

## **Board of Education Work Session**

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Agency: Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Date: Oct. 10, 2023

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# Summary

- Riverside Principal Jessica Gamble gave a summary presentation about the school.
- Presenters provided information with passion and enthusiasm.
- The meeting was very comprehensive.

### **Notes**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sara Elaqad at 6:30 p.m. Roll call for members present:

- Robert Briggs
- Robert Heard
- Denise Link
- Nigamanth Sridhar
- Diana Welch Howell
- Elaqad

District CEO Warren Morgan II also attended.

The board <u>approved the minutes</u> from a board retreat on Sept. 22 and 23. It was announced that Lisa Thomas resigned after 12 years on the board.

Members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

New CEO Morgan gave a report on his "listen-and-learn" townhall tour. Students gave feedback on issues to prioritize, he said. Morgan said it had been a tough week due to the deaths of a teacher and four students. Morgan <u>named them in the meeting</u>, and then asked for a moment of silence.

Shifting gears, Morgan announced that October is the month for recognizing principals.

### School spotlight presentation—Riverside PreK-8 School

Principal Jessica Gamble presented.

#### Gamble reviewed:

- 1. Who we are
- 2. AAP (Advanced Alternative Preparation) ELA (early literacy)
- 3. AAP Math
- 4. AAP PBIS (positive behavioral interventions and supports) & Engagement
- 5. AAP Equity & Access
- 6. Riverside Scholar Demographics

Gamble said Riverside has an inclusive and very diverse community of students who speak multiple languages, as well as students with disabilities. Riverside has a staff of 71, of which 58 are female and 13 male.

Resolutions <u>on the agenda</u> for discussion were as follows [Editor's note: The board is set to vote on these resolutions at its Oct. 24 meeting]:

# 5.01 Amending policy on public participation

- Three-minute limit would remain for each commenter
- Would require speakers to register by 12 p.m. the day of meetings, either by filling out an online form or registering over the phone
- Goal is to assist board with offering more helpful responses to comments, Elaqad said
- Link appealed to have phone number listed somewhere. [Editor's note: The number to call is 216-838-0030. Online registration forms are available on the board's website.]

6.01 Authorizing participation in the Cuyahoga County 2024 Real Property Tax Advance Program

6.02 Authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the Cuyahoga County Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program and authorizing the CEO to spend the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant

Would allow for acceptance of a grant for \$48,000 and authorize the CEO to spend the funds.

6.03 Authorizing the acceptance of a gift and grants from Alison and Thomas

Klocker, Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, Step Forward, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and authorizing the CEO to spend the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the gifts and grants.

7.01 Authorizing a purchase order to SC Strategic Solutions for imaging software and document management services for student records in an amount not to exceed \$1.618.000

A CMSD staff member took to the podium to present on a project to <u>digitize</u> <u>student records</u>. Said the district will be moving from paper to digital format.

From 2022 to early 2023, CMSD removed 13,000 boxes of records from South High School and stored them. It now wants to transfer them to Strategic Solutions for digitizing.

Before digitizing records, CMSD must keep paper records for five years after students leave the district, the presenter said.

Briggs inquired as to what is covered through insurance regarding the possibility of hacking. In response, the district officials said there would be ample backup to the computer system.

Another questioned, "What's the risk to push back for a year or so?"

Do we have a cost savings without having storage of paper documents?

Could you give us data of requests for transcripts?

# 8.01 Resolution for discussion/ Equity and Culture

Authorizing the issuance of a purchase order to the Committee for Children to purchase digital license and materials for Second Step, an evidence-based social emotional learning program, for grades 6, 7, and 8 in each K-8 school in an amount not to exceed \$127,846.80.

#### 9.01 Resolution for discussion - Academics

Adopting and issuing a report to the State of Ohio describing the Cleveland Municipal School District's performance for the 2022-2023 school year.

Annual report. A presenter said 7.9% of 2023 high school students who took the

SAT or ACT did so <u>remediation-free</u> (meaning their test scores indicate success in college-level courses).

The presenter said he doesn't think this is a good representation of college readiness.

Morgan said the district needs more clarity on the state measures.

### 10.01 Resolution for discussion - Talent

Authorizing the employment of teaching, non-teaching and school-based administration staff

10.02 Authorizing the reclassification of employees

10.03 Accepting the retirements, resignations and other separations of employees

10.04 Authorizing the issuance of limited contracts for differential positions and the payment of additional earned compensation to employees

Next meeting Oct. 24th at John F. Kennedy High School

Meeting ended around 9 p.m., following an executive session.

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