

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 16, 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 Vice President, Kurt Thompson

2. Roll Call

Aaron McKnight, Diane McKinney, Rebecca Carlson, Evelyn Meeks, Diana Johnson, Kurt Thompson

Absent: Mike Sterling

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 (not in attendance)

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Presenter: Abbi Edwards, Principal

4. Approval of Agenda

1st McKnight 2nd Meeks

McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight – 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 Closed & Regular Minutes: May 19, 2025 and Special Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2025

1st Carlson 2nd Johnson

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney – 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

Class Valedictorian and Salutatorian were recognized

Josh 4.5769 GPA Avery 4.5094 GPA Top 2 out of 417 classmates

Avery noted she liked being involved in clubs, took all the AP courses, participated in Student Council and the community

Her favorite class was AP World History with Mrs. Stark She plans to attend U of I for geographic information science and technology mapping. Her freshman year impacted her to pick geo spatial technology and urban planning.

Josh noted he was focused on GPA wanted to attend a trade school to become an electrician.

Favorite class was Spanish III. Aaron noted he has a friend in the national geo spatial technology field and is very high secret.

Dessa Farr, 7th grade at Harlem Middle School, participated in the Brightpoint Blue Bow Campaign and was 1st place winner in the State of Illinois.

Thanked and recognized the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department officials and their support of the District in so many ways and presented their “Stop the Bleed” kits to classrooms. Chief Bergeron, Chief Jay Alms and Rob Lewkowski. They have raised \$170,000 and donated to three school districts. They will have 200 kits this year and have in place in the schools and proper training of staff to use these in they event they are needed. They will train the administrators from each school so they can train others at the school.

8. Comments from the Community - none

9. Approval of Bills

9.A. Payables Summary \$2,314,284.94

9.B. Voided Checks

9.C. Payroll Voucher(s) \$6,693,332.09

9.D. Accounts Payable Warrants \$9,007,617.03

Dr. Yarbrough reviewed expenditures by fund totaling \$9,007,617.03

Motion to approve bills

1st McKinney 2nd McKnight

Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

10. Communications and Committee Reports

10.A. Kurt Thompson, Vice President

10.A.1. Next Business Services Committee meeting: July 9, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

- Thanked Jason for bringing recognitions
- Noted Dessa and her great artwork 7th grade competing with middle school and high school and winning 1st place
- Noted how great the bowlers have also done
- Thanked Kris for her years as Board secretary

10.B. Evelyn Meeks, Secretary

- Congratulations to Josh and Avery
- Congratulations to Dessa for her artwork
- Attended all 11 schools and the Senior Walk
- Attended Baccalaureate
- Attended Graduation
- Seeing the bowlers with the police escort was great
- Attended Tea For Tomorrow for literacy
- Thanked all teachers, staff and administrators and wished them a nice summer
- Thanked Kris for her years of service to the Board
- Wished students a great summer
- Next Equity meeting: July 9, 2023 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.C. Aaron McKnight, Board member

- Acknowledged the students that were recognized
- Congratulated Josh and Avery
- Congratulated 7th grade student Dessa Farr for her artwork
- Noted he met with Jake, Dave Vella and his assistant and Dr. Erb regarding starting a ROTC program in the District and this is an extremely exciting program. Mr. Vella will assist to obtain financing as well.
- Encouraged kids to get outside and enjoy the summer

10.D. Rebecca Carlson, Board member

10.D.1. Recommendation to approve First Reading of Policy 7:60-AP-2 from June 11, 2025 Policy Committee

10.D.2. Next Policy Committee Meeting: July 9, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

- Congratulated all graduates
- Encouraged kids to get outside and cautioned new drivers to be careful

- Appreciates the firefighters
- Noted she was so impressed with the artwork of Dessa Farr to stop violence and winning amongst 1,000's of students
- Wished staff a wonderful summer
- Thanked Kris for her years as Board secretary

10.E. Diana Johnson, Board member

- Recognized Josh and Avery and their speeches
- Attended Baccalaureate and it was wonderful
- Attended Graduation and was honored to participate
- welcomed the bowling team back with the police escort which was exciting
- Attended Tea for Tomorrow for literacy and that was a lot of fun
- Noted one of the Harlem Teachers had written a book and was present. She gave this to her granddaughter
- Recognized Dessa Farr

Thank Kris for her years of service noting she has known Kris for many years

10.F. Diane McKinney, Board Member

- Attended community days at Machesney and put together mosaic tile
- Noted she had Abbie's children in her classroom
- Congratulated Josh and Avery
- Noted an honor for her to attend graduation as a board member
- Attended the Senior Walk and really enjoyed that
- Attended Baccalaureate
- Attended Tea for Tomorrow and enjoyed the literacy speeches
- Thanked the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department
- Noted Dessa Farr's wonderful art project
- Thanked Kris for her years of service

Aaron asked if we can have the President announce all meetings together instead of every report separately

- Rebecca wished everyone a great 4th of July
- Thanked Kris for her years of service and the help she has given her

10.F.1. Next Education Committee meeting: July 9, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.G. Michael Sterling, President

10.G.1. Next Regular Board Meeting: July 14, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

11. Administrative Reports

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

11.A.1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests:

Dance overnight travel – July 20-July 21 for annual dance camp

11.A.2. Recommendation to approve School Improvement Plans for Loves Park Elementary School and Harlem Middle School noting the remainder of schools will be in August

11.B. Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, Chief School Business Official given by Dr. Yarbrough

11.B.1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

11.B.2. Recommendation to approve Facility Requests, Wicked Sunday request for a dance company; testing in May of 2026 in the wrestling room, and Harlem Paluzza

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

11.B.4. Recommendation to renew bus washing agreement with Jarrod's Power Washing for the FY26 school year at a cost of \$21.00 per vehicle

11.B.5. Recommendation to approve a three-year renewal agreement with Finalsite to help support our district communication systems

11.B.6. Recommendation to approve a one(1) year contract renewal with Vertiv Corporation for \$6,535, paid with technology budget

11.B.7. Recommendation to approve to submit a School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant application to the US Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPs)

11.B.8. Recommendation to approve a Resolution transferring \$650,000 from the Educational Fund to the Operations & Maintenance Fund and \$200,000 from the Educational Fund to the Transportation Fund

11.B.9. Recommendation to approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Speech Horizons, Inc. to provide private and parochial speech and language services for \$100.00 per hour for 37 weeks at 24 hours per week for the FY26 school year at a total cost of \$88,800, funded by the IDEA Flow Through Part B Grant and Pre-K IDEA

11.B.10. Recommendation to approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Soy Bilingual Therapy LLC to provide Speech & Language testing and evaluation reports for 2025-26 school year at \$1,000 per K-2 grade students and \$1,400 per 3-12+ grade students, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B and IDEA Pre-K

11.B.11. Recommendation to approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Christina Gouchenour to provide bilingual psychological evaluations for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$900 per bilingual academic assessment per student and \$1,100 per bilingual

academic and cognitive assessment per student, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B and IDEA Pre-K

11.B.12. Recommendation to approve a contract renewal with Sunbelt Staffing, (VocoVision) for one (1) for school psychologist services of 37.5 hours per week for 38 weeks at a total cost of \$152,247 for the FY26 school year, funded by the IDEA Flow Through Part B and IDEA Pre-K

11.B.13. Recommendation to approve a five (5) year agreement with BSN Rewards Program for the purchase and supply of athletic apparel and equipment

11.B.14. Recommendation to Approve Resolution Designating Interest Earnings in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and Prior Years for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Kurt noted that there are no other cost increases except \$1.00 per hour for bus washing

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

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

One change in the Agenda for ESY – Cody Tufte is listed and should be struck

9 Transfers, 45 Summer School, 8 Employments, 2 Certified Federation Bank, 3 Classified Federation Bank, 1 Food Service Bank Request

11.C.2. Resignations - 16

11.D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

11.D.1. Recommendation to approve Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement with the Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education

11.D.2. Freedom of Information Act Request dated May 23, 2025 submitted by Mary Werner requesting information regarding a former employee's records and the District's five day extension request to June 10, 2025. The District's response with inclusive documentation submitted to requestor on June 10, 2025.

11.D.3. Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) dated May 25, 2025, submitted by Mike Vichich requesting records of purchase orders from January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2025 across all departments and the District's response dated May 28, 2025 with inclusive documentation.

11.D.4. Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) submitted by CT Mills on June 5, 2025, requesting information regarding administrative staff and the District's response dated June 5, 2025 with inclusive information.

11.D.5. Request to approve Superintendent's Vacation Days: June 30, July 1-3 and July 7, 2025

12. Consent Agenda

12.A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

12.B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)

1st Carlson 2nd Johnson

McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

12.C. Approve Facility Request(s)

1st McKinney 2nd McKnight

McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13. ACTION ITEMS

13.A. Approve First Reading of Policy 7:60-AP-2 from June 11, 2025 Policy Committee

Recommendations

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.B. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

1st Carlson 2nd Meeks

Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.C. Approve acceptance of the April 2025 Treasurer's Report

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.D. Approve recommendation to renew bus washing agreement with Jarrod's Power Washing for the FY26 school year at a cost of \$21.00 per vehicle

1st McKinney 2nd Carlson

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.E. Approve recommendation for a three-year renewal agreement with Finalsity to help support our district communications system

1st Carlson 2nd Meeks

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.F. Approve recommendation for a Resolution transferring \$650,000 from the Educational Fund to the Operations & Maintenance Fund and \$200,000 from the Educational Fund to the Transportation Fund

1st McKnight 2nd Carlson

McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.G. Approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Speech Horizons, Inc. to provide private and parochial speech and language services for \$100.00 per hour for 37 weeks at 24 hours per week for the FY26 school year at a total cost of \$88,800, funded by the IDEA Flow Through Part B Grant and Pre-K IDEA Grant

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.H. Approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Soy Bilingual Therapy LLC to provide Speech & Language testing and evaluation reports for 2025-26 school year at \$1,000 per K-2 grade students and \$1,400 per 3-12+ grade students, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B and IDEA Pre-K

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.I. Approve an Independent Contractor Agreement with Christina Gouchenour to provide bilingual psychological evaluations for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$900 per bilingual academic assessment per student and \$1,100 per bilingual academic and cognitive assessment per student, paid with IDEA Flow Through Part B and IDEA Pre-K

1st McKinney 2nd Carlson

Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.J. Approve a contract renewal with Sunbelt Staffing, (VocoVision) for one (1) for school psychologist services of 37.5 hours per week for 38 weeks at a total cost of \$152,247 for the FY26 school year, funded by the IDEA Flow Through Part B Grant

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, - Johnson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.K. Approve a one (1) year contract renewal with Vertiv Corporation for \$6,535, paid with technology budget

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.L. Approve to submit a School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant application to the US Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPs)

1st McKinney 2nd McKnight

Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.M. Approve a five (5) year agreement with BSN Rewards Program for the purchase and supply of athletic apparel and equipment

1st McKnight 2nd Johnson

McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.N. Approve Resolution Designating Interest Earnings in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and Prior Years for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

McKinney, Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.O. Approve Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

Carlson, Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.P. Approve Superintendent's Vacation Days: June 30, July 1-3 and July 7, 2025

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

Johnson, Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

13.Q. Approve School Improvements Plans for Loves Park Elementary and Harlem Middle School

1st McKinney 2nd Johnson

Meeks, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney, Carlson, Johnson – 6 ayes

Motion carried

14. Announcements and Discussion: Aaron thanked Kris for her years of service and assisting the Board with all of their needs through the years.

Rebecca noted she appreciates all of the funding work everyone does for grants

Evelyn thanked Terrell for all he does for the District

Dr. Yarbrough thanked Kris for her years on the Board and working along side of him as his assistant.

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. Adjournment

All in favor all - all ayes

Meeting Adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Arduino,

Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

Dated: _____