

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, April 5, 2018, in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of important items that were acted upon at the meeting.

Recognitions

The Board of Education recognized state award winners from the Business Professionals of America (BPA) state activity competition. The complete list of BPA students recognized at the meeting from James B. Conant, William Fremd, Hoffman Estates, Palatine, and Schaumburg High Schools is available [here](#).

The Board also recognized three Fremd High School students for earning the highest possible composite score on recent college entrance examinations. **Maegan Jong** 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. **Yoonseo Kim** and **Shreya Mukherjee** 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. The complete list of District 211 students recognized for SAT achievements is available [here](#), while the District 211 ACT listing can be found [here](#).

Public Hearing on the Proposed Reduction-in-Force of Teaching Positions

In accordance with ILCS 5/24-12, the Board of Education conducted a public hearing to receive input on the administration's proposal for a reduction-in-force of teaching positions. After the public hearing, the following action on these agenda items was taken by the Board:

- [Resolution Authorizing the Reduction-in-Force and Release of Non-Tenured Teachers](#)
- [Release of First-Year Teacher Assistants](#)

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [March 15, 2018](#).

Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Investment Information

The Board of Education received information on the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), a multi-agent public pension fund for employees of local government in Illinois. Currently, District 211 has approximately 1,300 active and inactive employees enrolled in the program, and another 1,000 receiving some form of benefits. IMRF is not governed or funded by the State of Illinois or associated with the Teacher Retirement System (TRS), rather is centrally administered and locally funded by its employer members and plan participants.

By statute, all IMRF eligible active employees pay 4.5% of gross salary to IMRF, with this amount being withheld from employee's paychecks and sent to IMRF each month. District 211 also contributes a percentage of eligible gross salaries to IMRF based upon an assigned employer rate, specific to each individual employer. The rate fluctuates annually and is unique to each employer. For 2018, District 211's IMRF employer rate is 10.71%.

For the past two years, District 211 has made additional payments to IMRF as an investment of funds held in reserve. Interest returns exceeding 7.5% on the investment yield additional savings to the District and further reduce District 211's employer rate. For 2017, the District's \$3.5 million investment yielded a return of 15.7%.

IMRF will publish 2019 preliminary employer rates by the end of April. It is anticipated that District 211 will see a decline in its employer rate, as the additional contribution and high 2017 rate of return on assets should reduce the District's unfunded pension liability. An update will be provided to the Board as it becomes available.

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

Information Security Assessment Follow-up

The Board of Education received follow-up information on the security assessment for which it approved funding for in April 2017. At that time, the Board approved funds to engage Securance Consulting for the purpose of performing an information security vulnerability assessment. Securance Consulting reported its findings in late June 2017, and prioritized recommendations, with District 211 IT staff immediately beginning to address these recommendations.

Many improvements have been made to hundreds of network components, software applications, databases, business processes, and systems throughout the District. Some of the more noteworthy improvements include switch software/firmware version updates, switch template/configuration, core updates, Windows desktop client changes, security information and event management, patch management, application modification, and database server updates.

The District's IT department continues to work with Securance Consulting to address all findings and recommendations in the report and to solidify plans for the annual vulnerability assessment for 2018-2019.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Starting Times for 2018-2019 School Year

The Board of Education received information regarding starting times for each school for the 2018-2019 school year. In order to make efficient use of transportation resources, school buses are used first to transport students to early start schools, and then transport students to late start schools. Starting and dismissal times will remain the same for the 2018-2019 school year as the current school year:

	Start	Dismissal
Palatine High School	8:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
William Fremd High School	7:30 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
James B. Conant High School	8:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Schaumburg High School	7:30 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
Hoffman Estates High School	7:30 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
District 211 North Campus	9:10 a.m.	3:15 p.m.
Higgins Education Center	9:10 a.m.	3:15 p.m.

Community Connections Newsletter – Strategic Plan Update

As articulated in the Strategic Plan, District 211 places a priority on providing updates to the community about programs and events taking place within District schools. The eighth edition of [Community Connections](#), a quarterly newsletter designed to provide additional information to the community, was distributed. This edition of the newsletter featured the following articles: *Community Education: School Safety Sessions; Update – District 211 rolls out Student Readiness Plan with new website; Board of Education accepts bid for 62 acres; and District 211 looking for student summer internships.*

Administrative Appointments

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Jacquese Gilbert** to fill an open position as 12-month assistant principal and lead disciplinarian at Hoffman Estates High School, effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Gilbert began her career in District 211 in 1993 at Fremd High School as a physical education teacher and basketball coach. In 2001, she joined the administrative team, and will move from her current position as 12-month

assistant principal for discipline at Palatine High School to Hoffman Estates High School. Ms. Gilbert earned her bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a master's degree in education from Chicago State University. Ms. Gilbert earned her Administrative Certificate from Loyola University.

The Board also approved the appointment of **Tony Medina** as 12-month assistant principal and lead disciplinarian at Palatine High School, effective July 1, 2018. Mr. Medina has been a 10-month assistant principal at Palatine High School since the 2015-2016 school year. Prior to his administrative appointment, he served as a world language teacher at Fremd High School, beginning with the 2006-2007 school year and later became department chair of world language in 2013-2014. Mr. Medina earned his undergraduate degree in business administration and Spanish from Benedictine University in 2004. In 2012, he earned a master's degree in Spanish from Northeastern Illinois University. Mr. Medina completed a second master's degree in 2014 in the Illinois Principal Preparation program at Concordia University.

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.