

MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Education
District 201, Cook County
Wednesday, February 11, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Education of J. Sterling Morton High School, District 201 was called to order at 5:10 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at in the Garden Terrace Room at Morton District Office by Member Pesek.

2. ROLL CALL

Member Jaramillo-Flores called the roll and the following were present:

Members Fernando Godinez, Jessica Jaramillo-Flores, Dr. Margaret Kelly, Mark Kraft, Jeffry Pesek and Sandra Tomschin

Absent: Member Maria A. Gallegos

Also, present Superintendent Dr. Michael Kuzniewski, Assistant Superintendent of Compliance Mayra Arroyo, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Josh McMahon, Director of Human Resources Randall Borgardt, Business Manager Nick Valderas, Attorney Ed Wong, Board Clerk Connie Chapman and Assistant Board Clerk Sally Walsh.

3. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Member Kraft moved to adjourn to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m. in the Board Room at the Morton District Office. Member Godinez seconded.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Pesek and Tomschin

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Member Gallegos

Motion carried.

4. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

4.1. Student disciplinary cases. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

4.2. 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. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

4.3. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which

Coaches
Alex Eukovich

Jacob Patierwicz

9. REPORTS

- 9.1. **Superintendent's Committee Reports:** None
- 9.2. **Student Board Member's Reports:**
 - 9.2.1. Megan Murga – Morton East
 - 9.2.2. Adrian Villarreal – Morton West
- 9.3. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Michael Kuzniewski reported.
- 9.4. **Assistant Superintendent for Compliance:** Mayra Arroyo reported.
- 9.5. **Assistant Superintendent of Educational Program's Report:** Dr. Joshua McMahon reported.
- 9.6. **Business Manager Report:** Nick Valderas reported.
- 9.7. **Executive Director of Human Resources' Report:** Mr. Randy Borgardt reported
- 9.8. **Principal's Reports:**
 - 9.8.1. Kristy Cavanaugh – West Campus
 - 9.8.2. James Connelly – CTE School
 - 9.8.3. Jose Gamboa – East Campus
 - 9.8.4. Dr. Erin Kelly – Alternative School
 - 9.8.5. Eric Ramirez – Freshman Center

10. AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS ONLY: None

11. ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT AGENDA

Member Kraft motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Godinez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, Tomschin and Villarreal

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Member Gallegos

Motion carried.

11.1. Approval of Minutes:

11.1.1. Closed Session

11.1.1.1. Regular Board Meeting: January 14, 2026

11.1.2. Open Session

11.1.2.1. Public Hearing: January 14, 2026

11.1.2.2. Regular Board Meeting: January 14, 2026

11.2. Approval of Payroll:

11.2.1. Education: \$8,208,406.07

11.2.2. Building: \$905,747.69

11.2.3. Transportation: \$343.65

11.3. Approval of Bills for Payment:

11.3.1. February 12, 2026a: \$104,186.95

11.3.2. February 12, 2026b: \$3,293,856.68

11.4. Approval of Student Discipline:

11.4.1. Expulsion(s):

11.4.1.1. 490118

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. The student will be enrolled at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year.

11.4.1.2. 490499

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. The student will be transferred to the Freshman Center for the remainder of the 25-26 school year.

11.4.1.3. 491443

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. The student will be enrolled at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year and the entire 26-27 school year.

11.4.1.4. 491634

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. The student will be enrolled at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year and the entire 26-27 school year.

11.4.1.5. 491633

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. The student will be enrolled at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year and the entire 26-27 school year.

11.4.1.6. 490353

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. Student will be enrolled at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year.

11.4.1.7. 471155

Change of placement to an alternate educational setting. Student will be placed at the p.m. program at the Morton Alternative School for the remainder of the 25-26 school year.

11.5. Approval of Personnel

11.5.1. Personnel Report

CERTIFIED

Coaching/Clubs/Activities for the 2025-2026 School Year

Jessica Herrera	Culinary Club	East
Sarah Llort	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	
Dayanna Sanchez	Assistant Girls Track Coach	
Sarah Schoel	Head Girls Track Coach	

NON-CERTIFIED

Teaching Assistants

Ariana Pintozzi	Special Education Teaching Assistant New Position Effective: 02/05/2026	East
-----------------	---	------

Isabel De La Vega	Special Education Teaching Assistant Replacing: Contracted TA Effective: pending background check	West
-------------------	---	------

Security

Salvador Diaz	Temporary 10 Month Full Time Security (shift transfer) Replacement for: Andre Hunter Effective: 01/28/2026	West
---------------	--	------

Aaliyah Harper	10 Month Full Time Security Replacement for: Jennifer Chavez Effective: 02/10/2026	East
----------------	--	------

Sergio Ramirez	10 Month Full Time Security Replacement for: Joseph Robertson Effective: 02/09/2026	East
----------------	---	------

Omar Serna Demeneghi	10 Month Full Time Security Replacement for: Jewel Turner Effective: pending background check	East
----------------------	---	------

Food Service

Eva Moreno	Part Time Server Replacement for: Elizabeth Arroyo Effective: pending background check	West
------------	--	------

Janett Perez	Part Time Server Replacement for: Zheida Castillo Effective: <i>pending background check</i>	West
--------------	--	------

Liliana Sanchez	Food Service Substitute Effective: <i>pending background check</i>	West
-----------------	---	------

SUSPENSIONS

Employee #7809	Effective: <i>02/18/2026</i>	
----------------	-------------------------------------	--

RETIREMENTS

Richard Mackowiak	Custodian Effective: <i>07/24/2026</i>	West
-------------------	--	------

Gertrude Rodriguez	Full Time Food Service Effective: <i>06/01/2026</i>	FC
--------------------	---	----

TERMINATIONS

Employee #9992	Effective: <i>02/11/2026</i>	
----------------	-------------------------------------	--

RESIGNATIONS

Christian Arenas	Freshman Assistant Football Coach (only) Effective: <i>01/27/2026</i>	
------------------	---	--

Elizabeth Arroyo	Part Time Food Service Effective: <i>02/13/2026</i>	West
------------------	---	------

Joseph McClelland	Fire Science and Public Safety Teacher (0.8 FTE) Effective: <i>02/04/2026</i>	West
-------------------	---	------

Kathryn Reichel	School Social Worker Effective: <i>2026-2027 School Year</i>	East
-----------------	--	------

Frank Soto	10 Month Full Time Security Effective: <i>02/13/2026</i>	FC
------------	--	----

OTHER

Employee #6067	Last Chance Agreement Effective: <i>02/12/2026</i>	
----------------	--	--

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Dax Poprawski	Custodial Substitute Offer Rescinded	
---------------	--	--

Gino Martinez	Temporary 10 Month Full-Time Security Offer Declined	East
---------------	--	------

- 11.6. Approval of Board of Education Travel and/or Expense Reimbursement in Accordance with Board Policy 2:125:** None
- 11.7. Approval of Staff Travel and/or Expense Reimbursement in Accordance with Board Policy 5:60:**
- 11.7.1. Megan Delaney, Diana Martinez, Lindsay Blackburn, Erin Fagan and Nydia Valle-Cabrera
Illinois Reading Council Conference
March 11-13, 2026
Funding Source: Title III
 - 11.7.2. Mark Yunker and Joseph Wright
Spring ICAIA Conference
March 25-27, 2026
Funding Source: CTE Funded
 - 11.7.3. Nicholas Valderas and Cynthia Lamas
IASBO Annual Conference
April 29 - May 1, 2026
Funding Source: Business Office Funded
- 11.8. Approval of Student Travel:**
- 11.8.1. Alex Eukovich, Jacob Paterkiewicz and 7 Bowling Athletes
IHSA State Boys' Bowling Tournament
O'Fallon, Illinois
January 28-31, 2026
Funding Source: Morton Athletics
 - 11.8.2. Ella Reckamp, Daisy Ruiz, Chaperones and 17 Students
Illinois Dance Team Association State Competition
February 13-15, 2026
Springfield, Illinois
Funding Source: Morton Athletics
 - 11.8.3. Moises Bernal, Elizabeth Casillas and 12 Morton East Students
Midwest CLA Winter Congress 2026
February 14-15, 2026
Madison, Wisconsin
Funding Source: Civic Leaders of American Club Funds
- 11.9. Approval of Facility Requests:**
- 11.9.1. Morton East Class of 1966
 - 11.9.2. Oak Park River Forest High School
- 11.10. Approval of Contracts (Pending Final Legal Review and Negotiation [if necessary]):** None

- 11.11. Approval to Bid or Quote:**
 - 11.11.1. Food Service Management
 - 11.11.2. Athletic Trainer and Medical Supplies
 - 11.11.3. Custodial Supplies
 - 11.11.4. PE Uniforms
 - 11.11.5. School Uniforms
 - 11.11.6. Auditing Services
- 11.12. Approval of Bid Results:** None
- 11.13. Approval to Accept Donations/Grants:** None
- 11.14. Approval to Dispose of District Property:** None

12. ACTIONS ITEM(S):

- 12.1. Approval of Addendum of IGA between District 201 and District 99 for Job Shadow Day

Member Jaramillo-Flores motioned to approve the Addendum of IGA between District 201 and District 99 for Job Shadow Day. Member Godinez seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, Tomschin and Villarreal
 Nays: none
 Abstain: none
 Absent: Member Gallegos
 Motion carried.

- 12.2. Approval of Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$102,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, in one or more series, of J. Sterling Morton High School District Number 201, Cook County, Illinois, and for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds.

Member Godinez motioned to approve the Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$102,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, in one or more series, of J. Sterling Morton High School District Number 201, Cook County, Illinois, and for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds. Member Tomschin seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, Tomschin and Villarreal
 Nays: none
 Abstain: none
 Absent: Member Gallegos
 Motion carried.

- 12.3. First and Final Reading of PRESSPlus Policy 120 Changes:
DRAFT UPDATES: 2:120, 2:150, 2:270, 4:10, 4:30, 4:80, 4:140, 5:10, 5:90, 5:100,
5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:280, 5:300, 6:20, 6:40, 6:60, 6:160, 6:260, 6:300, 6:310,
6:315, 6:320, 7:10, 7:70, 7:180, 7:190, 7:290, 7:315, 7:340 & 8:30
DRAFT UPDATE - REWRITTEN: 7:150
REVIEW AND MONITORING: 6:280

Member Jaramillo-Flores motioned to approve First and Final Reading of PRESSPlus Policy 120 Changes:

DRAFT UPDATES: 2:120, 2:150, 2:270, 4:10, 4:30, 4:80, 4:140, 5:10, 5:90, 5:100,
5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:280, 5:300, 6:20, 6:40, 6:60, 6:160, 6:260, 6:300, 6:310, 6:315,
6:320, 7:10, 7:70, 7:180, 7:190, 7:290, 7:315, 7:340 & 8:30

DRAFT UPDATE - REWRITTEN: 7:150

REVIEW AND MONITORING: 6:280

Member Tomschin seconded the motion.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, Tomschin
and Villarreal

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Member Gallegos

Motion carried.

13. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

14. **AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Grazyni Grzesnikowska CPR and First Aid Training

15. **BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS:** None

16. **DISCUSSION:** None

17. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

17.1. Mr. Battistoni – Thank you

18. **INFORMATIONAL ITEM:**

18.1. The next regular Board of Education Meeting will take place at Morton District Office on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, starting at 5:00 p.m. and going directly into Closed Session.

19. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 6:49 p.m., Member Kraft moved to adjourn. Member Godinez seconded.

Ayes: Members Godinez, Jaramillo-Flores, Kelly, Kraft, Murga, Pesek, Tomschin and Villarreal

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Member Gallegos

Motion carried.

Jeffry Pesek, President

Date

Jessica Jaramillo-Flores, Secretary

Date