



**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 -January 17th, 2025**

- CALL TO ORDER** 1.0 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Acting President Robert D. Vickery on Friday, January 17th at 9:35 a.m. at the IDJJ Chicago Office.
- ROLL CALL** 1.1 The following Board Members were present: Acting President Robert Vickery, Board Member David Green, Board Member Lamont Holifield and Board Member Briana Morales. Board Member Shawn Jackson joined at 9:44 a.m.
- Others present: Tresa D. Dunbar, Superintendent of Schools, Bambi Bethel-Leitschuh, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Melissa Cory, Director of Special Education, and Dominique Newman, Chief Information Officer.
- CONSENT AGENDA** 2.0 As follows.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA** 2.1 Quorum was confirmed. Board Member David Green motioned for approval. Board Member Lamont Holifield second the motion.
- No objections.
Motion passed.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 2025 MEETING** 2.2 Approval of the meeting minutes was moved by Board Member Lamont Holifield and second by Board Member David Green.
- No objections.
Motion passed.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** 3.0 Michelle Chen- IDJJ intern with Public Information Officer.
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT** 4.0 The Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice continues to focus on the education for the emerging adults within the Department for Corrections. Due to litigation, it is a priority. Therefore, the position of Assistant Superintendent of Extended Educational Services was created and filled by Dr. Bambi Bethel-Leitschuh.

The Human Resources Department is in the process of posting the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction position. The posting is to be shared with the Board of Education members. Additionally, the two currently vacant principal positions will be posted. Ms. Christina Lee is the current TA principal at Booker T. Washington at Harrisburg and Ms. Angela Cunliffe is the current TA Principal at Maya Angelou at Warrenville.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

5.0 As follows.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

*Board of Education Ambassador
Update*

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.1 The School Board Member Ambassador roles handout was shared. Board Members were given a moment to raise any thoughts or comments on the roles as Ambassadors. Board Members are encouraged to connect with the principals of their assigned schools. Principals are encouraged to extend invitation to important event dates.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

Human Resources Update

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.2 The School District has hiring priorities. It is anticipated that by March, positions will be interviewed, if not filled. A list of current openings was shared. The Illinois Youth Center- Lincoln, Monarch school will be opened by Summer of 2025.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

*School Updates:
Booker T. Washington,
Thurgood Marshall*

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.3 The temporarily assigned principal, Christina Lee, had the opportunity to introduce herself and share current progress at Booker T. Washington Alternative High School. Principals for the remainder schools will join in the March meeting.

**SCHOOL
DISTRICT #428**

*Annual Professional
Development Retreat*

DR. TRESA D. DUNBAR

5.4 The 2025 Annual Professional Retreat will be on April 30th – May 2nd in Urbana Champaign, IL. Board Members are invited and highly encouraged to check out the School District #428's progress. It is a three-day event that focuses on both wellness and social and emotional related activities.

**ASST. SUPERINTENDENT 6.0
UPDATE**

*Summary December
2024/January 2025
Curriculum Update*

The implementation of the accountability plan that was previously postponed due to lack of space will be available as of February 1. Illinois Youth Center at Chicago has a reset room for the accountability plan available where data collection, youth intervention and support will take place.

**DR. BAMBI
BETHEL-LEITSCHUH**

The School District #428 is collaborating with the Illinois State University, their Center for Intensive Behavioral Support, where the focus is on various module. The modules are in relation to classroom management, youth, and educator behavior management.

ACT testing will take place the second and third week of April.

An Inter-governmental agreement for the Multi-tiered Support System was obtained through Northern Illinois University in February.

Board Member Morales inquired on the intergovernmental agreement with Northern Illinois will entail for MTSS.

The agreement will last two years, where the institute will work in training school principals and then teachers. Data collection will then determine the success of intervention provided to the youth.

On February 5th, Educators from Glencliffe Academy Alternative High School in Pere Marquette will have the opportunity to shadow Alton High School teachers regarding Google and classroom management.

Four weeks into the role as the Assistant Superintendent of Extended Services for qualifying individuals in Department of Corrections custody. Two current sessions are in progress at Shawnee and IL River Correctional Center. There is a master list of over one thousand individuals who are potential students. Pinckneyville and Logan Correctional center contracts are in progress with Big Muddy, Lawrence, and Logan on deck. The Lincoln Monarch facility is almost at its completion.

Hiring has aggressively started, by the end of February or beginning of March, Shawnee will be fully staffed with all classroom subjects. The goal is to avoid educator displacement currently at School District #428.

Job descriptions for principal, school counselor, school psychologist and special education resource coordinator will be revisited and revised. Delta T contractual staff will continue to support in the substitute area.

**DIRECTOR OF
SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

6.2 School District #428 currently has 56 Special Education students. Eight students with an active IEP graduated.

*Special Education Monthly Data
Summary/Narrative for
October & November 2024
Return of Special Education
Resource Coordinator (SERC)
Special Education Coverage at
Booker T. Washington
Individual Education Plan (IEP)
Request Process*
MRS. MELISSA CORY

Ms. Ann Kuehnelt recently retired and has returned to serve on a temporary contract. She is currently serving at Glencliffe Academy in Pere Marquette. She will also help cover Booker T. Washington special education requests. The district is continuing to hire staff to cover vacancies.

**CTE/ VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION DIRECTOR**

- 7.0** A report will be provided in the March meeting, thoroughly, on D&D solar and Electric Solar programming.

*CTE/ Vocational
Education Summary
January 2025*

MR. NOAH BOUDREAU

**BOARD DISCUSSION
ITEMS**

- 8.0** Board member Morales inquired on the type of acceptable donations to the youth centers. Not only monetary, but engagement support is welcomed. Any community partners and/or organizations that are willing to provide services for the youth, such as tutoring or sports, would be highly appreciated. The School District is planning a Career Day for the students .

Board Member Dalmage has resigned, unfortunately her career did not allow to continue with the duty as a board member.

Two new board members are expected to begin in June.

ADJOURNMENT

- 9.0** A motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Lamon Holifield. Board Member David Green then followed with a second motion. The motion passed. No Objections. Superintendent of Schools concluded the meeting at 10:12 a.m.