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Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 26, 2022, in the Board Room of the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of items acted upon at the meeting.

Administrative Appointment

The Board of Education approved the appointment of Mr. Rickey Sparks as Director of Facilities and Purchasing, effective July 1, 2022.

Mr. Sparks is currently Assistant Vice-President of Facilities Management at McHenry County College, a position he has held since November 2020. He began his career in purchasing and logistics at Motorola GTSS-HA. From 2008 to 2017, he served as Director of Purchasing and Business Services for School District U-46 in Elgin, leaving that role to become Executive Director of Building Management Operations – a position he held until his current role.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering Technology with a minor in Business Administration from Illinois State University, a master's degree in Managerial Communication from Northwestern University, and an MBA from Webster University. He is working toward his Chief School Business Official endorsement.

Showcase Video

The District 211 Building Construction program, which empowers students to build entire homes under the guidance of teachers and professionals, was showcased in a video slide show before the Board meeting. View it [here](#).

Recognitions

The Board of Education recognized students who earned statewide honors, and also recognized and thanked the presidents of its high school Booster organizations.

Specifically, Fremd High School students were recognized for their achievements at the ICTM State Math Competition. Sponsor **Christopher Grattoni** was invited along with:

Andrew Di, Albert Ji, Thomas Lu, Sourojit Mazumder, Megan Wang and Sophia Zhao (4th Place, Algebra 2 Team); **Joseph Jiang, Rishi Kanchi, Chethan Karandikar, Andrew Qian, Pranaav Senthilkumar, Gautham Velupally and Jason Zhou** (4th Place Freshmen Sophomore 8-Person Team); and **Eddie Zhou** (4th Place Freshmen Sophomore 8-Person Team and 1st Place Algebra 1 Written Individual).

The following Booster presidents also were recognized:

Traci Garcia, Conant High School Booster Club

Lori Filby, Conant High School Band Booster Club

Jennifer Mears, Fremd High School Viking Booster Club

Darcie Callison and **Cynthia Nicketa**, Fremd High School Music Association
Kate Johnson, Hoffman Estates High School Loyal Partners
Donica Seminaro, Hoffman Estates High School Music Parents Association
TerrieAnn Jones and **Jennifer Lang**, Palatine High School Pirate Booster Club
Amy Ciminello and **Sonya Mortell**, Schaumburg High School Very Interested Parents
Rick Barlow, Schaumburg High School Band Booster Club

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [May 12, 2022](#).

Bids for Consideration

The Board approved bids for music equipment, art and photography equipment and science equipment across the District 211 schools and rejected bids for furniture and accessories.

The full report is available [here](#).

Acceptance of Donation

The District 211 Foundation has donated \$25,000 to assist in the implementation of the Business Incubator course at each of District 211's five high schools.

This course prepares student teams to create and develop their own product or service. Local entrepreneurs and business experts serve as coaches and mentors guiding student teams through the process of ideation, market research and business plan development using the lean business model approach. Each school has approximately 25 local business experts who volunteer their time and expertise to assist the entrepreneurship students. During the school year, students in the Business Incubator course prepare for a potential launch of their own businesses with the assistance of local entrepreneurs. Each business prepares an academic "pitch" as a culminating project; the top team from each school pitches at the District Pitch Night, competing for start-up funding as determined by a panel of investor judges.

Employment of Summer School Teachers

This year, District 211 expects to employ approximately 200 academic teachers for summer school, which runs June 6 to 28 (First Semester) and June 29 to July 21 (Second Semester).

Jacquese Gilbert, director of summer school and community outreach, provided the Board the names of teachers with pending contracts for the 2022 summer school session. Current District 211 academic teachers will be compensated between \$46.78 and \$56.34 per hour, depending on years of service with the District. Out-of-District academic teachers are compensated at \$38.95 per hour. Employment of additional teachers will be recommended at the June 16, 2022 Board of Education meeting due to ongoing summer school registrations.

The Board adopted the resolution to employ teachers for the 2022 summer school session.

The full report is available [here](#).

Student Accident Insurance

As a service to parents who wish to supplement their medical insurance coverage, District 211 provides access to student accident insurance. Under the terms of the student insurance program, parents and students are given the option to purchase accident insurance at a reasonable cost. The District makes information available to parents through mailings and the District website, but the District is not involved in the administration of the program. District 211 sought proposals from two providers, with Zevitz-Redfield & Associates, Inc. providing the best proposal with the lowest costs and greatest level of coverage. Zevitz-Redfield & Associates, Inc. markets student accident insurance for Gerber Insurance Company and has provided student accident insurance for District 211 for more than 20 years. The proposed rates for the 2022-2023 year will remain the same as the rates for the 2021-2022 academic year. The Board approved the distribution of student accident insurance information and forms prepared by Zevitz-Redfield & Associates, Incorporated and Gerber Insurance Company.

Surplus School Property

Per Board Policy DN School Property Disposal, property owned by the District with market value of more than \$300 may be disposed to the best advantage of the District with condition of equipment reviewed by the Board of Education prior to its disposal.

The Board authorized the sale of two pieces of equipment by way of public auction site, sealed bid or company trade-in.

Full details are available [here](#).

Strategic Plan Update

At the April 14, 2022 Board of Education special meeting, the Board reviewed a draft of the priorities, goals, indicators and strategies. Based on the feedback from focus groups and the Steering Committee, the document was updated and presented at the May 12, 2022 Board of Education meeting. Targets for the upcoming five years now have been added based on these strategies and were presented to the Board together with draft pages from the plan.

The full plan will be presented for recommended approval at the June 16, 2022 meeting.

[Priorities, goals, indicators, strategies and targets Strategic Plan Working Draft](#)

Proposed Policy Revisions

Current Board policy files: AD District Mission Statement and AF High School District 211 Value Statements have been reviewed by the Board as part of the Strategic Plan development process. The Board has proposed changes that will update these policies in regard to representing our future five-year Strategic Plan. The proposed revisions update the mission and value statements to align with feedback from the community and the direction of the District.

The Board adopted both policy files as proposed and added them as active Board Policy on BoardDocs, and directed the Superintendent to make appropriate distribution.

[Mission District Statement](#)
[Mission Value Statements](#)

Gymnasium Scoreboards

Each school gymnasium has a scoreboard that exceeds 20 years in age. Scoreboard repairs are becoming more frequent and replacement parts are more difficult to source. Section 30 ILCS 525/2 Section 2 authorizes governmental units to use joint purchasing cooperatives for the purchase of select goods and services that have had prices competitively solicited by the purchasing cooperative. The District has received pricing for scoreboard replacements and recommends a purchase of replacement scoreboards from Varsity Scoreboards through the BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative. Competitive pricing for scoreboards was obtained and vetted by BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative through a request for quotation process. Funds are allocated in the 2021-2022 Operations and Maintenance Fund budget.

The Board approved the purchase of five scoreboards from Varsity Scoreboard at a total cost of \$247,795.

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, June 26, 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.