

**FORD HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 169**  
***MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD***  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by presiding officer, Board President Joe Louis Sherman - at **10:05 a.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (*recited by all in attendance*)**

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Present: Mr. Joe Louis Sherman, Mrs. Ester Viverette, Ms. Jessica Gray,  
Mr. Mark Mitchell, Mrs. Lera Cook (*By Phone*)  
Absent: Mr. Samuel LaWrence, Mr. James Coleman  
Also Present: Dr. Gregory T. Jackson, Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Coretta D. Jackson, Assistant Superintendent of  
Business Administration & Operations  
Dr. Sharon P. Rivers, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum  
& Instruction  
Mr. David J. Wright, Director of Technology  
Mrs. LaDonna Harris, Executive Assistant to the Supt.  
Ms. Jennifer Keys (Guest)

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC (2 Minutes)**

Ms. Jennifer Keys stated that she had some concerns pertaining to a lack of operable monitoring equipment provided on the DLM School Bus Line transport service that her granddaughters ride. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** inquired of Ms. Keys if she is listed as a parent of record as the Board and he are unable to discuss matters of student personnel if she is not. **SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** went on to suggest to Members of the Board and Ms. Keys that it would be appropriate if the Board considers convening into closed session to discuss matters of student personnel with permission from the student's parent and Ms. Keys. The Board obliged and agreed to the suggestion of a closed session.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Board President Joe Louis Sherman called for a motion to approve the agenda at **10:28 a.m.**

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray* - to approve the agenda.

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Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
Nays: None  
Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
Abstain: None  
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board President Joe Louis Sherman, called for a motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing and regularly scheduled board meeting of **November 5, 2024**.

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray*- to approve the minutes of **November 5, 2024**.

Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
Nays: None  
Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
Abstain: None  
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you card received from Assistant Principal Tanitia Smith of Medgar Evers Primary Academic Center regarding the support of the Board and the Superintendent during her time of bereavement from her mother's passing.

### PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

**SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** reminded members of the Board of Education that they were in advance receipt of his report. He went on to discuss the hiring of a new day-to-day substitute teacher, Takeisha Williams.

**SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** also discussed the approval of the resolution provided regarding the abatement of 2024 and 2025 taxes in order to obtain the fiscal year 2025 property tax relief grant and the approval of the proposed 2025 – 2026 public school calendar.

**SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** went on to mention the death resolution of Ms. Helen Brinson and the Family Medical Leave Act request on behalf of Cheyenne

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Wilson, Administrative Assistant of the District Office, which was before them for consideration and possible approval.

**SUPERINTENDENT JACKSON** ended by asking for favorable approval of his report, as submitted and asked if there were any further questions. **There were none.**

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray* - to approve **PART A - REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
Nays: None  
Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
Abstain: None  
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

- A.** That pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(10) and Section 2(c)(11) the Ford Heights School District 169 (FHSD 169) Board of Education goes into Closed Session to discuss the employment, compensation, and/performance of a specific employee of FHSD 169 and or matters regarding students. Any items needing approval will be voted on during open session.  
**(POSSIBLE ACTION)**

**II. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION**

**A. PERSONNEL**

**1. APPOINTMENT(S)**

Authorization is sought to appoint **MS. TAKEISHA WILLIAMS**, as a districtwide ***Substitute Teacher*** effective **Monday, December 9, 2024**, for the 2024-2025 School Year – prorated **\$45,000 salary**  
*(New appointments, as shown above, are pending receipt of all personnel required documents and Illinois State Police and FBI criminal background clearance.)*

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**B. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ABATEMENT OF 2024 AND 2025 TAXES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN FISCAL YEAR 2025 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF GRANT (See reference #1)**

Authorization is sought to approve the resolution providing for abatement of 2024 and 2025 taxes in the amount of \$232,926.00 in order to qualify for the FY 2025 Property Tax Relief grant.

**C. APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2025-2026 PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR (See reference #2)**

Approval is sought to approve the **2025-2026 ISBE** School Calendar for the **2025-2026** School Year.

The School Year will begin on **Wednesday, August 6, 2025**, and will end on **Wednesday, May 28, 2026**. The calendar represents **185 days**, inclusive of **five (5) emergency days**. If no emergency days are used, school will end **Wednesday, May 20, 2026**.

You will see by the attached copy of the official School Calendar; the following will take place on dates noted below:

**TEACHER INSTITUTE DAYS**

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Thursday, August 7, 2025

Friday, August 8, 2025

Monday, May 18, 2026

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Friday, October 24, 2025

Friday, March 27, 2026

**EMERGENCY DAYS**

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Friday, May 22, 2026

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Thursday, May 28, 2026

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**D. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT UPDATES' RE-SIGN  
(REFERENCE #3)**

Authorization is sought to approve the Intergovernmental agreement drafted and updated by Cook County as it relates to the development of a resilience hub.

**E. DEATH RESOLUTION (HELEN BRINSON) (REFERENCE #4)**

Authorization is sought to acknowledge the death and years of service of **MS. HELEN BRINSON** who has provided 35 years of service to the Ford Heights School District 169 family from 1972 - 2007.

**F. FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT REQUEST (FMLA)**

Authorization is sought to approve Family Medical Leave (FMLA) request submitted by **MRS. CHEYENNE DREIXLER**, Administrative Assistant, District Office, consistent with Ford Heights School District 169's FMLA Policy 5.185

**I. FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**A. Monthly Enrollment (As of November 26, 2024)**

**MEDGAR EVERS SCHOOL**

<b>PRE-K</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>KDG</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>GRADE 1</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>GRADE 2</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>GRADE 3</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>GRADE 4</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>288</b>

**COTTAGE GROVE:**

<b>GRADE 5</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>GRADE 6</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>GRADE 7</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>GRADE 8</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>151</b>

<b>TOTAL DISTRICT</b>	<b>OUT OF DISTRICT</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>
<b>439</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>456</b>

REPORT OF CONTACTS (ATTENDANCE OFFICES):

**MEDGAR EVERS:**

HOME VISITS	TELE. CONTACTS	PARENT CONF.	LETTERS SENT HOME
4	344	24	98

**COTTAGE GROVE:**

HOME VISITS	TELE. CONTACTS	PARENT CONF.	LETTERS SENT HOME
3	252	12	42

**PART B – ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS**

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS reminded members of the Board that they were in advanced receipt of her report.

MRS. CORETTA JACKSON ended by asking for favorable approval of this report, as submitted. **There were none.**

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray* - to approve **PART B - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS** as Report as submitted:

Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
 Abstain: None  
 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

**I. FOR YOUR AUTHORIZATION**

**A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (\$796,952.86)**

**B. PAYROLL SUMMARY (for the month of November 2024) as detailed below:**

November 1, 2024	\$233,661.48
November 15, 2024	\$228,520.30
November 26, 2024	<u>\$207,791.78</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$669,973.56</b>

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**PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**DR. SHARON P. RIVERS, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**, reminded members of the Board that they were in advance receipt of her report and inquired if there were any questions. **THERE WERE NONE.**

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray*- to accept **PART C - ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION** as submitted.

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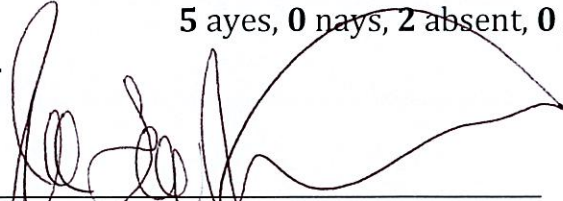
Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
Nays: None  
Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
Abstain: None  
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

At this juncture, Board President Joe Louis Sherman, called for a motion to adjourn.

**ADJOURNMENT: 10:39 a.m.**

Motioned/*Mitchell*; Seconded/*Gray* - to adjourn meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: J. Sherman, E. Viverette, J. Gray, M. Mitchell, L. Cook (*By Phone*)  
Nays: None  
Absent: S. LaWrence, J. Coleman  
Abstain: None  
5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent, 0 abstain, 0 present – motion carried.

  
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Mr. Joe Louis Sherman, President

  
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Mrs. Ester Viverette, Secretary