

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 23, 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 state award-winners in Journalism from Palatine, William Fremd, and James B. Conant High Schools. Students who placed in the state Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics competition from Palatine, Fremd, Conant, and Hoffman Estates High School were recognized at the meeting. The state champion Badminton Team from Fremd High School also was honored by the Board. The complete list of state award-winners is available [here](#).

The Board recognized William Fremd High School students **Thomas Filipiuk** and **Mary Tang** for earning the highest possible composite score on a recent American College Test (ACT) college entrance examination. Less than two-tenths of one percent of test takers each year earns a top score on the ACT exam. Over the past 21 years, High School District 211 has now had 128 students earn a top score, with the complete list of District 211 students recognized for ACT achievements can be found [here](#).

Fremd High School students **Kristina Chen** and **Maegan Jong** were honored for being recognized in the 2019 Presidential Scholars program. Kristina was selected as a semifinalist, while Maegan was named a scholar. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars by the President's Special Commission, one of the country's highest honors for high school students. Each scholar is recognized for demonstrating leadership, scholarship, contribution to school and community; exceptional talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts; or ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields.

Presentation: 2018-2019 Budget and Five-Year Financial Projection Update

In order to sustain and uphold the educational excellence and extraordinary learning opportunities that District 211 has delivered for many years, the District utilizes a yearly operating budget of more than \$250 million. The District's

commitment to developing college and career readiness skills in today's world demand that we provide quality instruction from highly qualified professionals within a rigorous curriculum that integrates the use of technology within effective learning environments and facilities. District 211 prepares students with the skills and talents so that they can continue their full involvement in the communities we serve, local businesses, and the local economy.

To accomplish these goals requires excellent financial planning and strategy integrating the current financial position into a projected financial forecast that accounts for numerous influences, both within the organization and outside the District's control. Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel** and Controller & Treasurer **Barbara Peterson** presented the Board of Education with a summary of the District's current year's financial standing, including declaration of a number of potential future budgeting variables, and provided a projected financial forecast using these budget assumptions. A copy of the report is available [here](#).

Based upon the information presented, District 211's five-year financial projection for the period FY20 through FY24 point towards continued overall financial stability with fund balances that remain in compliance with the District's fund balance policy. The five-year projection accounts for continued fund balance transfers to fund capital improvements and Life Safety projects. While it is uncertain what financial impact current pending legislation will have on District 211, it is critical to the financial future of the District to assess and consider all key areas as it moves forward with financial planning and decisions. Continuous monitoring of economic and legislative changes will be included in the District's financial planning and will allow for consideration of alternative capital funding sources, if necessary. Advanced forecasting provides the District with the opportunity to make financial changes to produce balanced budgets into the future in order to ensure continues support of academic programs.

A copy of the presentation is available [here](#).

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [May 9, 2019](#).

Wellness and Driver Education End-of-year Review

As students engage in the many opportunities available to them in High School District 211, they are still teenagers who are experiencing a tremendous maturation process from the ages of 14 through 18. Anxiety, decreased fitness levels, poor nutrition choices, and social emotional issues are not uncommon at some point within a student's high school years. Therefore, daily contact with a

four-year wellness curriculum is crucial to supporting students' management and development of coping skills they will need as young adults.

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 previously consisted of four years of physical education and one semester of health. In the spring of 2019, the Sophomore Wellness curriculum was approved for the Class of 2022 to seamlessly continue from Freshman Wellness to Sophomore Wellness. Beginning with the Class of 2022, students will graduate with a four-year wellness program via what was traditionally a physical education class. The curriculum for junior and senior year will begin development during the 2019-2020 school year. Students, who would have enrolled in Health during the school year, now select a one-semester elective course or study hall.

In order to implement Freshman and Sophomore Wellness courses, the classroom component of instruction was embedded within physical education courses. This allowed the District to draw upon teachers from health and driver education to provide instruction in the Wellness program. The class size was reduced in the previous pre-wellness PE courses from 45 to 32 students in the wellness courses in grades 9 and 10. These improvements in the wellness programming and reduced class sizes were made possible through legislative changes authorizing the District to purchase behind-the-wheel services from a third party.

The Board of Education received information on the [wellness and driver education end-of-year review](#). Using information from teachers who taught these courses during the school year, improvements can be made for both the wellness and driver education courses and the summer provides a valuable opportunity to prepare the next level of improved services for delivery in the upcoming school year.

Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Land Located at East Wise Road and South Summit Drive in the Village of Schaumburg to Nitti Development, LLC

On March 15, 2018, the Board of Education approved a bid for the sale of the District's 62-acre property located at East Wise Road and South Summit Drive in Schaumburg to M/I Homes of Chicago, LLC at a price of \$20,515,000. Further, the Board took action at its December 13, 2018 meeting to amend the terms and conditions of the land sale extending the approval date to April 30, 2019 and establishing a closing date deadline of June 30, 2019. On April 30, 2019, M/I Homes of Chicago, LLC notified the District of its termination of the existing contract.

Following the District's receipt of the notice of termination by M/I Homes of Chicago, the District contacted the second-highest bidder, Pulte Home Company, LLC, to determine whether Pulte Home Company could fulfill their original bid amount (\$20,100,058) subject to the original defined terms and conditions of the sale. Pulte Home Company, LLC has notified the District of its inability to fulfill the original bid terms.

The Board approved a resolution acknowledging termination of contract with M/I Homes of Chicago, LLC, and bid withdrawal by Pulte Home Company, LLC. The Board also approved a resolution authorizing the sale of land located at East Wise Road and South Summit Drive in the Village of Schaumburg to Nitti Development, LLC in the amount of \$17,750,000. According to the timeline defined in the terms and conditions of sale, Village of Schaumburg approval shall be completed by March 18, 2020 with an established closing date effective April 15, 2020.

Additional information on the sale of the 62-acre property is available [here](#).

Resolution Calling a Public Hearing for Interfund Transfers for Capital Improvement Projects

At its March 14, 2019 meeting, the Board of Education reviewed the 2019-2020 tentative budget for the District's Capital Projects Fund, Life Safety Fund, and Working Cash Fund. Interfund transfers of budget reserves presented in the tentative budget for the Capital Projects Fund and Life Safety Fund will serve as the funding source for both capital improvement projects and life safety projects, and is consistent with the Board's Strategic Plan and commitment to pay for facility improvements through continued use of both its yearly operating budget and existing budget reserves without need to issue debt. Bids for the capital improvement and life safety projects included in the 2019-2020 Capital Projects Fund and Life Safety Fund tentative budgets were approved by the Board at its January, February, and March 2019 meetings.

Given the District's financial plan to remain debt free, a recommendation to use existing reserves from the Educational Fund to pay for upcoming projects was presented. At present, prior to any transfer, reserves in the Educational Fund stand at 38%. Through the use of \$2 million in reserves from the Educational Fund and \$3 million from the Operations and Maintenance Fund, it is expected that both of these fund balances will be approximately 37% and 57%, respectfully of the following year's expenditures.

The Board directed publication of a notice of public hearing to take place at its June 20, 2019 meeting to consider the permanent transfer of \$2 million from the Educational Fund to its Operations and Maintenance Fund.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Request for Proposal for Employee Wellness Program Provider

For many years, District 211 has supported an employee wellness program that provides for an annual physical wellness screening. In an effort to promote prevention and early detection of health concerns, the Board of Education approved a more comprehensive wellness screening for employees, including a biometric and blood screening in November 2013. For the past five years, District 211 has participated in this comprehensive wellness screening program and incentivized employee participation by providing insurance premium credits for those who receive the annual wellness screening. For the current year, approximately 92% of eligible employees received the annual wellness screening, and an additional 120 qualifying spouses also received the screening. The 2019-2020 budgeted costs for the wellness program are approximately \$300,000. Utilization of a third-party wellness provider has offered individualized, comprehensive wellness information that fosters greater personal accountability to achieve personal wellness goals and ultimately, lowers both employer health plan medical and workers' compensation costs through prevention and early detection.

District 211 has both an insurance committee and a wellness committee that include members from unions and/or departments across the District. These committees are instrumental in leading wellness initiatives, coordinating the open enrollment process, and serving as wellness/insurance liaisons in each building. As wellness undertakings continue to expand, the District conducted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for wellness providers that included review by the District's insurance consultant (Hub International), members of the wellness committee, insurance committee, and District administrators in the business and benefits office. The RFP was sent to eight vendors, with all eight vendors responding. Of the respondents, five vendors were advanced for an interview. Based on input from the committee and review by Hub International, the District recommended a change in the wellness provider for the fall 2019 wellness screening.

The Board approved HealthCheck360 as its wellness program provider based upon the fee structure as provided for a three-year term, expiring May 2022. Based upon program services offered and cost comparison, HealthCheck360 provided the most comprehensive package of wellness solutions suitable for District 211, and provided an estimated annual savings of \$76,000 from the current provider. The approved total annual estimate, with discount, is \$223,546.30.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Initial Discussion of Superintendent Search Process

With the pending retirement of the current District 211 superintendent, effective June 2020, the Board of Education considered initial information provided from two superintendent search firms. This was done so that the Board can potentially take action and establish a sequence of events at its June 20, 2019 meeting to help guide the superintendent search and selection process.

Potential Topics for Future Discussion

The Board agreed to include the topic of a proposed resolution for submission to the Illinois Association School Boards on the agenda for its meeting scheduled to take place on June 20, 2019.

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2019, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.