

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 25, 2017, 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 Math Team students from Palatine and William Fremd High Schools; and Science Olympiad students from Palatine and James B. Conant High Schools. A complete list of state award winners recognized is available [here](#).

The Board recognized Conant High School student **Allison Zhang** for earning a 36 on the ACT exam, the highest possible composite score. Nearly 60 percent of all college-bound students nationally take the ACT exam, yet on average, less than one-tenth of one percent earns a top score. Since 1998, 97 District 211 students have achieved a score of 36 on the exam. See the complete list [here](#).

Students named to the 2016-2017 *Daily Herald* Academic Team were recognized by the Board of Education. High School District 211 had five students selected to the 10-member team: **Ruchi Chitgopekar** from Fremd High School; **Kevin Eberhardt** and **Kshitij Vashi** from Schaumburg High School; **Parin Shah** from Hoffman Estates High School; and **Emily Steinebrey** from Palatine High School.

The Board honored the volunteers who donated their time and expertise for Business Incubator classes at each high school during the 2016-2017 school year. Over 100 local business experts partnered with the five high schools for this course, assisting teachers in bringing the reality of the entrepreneurship experience into the classroom. The complete list of individual volunteers is available [here](#).

Presentation: Health Science Pathways

During the 2016-2017 school year, eight of the 16 College Major and Career Clusters, including Health Science, were discussed at teacher, local industry, and curriculum meetings. Pathway development in the Health Science cluster began with a group of teachers from these departments: Science, Health, Social Studies, Physical Education, Applied Technology, Technology, Business Education, Family & Consumer Science, and World Language. Teachers brainstormed pathway possibilities, reviewed current coursework opportunities as

well as potential coursework needs to complete a pathway. As pathways were defined by coursework, they were enhanced by student opportunities via dual credit, workplace certifications, work-based learning experiences, summer school opportunities, and the likely transition into additional training or coursework to advance in the pathway after high school.

Comprehensive pathway plans were presented at three local industry meetings with one meeting for each pathway. The feedback received from doctors, professors, nurses, healthcare facility administrators, pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies, and health insurance companies was used to modify pathway plans. Plans were then presented to principals and department chairs at curriculum meetings, and subsequently brought forward to the Board of Education.

Associate Superintendent for Instruction **Lisa Small**, along with three teachers within the Health Science Pathways: Hoffman Estates High School Science Teacher **Nicole Brennan**, Palatine High School Science Teacher **Victoria Deguia**, and Conant High School Science Teacher **Erik Hauser**, presented the development of these pathways to the Board of Education.

Additional information is available [here](#), and a copy of the presentation is available [here](#).

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its meeting on [May 11, 2017](#).

60-Acre Property Update: Land Survey and Feasibility Study

Beginning January 2017, the Board of Education has reviewed reports on the 60 acres of undeveloped land owned by District 211 for the past 45 years. The review and consideration of potential action with the undeveloped land are both part of a larger, multi-year strategic plan citing the priority of optimizing all District assets.

A first report was shared with the Board at its January 19, 2017 meeting that included a summary of over 1,400 community responses offering ideas as to possible uses of the land. Ideas were sorted into four main categories: 1.) retain the land as is; 2.) develop the land with a District 211 facility; 3.) sell the land; and 4.) lease the land.

At its March 16, 2017 meeting, the Board received information on possible analysis parameters to assist in formulating a relative comparison index among the four main categories and to assist in narrowing the list of community ideas.

The Board also received correspondence from the Village of Schaumburg surrounding zoning and best-use parameters for the vacant property. During discussions at the March 16 meeting, the Board requested additional information to better understand the useable portion of land, jurisdiction and delineation of designated wetlands on the property, and analysis of the land relative to the list of possible future uses.

The Board received a report and summary of the findings from an investigative report conducted over the past two months by the civil engineering firm Manhard Consulting. A due diligence analysis of the 60-acre property included an American Land Title Association (ALTA) survey of the land, land title survey, a report of wetlands delineation, site investigation, review for endangered species, and an environmental site assessment report.

The completion of the land survey and feasibility study provided no level of concern surrounding the usability of the District's property and provided reasonable assurance that the property's soil, along with access to existing water and sanitary infrastructure provide for relative ease of use or development.

In the coming weeks, District 211 will receive complete information on the jurisdiction and buffer requirements of wetlands that lie on the property. Additional information will be shared with the Board at its June 15, 2017 meeting, including a presentation and further analysis of the materials provided at this meeting in order to fully understand the conditions of the land as they exist and their potential impact on any future use of the land.

Additional information on the summary of the 60-acres land survey and feasibility study is available [here](#), as well as a copy of the [land survey report](#) and a copy of the [feasibility study](#).

School Facility Rental Fees

As a component of the District's Strategic Plan, an analysis of facility rental rates was identified as a priority for the 2016-2017 school year. At its March 16, 2017 meeting, the Board reviewed this information, along with a comparison of the rental and fee structure for several surrounding school districts. Additional information was presented at the Board's April 19, 2017 budget and finance meeting. Current facility rental rates have been in place since the 2010-2011 school year.

District 211 rents segments of its facilities to eligible groups during times that do not conflict with school educational or extracurricular use. Rental fees are established for various inside and outside facilities, and rates may vary depending on variables such as whether the rental involves use of the pool, rental by park districts or feeder groups, and the day of the rental use. Over the

course of a school year, District facilities accommodate over 80 different rental groups, including youth-serving organizations, such as park districts and athletic feeder programs, non-profit organizations, and public and private educational institutions.

The District receives approximately \$150,000-\$200,000 in facility rental fees annually. Rental rates for pools include staffing for mandatory life guards, and additional rental requests require hourly custodial service fees for all necessary set-up, clean-up, and other general needs.

The Board of Education approved the recommended facility rental fee structure as presented, effective July 1, 2017. This fee structure provides additional revenue to offset the cost of providing rentals, including utility and material costs and general building wear and tear, and is projected to generate an additional \$5,000-\$7,500 in annual revenue.

Additional information, including the approved fee structure, is available [here](#).

Treasurer Bond Renewal

At its May 26, 2016 meeting, the Board of Education appointed **Barbara Peterson** as school treasurer and **Lauren Hummel** as assistant school treasurer for two-year terms, July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018. 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 amount of \$18,700 per bond (total \$37,400).

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

At its March 16, 2017 meeting, the Board of Education reviewed the 2017-2018 tentative budget for the District's non-operating funds, including Capital Projects Fund, Life Safety Fund, and Debt Service Fund. Interfund transfers presented in the tentative budget for the Capital Projects Fund and Life Safety Fund will serve as the source of funding for both capital improvement and life safety projects through the use of existing reserves for the 2017-2018 school year. Additionally, as approved with the 2016 levy, existing reserves transferred to the Debt Service Fund will be utilized to abate a portion of the Debt Service levy. District 211 plans to pay its remaining debt and not issue the second phase of Life Safety bonds as previously planned. Transfers from existing and future reserves will fund future capital improvement and life safety projects without the need for additional debt.

With permissible fund transfer option and available fund balance recognized in the operating funds, a permanent transfer of \$19 million from the Educational Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund is recommended as a portion of the funding source for major capital improvement projects. A total of \$23 million will then be recommended for transfer from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. Both of these transfers will be recommended at the June 15, 2017 Board meeting, following a public hearing.

The Board directed publication of a notice of public hearing to take place at its June 15, 2017 meeting to consider the permanent interfund transfer of \$19 million from the Educational Fund to its Operations and Maintenance Fund.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2017, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.