

## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, September 18, 2014, 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 recognized four Conant High School students who achieved a score of 36 on the American College Test (ACT) exam, the highest possible composite score: **Kevin Chang, Caitlin Eder, Glenn Huang, and Reema Patel**. On average, less than one-tenth of one percent of all test-takers earn the top score. Since 1998, District 211 has had 68 students record a score of 36 on the ACT exam. The complete list is available [here](#).

The Board recognized Schaumburg High School student **Melissa Tran** for earning the highest possible composite score on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Approximately three million students nationally complete the SAT on average each year, and of those, about one in every 5,000 students achieves a top score on the exam.

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In preparation for post-secondary options, today's educators are challenged to continuously implement rigorous instructional experiences for students to expand their cognitive abilities. The new Illinois State Standards in mathematics, English, and science begin to define the higher-order skills and knowledge students need to succeed in college-entry courses and workforce training programs. Students who successfully master these standards demonstrate a thorough understanding of content through its application to new situations. The performance-based assessment portion of the Illinois Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) test is designed to assess these rigorous standards at a higher cognitive level than a traditional assessment. Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) is used in education for describing cognitive rigor.

Associate Superintendent for Instruction **Lisa Small** led a presentation by Fremd High School English Department Chair **Kristy Loughin-Vance**, Conant High School Science Department Chair **Sharon McCoy**, and Hoffman Estates High School Social Studies Department Chair **Kevin Mallon** to the Board of Education providing insight on Depth of Knowledge and the District's professional development activities for staff. Additional information on DOK is available [here](#).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [August 14, 2014](#).

### **Report on New Professional Staff**

The Board of Education received a report on professional staff new to District 211 for the 2014-2015 school year. There were 67 new professional staff hired this year; 40 full-time and 27 part-time employees. The new staff includes 38 women and 29 men, with 47 holding bachelor's degrees and 20 holding master's degrees. Forty-three of the 67 new staff members are beginners, and overall, new hires average 1.33 years of experience. Below is a listing of new staff by school:

#### **New Staff by School**

Fremd High School .....	16
Schaumburg High School.....	14
Conant High School	14

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and teacher salaries and benefits to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). This information includes: name, position, salary, full-time equivalency, vacation days, sick days and personal days, bonuses, annuities, retirement enhancements, and other benefits. Salary information reported includes all payments for duties performed during the school year, including additional payments for summer school, coaching, activities, alternative high school, and other extra-duty assignments.

In accordance with Public Act 97-0256, this information must be reported to ISBE by October 1 each year, complementing other financial deadlines and allowing for the reporting of actual previous-year salary and benefit information. The salary and benefit data that must be reported to the ISBE reflects the actual salary and benefits provided to all certificated staff for the period of July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

The District 211 Salary Compensation Report will be sent to ISBE and posted on the District website by October 1, 2014.

### **Health/Dental Insurance Premium Rates for 2015**

payments made directly to employees. Each covered employee contributes a percentage of the premium equivalent cost for each health insurance plan option. Contribution percentages have been applied uniformly for all union and non-union employee groups eligible for health insurance.

At its November 14, 2013 meeting, the Board approved a wellness program contract with Interactive Health Solutions. As part of the multi-plan health insurance design structure, the District has included a wellness plan that

large part, the decrease is due to reductions in the assessed valuation of properties and the reduction of the 2013 equalization factor, or multiplier, by 5.1%. Other influences are individual assessment reductions due to the appeal process, and the increase in the minimum homeowner exemption from \$6,000 to \$7,000 and the senior citizen exemption increase from \$4,000 to \$5,000. Increases in exemption amounts reduce the amount of taxable EAV available to taxing districts. The effect of lower EAVs results in higher tax rates for the vast majority of districts.

With the overall decrease in EAV, taxpayers experienced varied increases or