

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, February 13, 2020, in the Annex. ~~KLILFXOWLQSDUWGXHWRHDFKVVXGHWY~~

unique characteristics. Variability in students' learning styles, prior life experiences, personality, and other factors contribute to the challenge as schools develop systematic approaches to meet an individual student's needs. In recent times, schools have come to recognize the impact of trauma and past adverse experiences on a student's ability to function, behave, and learn within the school building, and this recognition has given rise to a service model called Trauma Responsive Schools.

Associate Superintendent for Student Services **Mark Kovack**, William Fremd High School Assistant Principal **Kim Glaser**, Hoffman Estates High School Dean of Students and Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher **Linda Serafini**, and Higgins Education Center School Psychologist **Kali Zanona** presented current examples of trauma responsive practices in District 211 schools.

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

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [January 16, 2020](#).

Class Size Committee Report

The Board of Education received a [report](#) from the Class Size Committee.

2020-2021 Financial Calendar Including Budget and Levy Sequence

The Board of Education received information about the financial calendar and

several months prior to the budget recommendation to the Board in August 2020. Development of the annual budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year began following the adoption of the 2019 levy at the December 12, 2019 Board meeting. Property tax revenue based upon the approved 2019 levy amount will provide the majority of the District's revenue source.

Expenditures for the 2020-2021 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 the District's strategic priorities and will include budget efficiencies. Budget planning continues throughout the spring and into the start of the fiscal year with a tentative budget presented to the Board in August 2020.

The Board also received a copy of the 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 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 coordination with the District's consultant, HUB International
- 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 estimated at \$13 million for future years' capital improvement (\$9 million) and life safety projects (\$4 million)
- Continue the one-to-one program for a portion of new devices purchased in the 2020-2021 fiscal year

The District's operating funds include the Educational, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, Illinois Municipal Retirement/Social Security, and Working Cash Funds, and 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

Additional information on the 2020-2021 financial calendar and budget and levy sequence is available [here](#), as well as a copy of the 2020-2021 budget

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Proposed

and requested to receive additional information for further discussion about the remaining fees. Information was presented to the Board at the February 4, 2020 budget and finance committee meeting, and is available [here](#).

Illinois School law permits public school districts to charge student user fees for items that are directly consumed or used by students or for a student's participation in curricular or extracurricular activities. Public school districts are not permitted, however, to charge tuition or fees to cover the general cost of the student's education in accordance with the Illinois Constitution. For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, revenue totaling approximately \$6 million is attributable to all student fees. Of the \$6 million in total fees, approximately \$4.5 million is attributed to fees that the Board establishes annually for textbooks, driver education, transportation, parking, school meals, and summer school. The remaining \$2 million is due to fees for goods and services that are set by an outside agency or determined annually based upon actual cost. Examples include Advanced Placement testing fees, physical education uniforms, student cafeteria à la carte items, athletic event tickets, continuing education, or replacement item fees.

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\$2.55 (from \$2.45), \$2.85 (from \$2.75), and \$3.10 (from \$3.00). The Board also approved an increase in the paid student breakfast price by 10¢ from \$1.55 to \$1.65 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Eligibility for Fee Waiver Associated with the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program

Since the inception of instructional fees, the District has waived the textbook/instructional supply fees (and many other fees) for any student whose family qualifies for the National Meals Program; district-wide, approximately 4,200 students for the 2019-2020 school year have waived fees. Some families that do not qualify for the National Meals Program face financial hardships that make paying school fees a challenge, with approximately 255 students across the District on a deferred payment plan. When totaled, the unpaid textbook/instructional supply fees for the current school year are approximately \$45,000.

Currently, District 211 has approximately 600 students who qualify for reduced-price meals. Families who qualify for reduced-price meals have an income between \$33,476 and \$47,638 for 92 re-3 (7)6 (6) (e)-3 (e)-3 (n)-3 (\$)4 (3)-3 (3)-3 (,)8 (4)-3 (7)6 (6)

Shortened days for in-service training of staff have been used and are consistent with the allowances under school code. The principal at each school has determined which days will be used for in-service training, with no more than five shortened days allowed per school. According to state guidelines, students must be in attendance for at least three hours during a shortened day. For designated shortened days in District 211, students attend classes for 4½ hours.

The Board approved in-service programs for staff on Thursday, September 3, 2020 (Parent Open House) and Wednesday, October 14, 2020 (District 211 College Night), as students will attend school for 4½ hours on these days and the remainder of time staff will focus on continuing work to increase student achievement. In addition, each school has a shortened day on the national administration of the SAT in April. The Board also approved the following shortened days for in-service training for certified staff and special events: November 6, 2020; February 12, 2021; February 19, 2021; and May 14, 2021, of which each school may choose a maximum of two days for the 2020-2021 school year.

Adoption of Settlement Agreement

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Consistent with the administration's commitment, it brought forth a proposed policy to provide equal access to all facilities consistent with a student's gender identity, without restriction, as part of a student's support plan. The proposed policy was debated by hundreds of ardent supporters representing different

The Board approved the appointment of **Amanda Hughes** as 12-month assistant principal and lead disciplinarian at Fremd High School, effective July 1, 2020. Mrs. Hughes comes to District 211 with experience as principal of Berlin Area School District in Berlin, Wis. since 2018. From 2014-2018, she was grant project director, overseeing professional development and projects to improve school climate and the system of academic and behavior supports throughout the Berlin Area School District. Mrs. Hughes was a high school counselor from 2009-2014, first at Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020, with closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and open session beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.