

Meeting Minutes

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

2. Roll Call

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

Kris Arduino, Recording Secretary

Dr. Terrell Superintendent, 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: Olson Park Elementary students (Students of the Month for 5th grade for entire school year)

Presenter: Marya Nelson, Principal

4. Approval of Agenda

1. Strike 16A as an action item

Motion to approve Agenda with change

1st Thompson 2nd McKnight

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.

Presenter: Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

6. Motion to approve Board Meeting Minutes: May 12, 2025

1st Carlson 2nd Johnson

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

Motion carried

7. Jason Blume, Assistant Superintendent for Communications & Community Relations

7.A. Awards and Recognitions

Student Athlete – Bo Shields recognized for an outstanding season making NIC-10, MVP All Team, Conference and has had an accomplished school career, coached by Brad Shields, (Head Coach). This was the first team to qualify to compete at the IHSA Swimming and Diving State Meet in the 200 IM and the 100 Breast stroke.

Most of the Harlem Swimmers start fresh and the team did great for the number of kids we have as well as experience they have. Bo is the first ever Harlem swimmer that has gone to State for three years. Bo was conference champion the last two years in the breast stroke. Time can count to push a student forward and Bo was the only State qualifier by time this year in Sectionals.

Bo's best stroke is breaststroke. You can only pick two events at State.

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

Reed Allison was named the 2024-2025 IADA State Division new Athletic Director of the Year and recognized for his commitment, integrity, honest and dignity. Reed is new to our district. He was an administrator for 17 years and taught prior to that for 6 years. He coached football and track for as long and has been a winning and a losing coach. Success does not equate to wins and losses but what type of people we are putting out. He is enjoying his time here and sees a great deal of potential here.

For Reed to be recognized it is exciting as the focus is about developing student athletes which will lead to strong character as well.

Allison Rhyner, special education teacher at Parker Center, was recognized as the 2025 Golden Apple Recipient out of 1,400 nominees. Allison is in her 17th year at Harlem. She is teacher in the Pup Lab. The Golden Apple process means you send in a portfolio and they select 20 people and go to interviews. On March 6 they announced the Golden Apple winner and I was totally shocked but attribute it to my colleagues. This year they started the Pup Lab which is Kindergarten's learning lab for students with IEP's. Students are learning social and emotional skills for life.

As a Golden Apple award winner you can help with events and help other teachers to be encouraged to submit nominations. Spreading awareness about the great things happening for excellence in education. She thinks it helped her reflect on why she does what she does. She also received a grant for gross motor items.

8. Comments from the Community - none

9. Approval of Bills

9.A. Payables Summary \$ 1,361,587.48

9.B. Voided Checks

9.C. Payroll Voucher(s) 3,566,975.99

9.D. Accounts Payable Warrants

4,928,563.30 in total expenditures

Mr. Aurand reviewed expenditures by fund balance totaling \$4,928,563.30

Motion to approve bills as reviewed

1st Thompson 2nd Meeks

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

Motion carried

10. Communications and Committee Reports

10.A. Michael Sterling, President

10.A.1. Next Regular Board Meeting: June 16, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

10.A.2. Recommendation to approve revised 2025-2026 Board & COTW Meetings Schedule

Noted that Graduation is this Saturday at BMO at 10:00 a.m.

Noted 7 days left of school for the kids

The fireworks were great for the seniors last Thursday night

10.B. Kurt Thompson, Vice President

- Book Battle time and congratulated, Windsor Wasps took home the championship, and Ralston took home third

Noted the great Huskie Hustle that was conducted last weekend

Noted the 5th great pledge students were great

Congratulated Bo Shields

Noted Mr. Allison and what he represents as Coach of the Year

Noted Mrs. Rhyner and the Pup Lab as well as her Golden Apple Award

- Congratulations to all Seniors

10.B.1. Next Business Services Committee meeting: June 11, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.C. Aaron McKnight, Board member

- Enjoyed the Senior Sunset with bag sets purchased by Student Council Building Program, the students were amazing. The fireworks were really fantastic. He hopes to see this event continue.

- It has been a great school year and great things have been done this year for next year to improve education for students. Reed was a great choice for Athletic Director. Bo Shields is a great swimming athlete.

10.D. Diane McKinney, Board Member

- Gave a shout out to Kimberly Swick for ZOK Teacher of the Week

- Brock Morlan did the fundraising event in the limo

- Attended the production student showcase with Mr. Stange and that film students put together was amazing. She could not believe the phenomenal film. During intermission she saw the jazz band and they were great as well as the culinary treats.

- She will try to attend the Senior Walk this Thursday and Baccalaureate as well.

10.D.1. Next Education Committee meeting: June 11, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.E. Rebecca Carlson, Board member

- Noted she likes seeing new faces on the Board

- Appreciates Olson Park students for leading the Pledge

- Recognized Allison for the Golden Apple award noting she loves Parker Center

- Recognized Bo Shields for swimming

- Busy week with Senior Walk, making a tile at Machesney, Baccalaureate, and proud to look at the cool artwork on display in the Board room

10.E.1. Next Policy Committee Meeting: June 11, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

10.E.2. Recommendation to approve First Reading of Policy Updates from May 14, 2025
Policy Committee Recommendations

10.F. Diana Johnson, Board member

- May 5 attended the Harlemites Breakfast and the corallers sang and did a wonderful job, she sang the Piano Man

- Fireworks on Thursday day at Senior Sunset were very nice

- Looking forward to Baccalaureate

- Looking forward to Graduation

- Recognized Bo Shields and watched him grow up and congratulated him as well

- Recognized the 5th grade students for leading the Pledge

10.G. Evelyn Meeks, Secretary

- Wished everyone a good evening

- School year is ending and the artwork on the board is so great

- Congratulated all the future teachers and athletic signers wishing them all good luck

- Attended the Staff Appreciate Banquet and thanked all teachers and wished all retirees a Happy Retirement

- Attended Mr. Stange's film and it was amazing as the jazz band as well and it will be posted for all to see

- Congratulated the Athletic Director, Reed Allison, just starting this job and ending up with New Athletic Coach of the Year for 2024-2025 is much appreciated

- As we prepared students to graduate, we appreciate students as they go off into the world and wished all a successful life ahead
- Will attend the Senior Walk and Baccalaureate
- Wished everyone a safe summer and good return
- Also congratulated Bo Shields

10.G.1. Next Equity & Social Justice Meeting: June 11, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

Kurt asked about Senior Awards amount and it was noted over 2 million in scholarships

11. Administrative Reports

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

11.A.1. Recommendation to approve Student Travel Requests: 1 – the weekend Taylor Washington qualified for State; 2 – Track Sectional and 3 – Bowling that qualified for Nationals

11.A.2. Recommendation to approve Elementary and Secondary Discipline/Behavior Matrix changes and Restorative Point Contract which were all presented at the Education Committee meeting

Mike asked about Boys' Track, 11 students and 2 adults if the number decreases they will take a van and not a bus, but they are hoping to have many kids qualify to take a bus

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

11.B.1. Recommendation to approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property: Parker Center, Windsor and Olson Park

11.B.2. Recommendation to approve Facility Requests: 2 – Harlem Varsity Dance and Carlson Boys & Girls Club

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

Gave some highlights – we have local, State and Federal – 37 million from property taxes

CPPRT – inconsistent 23 – 9.6 million we budgeted 4.1 this year and it will be 3.7 this year instead

Interest budgeted at 1.75 million but will receive 2 million

School fees and athletic fees

State Funds – Evidenced base funding 35.1 million or 91% of State Funds

We received an initial 527,000 1.6 % so average at 1.54 %

CPI was 14.9 %

Federal – Food service – 3.6 million, Title I, II, III, IV – total 5 million

4 year average is 1.75 million

IDEA 1.55 million

ESSER funds are gone

Federal funding is still up in the air

Thompson noted on evidence based funding there are some great programs at tri-conference. It is now very complex but much better than the old system.

11.B.4. Recommendation to approve renewal quote for the Treasurer's Bond FY26 with a limit of \$7,600,000 in the amount of \$6,716

11.B.5. Recommendation to approve a Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-01868 for Property Index No. 08-21-101-021 for the year 2024 (Walgreens)

11.B.6. Recommendation to approve a Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-02341 for Property Index No. 08-20-228-011 for the year 2024 (Home Depot)

11.B.7. Recommendation to approve bakery product renewal with Alpha Bakery for 2025-26 with projected cost decrease of 2.44%

Rebecca asked if they are successful and Josh noted the vendors are very successful in Ptah

11.B.8. Recommendation to approve milk product renewal with Muller-Pinehurst for 2025-26

11.B.9. Recommendation to approve the two year extension of the Banking Services Agreement with Associated Bank through June 30, 2027

11.B.10. Recommendation to award HMS Painting Corridor Project bid to Midwest Decorating Inc. with a base of \$55,400 and Alternate #1 \$37,000, for a total cost of \$92,400, year three of painting to spruce up the middle school

11.B.11. Recommendation to award HHS and Parker Center Flooring Replacement Project bid to Rockford Carpetland USA with a base bid for HHS of \$67,963 with Alternate A1-\$11,250, A2-\$12,981, A3-\$7,535, A4-\$7,535 for a total cost of \$107,264; Parker Center with a base bid \$14,725 as we are beginning to replace carpet in secondary rooms. We are putting in tile.

11.B.12. Recommendation to award Waste Disposal/Recycling Services Bid to LRS (Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC) from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, for an average cost of \$5,435 per month – noting Kathy from LRS is in the audience tonight

11.B.13. Recommendation to approve agreement with Waggle & Amiara HMH Support Curriculum for Loves Park Elementary, including professional development, curriculum and coaching paid with SIP Grant Funds for \$101,226.00

11.B.14. Recommendation to approve an agreement with Formative for Professional Development for the middle school and high school on August 14 at a cost of \$4,200, paid with Title II funds

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

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

15 Employments; 9 Transfers, 2 Certified Federation Bank requests, 3 classified Sick Bank

11.C.2. Resignations – 14

Noted there are 2 revised dates and one will rescind her retirement resignation

11.D. Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent

11.D.1. Freedom of Information Act District Response dated April 25, 2025 to Painters District Council No. 30 with inclusive information requested

11.D.2. Freedom of Information Act Response submitted on May 2, 2025 to Jennifer Kaiser including responsive communications as requested.

11.D.3. Freedom of Information Act Response dated May 1, 2025 submitted to Michael Ayele regarding his request for records related to National Child Abuse Month stating the District has no records in response.

11.D.4. Freedom of Information Act request submitted by Frank Patterson of Academy Research Group on May 2, 2025, requesting information on current employee lists and the District's response with inclusive documents dated May 8, 2025

12. Consent Agenda

12.A. Approve Personnel Agenda & Addendum

1st McKnight 2nd McKnight

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

Motion carried

12.B. Approve Student Travel Request(s)

1st McKnight 2nd McKinney

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

Motion carried

12.C. Approve Facility Request(s)

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

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

Motion carried

13. ACTION ITEMS

13.A. Approved revised 2025-2026 Board & COTW Meetings Schedule

1st Thompson 2nd Johnson

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

Motion carried

13.B. Approve Elementary and Secondary Discipline/Behavior Matrix and Restorative Point Contract as recommended

1st Carlson 2nd Thompson

Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Meeks, Johnson, McKinney, Sterling – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.C. Approve Policy Committee Recommendations from May 14, 2025 for First Reading

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

McKnight, Carlson, Meeks, Johnson, McKinney, Sterling, Thompson – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.D. Approve Resolution Declaring Surplus Property

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

Carlson, Meeks, Johnson, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, McKinney – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.E. Accept March 2025 Treasurer's Report

1st Johnson 2nd Meeks

Meeks, Johnson, McKinney, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.F. Approve renewal quote for the Treasurer's Bond FY26 with a limit of \$7,600,000 in the amount of \$6,716

1st McKinney 2nd McKnight

Johnson, McKinney, Sterling, Thompson McKnight, Carlson, Meeks – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.G. Approve Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-02341 for Property Index No. 08-20-228-011 for the year 2024

1st Thompson 2nd Carlson

McKinney, Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Carlson, Meeks, Johnson – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.H. Approve a Resolution Authorizing Attorney Amy Silvestri to Intervene in Property Tax Appeal No. 2024-01868 for Property Index No. 08-21-101-021 for the year 2024

1st Johnson 2nd McKnight

Sterling, Thompson, McKnight, Meeks Johnson, McKinney, Carlson – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.I. Approve the bakery product renewal with Alpha Bakery for 2025-26

1st Thompson 2nd McKinney

Thompson, McKnight Carlson, Meeks Johnson, McKinney, Sterling – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.J. Approve milk product renewal with Muller-Pinehurst for 2025-26

1st Johnson 2nd Carlson

McKnight, Carlson, Meeks, Johnson, McKinney, Sterling, Thompson – 7 ayes
Motion carried

13.K. Approve the extension of the Banking Services Agreement with Associated Bank through June 30, 2027

1st Carlson 2nd McKnight

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

Motion carried

13.L. Approve award HMS Painting Corridor Project bid to Midwest Decorating Inc. with a base of \$55,400 and Alternate #1 \$37,000, for a total cost of \$92,400

1st Johnson 2nd McKinney

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

Motion carried

13.M. Recommendation to award HHS and Parker Center Flooring Replacement Project bid to Rockford Carpetland USA with a base bid for HHS of \$67,963 with Alternate A1-\$11,250, A2-\$12,981, A3-\$7,535, A4-\$7,535 for a total cost of \$107,264; Parker Center with a base bid \$14,725

1st Johnson 2nd Carlson

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

Motion carried

13.N. Approve award Waste Disposal/Recycling Services Bid to LRS (Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC) from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, for an average cost of \$5,435 per month

1st Carlson 2nd Sterling

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

Motion carried

13.O. Approve agreement with Waggle & Amiara HMH Support Curriculum for Loves Park Elementary, including professional development, curriculum and coaching paid with SIP Grant funds

1st Carlson 2nd McKinney

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

Motion carried

13.P. Approve an agreement with Formative for Professional Development for the middle school and high school on August 14 at a cost of \$4,200, paid with Title II

1st Johnson 2nd Thompson

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

Motion carried

14. Announcements and Discussion: Mr. McKnight asked what Kathy's name is and noted on the website it said it is no available in this area. They just signed up Belvidere and other schools in this area. She will mention to her marketing team. It shows our zip code is not available for service. They are trying to establish in this area.

Rebecca noted she would like to look at the COTW meeting times as some people cant make it and have them split on Wednesday two times a month. It would be nice to have more time on those evenings and start them at 6:00 not 4:30.

Aaron likes the current, Kurt also agreed and we all get the information. Administrators only need to have one meeting as well. One day is easier than two. McKinney likes the COTW as it is currently. Diana noted she is new but she likes the one meeting to get it all done at one time. Mike noted he likes it because everyone is at the meeting. Possibly meetings could be streamed in the future to allow more people to see them. Evelyn noted that she likes the one meeting with everything as well and more people come and stay for these meetings. She likes it all in one night.

**Motion to go into executive session to discuss Negotiations (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) at 7:22 p.m.
1st McKnight 2nd McKinney
McKnight Carlson, McKinney, Johnson, Sterling, Meeks, Thompson – 7 ayes
Motion carried**

A brief recess was taken and the Board went into closed session at 7:29 pm

16. ACTION ITEMS AFTER CLOSED SESSION

~~16.A. Consideration and Possible Action on Employee Discipline # 2024-2025-5 - stricken~~

17. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn
1st Thompson 2nd McKnight
All voted Aye, Motion carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Arduino,
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

Dated: _____