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## **Board of Education Meeting Recap**

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 13, 2021, in the auditorium at Hoffman Estates High School. The following is a recap of items that were acted upon at the meeting.

### **Recognitions**

The Board of Education recognized students who earned honors in statewide activity competitions. Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) students from James B. Conant, William Fremd, Hoffman Estates, and Palatine High Schools were recognized at the meeting, along with Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Math Team) students from Fremd High School. A complete list of those students recognized is available [here](#).

### **Presentation: Curriculum Development and Professional Learning in District 211**

In 2016, District 211 crafted and adopted a series of value statements that communicate what is important to High School District 211 and its community. The District's [value statements](#) are the guiding principles that drive daily interactions with students. The District's robust process for curriculum development, analysis, and modification ensures a relevant and rigorous curriculum.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher**, Hoffman Estates High School World Language Department Chair **Cherea Sparkman**, Schaumburg High School Special Education Teacher and Instructional Coach **Alina Morelli**, Conant High School English Teacher **Zia Nathan**, Palatine High School Science Department Chair-elect **Darius Sanchez**, and Fremd High School Principal-elect **Mark Langer** presented details about curriculum development and professional learning in District 211.

A copy of the materials accompanying the presentation is available [here](#), as well as a copy of the presentation [here](#).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [April 29, 2021](#), as well as its [April 29, 2021 organizational meeting](#).

### **Illinois High School Association Renewal of Membership for 2021-2022**

The Board of Education approved membership for each District 211 high school in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) and agreed to abide by the Constitution; By-Laws; Terms and Conditions; and Administrative Procedures, Guidelines and Policies of the IHSA for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Additional information is available [here](#).

### **Acceptance of Donations**

The Board of Education formally accepted the donations of a 2005 Jeep Liberty, as well as cash donations of \$1,000 and \$4,000. Letters of appreciation will be sent on the Board's behalf from the Superintendent. Additional information is available [here](#).

### **2020-2021 School Year Update**

Superintendent **Lisa Small** presented the Board of Education with an update on the 2020-2021 school year. A copy of the report is available [here](#).

### **District 211 Equity Team Update**

At its December 2020 meeting, the Board of Education authorized a contract with Bea Young & Associates to conduct Part I of an Equity and Cultural Audit of High School District 211 through student and parent focus groups. The focus groups met via Zoom throughout February and March.

Bea Young & Associates has completed its analysis of the qualitative information gathered during the focus groups. The reports include a description of overall themes that were identified through an analysis of the information, student and parent quotes from the focus groups, reflections on each theme, and early recommendations. The purpose of requesting early recommendations was to provide information to the District 211 Equity Team to match the timeline consistent with presenting the District 211 Equity Plan to the Board at its June 2021 meeting.

The Equity Team has reviewed and discussed the school-level reports during its May meeting. The Team individually reviewed the themes and early

recommendations, as well as spent time collaborating within committees to share initial reactions, items of note, and applications to the draft plan frameworks. The information reviewed will be included in the equity presentation at the June 17, 2021 Board meeting.

Additional information on the Equity Team update is available [here](#).

### **Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award**

Annually, the Association of School Business Officials International recognizes school districts that demonstrate high standards and best practices for financial reporting and accountability with the organization's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. High School District 211 earned recognition as a recipient of this award for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2020, marking the 14th consecutive year the District has been honored.

Additional information is available [here](#).

### **Board Liaisons**

Board of Education members serve as liaisons on administrative committees in order to facilitate understanding, provide representation, and serve fellow Board members through the exchange of information.

The list of liaison groups and Board representatives is available [here](#).

### **Consolidated District Grant Plan**

The Federal government provides a variety of education grant programs to support eligible school districts across the nation. In the past, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) managed access to these grants for Illinois school districts. Effective with the 2019-2020 school year, in order to comply with legislative regulations contained within the Every Student Succeeds Act, the ISBE began managing all federal grants under one Consolidate District Plan (CDP). Each Illinois school district accessing Federal grant funds must submit a single unified grant application to the ISBE after seeking approval of the CDP by its local school board. High School District 211 participates in the Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Federal grant programs.

The Board of Education reviewed and approved the [District 211 Consolidated Plan](#).

## **Spring Curriculum Committee Report**

Three times a year, department chairs from each academic department across the District, along with principals and the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, meet to focus on both the content of the curriculum and the instruction methods used to deliver the content. The spring round of Curriculum Committee meetings focus on course modifications such as a change in course title, code, name, or prerequisite. Software and textbook proposals also are considered, as well as information regarding potential summer curriculum work. Additionally, the Curriculum Committee discussed other core components of the curriculum, including the availability of dual credit coursework in each department, credentials necessary for District 211 teachers to provide dual credit courses, equity within the curriculum, supporting student social-emotional health in every classroom, and inter-departmental collaboration in ensuring that students meet the ISBE's College and Career Readiness Indicators.

The spring Curriculum Committee meetings have concluded, and the Board of Education received a [summary](#) of the meetings. The Board approved the Curriculum Committee report and recommendations as presented.

## **Summer Curriculum Projects**

Each summer, teachers gather from all schools to work as District- or school-based teams to develop curriculum, enhance instructional choices and assessments, and develop new coursework. The summer is a valuable time as it allows teachers longer periods of time to gather across schools without missing classes. Summer curriculum projects are proposed by groups of teachers, reviewed by all pertinent department chairs, and then recommended by the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. Grant funding is used to support implementation of summer curriculum projects.

The Board of Education approved the recommended summer curriculum projects at a cost not to exceed the following per grant: Title I, \$88,700; Title II, \$125,600; and IDEA, \$23,100.

Further details on the specific summer curriculum projects that were approved by the Board are available [here](#).

## **Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NSSEO) Budget**

The Board of Education ratified the NSSEO amended 2020-2021 annual budget, ratified the [NSSEO proposed 2021-2022 annual budget](#), and agreed to pay the District's proportionate share of the budgeted revenues.

Additional information on the NSSEO budget is available [here](#), along with a copy of [District 211's share of the NSSEO budget](#).

## **Northwest Educational Council for Student Success Intergovernmental Agreement**

In 2012, the Career Cooperative involving High School District 211, Barrington Community Unit School District 220, High School District 214 and Harper College evolved from a Career and Technical Education consortium into the Northwest Educational Council for Student Success (NECSS). NECSS is a secondary and postsecondary regional educational collaborative focused on student success via career planning and opportunities, teacher qualifications and professional development, and enriching collaboration between all district partners and the local communities. Each school district plays a vital role in assuring students are college and career ready at the secondary and postsecondary education levels. Members of this student success consortium structure learning environments where all students have the opportunity to succeed educationally and to acquire the knowledge and skills for their career pathway choice.

The original NECSS Intergovernmental Agreement was approved in April 2012 by the District 211 Board of Education representing each of the partnership's members. Since that time, the consortium has evolved, and the Agreement has been modified under the direction of the NECSS Council and the recommendation of the NECSS Board. The Agreement was first modified in 2016 and has recently gone through an extensive review process. The NECSS Council has representatives from each of the district's curriculum leaders, including Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher** from District 211. The NECSS Board is comprised of each of the member partners' chief executive officer, including Superintendent **Dr. Lisa Small** as the District 211 member.

The Board authorized High School District 211 to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with NECSS: A Partnership Committed to College and Career Readiness with other qualified and participating school districts.

## **Potential Consideration of Policy Review by the Policy Committee**

Following a request at its April 29, 2021 meeting, the Board of Education discussed the need for review of the following policies:

- Board Policies: *BBB School Board Elections* and *BCBA Board Officers*
- Board Policies: *INB Teaching About Controversial Issues* and *KLB Public Complaints About the Curriculum and the Media*
- Board Policy: *BD School Board Meetings*

- Parent, student, and employee awareness of Policy *GBAD Social Media and Electronic Communication*

The Board asked its Policy committee to review these policies and report to the Board at a future meeting.

### **Potential Consideration of Request for Updates**

Following a request at its April 29, 2021 meeting, the Board of Education discussed the need for specifying future updates regarding:

- Strategic Plan (ending October 2021)
- Notification of new employees and Board members regarding Board Policy *GBH/BBFA Ethics Policy*
- Eligibility for Harper Promise

Updates were given at the meeting.

### **Consideration of SAT Preparation as Curriculum**

Following a request at its April 29, 2021 meeting, the Board of Education discussed consideration of SAT preparation as a course to be considered as a curricular program. Additions or deletions from courses offered in District 211 follow Board Policy *IF Curriculum Development*.

The Curriculum Committee will review this at the fall meetings and report to the Board.

### **Potential Creation of Board Appointments for Committees**

Following a request at its April 29, 2021 meeting, the Board of Education discussed the following suggestions for committees:

- Sexual Harassment
- Policy
- Community Engagement

The Board asked the superintendent to include committee liaison responsibilities in Board member biographies posted on the District 211 website.

### **Consideration of Representation of the Community During Negotiations**

Following a request at its April 29, 2020 meeting, the Board of Education discussed the representation of the community for the upcoming collective bargaining teams.

The Board will receive additional information from the superintendent for future discussion.

### **Board Member Expenses**

The Board of Education approved the Pre-Approval Form for Future Expense Reimbursement for **Curtis Bradley** and **Timothy Mc Gowan** to complete online training as submitted.

Additional information is available [here](#).

### **Administrative Appointment**

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Erin Holmes** as director of communications, effective, July 1, 2021. Ms. Holmes has held positions both as a journalist and a member of college and district communications teams. From 1999 to 2008, she was a reporter with the Daily Herald, including spending seven years as an education reporter covering local school districts. In 2008, Ms. Holmes transitioned to a position as media relations manager at Harper College, in which she cultivated media relations, created and distributed news releases, and managed social media content. In 2013, she was appointed as the assistant director of community engagement and outreach for Township High School District 214, where she creates district communications and serves as the executive director of the District 214 Education Foundation. Ms. Holmes received her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1999. She received a certification for education foundation leadership through National University in 2019 and is currently working on a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri.

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

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2021, 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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