

## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 14, 2015, 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 students who earned honors in statewide activity competitions, including Science Olympiad from Palatine High School; Math Teams from William Fremd and Hoffman Estates High Schools; Journalism students from Palatine and Fremd High Schools; and Family, Career & Community Leaders of America. A complete list of state award winners recognized is available [here](#).

The Board recognized a team of five Hoffman Estates High School students for winning the Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Midwest ROV Competition: **Thomas Schaefer, Miraj Shah, Laura Turf, Dillon Vadgama, and Grace Watkins**. The event challenged students to apply physics, mathematics, electronics, and engineering skills to problem solve in a marine environment.

The Board recognized Schaumburg High School students **Peter Aburto, Emilee Baldwin, and Samantha Sylverne**; Conant High School students **Samantha Buresch, Katrina Miley, and Anthony Solano**; and Palatine High School student **Erik Ciscneros** who were named Golden Apple Scholars by the Golden Apple Foundation and are interested in entering the teaching profession. In return for the extensive professional, personal, and financial support Golden Apple Scholars receive, they must attend an Illinois college or university that participates in the program, and agree to teach for five years in an Illinois school of need upon graduation. These students truly represent the “best and brightest young men and women in Illinois.”

The Board of Education recognized Fremd High School students **Julia Cai** and **Sydney Hill** for receiving an Achievement in Writing Award from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This honor is the most prestigious national recognition in writing for high school juniors.

The Board recognized Fremd High School student **Soumyaa Mazumder** for being selected as a 2015 Presidential Scholar Semifinalist by the President’s Special Commission. Each year, up to 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the country’s highest honors for high school students, and each scholar has demonstrated leadership, scholarship, contribution to school and community, or exceptional talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts.

The Board honored Fremd High School Business Education Department Chair and former Boys and Girls Basketball Coach **Ronald Cregier** for being inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Mr. Cregier's coaching career spans 42 years, including 13 years as head coach of Schaumburg High School's boys team, as well as 18 years as a boys and girls assistant coach at Fremd High School.

### **Presentation: Career Pathways – Enhancing College and Career Readiness**

In today's workforce, adults have difficulty being economically self-sufficient without some level of post-secondary education or additional workforce certification or training. According to the Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, approximately 90% of the fastest growing jobs of the future will require education or training beyond high school. An alignment of secondary, post-secondary, and workforce development systems will allow all students to have choices within their post-secondary pathways. In the preparation for District 211 graduates to be college and career ready, opportunities must be available for students in exploration of college majors, opportunities for career certifications, and involvement in rigorous coursework.

Students, educators, and employers benefit from career pathway investigation during high school. Students are more motivated when they can see the relevance of their education to their college and/or career pathway. Pathways connect educators and a student with local businesses and industry leaders to ensure that what students learn connects to career expectations. A pathway involves a multi-year sequence of courses that integrates core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge providing students with a defined pathway to post-secondary education and/or careers.

Associate Superintendent for Instruction **Lisa Small** led a presentation with Hoffman Estates High School Art Teacher **Kevin Beers**, Schaumburg High School Business Education Department Chair **Anna Griffin**, Schaumburg High School Mathematics Teacher **Jeffrey O'Brien**, and Palatine High School Applied Technology Teacher **Alexander Larson** on the District's Career Pathways, including the information technology pathway that District 211 is adding to its engineering and manufacturing pathways.

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [April 30, 2015](#), as well as the organizational meeting on [April 30, 2015](#).

### **Student Accident Insurance for 2015-2016**

The Board of Education approved the distribution of student accident insurance information and forms prepared by Zevitz-Redfield & Associates, Inc., and Gerber Insurance Company. 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. District 211 makes the information available to parents through mailings and the District website, but is not involved in administering the program.

Additional information on student accident insurance is available [here](#).

### **Curriculum Committee Report**

The spring round of the 2014-2015 Curriculum Committee meetings has been completed, with 15 departmental meetings taking place. Four retiring department chairs were thanked for their continued dedication to students: **Ronald Cregier**, Fremd High School business education department chair; **Elizabeth Lambert**, Hoffman Estates High School English as a second language department chair; **Gerard O'Brien**, Palatine High School social studies department chair; and **Heidi Tincknell**, Schaumburg High School art department chair.

During the Curriculum Meetings, the common agenda items included: Career Pathway Development, Dual Credit Update, Summer Curriculum Projects , Student Growth Evaluation Process – Type II Assessment Series Approval, and Critical Learning Standard Revisions.

The Board of Education approved the Curriculum Committee report and recommendations as presented. A summary of Committee activity is available [here](#). *(Note: recommendations requiring Board action are in bold and listed by department.)*

### **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](#).

### **Proposed Policy Deletion: Board Member Term of Office**

As part of the ongoing Board of Education Policy Manual review, deletion of Board policy file [BBBC Board Member Term of Office](#) was recommended. Board Policy BBBC conflicts with Illinois School Code. The correct language, according to School Code, can be found in Board Policy BCA Board of Education Organizational Meeting. After initially reviewing at its April 30 meeting, the Board approved the policy deletion.

### **Summer Curriculum Projects**

Summer curriculum projects give faculty the opportunity to work with colleagues from other schools to collaborate on their instructional choices and curriculum implementation in the classroom.

The Board of Education approved the recommended summer curriculum projects at a cost not to exceed the following per grant: Title 1, \$63,400; Title 2, \$62,125; and IDEA, \$28,625. The focus of this summer's projects is on curriculum development and alignment, assessment revision, critical learning standard implementation, and instructional innovations, and will be entirely supported from grant funding.

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

### **Treasurer Bond Renewal**

At its April 24, 2014 meeting, the Board of Education appointed **Barbara Peterson** as school treasurer and **Lauren Hummel** as assistant school treasurer for two-year terms, July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016. The Illinois School Code provides that the school treasurer be bonded, securing an annual surety bond.

The Board of Education approved securing treasurer bonds for the school treasurer and assistant school treasurer in the amounts of \$16,000 and \$18,343 (total \$34,343), respectively.

### **Student Photography Vendor Recommendation**

Student photography services include underclass portraits, senior portraits, dance photography, yearbook photography, staff photography, special event

photography, and student and staff ID cards. District 211 does not incur costs associated with student photography services, but rather provides the vendor as a service for students and their families. Photography services purchased are the financial responsibility of the student. The Board of Education is asked to ratify the choice in compliance with the bidding requirements outlined in the Illinois School Code.

A selection committee of central office administrators, activity directors, and yearbook sponsors reviewed proposals and attended presentations from companies interested in providing photography services to District 211.

The Board approved the selection of Visual Imaging Photography to provide student photography services for the 2015-2016 through 2019-2020 school years, with the ability to cancel the contract with 60-day advanced notice, as recommended by the selection committee.

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

The Board of Education ratified the NSSEO budget for 2015-2016 fiscal year and agreed to pay the District's proportionate share of the budgeted revenues.

Additional information on the NSSEO budget is available [here](#), with a copy of the [proposed budget](#) and [budget chart](#) provided as supplemental resources.

### **Administrative Appointments**

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Stacy Lenihan** as director of food & nutrition services, effective January 1, 2016. Mrs. Lenihan was hired in 2014 as assistant director of food services. Prior to working in District 211, Mrs. Lenihan held the same position at Oak Park River Forest High School since 2011. While there, Mrs. Lenihan coordinated a satellite lunch program that provided over 2,500 meals a day to grade school students in a neighboring elementary school district. Prior to her career in education, Mrs. Lenihan worked at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill., as a licensed dietician and at Greek American Rehab and Care Centre as a director of food and nutrition services prior to working in education. Mrs. Lenihan is a registered dietician and received her bachelor's degree in food, nutrition, and dietetics from Bradley University in 2007. In 2008, she earned her master's degree in nutrition and wellness from Benedictine University in Lisle, Ill.

Mrs. Lenihan will fill the position left vacant with the retirement of Director of Food Services **Mary O'Connor** at the end of December 2015. Mrs. O'Connor has been a member of the District 211 food services staff since 1981, serving the past year as director and as assistant director of food services since 2007. Prior

to that, Mrs. O'Connor had been the cafeteria manager at Hoffman Estates High School for 17 years. She also has served the District as assistant cafeteria manager, cook, assistant cook, cafeteria staff worker, and head bowling coach. She was recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education in 1994 with a "Those Who Excel" award.

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

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2015, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.