

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 126  
PRAIRIE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
11910 S. CENTRAL AVE  
ALSIP, IL 60803**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The Roll was called.

Present: Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks, President  
Joe LaChica, Vice President  
Donna Waldrom, Pro Tem Secretary  
Harry Tannehill  
Kim Powers

Absent: Lori Pierce, Therese Zaker

Also Present: Craig Gwaltney, Superintendent  
Steve Gress, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Lori Connolly, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Robert Condon, Director of Special Education  
Nicole Leggett, Bilingual Director

**INTERFUND TRANSFER**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To open the Public Hearing on the Interfund Transfers as duly advertised." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, LaChica, Tannehill, Waldrom, Powers. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

There were no questions/statements or positions from the Audience or Board.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Kim Powers, "To close the Public Hearing on the Interfund Transfer." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Powers, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

**FINANCIAL**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "To adopt the Resolution Authorizing Interfund Transfer from Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Waldrom, Power, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "To adopt the Resolution Authorizing Interfund Transfer from the Education Fund to the Working Cash Fund." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, Power. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the submission of the FY23 School Maintenance Project Grant Application." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Powers, Waldrom, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "To approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Waldrom, Tannehill, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: none. Abstain: Powers, LaChica. The motion carried 3-0-2.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the minutes of the September 8, 2022, Board Meeting." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Waldrom, Tannehill. Nay: none. Abstain: Powers, LaChica. The motion carried 3-0-2.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To approve the Consent Agenda." Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Tannehill, Sinnott-Snooks, Waldrom, LaChica, Powers. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0.

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Steve Gress stated that we received a FOIA requests from SmartProcure this month and we responded to them within the proper length of time.

### EDUCATIONAL REPORT

Lori Connolly informed the board about Bernie's Book Bank Mobile. They delivered a set of 8 books to all our students in grades K-6 at each of our elementary schools. Faculty and our students are so fortunate to have this opportunity and we look forward to continuing this partnership with Bernie's Book Bank students provided much positive feedback. We had many parents express their gratitude as well.

Lori spoke about how the Gold Circle of Quality recognizes early childhood programs which have demonstrated quality on all standards, as validated by an independent assessor. The Gold Circle programs meet or exceed specific quality benchmarks on learning environment, instructional quality, and all administrative standards; group size and ratios; qualifications; and professional development. The District 126 Early Childhood Center has once again received the Gold Circle of Quality from ExceleRate Illinois! Mrs. Gina Fiske, principal of the Early Childhood Center, and the staff of the Early Childhood Center continue to do amazing work supporting the district's youngest learners. I would like to express my gratitude for their team's dedication, passion, and hard work.

Lastly, Lori reported on the fall NWEA results. It shows where the cohort of students at each grade level currently compares to the grade level projected growth. There is no growth data for first-grade students because they do not take the MAP assessment in kindergarten, so a full year of growth cannot be measured. This growth data is important because it demonstrates the amount of growth our students demonstrated on the MAP assessments after a full year of traditional instruction after COVID. Clearly, our students greatly benefited from being back in school full-time with their teachers.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

Craig Gwaltney informed the board that we closed on the property that the district purchased to transform it into an additional parking space for Stony Creek staff and parents. Plans for the new lot were shown to the board. Updates will be given as the project starts.

Also discussed was the possibility of adding on to the Stony Creek kitchen. This would enable the district to bring in a food service company to cook meals onsite for our District 126 students. The plan was discussed and other options will be looked at and this subject will be revisited at a later date.

### OLD BUSINESS

Craig updated the board on the construction project at Prairie Junior High.

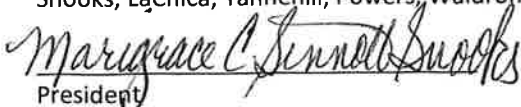
### CLOSED SESSION

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To go into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees in the district. For collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees." Upon roll call, the vote: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Waldrom, Pierce, LaChica, Powers, Tannehill, Zaker. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0 at 7:40p.m.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Kim Powers, "To come out of Closed Session". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Powers, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom. Nay: none. The motion carried 5-0 at 8:14 p.m.

### ADJOURNMENT

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "To adjourn the meeting". Upon roll call, the vote is as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, LaChica, Tannehill, Powers, Waldrom. Nay: None. The motion carried 5-0 at 8:15 p.m.

  
President

  
Secretary