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## **Board of Education Meeting Recap**

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, December 9, 2021, in the Ann Koller Board of Education Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of items that were acted upon at the meeting.

### **Recognitions**

The William Fremd High School Boys Soccer team was recognized by the Board of Education for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the IHSA State Soccer competition.

The list of team members recognized is available [here](#).

James B. Conant High School and District 211 Business Department chair **Patricia Ertl** was recognized by the Board of Education after she was named the Illinois Business Educators Association's Secondary Educator of the Year.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Public Hearing on the Proposed 2021 Proposed Tax Levy**

Pursuant to the Truth in Taxation Law, 35 ILCS 200/18-55 et seq, the Board of Education held a public hearing to discuss the proposed 2021 tax levy. More information is available [here](#).

### **Presentation: District 211 Equity and Cultural Audit**

In August 2020, District 211 established the District 211 Equity Team. The purpose was to ensure collaboration and connection between the equity work already in progress at each of our schools and coordinate a larger, District-wide equity framework. As part of the creation of the District 211 Equity Plan, Bea Young Associates was contracted to conduct an Equity & Cultural Audit of District 211.

District 211 Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher** and Superintendent **Dr. Lisa Small** delivered a presentation discussing the themes and final recommendations received from the audit.

The presentation is available [here](#), and the recommendations are available [here](#).

## **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from the regular meeting on [November 11, 2021](#), and the special meeting on [November 13, 2021](#).

## **Adoption of the 2021 Tax Levy**

The 2021 tax levy must be adopted and filed with the Cook County Clerk no later than December 28, 2021. The following was recommended for adoption by the Board of Education.

The proposed tax levy for 2021 is \$245,015,000. This is an increase of 1.6% over the 2020 levy baseline extension. For the 2021 levy, the Tax Cap limit of 1.4% + New Property (estimated at 0.2%) establishes the limited increase for the Aggregate Operating Extension of Capped Funds levy. Since District 211 has no Debt Service levy, the recommended levy amount is \$245 million.

The Board of Education approved the amount of \$245,015,000 as the 2021 levy of Township High School District 211.

More information is available [here](#).

## **District 211 Academic Goals for 2021-2026**

Township High School District 211 serves the educational needs of the community to inspire all students to successfully contribute to the world. This mission guides the priorities, programs and practices of staff as we seek to provide extraordinary opportunities, innovative teaching and exceptional learning to our students.

The District Academic Goals serve as performance measures through which we can analyze the strengths of our systems and our opportunities for growth. They also serve as an indicator of what matters most to our students, staff and community.

Consistent with our District 211 value statements, we value “Education and Learning: the continuous pursuit of knowledge, preparation and readiness to pursue future endeavors,” and “Academic Rigor: engaging curriculum built upon high-quality educational experiences to develop critical thinking.” While student achievement is a critical concept that we monitor, preparing students for life after high school is also a key component to the learning process.

The Board of Education reviewed the [District 211 Academic Goals for 2021-2026](#).

### **National School Board Association National Connection Fees**

At the October 21, 2021, Board of Education meeting, the Board of Education postponed action on the National Connection Fees for the National School Boards Association until the December 9, 2021 Board of Education meeting. At its November 18, 2021, meeting, the Illinois Association of School Boards Board of Directors voted to end the Association's membership in the National School Boards Association.

The Board of Education voted against paying the \$5,335 in National Connection fees for the National School Boards Association.

More information is available [here](#).

### **2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)**

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the June 30, 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) that includes financial statements as prepared by High School District 211 and audited by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Certified Public Accountants. Illinois School Code and the District's adopted policy require an annual audit by independent certified public accountants.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board encourages every governmental entity, including school districts, to prepare and publish a CAFR. This serves as the District's official annual financial report and contains introductory information, schedules necessary to demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions, and statistical data. The purpose of the financial statements is to report on the financial position and operations of the District.

The CAFR is available [here](#).

### **Operating Fund Balance for the Period Ending June 30, 2021**

In April 2008, High School District 211 first adopted an operating fund balance policy (DCA) to safeguard against financial uncertainty and ensure the District's capacity to deliver a range of comprehensive, quality services to all students into future years without disruption. The policy clarifies that the District will maintain adequate fund balance levels for operational and financial planning purposes. The District's position regarding fund balance is measured from the following two perspectives as of June 30 of each fiscal year:

1. Within the Educational Fund;
2. Within the multiple finds that compromise the Operating Fund

The Board of Education received information on the [operating fund Balance for the period ending June 30, 2021](#).

### **2020-2021 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) of the Board of Education Funds**

The District's 2016 Strategic Plan includes two components prioritizing clear and transparent communication about the District's finances and the partnership with the community. The District regularly publishes extensive financial information, and in an attempt to make this information accessible to our community, the Board established a commitment to produce a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) beginning with the 2016-2017 fiscal year financial reports. The PAFR is an unaudited financial publication that presents financial information recently audited by the District's accounting firm of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Certified Public Accountants.

A copy of the District 211 PAFR for the financial period ending June 30, 2021 is available [here](#).

### **COBRA Benefit Services Administration**

The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) provides employees and their covered dependents who lose health benefits the right to continue with group health insurance benefits at the full premium rate for up to 18 months following loss of benefit (or 36 months for loss of coverage resulting from divorce or death of an employee). As required under the act, employers with 20 or more employees are required to offer COBRA benefits to current or former affected employees. By law, District 211 is required to offer COBRA benefits for health, dental and/or vision coverage to any eligible employee.

COBRA benefits for the District are administered through a third-party vendor. The District has been with its current provider since 2008, with consistent prices since the last renewal in 2015. The vendor ensures compliance with all applicable laws established by the Department of Labor and the Internal Revenue Service. On average, the District has approximately 200 employees that qualify for COBRA each year, of which 11 elect coverage.

The Board of Education authorized the Superintendent or designee to approve a five-year contract with WEX/Discovery Benefits for COBRA benefit services administration at a rate of \$0.40 per employee per month, effective April 1, 2022.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Bid for Consideration – Buses**

Sealed bids for buses for the transportation department were opened and evaluated as required. This bid includes the purchase of ten 2023 model-year, propane-fueled, 71-passenger buses and one 2023 model-year propane-fueled, 42+1 wheelchair-equipped bus.

The Board of Education awarded the bid for transportation department buses to the lowest responsible bidder, Central States Bus Sales, in the amount of \$1,296,768.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Student User Fees Introduction**

Each year, the Board of Education establishes student fees for textbooks and instructional supplies, the driver education behind-the-wheel course, student parking, transportation, school breakfast and lunch, and summer school. The Board of Education received a report containing an overview of the District's student fees. A complete copy of the report is available [here](#).

A recommendation on student fees for the 2022-2023 school year will be presented at the January 20, 2022 Board meeting. The recommendation must consider costs of supplies provided to students, eligibility of students for free and reduced-price meals, overall financial impact, and overall strategic direction of the District.

### **Establish Time, Place, and Date of Regular Board of Education Meetings**

All boards of education are required to hold regular meetings (Illinois School Code, Chapter 5, Section 120/2.02). The establishment of a regular meeting time and place must be done annually at the beginning of each calendar or fiscal year. After a time and place have been properly established, additional public notice is not necessary, unless the meeting time, place or date is changed.

The Board of Education established the schedule of regular Board of Education meetings. The dates are available [here](#).

### **Proposed Policy Revision: JFCH Prevention and Response to Student Bullying**

As part of its ongoing Policy Manual review, the Board of Education reviews proposed policy revisions, proposed policy deletions and proposed new policies from the Administrative Board Policy Group. The Group comprises Board President **Anna Klimkowicz**, Board member **Mark Cramer**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum **Joshua Schumacher**, Assistant Superintendent Kurt Tenopir, Director of Administrative Services **Matthew Hildebrand**, and Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel**.

The Board reviewed revisions to Board Policy: [Prevention and Response to Student Bullying](#).

### **Administrative Appointment**

The Board of Education approved the appointment of Hamid Mehreioskouei, currently the 12-month assistant principal and lead disciplinarian at William Fremd High School, as the school's Athletic Director.

Mr. Mehreioskouei has been in his current role since 2021. Previously, he served as a 10-month Assistant Principal at Fremd. He joined District 211 in 2005 as a social studies teacher at Schaumburg High School. During his tenure there, he was head boys' soccer coach for 12 years and a dean of students from 2015 to 2017.

Mr. Mehreioskouei earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education history from Bradley University in 2004, and a master's degree in history from Northeastern University in 2012. In 2018, he completed a master's degree in educational leadership from Roosevelt University.

### **Next Board of Education Meeting**

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022, with closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and open session beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.

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