

**SPECIAL WORK SESSION - BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS - Clyde C Miller Academy High School - 1000 North Grand Boulevard - 6:30PM (Monday, December 14, 2020)**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms. Dorothy Rohde-Collins, Ms. Susan R Jones, Ms. Natalie Vowell, Ms. Donna Jones, Dr. Joyce M Roberts, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Regina Fowler, Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams, Mr. Jeffrey St. Omer of Mickes O'Toole, and Ms. Pamela Bell, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.

CALL TO ORDER  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
ROLL CALL

**SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION AND CLOSURE DISCUSSION**

Ms. Rohde-Collins opened the meeting for clarifying questions from Board members regarding closures and consolidations.

Ms. Fowler asked for clarification regarding the school data spreadsheet.

- Monroe School: Renovated 20 years ago, has the renovation costs been fully depreciated? Dr. Adams responded that the school is in pretty good condition. Monroe is listed as Fair on the FCAP and it will take approximately \$20M to bring it into Good condition.
- Hickey School: Does the school face any structural issues? Dr. Adams responded that the older buildings were built better than the newer buildings.
- Farragut/Clay/Hickey: Have there been any consideration into combining the schools i.e. making one elementary school for the students to use? Dr. Adams replied this would still involve closing at least one building and the District can look into this as we get further down the road.
- 2016 School Closing Discussions: How many elected officials have reached out to the District since then? Dr. Adams indicated there have been some elected officials that have been proactive, but most conversations occur only after the schools are listed publicly.

There was a discussion regarding buildings that were not sold, what would be the reason for not selling a building? If a school is set for closure, is it automatically set for sale? Are buildings adequately staffed with custodians to ensure proper maintenance support?

Dr. Adams replied that it is up to the Board to determine to sell a school. Currently, we have an AM and PM custodian for each building, with a small window for overlap. This occurs in the smaller buildings, and we try to put four custodians into place, since the middle and high schools are not open. It is the intent to get an appropriate number of custodians to service each building. Once a decision is made, the revitalization committee will meet to determine what will happen next in the buildings and a recommendation will be made to the Real Estate committee, then by the Board.

**SCHOOL TOURS**

The Board has toured schools considered for closure or consolidation and shared their observations. Specifically, Ford and Northwest have structural damage and some areas were taped off. It was noted that the students who are being impacted by the closing schools have not been heard.

There was a discussion regarding inquiries from the community that this decision was being rushed. Dr. Roberts reminded the community that the District has held a number of meetings from visioning workshops to town halls. The consolidation was not done in isolation and the District has invited everyone to the table. She continued by stating the District is in need of capital improvements. The elected officials need to be mindful of TIFs and tax abatements which exclude SLPS.

Ms. Donna Jones added that the importance of neighborhood schools are the glue the binds the neighborhood and keeps the neighborhood together. She hopes the community will step up and become more involved with supporting the neighborhood schools.

**VOTE FOR CONSOLIDATION PLAN**

**Motion by Ms. Rohde-Collins, seconded by Mr. Layne to approve the list of schools as presented.  
Final Resolution: Motion Passed, 4 ayes, 3 nays (S. Jones, D. Jones, R Fowler)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM

**Motion by Ms. Fowler, seconded by Dr. Roberts.  
Final Resolution: Motion passed, all ayes, no nays**

**ATTESTED BY:**



**MS. DOROTHY ROHDE-COLLINS  
BOARD PRESIDENT**