

Minutes

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

2. Roll Call

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

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

Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Rock Cut Elementary students

Presenter: Ryan Reinecke, Principal

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings, 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.

Presenter: Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

6. Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes: February 10, 2024 Regular & Closed Minutes

1st Carlson 2nd Hastings

McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 7 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

Harlem Nic 10 Conference Champions and State Qualifiers Dance Team, Coached by Summer Henderson, and winning conference 8 times since dance has been a sport and also going to State. Chelsey Pruitt coaching Harlem Dance for 17 years has present. This program has been built over several years and has become very successful.

CTE Success Stories - Teachers Chris Noble, Mrs. Hageman, Mrs. Shayna Walenga, representing the CTE program brought students having completed internships and some that are onsite. Yuliya, Harlem Senior, interned at Spyder, and CEANCI recognized her for engineering and the work she is doing, Malachi, Sr., enrolled in his junior year and now a senior but is now following the Construction Pathway, roofing, waterproofing and sheet metal and he thanked his sponsors and Atlas Sheet Metal; Lillian, Sr., working as an instructional technician specialist working for the District, thanked the Board for the CTE Program and Workplace Coordinators, Milo Sr., Culinary program working at Sam's Pizza as a line cook and is looking forward to attending a culinary school someday, Hailey, Sr., in doing an internship with UW in biology and then going to med school to be a pediatric surgeon and also is working in the hospital, Lola, interested in elementary education and the program has allowed her to student teach with hands on learning and building lesson plans.

Shayna noted that they are currently interviewing and have over 115 for internships. We have had 40 this past semester and pretty much every semester. We have a couple of students that want both semesters. Aaron noted that this is a great program and well worth the money spent on this program. Kurt also noted his belief that this is a fantastic program and as well thanked businesses for working with these students. Mike noted we would like to focus on their individual stories for other kids to look at and aspire to. He thanked the students for being great ambassadors.

8. Comments from the Community - none

9. Approval of Bills

9.A. Payables Summary \$ 684,491.41

9.B. Voided Checks

9.C. Payroll Voucher(s) 3,541,594.98

9.D. Accounts Payable Warrants 4,226,086.39

Mr. Aurand reviewed the expenditures by Fund totaling \$ 4,226,086.39

No bill questions

Motion to approve Bills as reviewed

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight - 7 ayes

Motion carried

10. Communications and Committee Reports

10.A. Evelyn Meeks, Secretary

- Wished everyone a good evening
- Noted the great student artwork on display
- Thanked Mr. Reinecke for bringing the Rock Cut students for leading the pledge
- Congratulated the Dance Team on their accomplishments
- Noted the CEANCI student being able to be successful in the program and thanked everyone for the CEANCI Program

10.A.1. Next Equity & Social Justice Meeting: March 12, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.B. Aaron McKnight, Board member

- Echoed the Varsity Dance Team accomplishments and recognition
- Thanked Mr. Reinecke
- Noted Girls' Bowling – State Champions
- Shout out to Harlem Fans Club Trivia Night which was a huge success and thanked all for their hard work
- Noted that Ms. Hubley received a Teacher of the Year award from the State which is wonderful and he thanked her for her hard work
- Noted seeing the product of the CTE programs is wonderful when you bring these students forward involved in internships

10.C. Rebecca Carlson, Board member

- Welcomed everyone
- Noted she loves seeing the students lead the Pledge and it is fun to see them
- The students in the CTE Program are fantastic
- See kids getting educated is really neat and it is exciting to see the successes they are having and shouted out to the parents that allow them to do these things and the support you are giving to students

10.D. Larry Smith, Board member

- Thanked Rock Cut students to lead the pledge and Mr. Reinecke – Rock Cut Rocks!
- Appreciates Mr. Blume for consistently bringing kids and teachers before us and also for letting the community know about these wonderful things that students are doing
- This is a prime example of how involved the community is in the District and making internships available and it is greatly appreciated for the students and Board. These students are becoming mentors for other students as well as the businesses involved and it is greatly appreciated

10.E. Megan Hastings, Board Member

- CTE is absolutely fantastic and Lilly stating Instructional Technology was surprising and amazing. The students and parents were recognized but the educators that were not here thanks go out to all of them helping students, as well as CTE educator, Mrs. Hubley receiving the State award is incredible

- Started to see One School One Book coming out is a great opportunity for interaction amongst the grades and staff

- Shout out to HMS and the parent teacher conferences being set up differently which was great, counselors were available for questions and all teachers of core classes and electives were available and it was very smoothly run and it was very cool how it was run

10.E.1. Next Education Committee meeting: March 12, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.F. Michael Sterling, President

- Noted that Ryan did a great job tonight with the pledge students but also need to recognize an Employee of the Month at Rock Cut, Jen Faucett

- Shout out to all athletes and the programs that are working and businesses that are helping students out i.e. Spyder which is amazing, BP Solutions and Atlas for some of the trades and having kids learn on the job is amazing, UW Program for pharmacy extending into our school is awesome, working in a restaurant at Sam's to place a student on the line, student teaching as with the instructional technology student showed so much poise and communication skills, having students go into teaching and coming back to Harlem, thanked fellow Board members for being a part of creating these pathways for students

- Shout out to Ms. Walenga and Ms. Hargerman for getting these internships in our own community

- Highlighting successes with these students and showing all students what we are doing is awesome and having a wall would be great, we will be highlighting programs in "122" with interviews of kids and signings as well could be done

10.F.1. Next Regular Board Meeting: March 17, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

10.F.2. Next Policy Committee Meeting: March 12, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.F.3. Recommendation to approve Second Reading of Policy Updates from January 13, 2025 First Reading

10.F.4. Recommendation to release the redacted closed session minutes from July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

10.G. Kurt Thompson, Vice President

- Noted he loved the pledge students

- Noted he really likes being and seeing students doing great things

- The Kaleidoscope Concert was great with third grade to seniors performing and expanding the program was great

- Noted that there is room for the CTE Program to grow which is exciting

- The Bowling Champions coming back to school was so great and a fun event

10.G.1. Next Business Services Committee meeting: March 12, 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: none

11.A.2. Recommendation to approve 2025-2026 District Calendar, noting the CBA language for working with the Union to agree on a final draft, frontloading for the beginning of the school year for the new ELA program

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

11.B.1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property: Olson Park Elementary

11.B.2. Recommendation to approve Facility Requests: none

11.B.3. Recommendation to award bid for parking lot improvement projects for Olson Park Elementary and Harlem Middle School to Stenstrom Excavating and Blacktop for a base bid of \$439,990 and Alternate #1 of \$11,298 for a total cost of \$451,288. Alternate #2 may come back for inside the track so that PE can use it to get the hoops out of the parking lot. This would be appearing on the March agenda. Josh noted we are working through this.

The parking lot at Olson Park was extended awhile back but the concrete sidewalk will be repaired with this bid. Elana interjected that the parking is no longer a problem with sixth grade being moved.

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

11.C.1. Recommendation to approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum – no Addendum

Reviewed as 2 Transfers, 2 Leaves of Absence, 6 Employments, 1 Certified Staff Federation Bank Request

11.C.2. Resignations - 9 since the last meeting

11.D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

11.D.1. Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) dated February 7, 2025, submitted by Logan Lyman requesting information on Personal, Sick, Vacation days from support Staff - paras supervisory assistants, custodians Jan 1st 2021 - Dec 31, 2024 and for the Support Staff Salary Report, and the District's 5-day extension request to respond by February 24, 2025

11.D.2. Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) dated February 17, 2025, submitted by Elaine Nichols requesting information on educators

11.D.3. Equity Report

February 5, 2025, we held a meeting and spent some time on discussing and reviewing the difference between Equity vs. Equality with presentation by Windsor Elementary School

Machesney is using Buddy Classrooms

Marquette is using activities with students drawing a classmate's name and writing a positive statement

Parker Center – Books donated to each classroom supporting belonging and supporting Black History Month

Ralston – Working on engagement using monthly equity themes and using the word of the week with morning announcements including words for the themes with a focus on vocabulary

Rock Cut – Using the triangle to support students from psychological needs to self-affirmation

Dr. Yarbrough gave an example of a student that came to the school while in 4th grade with behavior issues but is now growing academically in math and reading and has had a large decrease in behavior referrals

12. Consent Agenda

12.A. Approve Personnel Agenda ~~& Addendum~~

Motion to approve Personnel Agenda

1st Hastings 2nd Smith

Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 7 ayes

Motion carried

12.B. Approve Student Travel Request(s) none

12.C. Approve Facility Request(s) none

13. ACTION ITEMS

13.A. Motion to Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

Thompson 2nd McKnight

Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Smith – 7 ayes

Motion carried

13.B. Motion to Approve 2025-2026 District Calendar

1st Thompson 2nd Hastings

Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings – 7 ayes

Motion carried

13.C. Motion to Approve Second Reading of Policy Updates from January 13, 2025 First Reading

1st Hastings 2nd Carlson

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks – 7 ayes

Motion carried

13.D. Motion to approve release of redacted closed session minutes from July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling – 7 ayes

Motion carried

13.E. Motion to Approve award bid for parking lot improvement projects for Olson Park Elementary and Harlem Middle School to Stenstrom Excavating and Blacktop for a base bid of \$439,990 and Alternate #1 of \$11,298 for a total cost of \$451,288

1st McKnight 2nd Sterling

McKnight, Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson – 7 ayes

Motion carried

14. Announcements and Discussion: Megan noted the CTE Program also was a culmination by former Board members and wants to be sure that they are included when recognizing the CTE Program being such a success.

Rebecca noted it would be great to see everyone's name displayed or scrolling on a screen

No closed session

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).

16. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION

17. Motion to Adjourn

1st Carlson 2nd Hastings

Carlson, Smith, Hastings, Meeks, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight – 7 ayes

All voted aye, Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Arduino,

Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

Dated: _____