



...from the March 20, 2018 Board of Education Meeting

STAFF RECOGNITION

Shining Star Award

Congratulations were extended to the latest Shining Star award winners, Lauren Blandford, school librarian at Emerson Elementary, and Bob Blaus, York teacher and sponsor of the ECO Club.

Lauren was nominated by Lindsey Sloan and the Emerson Elementary staff, who wrote that Lauren is always willing to lend a helping hand, whether it be on questions about integrating technology into the classroom, finding the perfect book or helping to plan lessons. "Lauren immediately jumps on board when she's asked for help. Lauren loves working with students, knows everyone by name and goes above and beyond to help them find what they need in the Emerson library," read her nomination.

Bob was nominated by Superintendent Dr. David Moyer, who shared that after funding ended for after-school tutoring, Bob volunteers his time to stay after school to mentor and tutor students during final exam time. Additionally, as sponsor of the York ECO Club, Bob has ensured that many important projects continue (such as the ECO Book Sale on April 3), while also expanding the club's activities, including bringing back the ECO Club recycling program.

The purpose of the Shining Star Award is to recognize those employees who have made significant contributions to District or school culture; improvement priorities; professional accomplishments; or otherwise have gone above and beyond the "call of duty" to serve students, parents, the community, or the education profession.

PRESENTATIONS

Community Advisory Team/Community Engagement Update

Communications consultant Marcia Sutter, who has been working alongside Lesley Rogers of [Strategies 360](#) and District 205 Executive Director of Communications Melea Smith on [Focus 205](#) Phase 2 efforts, [gave a presentation](#) updating the Board on the Community Engagement and Communication Process in relation to the Master Facility Plan.

Ms. Sutter shared that in the last few weeks, a new logo for the Future Focused phase of the process was debuted. There is also a [new section on the District website](#) dedicated to the Master Facility Planning Process. All presentations made to the Board regarding the Master Facility Plan have been posted there for public viewing.

Ms. Sutter shared with the Board the process of assembling a Community Advisory Team (CAT), which will be tasked with vetting all communication surrounding the Master Facility Plan. The invitation to apply for the CAT was sent via email, social media, posted in the local press and on the District 205 websites. After 126 community members submitted applications, the CAT was expanded from 25

members to 33. Members were chosen based on demographics that would create a balanced representation of the greater Elmhurst community.

The CAT's first meeting was on Monday, March 19. The group reviewed its purpose and goals. The next CAT meeting will be on April 23.

Ms. Sutter also presented a summary of a potential timeline moving forward, dependent on the feedback gathered from the CAT, from community members at various focus group meetings and based on the Board's decisions.

There was lengthy discussion between Board members and Ms. Sutter regarding the number of public meetings that can and should be held related to this, the potential timeline and best ways to keep the Board informed of progress.

Instructional Rounds Update

Dr. Mary Henderson, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Leadership, [presented an update](#) on professional development and instructional rounds in District 205.

This is the second year of instructional rounds for D205. Last school year, emphasis was placed on learning targets. Dr. Henderson said that this school year, the focus has shifted to rigor. During instructional rounds, principals and District leaders look for high-level questioning, thoughtful work and academic discussion in the classrooms they visit.

When rounds are complete, data first comes to the leadership team, which analyzes and synthesizes it. Building leaders then take that data back to their individual schools, and staff analyze the data collected from their building. Each school utilizes its instructional coaches and devotes time during Student Late Arrival days for professional development and conversations on how to continue to improve rigor in the classroom. Rigor will remain the focus for the 2018-2019 school year. Schools that have shown a marked improvement in rigor over the course of the 2017-18 school year will share experiences and professional learning plans with teams from other D205 buildings.

Dr. Henderson's presentation also included [this video](#), which further explains the purpose and benefit of the instructional rounds process in District 205.

High School Instructional Materials for 2018-2019

Dr. Mark Cohen, Assistant Superintendent of Growth and Innovation, presented several new textbooks which various classes at York High School would like to use next school year. Some of the textbooks represent materials for new classes, such as Calculus II and Calculus III, and some will update outdated versions used in such classes as College Literacy, Food and Restaurant Management and Automotive Technology and Automotive Diagnostic. An American Social Studies class, a course that was approved last fall, requested the adoption of five novels that will tie themes from the English II course with events that happened over U.S. history.

All materials were approved by the Board.

Finance Committee Report

Chris Whelton, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, along with Board member Chris Blum, presented a summary of the Finance Committee meeting that took place on March 7, 2018. Mr. Whelton noted in the monthly financial report that DuPage County will distribute pre-paid taxes in mid-May, which is a change from what the county has done in the past. This change means District 205 revenue will be inflated in May, and will deflate in September.

Mr. Whelton and the Board also discussed proposed student fees for the 2018-2019 school year. In the proposal, student fees for PreK and K increased \$12; grades 1-5 decreased \$9; and grades 6-8 increased \$12. The sixth grade instrumental Music and Vocal Music fees are decreased as a result of the before-school program being reduced to once per week. The proposed York High School fees were also reviewed with an increase in one course fee and an increase in the cost of Chromebooks as a result of moving toward more advanced models.

A full presentation on Facility Use Fees and Student Fees will be made at the April 10 Board of Education meeting; the Board will be asked for approval of these fees at its April 24th meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA – CONSENT

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the following items:

- Personnel Reports
- [Financial Reports](#)
- Foreign Exchange Student "B"
- Display of High School Instructional Materials
- [RFP #18-20](#) – Cold Beverage Contract Service
- [Bid #18-03](#) – Mechanical Contractor Service at York High School, Hawthorne Elementary and Field Elementary
- 15 Month Subscription to [EdPrivacy Student Data Privacy Management System](#)
- [Special Education Student Transportation Services and Transportation Services Contract](#)
- Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Membership Renewal
- Disposal of Vehicles
- Consent Agenda

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA – ACTION

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the following items:

- Donations to Conrad Fischer Elementary School, Emerson Elementary School, Jackson Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School and York High School – see details below.

The following donations were accepted in accordance with Policy #8:80 – Gifts to the District:

Conrad Fischer

In an effort to continuously support literacy at Conrad Fischer School, the PTA has unanimously voted to provide the 22 classroom teachers with a donation of \$250 each for the purchase of classroom books. The total amount of this generous donation is \$5,500. This will provide additional literacy support for the children in the classroom.

Emerson

The Emerson School PTA has generously offered to donate \$750 to go toward enhancing the Emerson library. This will help the librarian to buy the Illinois Reader's Choice Nominee books.

Having these books accessible to all of Emerson School's students will increase their access to high quality literature.

Jackson

The Aidan Shea Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded in memory of former Jackson student Aidan Shea, has generously offered to donate \$5,000 in his honor to the Jackson library. The donation will go toward a 3D printer (about \$2,000 with supplies) and to purchase books to supplement the library's collection. With the addition of a 3D printer, the students will have opportunities to make their own creations. This aligns to the focus on STEM and students taking ownership of their learning. The purchased books will help enhance the library's collection to ensure there are engaging texts for all students.

Lincoln

The Lincoln School PTA has generously offered to donate \$7,500 for the purchase of an outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom will support and expand the MakerSpace and STEAM initiatives. The plan is to build child-centered creative work spaces. The space will be enclosed with large flower boxes lining the area. Every grade will be responsible for caring for one of the flower boxes.

York

The York Athletic Boosters have generously offered to make a cash donation to purchase a new tent for the District. The tent would be used for York athletic events and other District activities. The total cost of the tent is \$10,522.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests

Four Freedom of Information Act requests were received:

- One requesting certain student discipline information, which was denied.
- One requesting specific RFP information, which was partially granted and partially denied.
- One requesting specific Bid information, which was granted.
- One requesting specific expense information, which was granted.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

The Board voted 7-0 to approve the following item from closed session:

- Approval of Resolution Authorizing Notice of Non-Renewal to Non-Tenured Teachers Other Than Final-Year Probationary Teachers.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

March 26-30 – Spring Break, No School

April 10 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:30 PM – District 205 Center

April 11 – All District Student Late Arrival Day

April 19-22 – York Spring Musical – *Tuck Everlasting*

April 24 – Board of Education Meeting – 7:30 PM – District 205 Center

NOTE: Video footage of all Board of Education regular meetings is usually posted on 205TV within 48-72 hours. Audio is posted within 24 hours at www.elmhurst205.org/Audio (please click on appropriate meeting date). Past editions of Board Highlights are posted/archived at www.elmhurst205.org/BOE_highlights.