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## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, January 15, 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.

### Military Recognition

The Board of Education honored Private First Class **Leon Dixon**, a 2013 Schaumburg High School graduate who is currently serving in the Illinois National Guard.

Leon Dixon is a student-athlete who earned honors in state swimming and diving competitions. A complete list of student-athletes recognized is available [here](#)

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The Board recognized four students who were named to the *Daily Herald* Leadership Team for 2014-2015: **Dhivyaa Anandan** from Palatine High School, **Allison Cochran**

The Food Service Department is dedicated to providing the highest quality food and service for students and staff in District 211 schools every day. At the meeting, Director of Food Service **Mary O'Connor** and Assistant to the Director of Food Service **Stacy Lenihan** provided a brief overview of the nutrition standards for meals and healthful procedures for daily food service operations in District 211.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [December 11, 2014](#).

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

The Board received information on this year's placement testing. On December 6, 2014, placement tests were administered to 2,651 of the anticipated 2,820 incoming freshmen. An additional 78 students attended a make-up test session on December 13, 2014. Of the 91 students who were not tested, 35 of the students were withheld from testing due to their Individualized Educational Plan .



The number of students eligible for meal benefits in District 211 has increased by 159% over the past 10 years. The prevalence of low-income students is growing annually in District 211. The notable increase in eligibility from the 2013-2014 school year to the 2014-2015 school year can be primarily attributed to the addition of Medicaid eligibility to the qualifying criteria. While all of the District's schools have experienced growing trends of free or reduced eligible students over the decade, the dispersion of low-income students is not consistent from school to school. Current data shows that District 211 schools range from 16% to 51% eligibility.

Per Board Policy JN, student fees will be waived for services based on a student's eligibility for free or reduced. ( )10(f)2(r)7(ee or)7[.9 elibS.9 eool% rom 2(ude)10(nt)Erfoa  
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## **Proposed School Calendar for 2016-2017**

In order to maximize the value of each instructional day, the District investigated the impact of its traditional school calendar, specifically, considering the merits of a school calendar under which the first semester ends prior to the start of winter break and the school year ends prior to Memorial Day. This calendar model, referred to as a collegiate calendar, represents a departure from the traditional school calendar under which the first semester ends in January, about two weeks after students return to school from winter break.

The Board of Education received information on the collegiate calendar model, including information from consultation with school districts that have adopted a collegiate calendar, information on alignment of school calendars between District 211 and Districts 15 and 54, information on the impact of a collegiate calendar on IHSA student athletics, information on the adjustment to teacher routines and practices under a collegiate calendar, as well as survey data of District 211 parents, students, and staff.

The Board approved the [calendar for the 2016-2017 school year](#), using the collegiate calendar model, as presented. The calendar has a start date of Thursday, August 11, 2016, for the teacher institute day, with a second teacher institute day on Friday, August 12, 2016, and the first day of student attendance being Monday, August 15, 2016. This design provides the opportunity to schedule the entire first semester prior to the start of winter break, with final examinations occurring on the last three days of first semester, December 21-23. Second semester begins on January 9, 2017, with a teacher institute day and students returning from winter break on January 10, 2017; final examinations being held on May 24-26, 2017; and the semester ending at the end of the day on May 26, 2017, prior to the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

Additional information on the 2016-2017 school calendar is available [here](#).

## **Communications Audit**

A communications audit is a comprehensive review and evaluation of outgoing communication, such as websites, electronic communications, and printed materials. An audit will help determine whether the information and messages being communicated are effective. A communications audit can help build support by demonstrating commitment to improving communications and willg c</MCID 173(pr)17(S-3(on90(s)4( w)0.01212 0(i)6(s)4(e)10.004 Tc01 ao6(n) [(s)4(t)2(m)7(

lodging expenses. Unicom-Arc has successfully conducted audits for many school districts, as well other business clients.

Additional information on the communications audit is available [here](#).

## **Strategic Plan**