical examination and forms, as required by Section 24-5 of the Illinois School Code, successful completion of a criminal background investigation as required by Section 1-21.9 of the Illinois School Code, a Child Abuse Registry check, and submission of all forms, documents and certifications required by law and/or requested by the District.

- **None**

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Wesley Walker.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Wesley Walker, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, Latoya Barnes, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None.

Motion carried.

President's Report

President Taylor reviewed the February calendar with the board. The board asked Marianne Fidishin, Director of Special Education for an update regarding SEDOL. Board member Surano stated there is a TIF meeting scheduled for Feb. 4th at 4:00 pm. The finance committee met and discussed the 10-Year Health & Life Safety Survey.

Superintendent's Report

CEJA Grant Amendment Update

Samantha Snyder, Accountant/Grant Writer presented an update on the CEJA Amendment and the financial impact on the district.

Teaching and Learning Update

Erik Youngman, Director of Teaching and Learning presented information on the Ellevation Platform for multi-lingual learners and discussed the needs of the students in the district.

Strategic Planning Update

Dr. Lawson stated that the most recent Strategic Planning meeting was on January 15th and the next meeting scheduled is January 29th.

Old Business

PRESS Policy Updates

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Second Reading of PRESS Policy Updates to Policy 7:10 as presented.

Motion made by Latoya Barnes, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Latoya Barnes, Ken Fielding, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, Wesley Walker, and Denise Lear.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

New Business

10-Year Health Life Safety Survey

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the 10-Year Health Life Safety Plan for Zion Elementary School District 6 as presented.

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Ken Fielding, Margie Taylor, Wesley Walker, Latoya Barnes, and Latoya Barnes.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Vision 2030

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Resolution for Vision 2030 as presented.

Motion made by Latoya Barnes, seconded by Wesley Walker.

Roll Call: Ayes; Latoya Barnes, Wesley Walker, Denise Lear, and Margie Taylor.

Nays; Ken Fielding and Robert Surano.

Motion carried

Capital Project Fund

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Resolution to establish a Capital Fund Project as presented.

Motion made by Ken Fielding, seconded by Latoya Barnes.

Roll Call: Ayes; Ken Fielding, Latoya Barnes, Denise Lear, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, and Wesley Walker.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

SPED Related Services Contract

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the new contract/contracting agency Kaitlin Blakeney (Counselor) with Insight Global, LLC as presented.

Motion made by Latoya Barnes, seconded by Ken Fielding.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Ken Fielding, Netya Perez Rivera, Margie Taylor, and Latoya Barnes.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

ZCMS Walk-In Freezer Rebid

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve Bee Liner Lean Services to replace the existing walk-in freezer at a cost of \$75,500 at Zion Central Middle School as presented.

Motion made by Robert Surano, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Robert Surano, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor, Wesley Walker, Latoya Barnes, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Communication

Dr. Lawson informed the board about a meeting regarding the CEJA Grant on Thursday at 6:00 pm. Dr. Lawson also met last week with Assistant Principals and Principals regarding their buildings Data Deep Dives.

Closed Session

President Taylor asked for a motion to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of:

- A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals, who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
- B. Collective negotiations matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/(c)(2).

Motion made by Denise Lear, seconded by Latoya Barnes, to enter into Closed Session.

Roll Call: Ayes; Denise Lear, Latoya Barnes, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, Wesley Walker, and Ken Fielding.

Nays; None

Motion carried and the Board entered Closed Session at 6:56 p.m.

There being no further business, the Board exited Closed Session at 9:22 p.m. and resumed Open Session.

Other Business

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

President Taylor asked for a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Paraprofessionals serving as a Virtual Instruction Proctor as presented.

Motion made by Latoya Barnes, seconded by Denise Lear.

Roll Call: Ayes; Latoya Barnes, Denise Lear, Margie Taylor, Wesley Walker, Ken Fielding and Robert Surano.

Nays; None.

Motion carried

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the board motioned to adjourn.

Ayes; All in favor. **Nays;** None.

Roll Call: Latoya Barnes, Denise Lear, Ken Fielding, Netya Perez Rivera, Robert Surano, Margie Taylor, and Wesley Walker.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Dated: _____

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education