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Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, February 18, 2021, in the auditorium at Hoffman Estates High School. The following is a recap of items that were acted upon at the meeting.

Administrative Appointments

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Mark Langer** as principal of William Fremd High School, effective July 1, 2021. Mr. Langer currently serves as the 12-month assistant principal for buildings & grounds and activity director at Conant High School, a position he has held since 2017. Prior to this position, Mr. Langer was a 12-month assistant principal for discipline at Conant High School from 2015 to 2017. Mr. Langer served as a 10-month assistant principal at Conant High School during the 2013-2014 school year and then at Palatine High School during the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Langer began his teaching career in 2003 as a science teacher at Palatine High School, and then -2012 school year. Mr.

the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999. He completed his

administration from Northern Illinois University.

The Board approved the appointment of **Luis Arroyo** as athletic director at Palatine High School, effective July 1, 2021. Mr. Arroyo is currently a 12-month assistant principal for discipline at Palatine High School, a position he has held since 2019. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Arroyo served as a 10-month assistant principal at Palatine High School from 2017 to 2019 and at Hoffman Estates High School from 2014 to 2017. Mr. Arroyo also coached football at both Hoffman Estates and Palatine High Schools. Before coming to District 211 in 2014, he was the dean of students and head football coach at Elmwood Park High School since 2007. Mr. Arroyo began his teaching career in 2000 as a physical education instructor at Alexander Graham School in Chicago. Mr. Arroyo
ation from Concordia University in

Concordia University.

The Board approved the appointment of **Michele Napier** of college and career readiness, effective July 1, 2021. Mrs. Napier became a 10-month assistant principal and activity director at Schaumburg High School in

2017. From 2014 to 2017, Mrs. Napier served as the guidance department chair at Schaumburg High School. Mrs. Napier started in District 211 as a college and career counselor at Schaumburg High School in 2011. Prior to her career in

Conant High School Principal **Julie Nowak**

District 211 Equity Team Update

The Board of Education received an update on Equity Team meetings. The Equity Team continues to meet as a full team and in four committees each month. In early February, the Team shifted its focus and efforts to Phase 4, which is the development of a draft equity plan. The development of the plan

as well as the research conducted related to concepts of equity. The draft plan is scheduled to be completed in late April 2021, which coincides with Phase 1 Equity and Cultural findings from Bea Young & Associates.

At the December 10, 2020 Board of Education meeting, the Board approved the collaboration with Chicago-based Bea Young & Associates to conduct Phase 1 of the Equity and Cultural Audit. This included interviews with administrators, as well as facilitating racially homogeneous student and parent focus groups at each school.

Additional information on the Equity Team update is available [here](#).

2021-2022 Financial Calendar Including Budget and Levy Sequence

The Board of Education received information about the financial calendar and the budget and levy sequence. The 2021-2022 budget sequence occurs over several months prior to the budget recommendation to the Board in August 2021. Development of the annual budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year began following the adoption of the 2020 levy at the December 10, 2020 Board meeting. Property tax revenue based upon the approved 2020 levy amount will provide the revenue source. Additional revenue sources will be evaluated and budgeted over the coming months as information become available regarding state and federal sources.

Expenditures for the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget will begin to be developed by schools and departments over the next several months for textbooks, supplies, purchased services, and capital replacement needs. These recommendations will then be reviewed and prioritized by administration and the superintendent prior to inclusion in the budget plan. The expenditure budget will be aligned with

and into the start of the fiscal year with a tentative budget presented to the Board in August 2021.

The Board also received a copy of the 2021-2022 Budget Development calendar, incorporating both the levy approval and budget development process. The calendar identifies various steps in the development and date for completion of each component.

The following budget parameters and considerations are planned to be incorporated into the 2021-2022 budget development process:

- Maintain a balanced budget in accordance with the School Code (105 ILCS 5/17-1)

- Allocate costs associated with achieving District academic goals

- Allocate staffing costs based on enrollment and instructional programs

- Safeguard a minimum 33.3% fund balance within the Educational Fund and combined operating funds

- Allocate salary costs based on negotiated contracts

- Allocate benefit and insurance costs based on projections developed in

- Allocate an estimated \$4.0 million in the Life Safety Fund for approved projects on the life safety survey recently filed with the Illinois State Board of Education

- Execute inter-fund transfers to fund life safety projects (\$4 million)

- Continue the one-to-one program for a portion of new devices purchased in the 2021-2022 fiscal year

Maintenance, Transportation, Illinois Municipal Retirement/Social Security, and Working Cash Funds, and are used to account for revenue and expenditures necessary for the operating need

are used to support the academic, facility, and operational priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan. The District is operating free of bonded debt, and it will rely on funds allocated in the annual operating fund budget to continue with completion of its strategic priorities, including continuation of the one-to-one program, payment for capital improvement projects, and completion of future health and life safety projects without the need to issue debt.

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, salary and benefits costs will be budgeted according to contractual agreements and projected healthcare cost trends. The District will continue to review and allocate supply, purchased services, equipment, and other expenditures over the coming months based upon strategic priorities and overall District need.

Life Safety projects mandated in the 2018-2019 survey are in progress. The District also will continue work on projects outlined in its second 10-year capital improvement plan during the 2021-2022 school year. Projects scheduled for completion include washroom renovations at Fremd and Palatine High Schools, replacement of aging mechanical equipment at multiple buildings, and initial costs associated with kitchen upgrades at Fremd High School in the summer of 2022.

-operating funds include Debt Service, Life Safety, and Capital Projects Funds, and will not be used for accounting purposes in the 2021-2022

school year. The District has no bonded debt or capital leases; therefore, there will be no activity in the Debt Service Fund.

While the 2021 levy will be established during the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the established levy amount does not impact the 2021-2022 budget, but rather will be the first step i 2-2023 budget.

Currently, introductory levy information is shared with the Board beginning in September. Following review and discussion of the recommended levy amount for a period of up to three months, the Board must establish the levy amount no less than 20 days prior to adoption of the levy each year. The levy must then be approved and filed with the Cook County Clerk by the last Tuesday in December, which for 2021 the final date to file the approved levy is December 28.

Additional information on the 2021-2022 financial calendar and budget and levy sequence is available [here](#), as well as a copy of the 2021-2022 budget development calendar.

Driver Education Behind-the-Wheel Fee

Illinois School Code provides that school districts may charge a fee, not to exceed \$250, for participation in the driver education behind-the-wheel course.

The Board approved the 2022 summer school fees as presented, including \$140 per semester for academic courses and \$75 per semester for non-credit athletic or activity camps (\$175 for non-credit competitive baseball and softball).

School Breakfast and Lunch Fees

District 211 participates in both the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Participants of these programs agree to operate on a non-profit basis, offer standard school breakfast and lunch meals that contain specified food components, establish a unit price for standard meals, and provide free or reduced-price standard meals to eligible students. As a participant in these programs, District 211 receives government-donated food commodities and partial financial reimbursement for student breakfast and lunch meals.

For the 2020-2021 school year, the USDA granted permission for school districts to operate under the Seamless Summer Meal programs, granting all students access to meals free of charge. The current waiver for school districts to operate under this program expires June 30, 2021.

Free and reduced-price standard school breakfast and lunch meals are available to eligible students based on household income or for additional qualifying criteria. Applications for free and reduced-price meals are mailed to parents or legal guardians of all students before the start of each school year and also are available on the District website. Reduced-price lunch is 40¢ and reduced-price breakfast is 30¢.

In a traditional school year, students are offered a three-tier meal pricing structure for standard, reimbursable school lunches. Lunches are available for \$2.55, \$2.85, and \$3.10, and pricing of a meal is determined primarily by the food cost of the entrée. Breakfast with milk is available to student for \$1.65.

Several factors impact the price of school meals, including fluctuations in food cost, changes in commodity reimbursements, and student preferences. As part of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, school districts are required to charge students for paid meals at a price that is the difference between the free and paid meal reimbursement rates. T

-meal reimbursement funds are

not used to subsidize the cost of paid meals.

The Board approved student paid lunch prices be set at \$2.55, \$2.85, and \$3.10 and that the paid breakfast price be set at \$1.65 for the 2021-2022 school year. The Food & Nutritional Services Department is required to operate as a non-profit, self-funded department. The approved lunch and breakfast prices align with requirements under the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act, and will help offset rising prices of food and supplies, generating approximately \$2,035,000 of revenue to paid meals for the Educational Fund.

The Board of Education authorized the superintendent or designee to execute a