



Board Briefs

Mission: To ensure that District 70 students experience learning that prepares them to live and work in the 21st Century.

Board Briefs from School Board Meeting Nov. 23, 2020, *Board Briefs are a communication tool designed to highlight important conversations and decisions made on behalf of students, families, staff, and the larger community by the District 70 School Board at each monthly School Board meeting.*

Reopening Discussion and Update

During the board meeting Supt. Dr. Matt Barbini recommended that Libertyville School District 70 students and teachers take a proactive preventative pause from in-person learning after Winter Break, from Jan. 5, 2021, through to Jan. 19, 2021, starting in-person school then on Jan. 20, 2021. Students will do remote learning during those two weeks. eSchool Centers will remain open, administrators and nurses will be in the schools and the ERC during these two weeks as well. The board gave a vote of confidence to Supt. Barbini's recommendation by a vote of 5-2 vote with a caveat of revisiting the recommendation should there be changes on the local, state, or federal level.

[Here is a link to the Reopening School Board presentation](#) (Go to item 7.1, Supt's Reopening Update.)

2020 Levy

Every year part of the normal financial process of any school district is the adoption of a property tax levy. Mr. Herrin presented information regarding the 2020 District 70 levy at the board meeting. The school board will take action on the 2020 levy at the December 14 meeting. More information about the levy can be found at the link below:

[Here is a link to the School Board levy presentation](#) (Go to item 8.3, Approval of FY20 Levy)

Personnel Update

The Board approved the following personnel recommendations on Monday night:

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- **Holly Chapman**, from Math Teacher at Highland to Remote Learning Coach at Highland, effective on or about November 17, 2020;
- **Anne Riggs**, From Social Studies Teacher at Highland to Remote Learning Coach at Highland, effective on or about November 17, 2020;
- **Amy Richter**, from Lunchroom Supervisor at Adler to Health Clerk at Adler, effective November 2, 2020;
- **Jennifer Crane**, from Lunchroom Supervisor at Butterfield to Health Clerk at Butterfield, effective November 9, 2020;

NEW EMPLOYMENT

- **Thomas Baker**, Social Studies Teacher at Highland, effective November 12, 2020;
- **Sara Eriksen**, Health Clerk at Highland, effective November 2, 2020;
- **Babel Barm**, Health Clerk at Copeland, effective November 16, 2020;
- **Anne McQuillen**, Health Clerk at Rockland, effective November 30, 2020;
- **Kendall Moore**, eSchool Supervisor at Rockland, effective November 16, 2020;

Item 3: FMLA

- **Whitney Adelman**, 4th Grade Teacher at Adler, affirming letter received October 30, 2020, effective on or about December 17, 2020, for twelve (12) weeks.

Policy

The administration and school board use a policy subscription service provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards as the basis for developing, reviewing, recommending, and approving policy language. This service is used by the majority of school districts in Illinois and is known as the Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS).

Policy Approvals

No policies were presented for approval this month.

First Reading

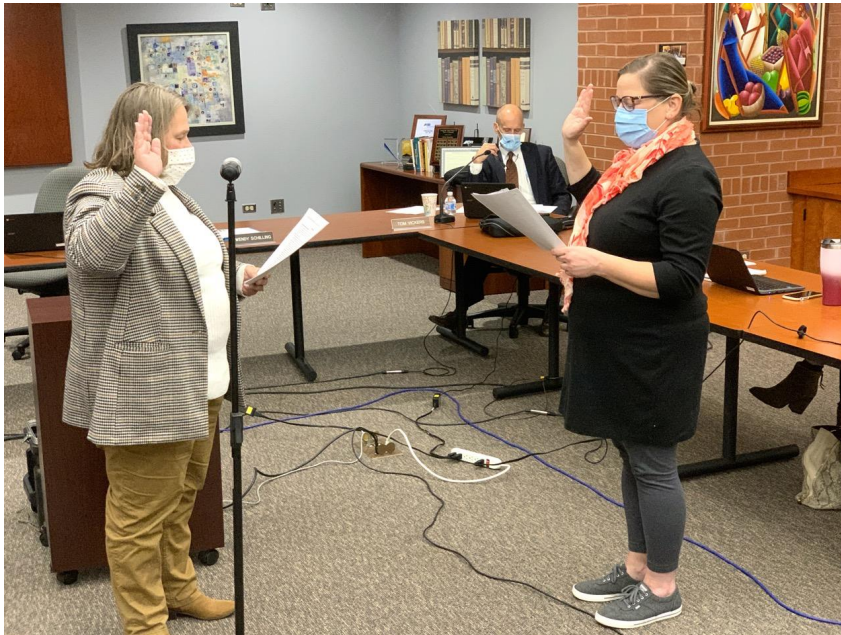
No policies were presented for first reading this month.

Superintendent's Report

Board Member Mrs. Balanag

During Monday's school board meeting we welcomed and new board member Angela K. Balanag, a Libertyville resident and Copeland Manor parent, who took the Oath of Office as a new school board member.

Balanag, 47, will serve until the April 6 Consolidated Elections, completing the term of Linda Lucke, who resigned after moving out of District 70 boundaries. An English teacher at Grant Community High School, Balanag noted in her application that, "I am an educator who is passionate about equity. I think all students, staff, faculty, administrators, parents, and community members deserve high-quality opportunities to grow."



Caption: New School Board President Wendy Schilling swears in new board member Angela Balanag during the Nov. 23, 2020, board meeting.

With a master's degree in school leadership from Northeastern Illinois University and a master's degree in English and teaching and learning from DePaul University, Balanag first majored in mass communications and history at Illinois State University. She worked as a professional broadcaster while working on her bachelor's degree.

"I have great respect for public service and the role of the community in public education," Balanag said. "I recognize the high-quality decision-making process of the staff, faculty,

administration, and board of education that District 70 engages in. It would be an honor to serve the community for a few months.”

She began her education career as a substitute teacher in Community District 128 (LHS) and Waukegan Community School District 60. She also has taught at Antioch Community High School and served two years as the head coach of the Boys Bowling Team at Grant Community High School.

Balanag and her husband, Edgar, have a daughter, Vivian.

Mrs. Balang is a great addition to our school board.

New Board President Mrs. Schilling, New Vice President Marc Grote

Veteran Board of Education member Wendy Schilling took on the role of board president at the school board meeting Monday night, replacing board member Tom Vickers. Vickers stepped down from his board position due to heavy work obligations but he will remain on the board to complete his third four-year term.

We thank Mr. Vickers for his dedicated and selfless leadership as president and look forward to continuing working with him on the board.

We also are grateful for Mrs. Schilling, a veteran board member serving on her second four-year term, who is graciously stepping into the president’s role.

Marc Grote also was approved by the board to serve as vice president, taking on the role vacated by Schilling. The board vice president also will serve as chair of the Finance Committee.

