



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

**J.B Pritzker**  
Governor

**Robert D. Vickery**  
Acting Director

**Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice School District #428  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Minutes -March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

- CALL TO ORDER**            1.0    The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Robert D. Vickery on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:36 a.m. at the IDJJ Chicago Office.
- ROLL CALL**                1.1    The following Board Members were present: President Robert Vickery, Board Member Briana Morales, Board Member David Green, and Board Member Heather Dalmage.
- Others present: Noah Boudreau, Director of CTE and Vocational Education and Melissa Cory, Director of Special Education.
- CONSENT AGENDA**        2.0    As follows.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA**        2.1    Quorum was confirmed. Member David Green motioned for approval. Member Heather Dalmage second the motion.
- No objections.  
Motion passed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 2024 MEETING**        2.2    Approval of the meetings was moved by Member Heather Dalmage and second by Member David Green.
- No objections.  
Motion passed.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**        3.0    None
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT**        4.0    President Vickery has been in the role as Director for 45 days. The youth population is trending down. IDJJ often sees a season fluctuation, averaging closer to 180 youth and now down to 150 youth.

The launch of the PEACE center at St. Charles was a success. Not only has youth participation increased but also youth behavior. There have been less reportable incidents.

Youth are given incentives and will continue to earn as they participate in different programs. Educator moves from Sam Sublett to Warrenville and Chicago was helpful but still are insufficiently staffed at both facilities to meet the consent decree requirements.

The HR team will be posting sixteen educator positions for Chicago and Warrenville.

Dr. Dalmage inquired on the issue being the quantity of postings through Central Management Services (CMS).

IDJJ is in the midst of transitioning to a new Human Capital Management System, a new hiring database, however, the implementation was not as smooth as expected.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

5.0

As follows presented by Mr. Boudreau in her absence.

**SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #428**

5.1

ISBE has agreed to allow remote meetings with participation as mandated. Training for the Board of Education is to be determined. Tentative dates will be in May. It will be an in-person meeting.

*Board of Education IASB  
Training*

**DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR**

**SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #428**

5.2

The 2024-2025 School Calendar was shared. There will be 204 calendar days. Board Member Dalmage inquired on specific considerations the board should focus on.

*2024-2025 School District  
Calendar*

**DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR**

Mr. Boudreau stated School District #428 is a year-round district and Board should focus on how the calendar, beginning in the summer and end of summer, is managed.

Board Member Morales inquired if parent- teacher conferences are offered once a year and if they are in-person or virtual. Mr. Boudreau stated parents have the option to choose if they want and in person or a virtual. Parent Teacher conferences are offered at the end of every quarter.

Board Member Morales also inquired on the amount of time the Educators have to prepare for the conferences and attend professional development events.

Mr. Boudreau explained how educators have time at the end of every day to prepare for next quarters. The amount of professional development educators have is the same over the years and the Annual School Retreat is part of educator professional development.

Board Member Dalmage moved to accept the calendar. Board Member Green second the motion.

\*The incorrect attachment was shared and approved; therefore, the correct School Calendar will need to be reapproved by the Board and ISBE.

**SCHOOL 5.3**  
**DISTRICT #428**

*School District #428 Retreat*

The Professional Development Annual School District Retreat will be held May 1<sup>st</sup>- May 3<sup>rd</sup> in Alton, IL at the Best Western Premier.

**DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR**

Retreat invitation was extended to the Board.

**SCHOOL 5.4**  
**DISTRICT #428**

*Board Member Ambassador and School Partnerships*

Board Member Morales, as ambassador for Glencliffe Academy, would like to meet with the staff, prior to the retreat.

**DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR**

Booker T. Washington (IYC Harrisburg) – Mr. Green  
Maya Angelou (IYC Warrenville) – Dr. Dalmage  
Glencliffe Academy (IYC Pere Marquette)- Ms. Morales  
Thurgood Marshall (IYC Chicago) – Dr. Jackson  
PEACE Center (IYC St. Charles) – Mr. Holifield

**ASST. SUPT/DIR OF 6.0**  
**SPECIAL ED. UPDATE**

**DR. BAMBI**  
**BETHEL-LEITSCHUH**

As follows.

*Assistant Superintendent 6.1*  
*Online Educator's Resource*  
*Manual, Quarterly Newsletter*  
*(JAN2024), and Curriculum*  
*Scope and Sequence Handbook*

**DR. BAMBI**  
**BETHEL-LEITSCHUH**

Ms. Beckham provided the report in absence of Dr. Bethel. Information was shared on Professional Development and SAT/PSAT updates.

The Educator's Resource Manual was shared as a source to easily access School District and agency information.

School District and curriculum requirements is also accessible.

The first issue of the School District #428 INSIDER Newsletter was released.

March 29<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the next issue.

**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION** 6.2

As follows.

**MRS. MELISSA CORY**

*Special Education Update* 6.3  
*Special Education Monthly Data Summary/Narrative for February 2024*

IDJJ currently has 52 students with special education, which makes up 56% of the student population. Thurgood Marshall has a paraprofessional. Youth appreciate the individualized assistance.

*Special Education Summary February 2024*

The goal is to hire 3 paraprofessionals at each school.

**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
**MRS. MELISSA CORY**

The special education staff met in March in Springfield. Ms. Cory states how hard it is to remove them from their daily tasks.

IEP Quality Project from the University of Illinois focus on writing goals measurable and appropriate to the youth. Special Education staff focuses heavily on maintaining compliance.

Dr. Dalmage inquired on Trauma informed and restorative justice, specifically with the female youth at Warrenville.

Ms. Cory stated that trauma informed care is an agency wide initiative.

Outside of the School District, IDJJ is partnered with SkyArt, who provides art therapy. New Life Centers at Chicago provide restorative practices. Recently a woman was brought on to work with the girls in a more gender responsive way. Northeast Dupage developed a curriculum that is also gender responsive and trauma informed.

**CTE/ VOCATIONAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR** 7.0

As follows.

**MR. NOAH BOUDREAU**  
*CTE/ Vocational Education Summary March 2024*

7.1

CTE programming updates presentation was shared. SimLog now has 14 students enrolled. Two youth are soon to finish and preparing to taking final exam.

**MR. NOAH BOUDREAU**

Victory XR and Meta corporation have delivered VR units to the PEACE Center. The grand opening will be on March 27<sup>th</sup>. CBS News will be joining to write an introductory story about all the different programming offered.

Nova Driving instructors were able to tour and meet youth in the northern facilities. The program is expected to be running by the end of April in all the facilities.

Greater West Town will begin their next cohort. They are currently in the processing of onboarding teachers.

School Links has started, and youth are in transition.

Mr. Boudreau continues to attend career fairs.

**BOARD DISCUSSION  
ITEMS**

**8.0** Ms. Morales mention the IASB Conference for Board Members. She asked if there would be opportunity to attend and have DJJ be responsible for payment.

Ms. Morales also requested clarification on the ambassador program and requirements as Board Members.

Follow-up with the Board to revisit Board of Education Meeting times and dates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**9.0** A motion to adjourn was made by David Green. Board Member Briana Morales then followed with a second motion. The motion passed. No Objections. President Vickery concluded the meeting at 10:37am.