

## **Board of Education Meeting Recap**

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, November 10, 2022, in the Anne Koller Board of Education Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of items acted upon at the meeting.

### **Veterans Day Recognition**

In honor of Veterans Day, which will be celebrated across District 211 schools in various ways, Superintendent **Lisa Small** honored Board of Education Member **Mark Cramer** and Public Relations Specialist **Patrick DeGeorge**, both veterans, for their service. Those in the audience who served in the armed forces also were recognized. Prior to the Board meeting, a video honoring District 211 faculty and staff veterans was shared. View the video [here](#).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its Regular Meeting on [October 20, 2022](#).

### **Resolutions Authorizing Intervention in Proceedings Before the State Property Tax Appeal Board**

The Board approved resolutions authorizing intervention in proceedings before the state property tax appeal board that seek assessed valuation reductions in excess of \$100,000 for tax year 2021. The Board also authorized Franczek, as the Board's legal representative, to file Request to Intervene in Appeal Proceeding forms with the appeal board on properties for which the District receives notification of appeal.

Read the full report, and PTAB intervention summary, [here](#).

### **Bid for Consideration**

The Board of Education awarded eight bids totaling approximately \$6 million for locker room renovations at James B. Conant High School. The bids represent multiple components of the job.

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

### **Acceptance of Donation**

The Board formally accepted a grant of \$3,500 from Reverb.com to support the Guitar Club at Hoffman Estates High School and authorized a letter to be sent on the Board's behalf.

### **2022 School Report Cards**

School Report Cards were developed by the State of Illinois to provide information about academic performance and characteristics of students, faculty, instructional resources and

finances at the school, district and state level. Report Cards are prepared by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) based on data received from schools throughout the State at various points of the school year. According to Illinois School Code, School Report Cards are to be forwarded to the schools from the ISBE annually by October 31 and made public within 30 days.

Each individual school receives its own summative designation based on the multiple measures index of academic achievement and student success. These designations are provided to meaningfully differentiate school performance based on all elements of the State's accountability system and identify schools for support and improvement. They are part of a tiered evaluation system: Exemplary, Commendable, Underperforming, Lowest-Performing.

At the high school level, summative designations are determined based on the composite data on key indicators as well as data for individual student demographic subgroups. The summative designations assigned to the five large high schools in District 211 are: Palatine High School – Commendable; William Fremd High School – Exemplary; James B. Conant High School – Exemplary; Schaumburg High School – Exemplary; Hoffman Estates High School – Exemplary.

Each school's Report Card also includes a section pertaining to per-pupil expenditures at individual schools. For 2021-2022, the District's average per-pupil expenditure for the five large high schools, two alternative campuses and district outplacements was \$20,993.00. The site-based expenditure amounts at the five large high schools ranged from \$18,047 to \$22,183 and are influenced by the unique programs and student populations.

District 211's Report Cards are online at [illinoisreportcard.com](http://illinoisreportcard.com). The Board directed the Superintendent to post access to the 2022 Report Cards to the school and District websites.

Full information is available [here](#).

### **Placement Testing of Incoming Freshmen**

District 211 administered placement tests to 2,513 of the anticipated 2,830 incoming freshmen in the high school graduating class of 2027 on Saturday, October 15, 2022. An additional 157 students attended a make-up testing session on Wednesday, October 29, 2022.

As a result, 94 percent of all anticipated incoming freshmen have completed the assessment.

Results are used in combination with recommendations from eighth-grade teachers to determine each student's placement into ninth-grade English, math and science courses.

### **2022 Proposed Tax Levy and Truth in Taxation Resolution**

The levy and extension process is set in state statute and outlines the specific purposes for which taxes can be levied and limitations on the amount that taxing districts may levy. For

District 211, the total levy comprises the Educational, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, Illinois Municipal Retirement and Social Security, and Working Cash Funds.

Because of the tax cap, the 2022 levy limitation is 5 percent plus new property growth over the prior year's levy extension baseline. New property includes improvements or additions that increased the assessed value of the real property during the levy year. It is anticipated that for the 2022 levy, the District will be eligible to receive new property growth of 0.3 percent.

The CPI-U for the prior year is 7 percent, indicating that the general rate of inflation for most goods and services increased by that amount over the prior year. The District has recognized cost increases in select areas of operation that are equal to or greater than the rate of inflation.

District administration recommended a levy amount less than the allowable total of 5.3 percent. Instead, the recommended 2022 tax levy is an increase of 3.5 percent plus 0.3 percent new property over the prior year. This continues to provide funding to support District operations while providing tax relief to the community compared to a levy that reached the tax cap.

The recommendation for the 2022 levy is a critical component of preserving the District's long-term financial stability while being able to fund its current level of operations, complete necessary capital improvement and life safety projects and retain a level of reserves to safeguard against possible unknowns. Detailed information on future facility needs was presented in the Ten-Year Facility Improvement Plan Update report on October 20, 2022. A \$3 million abatement was approved for the 2021 levy, plus an additional \$3 million abatement of the recapture levy providing close to \$6 million in tax relief for the 2021 tax year. Through the recommended 2022 levy, the District will levy \$3.6 million less than the allowable tax cap amount. If approved as recommended, the District 211 community will receive a total of \$12.6 million in total tax relief over a period of two years. Should the Board later approve abatement of the 2022 property tax refund recapture levy, it will further increase the total relief.

The Board approved a resolution setting the proposed levy at \$251,225,000 for 2022, an increase of 3.8 percent. The Board further directed publication of a notice of public hearing on the proposed levy at its December 15, 2022 meeting, prior to a vote on levy adoption.

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

### **Proposed Policy Revisions**

Each year the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) conducts an audit of grant expenditures. During the audit, they review grant budgeting, expenditures and policies and procedures relative to grant purchasing. As part of the audit this year, the ISBE provided feedback relative to modifications of Board of Education policies DJC Bidding Requirements, DID Inventories, EHA Identity Protection and JO Student Records.

These policies have been updated pursuant to regulations. The proposed new policies were reviewed by the Administrative Board Policy Group comprising Board President **Anna Klimkowicz**, Board Member **Mark Cramer**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher**, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services **Kurt Tenopir** and Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel**.

The Board initially reviewed the policies in October.

The Board agreed to modify the policies as proposed and add them as active Board Policy.

The full policies can be reviewed here:

[Bidding Requirements](#)

[Inventories](#)

[Identity Protection](#)

[Student Records](#)

## **Illinois Association of School Boards Resolutions 2022**

The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Delegate Assembly is the policy-making body of the IASB. The Delegate Assembly comprises one voting delegate from each member district. Board President **Anna Klimkowicz** serves as a member of the Resolutions Committee.

At the joint annual conference of the Illinois Association of School Boards/Illinois Association of School Administrators/Illinois Association of School Business Officials on November 19, 2022, the Delegate Assembly of IASB will review, discuss and vote on proposed resolutions submitted by member districts and vote for election of IASB officers; IASB Constitutional amendments; and IASB Position Statements and Resolutions.

The results from the proposed resolutions and amended statements will guide IASB in legislative efforts. This year's proposals include three new resolutions, five amended existing positions, three amended position statements and eleven deleted position statements.

The Board was presented with the proposals for review and discussion.

The full report, including all resolutions and amended statements, is [here](#).

The 2022 Resolutions Committee Report is available [here](#).

## **Fall Curriculum Committee Report Including Comprehensive Sexual Health Education**

The process of curriculum development in District 211 has a long history of involvement and cooperation between teachers, administrators and the Board. Each group is engaged at different levels to ensure our curriculum remains dynamic, relevant and rigorous while aligning with state and national standards and meeting expectations of post-secondary partners.

The academic program of District 211 is organized into academic departments that include each content area. Each department begins the curriculum development process at the teacher and professional learning team (PLT) level. Department chairs from each school meet by subject area to discuss plans and proposals that have come from their PLTs. These proposals are then brought forward to the District 211 Curriculum Committee, which comprises the department chair from each school, the principal of each school and the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction.

The District 211 Curriculum Committee meets three times each year to focus on curricular scope and sequence and discuss core components of the curriculum. The core components are recommended by the Curriculum Committee and presented to the Superintendent prior to being reviewed by the Board of Education. Additional discussions often occur regarding dual credit offerings, curriculum guide updates, legislative mandates and unique curricular projects.

During the fall Curriculum Committee meetings, each department discussed the review of current critical learning standards. Assistant Superintendent Josh Schumacher shared that this year presented an opportunity to review course critical learning standards, especially those that have not been reviewed since 2020, in light of what was learned during hybrid and virtual learning. He also reviewed the District 211 Equity Plan and asked chairs to share information regarding how their department plans to increase equity in the curriculum and instructional methods during the 2022-2023 school year. Department chairs also shared highlights from impactful summer curriculum projects and plans for the upcoming department institute day.

The Board accepted the curriculum committee report.

Details are available [here](#).

The Board also discussed changes in sexual health education.

Since the 1970s, Illinois legislation has required that schools teach health education. District 211 has followed the requirements of this legislation, which include teaching the following topics: human ecology and health; human growth and development; the emotional, psychological, physiological, hygienic, and social responsibilities of family life, including sexual abstinence until marriage; the prevention and control of disease, including instruction in grades 6 through 12 on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS; age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in grades pre-kindergarten through 12; public and environmental health; consumer health; safety education and disaster survival; mental health and illness; personal health habits; alcohol and drug use and abuse, including the medical and legal ramifications of alcohol, drug, and tobacco use; abuse during pregnancy; evidence-based and medically accurate information regarding sexual abstinence; tobacco and e-cigarettes and other vapor devices; nutrition; and dental health.

The original requirements for sex education included a focus on abstinence, contraception, disease prevention, consequences of unwanted pregnancy, AIDS prevention, and the negative effects of drugs and alcohol during pregnancy. These requirements have changed over the years – most notably in 2013, when verbiage was added to require additional “instruction on abstinence and contraception” and in 2018 when additions included a “discussion on what constitutes sexual consent and what may be considered sexual harassment or sexual assault” and additional information regarding consent. In 2020, the legislation was updated to include a requirement to address sexting and internet safety.

District 211 over time has integrated physical education and health together into our current Freshman and Sophomore Wellness courses. Currently, the freshman and sophomore wellness curriculum is organized into four critical learning standards: fitness, decision making, nutrition and social-emotional learning. These four standards include all the required curricular components for health and physical education, and students receive instruction over two years.

Senate Bill 818 became effective August 20, 2021. The legislation modified the requirements for Districts that teach sex education and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) ultimately choose to adopt the National Sex Education Standards. Since sex education is currently taught in freshman and sophomore wellness courses, our curricular analysis focused on the comprehensive sexual health education standards for grades 9 and 10. There are seven general topics areas that must be taught. Of them, only two represent additional information outside of the current health education requirements. These include the general topic areas of gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation and identity.

District 211 Board of Education policy JAA: Equal Educational Opportunities includes providing equal educational and extracurricular opportunities for all students including supporting students in a manner consistent with their gender identity.

Like all District 211 educators, our wellness teachers work collaboratively to develop lessons to implement these topics. We have engaged District 211 teachers and administrators to analyze the National Sex Education Standards and compare the standards to existing freshman and sophomore wellness curriculum and the separate mandated health education requirements.

The Board accepted the comprehensive sexual education changes.

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

### **District 211 Professional Learning Opportunities**

Professional learning is a link between design and implementation of educational trends and effective practices that ultimately lead to extraordinary opportunities, innovative teaching and exceptional learning. District 211 develops and implements a variety of opportunities to support and sustain teacher learning in a culture of continual improvement.

Educators who participate in professional learning opportunities can put their newly acquired knowledge, skills and practices to work in order to impact the students' learning experiences.

District 211 staff have the opportunity to participate in professional learning opportunities offered by outside institutions or organizations and by the District through in-district courses. In-district courses provide an opportunity for teachers to engage in, acquire, enhance and refine the knowledge and skills necessary to create higher levels of learning, engagement and understanding for students with other teachers within the District.

They are taught by District 211 faculty to District 211 faculty.

The proposed in-district courses are connected to and advance the District 211 Strategic Plan, the District 211 Equity Plan and the District 211 Academic Goals. The courses would be offered beginning in the spring semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

A full list and report is available [here](#).

### **School Year Calendar 2024-25 and Summer Calendar 2025**

Each year, the District adopts a school calendar setting forth timelines for academic tasks, extracurricular activities, competitive athletics and school holidays and breaks. By providing the school calendars years in advance, the District can provide notice to students, parents and staff members as they plan personal and professional obligations to coincide with school events.

The development of the school calendar includes a review of significant events observed during the course of the year as well as compliance with state and federal legislation.

Consistent with the School Code, the proposed 2024-2025 school calendar provides a 184-day school year comprising 180 instructional days and four days of teacher institute. The school year begins with two teacher institute days Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9. Students begin classes Monday, August 12, 2024, and the last day of school is Friday, May 23, 2025.

The first summer term begins Monday, June 2, 2025 and ends Tuesday, June 24, 2025; the second summer term begins Wednesday, June 25, 2025 and ends Thursday, July 17, 2025.

The Board approved the school calendar for the 2024-25 school year and summer 2025.

The 2024-25 calendar is [here](#).

The summer 2025 calendar is [here](#).

### **Traversa Transportation Software Solution**

The District 211 Transportation Department utilizes software to aid in routing, fleet maintenance and data management functions of the department. The department is currently utilizing the

Tyler Versatrans software system, which is a server-based system that is being phased out as customers migrate to cloud-based solutions. In the same suite of products, Tyler offers a cloud-based transportation solution, Traversa.

In addition to being cloud-based and allowing remote access to the software, Traversa expands upon the framework the District has used for decades to include an expansion of functions, both to the transportation department and to users including parents and students.

The cloud-based solution allows a secure hosting environment without the need for the District to maintain hardware or software onsite. Cloud hosting allows for improved connectivity, storage and updating of software. Traversa software offers a more robust routing solution which allows for customization of roadways and maps, real-time mapping updates, inclusion of posted speed limits when developing route times, and includes global map features beyond District boundaries. Routing software allows for customized stop locations and customized student transportation needs. Traversa also offers an upgraded fleet maintenance program that allows for service and maintenance records to be maintained for all vehicles within the District fleet.

The Traversa Advanced Activity Trip module allows for automation of activity and charter bus requests, increasing efficiency of the charter process. The Traversa software system includes a new mobile application, Ride360, available for parents to access secure data on a bus stop location, route, pick-up time and location of the bus.

The Board approved the migration to Traversa for a three-year term at an initial annual cost, including implementation fees, not to exceed \$55,861. Implementation is expected to begin three to four months after approval with an anticipated summer 2023 pilot date.

### **Bids for Consideration - Applied Technology/Mechanical Improvements for Cooling at Conant High School and Palatine High School**

At its May 12, 2022 meeting, the Board approved administration to further engage its architects and engineers to prepare design and specifications for the addition of air conditioning in the applied technology classrooms in the remaining four schools; and further, to bid and present the project improvements to the Board for consideration in future meetings over several years.

Classrooms in the applied technology department across four of our schools remain un-cooled. Replacement of the necessary HVAC equipment and improvement to our existing infrastructure would allow cooling to be routed to these instructional spaces. These classrooms are often unusable during warm months because of their internal temperatures and students must be moved to alternate locations. Additionally, significant equipment and machinery is located within these classrooms which benefit from a climate-controlled environment.

Project scope includes new mechanical equipment at James B. Conant High School, modification of equipment at Palatine High School to add chilled water coils, re-work and



connection to existing piping, new building automation system controls and ventilation for specialized applied technology equipment at both James B. Conant and Palatine High Schools.

The Board approved the lowest responsive and responsible bid for mechanical equipment pre-purchase at James B. Conant High School in the amount of \$179,995. The Board subsequently approved the bids for all remaining necessary work at James B. Conant and Palatine high schools to the lowest responsive and responsible bidders totalling \$973,854.

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

### **Resolution and Order Dismissing for Cause - Tenured Teacher**

The District 211 Board of Education received a decision from the Illinois State Board of Education hearing officer that upholds the Board of Education's July 2020 vote to terminate Palatine High School teacher Jeanne Hedgepeth. The Board was legally required to vote again on the termination. The Board reviewed the decision and voted to uphold the termination.

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

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2022, with closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and recognitions beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.