



**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

J.B Pritzker
Governor

Heidi Mueller
Director

**Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice School District #428
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Minutes -January 19th, 2024**

- CALL TO ORDER** 1.0 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Pro-Temp, David Green on Friday, January 19th at 9:40 a.m. at the IDJJ Chicago Office.
- ROLL CALL** 1.1 The following Board Members were present: President Heidi Mueller, Board Member Briana Morales, Board Member David Green, Board Member Lamont Holifield, Board Member Shawn Jackson, and Board Member Heather Dalmage.
- Others present: Robert Vickery, Interim Director. Dr. Tresa D. Dunbar, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Bambi Bethel-Leitschuh, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Noah Boudreau, Director of CTE and Vocational Education and Melissa Cory, Director of Special Education.
- CONSENT AGENDA** 2.0 As follows.
- President Pro-Temp Green turned it over to President Mueller at 28:47.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA** 2.1 Quorum was confirmed. Member Heather Dalmage motioned for approval. Member Lamont Holifield second the motion.
- No objections.
Motion passed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2023 MEETING** 2.2 Approval of the meetings was moved by Member Lamont Holifield and second by Member Heather Dalmage.
- No objections.
Motion passed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

3.0 None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4.0

President Mueller will be leaving IDJJ and take over as Director of DCFS. The Deputy Director of Programs Robert Vickery will be taking over as Interim Director. He has been working alongside President Mueller for over 12 years. He has been doing various juvenile justice reform work and been instrumental in driving forward the program's initiatives. Mr. Vickery has been deeply involved in the transformation of St. Charles.

President Mueller reiterates how the design and strategy was intentional for the development of the PEACE center at St. Charles. There was the opportunity to become more specialized with the region and be more developmentally appropriate as well as invest resources which are admittedly limited. This will allow focus on the younger population, junior high and high school. At the same time resources will be invested into vocational education and certification programs making it developmentally appropriate for the emerging young adults.

It has been an overall collaborative process, dietary workers and youth interns were involved in the planning of the model as well as parent advisory groups.

Mr. Robert Vickery had an opportunity to introduce himself. Board Members also had the opportunity to introduce themselves to the new President of the Board.

President Mueller expressed gratitude to the Board Members for the commitment to the School Board and the youth.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

5.0

As follows.

SCHOOL DISTRICT #428

5.1

Update on Intergration of Sam Sublett into Maya Angelou and Thurgood Marshall

The realignment and adjustment of teachers has been completed in a very efficient and professional manner. Staff at Sam Sublett were made aware of transformation to an emerging adult and youth center, which is now known as the Peace Center.

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

In November 2023, staff and representatives from Thurgood Marshall and Maya Angelou were present to discuss the final move. Educators had the opportunity to ask questions and have any concerns addressed.

On December 18th, the educators transferred were able to visit their new schools and meet and greet the staff. The transformation took over 18 months.

It is a project that was executed in the shortest time. As of January, all teachers are in their new sites and doing well.

Mr. Boudreau will share further information on the PEACE center.

Board Member appreciated the update on the Integration. Board Member Morales inquired on the location the new teachers will be moved to. Board Member Morales also asked on the ratio of students to teachers and accommodation. No school was fully staff before the transition. The transition helped fulfill educator vacancies.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

Human Resources Update

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.2 A new system will be launched. All representatives will be trained over the course of 6-8 weeks. The principal position of Maya Angelou has been posted and interviews are scheduled for mid to late February.

The School District was able to sign a contract with Delta-T to hire substitutes.

A special thanks to Chief of Staff, Andy Munemoto for working with the HR Department in moving the positions forward.

Board Member Morales inquired on the TA Principal at Maya Angelou, considering the principal position opened, will he return to his previous school.

The TA Principal is currently a candidate in the interview process that is being held for the permanent principal position.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

*Mandated Board of Education
Training-March 2024*

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.3 The dates for the mandated in-person training are for March 19th, 20th ad 21st. The date with the most votes will be the final date.

**ASST. SUPT/DIR OF
SPECIAL ED. UPDATE**

**DR. BAMBI
BETHEL-LEITSCHUH**

6.0 As follows.

Assistant Superintendent 6.1
Summary January 2024
Professional Learning
Community (PLC),
Teams/Blended Learning
Update, Educator Manual for
IDJJ Intranet and SD #428
INSIDER-Newsletter

DR. BAMBI
BETHEL-LEITSCHUH

A completed school directory will be shared by the next board meeting. All information a school district will need in case of student transfers will be included. The Illinois State Board of Education and College Board have been doing in-person training with the new SAT/PSAT online version. It has posed difficulties for the state schools, the visually impaired, hearing impaired and IDJJ School District 428. The difficulties and challenges are the firewalls and filters used to upload and download the tests.

The Educator's Resource Manual will be uploaded to the IDJJ website for the process of onboarding new staff within the school system and to make everyone is aware of the Administrative Directives and policies. The leadership staff is involved in completing the overall manual.

The school district newsletter will be revamped and released quarterly. The first release date month is in January. The Central Office Administrators, principals and teachers have submitted information for input. The newsletter will be shared with the Board Members and uploaded to the IDJJ website.

Superintendent of Schools reminded the board that the Illinois State Board of Education has recognized School District #428.

DIRECTOR OF 6.0
SPECIAL
EDUCATION

MRS. MELISSA CORY

Special Education Update 6.1
Special Education Monthly Data
Summary/Narrative for
November/December 2023

Special Education Summary
January 2024

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION
MRS. MELISSA CORY

As follows.

IDJJ currently has 52 students with special education, which makes up 51% of the student population.

Maya Angelou High School has their first Paraprofessional. IDJJ is currently working with Delta-T to hire more paraprofessionals to eventually have in all the schools.

The shift in education after the realignment allow for three special education teachers to be at the Maya Angelou plus the paraprofessional. This will help the youth progress a little faster.

Mr. Boudreau and Ms. Cory have been working with the Division of Rehabilitation Services, which is house under the Department of Human Services. There is a lot of program opportunities, assistance with the youth with disabilities upon graduation. Most youth may not have IEPs, however, it can be proved a documented disability which will make the youth eligible for services. Aftercare youth will also be involved with the additional help.

CTE/ VOCATIONAL 7.0
EDUCATION DIRECTOR

As follows.

MR. NOAH BOUDREAU
CTE/ Vocational
Education Summary
January 2024

7.1

Technical Manufacturing Association will continue to run at the PEACE center.

MR. NOAH BOUDREAU

Sim Log finally came on board at Harrisburg. Teachers have been trained and the first number of students enrolled will begin Wednesday.

Victory Rx has yet to gather the final signatures on the contract to then move forward with installation, instructor training and lastly, student enrollment.

Pointful Education is the next endeavor. Nova driving is scheduling instructors to visit the facilities. The list of students participating is completed.

Greater West Town will be postpone, the upcoming cohort will not be scheduled as the staff number has decreased.

The St. Charles facility passed the fire inspection. The Larry Barber Program will be expected to resume.

Programming at the PEACE center is slightly different and will continue to provide educational opportunities that will provide youth with a chance and choice on the outside.

Pictures were shared showing youth and an educator using the Sim Log simulator.

Data collection was shared. The FASFA application is much easier to fill out, which resulted in an increase of submissions.

College visits are expected to increase due to School Links. Youth now have a private email that can be used once moved into aftercare and when they leave. It will be piloted in CTE then to the rest of the schools.

Job fairs are successful. It will alleviate staffing issues and will allow focus to be turned to youth progress.

**BOARD DISCUSSION
ITEMS**

8.0

Board Member Green inquired on the OneNet training for completion.

ADJOURNMENT

9.0

A motion to adjourn was made by David Green. Board Member Lamont Holifield then followed with a second motion. The motion passed. No Objections. President Mueller concluded the meeting at 10:51am.

