

District of Distinction Recognition

The Board of Education received information that High School District 211 is one of 62 school districts across the nation to be recognized in the March 2015 round of Districts of Distinction by *District Administration Magazine*. *District Administration Magazine*, a subscription-based, nationally-recognized publication and resource for educators, honors districts that have innovative and established practices through its Districts of Distinction recognition program. This recognition is a professional acknowledgement of the efforts on behalf of District 211's teachers and administrators to improve all students' experiences, increase students' connections to positive school experiences, and facilitate students to function as partner stakeholders within the school community.

Additional information about the Districts of Distinction recognition is available [here](#).

IHSA Letter of Appreciation Recognition

Since 1979, Palatine High School has hosted the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) girls gymnastics state finals. The Board received a copy of correspondence from IHSA Associate Director Kurt Gibson and Assistant Executive Director Tracie Henry expressing the IHSA's appreciation to District 211, Palatine High School, Principal Gary Steiger, and the many workers and volunteers who make this event a success.

A copy of the letter is available [here](#).

Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award

Annually, the Association of School Business Officials International recognizes school districts that demonstrate high standards and best practices for financial reporting and accountability with the organization's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. High School District 211 earned recognition as a recipient of this award for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2014, marking the ninth consecutive year the District has been honored.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Proposed Policy Revisions

As part of its ongoing Policy Manual review, the Board of Education reviews proposed policy revisions and proposed new policies from the Administrative

Board Policy Group. The Group is comprised of Board Vice President **Mucia Burke**, Board Member **Robert LeFevre**, Associate Superintendent **Lisa Small**, Director of Administrative Services **Matthew Hildebrand**, and Assistant to the Superintendent **Kathe Lingl**.

After initially reviewing proposed revisions to Board policy files [BDDD Quorum](#) and [GBEA Employee Physical Examinations](#) at the February 12, 2015 meeting, the Board approved the policy revisions as presented.

Institute and In-Service Dates for 2015-2016

The Board of Education approved August 26, 2015 and November 9, 2015 as teacher institute days as part of the 2015-2016 school year calendar. With this approval, the school year will open with teacher institute days on Tuesday, August 25 and Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The other institute days during the 2015-2016 school year will be Monday, November 9, 2015 and Monday, January 25, 2016.

Additionally, the Board approved September 10, 2015; October 21, 2015; November 6, 2015; February 19, 2016; May 20, 2016; May 27, 2016; and June 3, 2016 as shortened days for in-service training of certified staff and special events. In-service programs will be scheduled for staff on Thursday, September 10, 2015 (Parent Open House) and Wednesday, October 21, 2015 (District 211 College Night), when students will attend school for 4½ hours on these days.

District 211 Higgins Education Center

The Board of Education approved the name of the property at 1030 W. Higgins Road in Hoffman Estates as the District 211 Higgins Education Center. The 26,000 square-foot office building, which the District secured a lease for in the spring of 2014, will house several special education programs that are being relocated including District 211 Academy-South and the Hoffman Estates High School Adult Transitions Program (ATP), as well as New Endeavors, a new program designed to serve students who demonstrate behaviors and characteristics along the autism spectrum.

Community School Services

The Board of Education received a proposal to use the newly named District 211 Higgins Education Center as a community school, in order to provide services to distressed students and their families after students vacate the building following a regular school day. A community school is a partnership among community stakeholders, parents, and schools that is focused on supporting families,

