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Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met Thursday, April 13, 2023, in the Anne Koller Board of Education Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of items that were acted upon at the meeting.

Board Slideshow

The spotlight video featured the St. Baldrick's event at Fremd High School. View it [here](#).

Recognition: State Award Winners

Students who earned honors in statewide competition received Board recognition.

Palatine High School

IHSA Debate Tournament

Presented by Head Debate Coach **Samantha Dolen**:

Ishika Mishra - Lincoln-Douglas Quarterfinalist

William Fremd High School

IHSA Debate Tournament

Presented by Sponsor Anna Ignatowicz:

Selina Jiang - 1st Place in Public Forum Debate
Sophia Zhao - 1st Place in Public Forum Debate
Adithya Vaidyanathan - Semifinalist in Public Form Debate
Samarth Chitgopekar - Semifinalist in Public Form Debate
Sanjana Kashyap - Quarterfinalist, Lincoln-Douglas Debate

IHSA Debate Tournament – Student Congress

Presented by Sponsor **Rachael Harris Krulewich**:

Rhea Mukherjee - 3rd Overall, 1st Place Speaker and Captain
Ishaan Srivastava - 6th Place Overall
Katherine “Kay” Shidle - Finalist and 2nd Place Speaker
Omkar Marathe - Finalist and 7th Place Speaker

James B. Conant High School

IHSA Boys Swimming and Diving State Competition

Presented by Head Coach **Brian Drenth**:

Bryce Loeger - 8th Place-50 free, 12th Place-100 backstroke

Schaumburg High School

IHSA Debate Tournament

Presented by Head Debate Coach **Carl Schwartz**:

Clark Easley - 1st Place in Lincoln-Douglas
Alandee Patil - Congressional Debate Finalist

Hoffman Estates High School

IHSA Student Congress Debate Tournament

Presented by Sponsor **Matthew Dowd**:

Chittesh Saravanan - 5th Place, State Finalist
Nithya Mahesh - 12th Place, State Finalist

2022-2023 Budget and Five-Year Financial Projection Updates

To sustain and uphold the educational excellence District 211 has delivered for many years, the District utilizes a yearly operating budget of more than \$280 million. Our commitments 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. We prepare our students to continue their involvement in our communities, our local businesses and our local economy.

Accomplishing 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.

The Board reviewed a report summarizing the current year's financial standing, declaring potential future budgeting variables and providing a financial forecast.

Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel** and Controller/Treasurer **Barbara Peterson** presented the 2022-23 budget update and projections.

View the Five-Year Financial Projection Update [here](#).

View the Presentation provided to the Board [here](#).

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the [minutes](#) from its regular meeting on March 13, 2023.

Acceptance of Donations

The Board formally accepted the donations of \$3,500 from Schaumburg Township to support the Business Professionals of America Club at Hoffman Estates High School; \$2,168.61 from Michael and Katina Mondus to support the Fremd High School wrestling program; and a 2005 Mercury Sable from Randall Schmidt for use by Conant High School automotive classes.

Starting Times for 2023-2024

The daily session of the schools is arranged by the Superintendent and reported to the Board at least 60 days prior to the beginning of school. To make efficient use of transportation resources, school buses are used to first transport students at early start schools, then transport students who attend late start schools. Starting and dismissal times will remain the same for the 2023-2024 school year.

School	Start Time	Dismissal Time
Palatine High School	8:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Fremd High School	7:30 a.m.	2:45 p.m.
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.
Higgins Education Center	7:25 a.m.*	2:58 p.m.*
District 211 North Campus	7:45 a.m.*	2:58 p.m.*

* Higgins Education Center and District 211 North Campus have various schedules within the listed times depending upon the individual program.

Energy Conservation Update

In the Board's current strategic plan, section 9.4 is to annually continue to improve safety and modernization of facilities with a specific target to annually enhance energy efficiency. District 211 maintains a comprehensive energy management program with the goal to reduce energy consumption and lower utility costs for electricity, natural gas and water. Energy initiatives include utilization of building automation systems to maintain control settings all hours of the day, replacement of facility systems with more efficient replacements and competitive pricing solicitation for energy rates.

The Board was provided with a full report of current and future initiatives, available [here](#).

Release of First-Year Certified Teacher Assistants and First-Year Certified Nursing Assistants

Teacher assistants and certified nursing assistants are employed based on student needs. During the employment interview, they are informed their employment will be terminated at the end of the school year. Illinois law provides that teacher assistant and certified nursing assistant employment is automatically renewed unless the employee is given a notice of dismissal at least 30 days prior to the end of the school year.

Dismissals require Board action. It is too early to determine our need for teacher assistants and certified nursing assistants since student staffings will not be completed until later in the spring. Once we have an accurate projection of our needs for 2023-2024 we will begin re-employment.

The Board agreed that all first-year teacher assistants and all first-year certified nursing assistants, as presented, not be re-employed for the 2023-2024 school year due to a decrease in the number of current positions available.

Full information is available [here](#).

Board Policy Revisions, Reviews and Deletions

The Board reviewed, revised and deleted a number of policies as recommended by the Administrative Board Policy Group. This group comprises Board President **Anna Klimkowicz**, Board Member **Mark Cramer**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher**, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services **Kurt Tenopir**, Director of Administrative Services **Matt Hildebrand** and Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel**.

Policy GDBC Management Personnel Fringe Benefits Revisions are [here](#)

Policy GJBC Transportation Personnel Fringe Benefits Revisions are [here](#)
Policy GFBC Clerical/Technology Services Employees Fringe Benefits Deletion is [here](#)
Policy GHBC Custodial/Maintenance Employees Fringe Benefits Deletion is [here](#)
Policy GIBC Food Service Personnel Fringe Benefits Deletion is [here](#)
Policy JFCD Academic Dishonesty Review is [here](#)
Policy JFCL Electronic Devices Revisions are [here](#)
Policy JFCI Student Chemical Abuse Deletion is [here](#)

Three-Year Ombudsman Contract

For many years, the Board has authorized the Superintendent to utilize Ombudsman Educational Services as an alternative educational program. Ombudsman program is a viable alternative for students who have struggled in the regular high school setting. Most commonly, students recommended for the Ombudsman program have a history of poor attendance and they may be at risk for dropping out of school as they fall behind in the number of credits required to graduate. Many of the students referred to Ombudsman experience school and social-related anxiety, which leads to school refusal and school avoidance. In some limited cases, students are referred to Ombudsman when they are struggling with school expectations.

The current three-year contract with Ombudsman will expire at the end of the current school year. Historically, the District has entered into three-year contracts with Ombudsman that included a total of 35 contracted student seats per year. The per-student cost for the 2023-2024 school year will be \$6,821 per student seat. Each of the following two years would include a tuition increase of 3% per year in the per-student tuition charge. The per-student cost for the 2024-25 school year would be \$7,026, and the 2025-2026 school year would be \$7,237. If necessary, the District may refer students on an “as-needed” basis in addition to the contracted seats.

The Board authorized the Superintendent to enter into a three-year contractual agreement between Township High School District 211 and Ombudsman Educational Services at a cost of \$238,735 for 2023-2024, \$245,910 for 2024- 2025, and \$253,295 for 2025-2026.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Replacement

The majority of existing AED devices in all buildings are at the end of their useful life and in need of replacement. The replacement AED devices are part of the emergency preparedness plan for the District.

The purchase will be made out of the 2023-2024 Operations and Maintenance Fund budget. This purchase is recommended from School Health, with pricing sourced through the Sourcewell purchasing cooperative. These contracts are exempt from bidding in accordance with the Illinois School Procurement Code. An additional quote was received and evaluated. School Health had the most competitive pricing.

The Board approved the purchase of 63 Zoll AED 3's from School Health for \$113,080.

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held Thursday, April 27, 2023. Open session will begin at 7:30 p.m.