

## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, January 17, 2019, in the Anne Koller Board 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 Board of Education recognized Palatine High School boys cross country student-athlete **Richard Jacobo**, who finished 23rd at the State meet. Also recognized at the meeting were girls swimming student-athletes who placed in the State competition: Palatine High School's **Jane Smith**, who finished 7th in the 500-meter freestyle; William Fremd High School's **Sophia Kuehn**, who finished 7th in the 200-meter individual medley; and Schaumburg High School's **Nina Mollin**, who finished 6th in the 200-meter individual medley.

The Board also recognized four District 211 students for earning the highest possible composite score on recent college entrance examinations. **Alice Chen** and **Eileen Peng** from Fremd High School, and **Ryan Tsau** from Palatine High School were recognized for their achievement on the American College Test (ACT), which is taken by 60% of college-bound students each year, with less than one-tenth of one percent earning a top score. Fremd High School student **Lydia Hahm** was recognized for her achievement on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), which 1.7 million students take annually, with less than 300 students achieving a top score. The complete list of District 211 students recognized for SAT achievements is available [here](#), while the District 211 ACT listing can be found [here](#).

Realtors Against Homelessness (RAH) was formed in 2011 by 10 area Realtors who wanted to help support the growing number of homeless students within the District boundaries, which numbers between 200-300 students annually. RAH aligned itself with the District 211 Foundation to help raise funds, and through an annual RAH event and other fundraisers, RAH has raised more than \$270,000 over the past eight years to support homeless students within District 211. The 10 members of the RAH Committee were recognized by the Board of Education for their efforts: **Gail Bergstrom, Nick Blesz, Sandie Boxleitner Bobus, Maureen Brand, Randy Brush, Cindy Eich** (Committee Chair), **Marty Eich, Sue Gould, Maria Radwan, and Basel Tarabein**.

### Freshman Wellness Presentation

The goal of the District 211 wellness program is for students to acquire the

knowledge and skills necessary to attain and maintain healthy levels of well-being. At the start of the 2018-2019 school year, Freshman Wellness was implemented as the first course in a sequence of four years of wellness concepts being integrated into what was previously known as four years of physical education and one semester of health education. The integrated curriculum allows one teacher to stay with students all year and focus on health and skill fitness components; decision-making surrounding alcohol, tobacco, and drugs; human sexuality, contraception, and abstinence; healthy relationships; and social, emotional, and mental mindfulness. Core wellness concepts are focused on each year, with the depth of the concept adjusting as students mature from freshman to senior year.

Associate Superintendent for Instruction **Lisa Small**, Hoffman Estates High School Physical Education Chair **Elizabeth Roesner**, Fremd High School Physical Education Department Chair **Andrew Kittrell**, and Palatine High School Wellness Teacher **Scott Hagel** presented a Wellness Program progress update to the Board. A copy of the presentation is available [here](#).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its special meeting on [December 10, 2018](#), and the minutes from its regular meeting on [December 13, 2018](#).

### **Winter Curriculum Committee Report**

Curriculum committees meet three times during the school year to discuss and recommend curriculum changes to the Board of Education. The winter round of curriculum meetings mainly focus on textbooks and software approvals. Courses may be formally presented at these meetings to ensure approval for enrollment during the next school year.

The winter round of curriculum meetings has taken place, and the Board received a summary report and approved recommendations as presented. A complete copy of the summary report that the Board received is available [here](#).

### **Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Advance Payment Information**

At its December 13, 2018 meeting, the Board of Education requested information on the District's interest earnings on its Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) additional contribution payments toward its unfunded liability. To date, District 211 has made additional contribution payments toward its IMRF unfunded liability totaling \$16.2 million. Following payment of \$10.2 million made in December

2018, District 211 has fully funded any known amount of unfunded liability as of December 31, 2017.

In December 2018, the IMRF Board of Trustees reduced the assumed rate of return on its investment portfolio for the first time in 25 years, lowering the rate from 7.5% to 7.25%. The assumed rate of return on investments is a significant factor in the employer contribution rate calculation. Since the assumption decreased slightly, employer contribution rates are expected to increase slightly in 2020, with IMRF estimating that the average employer contribution rate will increase from 1.0 to 1.5 percentage points. For District 211, this would translate to approximately \$500,000 annually of additional IMRF expense, and would also impact the calculation of unfunded liability that will be communicated in April 2019.

A copy of the IMRF information the Board received is available [here](#).

### **Secondary School Cooperative Risk Management Program (SSCRMP)**

The Board of Education received information on the District's involvement with the Secondary School Cooperative Risk Management Program, a risk-sharing insurance pool governed by School Districts 211, 207 (Maine Township), 214 (Wheeling and Elk Grove Townships), and 225 (Northfield Township). The pool provides comprehensive insurance coverage at a lower cost than school districts could obtain individually.

For 2019, SSCRMP will maintain a self-insured retention (shared deductible) of \$1,000,000 for liability claims and a \$350,000 self-insured retention for property claims. SSCRMP continues to successfully manage claims, member equity, and excess loss reserves. Each member district is responsible for paying the initial \$1,000 deductible for its own boiler machinery claims; \$5,000 deductible for errors/omissions; and, \$100,000 for crime claims. Workers' compensation coverage with SSCRMP has a July 1 renewal date and provides for a \$350,000 deductible for individual claims. SSCRMP loss-fund reserves are used to pay claims within the self-insured retention for property or liability claims. A separate loss-fund is maintained for workers' compensation claims.

For the 2019 policy year, SSCRMP has maintained its level of coverage in all categories, with an addition to crime coverage for damages related to social engineering. Loss control is reflected in the total for loss funding in the 2019 renewal costs. Renewal costs are based upon actual claims data for District 211 during 2018. Overall, the annual renewal cost for High School District 211 will increase by 10.6% from 2017. The increase is due primarily to increase legal claims costs over the prior year.

Based on the loss funding appropriation, property, and specific losses allocated to District 211, the 2019 member contributions for the District will be \$849,654.

This is a 10.6% increase from the 2018 allocation of \$767,993. For the 2019 renewal rates, funds have been allocated in the 2018-2019 budget.

Additional information on SSCRMP is available [here](#).

### **Regulatory Changes for Managing IDEA Flow-Through Funds**

In 2013, the United States Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Programs determined that the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) procedures for distributing federal grant funds from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), referred to as IDEA Flow-Through Funds, required procedural change. The necessity for procedural change was reiterated during ISBE's 2016 federal audit prompting the ISBE to issue notice in July 2018 of pending revisions to its procedures.

On January 9, 2019, on behalf of its member districts, the Northwest Suburban Special Education Association (NSSEO) Governing Board adopted a resolution urging the ISBE to delay implementation of the regulatory changes associated with IDEA grant until July 1, 2020, and presented the resolution to the ISBE for consideration. On January 14, 2019, the ISBE granted the requested relief as expressed in the NSSEO resolution and extended the deadline for compliance with the new regulations to June 30, 2020, a 12-month extension from the originally published deadline for those special education cooperatives that requested additional time.

The Board of Education received information about [regulatory changes for managing IDEA Flow-Through Funds](#), along with a copy of the [NSSEO resolution](#).

### **Community Connections Newsletter – Strategic Plan Update**

The 11th edition of [Community Connections](#), a quarterly newsletter designed to provide additional information about High School District 211 to the communities served, was distributed in mid-January. As communicated in the 2016 Strategic Plan, the District places a priority on providing updates to the community about programs and events taking place within the District. The 11th edition of *Community Connections* included the following articles: Sale of the District's 60-acre Property, District 211 Named to National AP Honor Roll, School Safety Drill Held, Possible Property Tax Relief Through State Grant, and Tentative Contract Agreement Reached.

*Community Connections* is emailed to District 211 parents, students, and staff, as well as community members who have provided their contact information. All 11 editions of the newsletter are available on the [District website](#).

## **2017-2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of Board of Education Funds**

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the June 30, 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which 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. The CAFR 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.

A representative from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP presented a brief review of the audit at the meeting.

The 2017-2018 CAFR is posted on the District 211 website for viewing [here](#).

## **2017-2018 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) of 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 general 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, 2018 is available [here](#).

## **Bid for Consideration – Buses**

Sealed bids for school buses were opened and evaluated for the purchase of 14

propane-fueled 71-passenger buses, and one gasoline-fueled special needs/wheelchair lift bus. Thirteen buses will be traded in, and all bids included a trade-in credit.

Bids were sent to nine vendors; three were returned. The Board of Education awarded the business for buses to the lowest responsible bidder, Central States Bus Sales, in the amount of \$1,360,956. Due to the manufacturing time required for buses, approval now by the Board will help assure delivery prior to the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Payment for the vehicles will be made after delivery in July 2019, and funds for the vehicles will be included in the 2019-2020 transportation budget.

### **Student User Fees for 2019-2020**

Each year, the Board of Education establishes a general registration fee for the use of textbooks, instructional supplies, driver education behind-the-wheel, student parking, transportation, school breakfast and lunch, and summer school. At its December 13 meeting, the Board reviewed information on student user fees for the current school year.

Illinois School law permits public school districts to charge student user fees for items that are directly consumed or used by students or for a student's participation in curricular or extracurricular activities. Public school districts are not permitted, however, to charge tuition or fees to cover the general cost of the student's education in accordance with the Illinois Constitution. For the 2018-2019 fiscal year, approximately \$6 million, or 2.5% of total revenue, is attributed to all student fees.

#### *Textbook/Instructional Supply Fee*

The general registration fee for the use of textbooks, instructional supplies, technology, and participation in athletic and activity programs for the 2018-2019 school year is \$170. The textbook/instructional supply fee for the current school year was increased \$10 to \$170 for the 2017-2018 school year. The Board approved the fee remain at \$170 for the 2019-2020 school year.

#### *Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel Fee*

Illinois School Code provides that school districts may charge a fee, not to exceed \$250, for participation in the driver education behind-the-wheel course. District 211 has previously received approval from the Illinois General Assembly for a waiver of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/27-24.2) to charge a fee for driver education behind-the-wheel up to an amount of \$400 through the 2021-2022 school year. Effective during the 2018-2019 school year, the driver education fee was established at the waiver maximum of \$400. The Board approved the driver education behind-the-wheel fee remain at \$400 for the 2019-2020 school year.

### *Student Parking User Fee*

At each school, an allotment of student parking spaces is available for a user fee of \$75 per semester for the 2018-2019 school year. The student parking user fee was set at \$75 per semester for the 2017-2018 school year. Student parking fees are used to offset costs of maintaining and repairing parking lots. The Board approved the student parking user fee remain \$75 per semester for the 2019-2020 school year.

### *Transportation Fee*

The State provides partial reimbursement to school districts for the cost of transporting students who reside more than 1.5 miles from school. In order to receive State reimbursement, school districts may not charge a fee for transporting these students. The State provides no reimbursement for the cost of transporting students who reside less than 1.5 miles from school. The fee for transporting students who live within the 1.5-mile radius for the 2018-2019 school year is \$200 per year, and was set beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. The Board approved the bus transportation fee remain at \$200 per year for students whose residence is within 1.5 miles of school and is due in full by July 1, 2019. There is no bus transportation fee for those students who reside beyond 1.5 miles from school. A late registration fee of \$35.00 will be added to all payments received after July 1, 2019.

### *Summer School Fees*

The Board approved fees for Summer School 2019, as presented. Summer School fees will remain \$140 per semester for credit courses, and fees for non-credit athletic and activity camps will be \$75 per semester. The cost for invitation programs for incoming freshmen and sophomores will remain \$30 per semester. The fee for competitive varsity baseball and softball will remain \$175 for the summer. Transportation fees will be \$35 per semester. The Driver Education fee will be \$400 for behind-the-wheel, and for those students enrolled in classroom only, a \$70 fee will be assessed.

### *School Breakfast and Lunch Prices*

For the current 2018-2019 school year, students not eligible for free or reduced meal benefits are offered a three-tier meal pricing structure for standard, reimbursable school lunches. Lunches are available for \$2.45, \$2.75, and \$3.00 per meal (including milk) for students. Breakfast with milk is available to students for \$1.55. Reduced-price lunch is available for 40¢ and breakfast for 30¢. The Board approved that this price structure remain the same for the 2019-2020 school year.

Additional information on student user fees is available [here](#).

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

The Board of Education approved the following schedule for regular Board meetings to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the G.A. McElroy Administration Center: Thursday, July 18, 2019; Thursday, August 15, 2019; Thursday, September 19, 2019; Thursday, October 17, 2019; Thursday, November 14, 2019; Thursday, December 12, 2019; Thursday, January 16, 2020; Thursday, February 13, 2020; Thursday, March 12, 2020; Thursday, April 2, 2020; Thursday, April 23, 2020; Thursday, May 7, 2020; Thursday, May 21, 2020; and Thursday, June 18, 2020.

### **Ratification of Teachers Contract**

At last night's meeting, the Board of Education approved the Tentative Agreement as the Master Contract between the Board of Education and the Teachers Union, effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022.

### **Administrative Appointments**

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Luis Arroyo** as 12-month assistant principal, lead disciplinarian at Palatine High School. Mr. Arroyo is currently 10-month assistant principal at the school, a position he has held since the 2017-2018 school year. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Arroyo served as a 10-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School from 2014 to 2017. Before coming to District 211, he was dean of students at Elmwood Park High School since 2007. Mr. Arroyo began his teaching career at Alexander Graham School in Chicago in 2000 as a physical education instructor. Mr. Arroyo received his bachelor's degree in physical education in 1999, and his master's degree in educational leadership in 2007, both from Concordia University.

The Board approved the appointment of **Justin Onayemi** as 12-month assistant principal, lead disciplinarian at Hoffman Estates High School. Mr. Onayemi has been serving in the role of 10-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School since the 2017-2018 school year. Prior to his current position, he was 10-month assistant principal at James B. Conant High School for the 2016-2017 school year, and dean of students at Hoffman Estates High School for the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Onayemi began his teaching career in District 211 in 2008 as a science teacher at Hoffman Estates High School. Mr. Onayemi earned his bachelor's degree in biology from University of Illinois, his master's degree in reading from Saint Xavier University, an ESL endorsement from National Louis University, and completed a second master's degree in instructional leadership and principal preparation from Concordia University.

The Board approved the appointment of **John Volgi** as 10-month assistant principal at Palatine High School. Mr. Volgi has been an applied technology teacher at Palatine High School since 2011, while serving as the school's dean of students for the past two school years. He also has served the school as a lacrosse coach, CAD club sponsor,

and contributor to the professional development, solutions, and attendance intervention committees. Mr. Volgi earned two bachelor's degrees, one in architectural studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2008, and the other in technology education from Illinois State University in 2010. He earned a master's degree in STEM education and leadership from Illinois State University in 2013, and a second master's degree in educational leadership and principal preparation from Concordia University in 2017.

The Board approved the appointment of **Gordon (Gerry) James** as 10-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School. Mr. James has been an art teacher at Schaumburg High School since 2005. While an art teacher, he has filled many roles within the school and the department, including coaching football and sponsoring multiple clubs. During the 2014-2015 school year, he served as the school's dean of students. The following year, he transitioned to the role of art department chair. Mr. James earned his bachelor's degree in art education in 2004, and his master's degree in art education in 2010, both from Northern Illinois University. He completed coursework at Northern Illinois University for his administrative certificate, which he earned in 2012. Mr. James is currently pursuing a doctorate in art education through Northern Illinois University.

### **Release of Closed Session Minutes**

The Board approved the release of closed session minutes from the following meetings: June 14, 2018; July 19, 2018; September 20, 2018; October 18, 2018; November 8, 2018; and November 15, 2018.

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

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.