

Minutes of Committee of the Whole

The Board of Education

Harlem Consolidated School District # 122

A Committee of the Whole of the Board of Education of Harlem Consolidated School District was held Wednesday, April 8, 2026, beginning at 4:30 PM in the Harlem Administration Center - Board Room, 8605 North Second St., Machesney Park, IL 61115

1. **EQUITY:** (Approximately 60 minutes) started at 4:32PM

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

A. Roll Call: Evelyn Meeks, Jason Blume, Terrell Yarbrough, Pam Cook,

Union/designee: Leah Krippner

E Team members:

Loves Park- Christy Grace

Machesney- no rep.

Maple-Emily Bork

Marquette- Brock Morlan

Olson Park-Alex Carlson

Parker Center-Erin Anderson

Ralston-Holly Perino

Rock Cut-Ryan Reinecke

Windsor-Kasie Kosinski

High School-Jeremy Bois

Middle School- Jason Ware, Jerry Harris

B. Meeting Minutes Consensus for March 4, 2026- *yes*

C. Goal Statements

D. Public Comments (if any)-none

E. Discussion Items

1. Engagement

HHS- Dr. Bois discussed Spirit Week, pep assemblies and the Special Olympics basketball teams showcase and noted that the staff won the basketball game. He also highlighted upcoming events, Senior Awards May 12, Senior Sunset May 14, Senior Walk-Through May 21, and graduation May 23.

HMS- Jason Ware introduced Renaldo Cooper, HMS teacher, to talk about engagement. Renaldo shared insights of The Art of Engagement, emphasizing the importance of knowing oneself, the environment, and the content being taught. He explained the significance of knowing when to stop teaching to avoid overworking students.

LP-Christy highlighted the high turnout and successful family literacy night when Discovery Center came to the school, featured various activities, Art Show, engineering themed activities.

MC- Family Bi-Literacy celebrated different books, had a visit from a therapy dog, and being creative within their school.

MP- Emily discussed the challenges of engagement in a building set to close, emphasizing the importance maintaining normalcy and focus, for example PBIS expectations are business as usual.

MR- She shared some of engagements strategies including whiteboard activities, egg drop collaboration, and family engagement nights.

OP-Alex shared a few family engagement nights including a school dance at the high school, Literacy Night that was in conjunction with an art show and a book fair. Student will receive a little eagle in May that they will get to stuff with their older partner and work on creating a memory of Olson Park.

PC- Erin discussed the school's theme of dinosaurs and various activities related to it, including field trips and paleontology activities.

RA- Holly shared that first-grade classrooms students used sight words that they learned this year and formed sentences. Then from those sentences they drew pictures. She highlighted various engagement activities including hip-hop lessons, and the Challenger field trip.

RC- Ryan discussed the opportunities his students receive that otherwise may never get to experience outside of school. To expand their universe a little bit creates a good opportunity.

WN- Kasie highlighted the increase in students with autism and the staff training on understanding and supporting stimming behaviors. She explained the process of identifying and addressing harmful stimming behaviors and the importance of self-correction.

F. New Business

1. Other Items

G. Announcements and Updates

1. Next Meeting Date: May 13, 2026

2. Equity Monthly Themes

H. Adjourned at 5:02PM