



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 on April 26, 2021

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.

Superintendent's Full Reopening Progress Update

Supt. Dr. Matt Barbini gave an overview of how successful full-day in-person and virtual school is for grades K-8 now that all students returned to full-day school on April 12. All students who want to be back in school are back in school. Administrators pitched in with details of operations, reviewing metrics, elementary and middle school reopening specifics, and health details on testing and supplies.

Here is a [link](#) to the School Board presentation

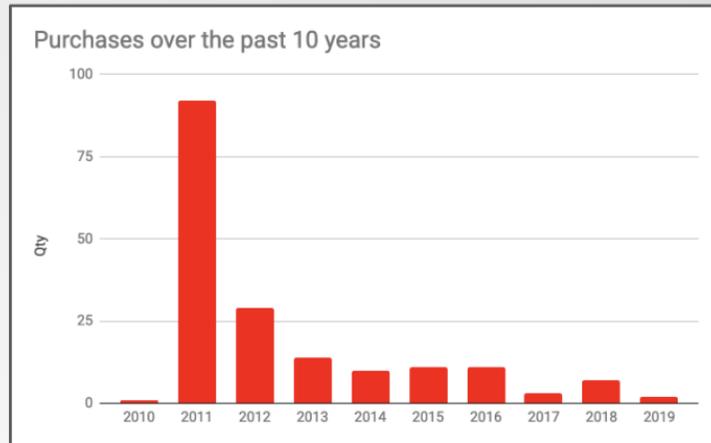
Classroom Technology Purchases/Technology Infrastructure Purchases

During the Monday school board meeting, the board approved purchasing student iPads and Chromebooks to support student learning and instruction. The purchases are part of a long-range technology plan presented to the board last June. The board also approved the purchase of interactive flat-panel TVs and Apple TVs to refresh existing smartboard and

projector technology in classrooms throughout the district. The devices were successfully piloted by about 20 D70 teachers who provided the necessary input into making the decision.

Projectors by the numbers

Year Purchased	Quantity
2010	1
2011	92
2012	29
2013	14
2014	10
2015	11
2016	11
2017	3
2018	7
2019	2



This graphic shows the need to standardize equipment so that the technology department can more efficiently address break-fix issues when they arise because we currently have 25+ different projectors from 8 different vendors deployed.

Here is a [link](#) to the School Board presentation (Items 8.3, 8.4, and 8.5 on the agenda)

Student Growth

During the school board meeting, an overview was shared regarding critical questions about student growth, STAR achievement assessments, grades, and next steps. Although our students experienced a dip in performing in reading and math during school closures, as we have entered into hybrid and a full return, our students are making gains that are more aligned with pre-pandemic levels.

Here is a [link](#) to the School Board presentation.

How District 70 Provides Support to All Students

The growth of all of our students is our mission. At the board meeting, D70's Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Dr. Erik Youngman and D70's Director of Special Services Dr. Chris Otto, along with reading interventionists and school psychologists, talked about the various school systems that are in place to make sure all students get the support that they need. An overview was shared during the school board meeting regarding how all students are supported in Libertyville District 70.

Here is a [link](#) to the School Board presentation.

Fall Housing and Data Report

The Fall Housing and Data Report was tabled due to time constraints and will be on the May 17 school board meeting agenda to discuss.

Here is a [link](#) to the School Board presentation (Item 9.5 on the agenda)

Employee Assistance Program

Based on feedback from staff during this difficult time, the need for support became clear, and District 70 researched programs that would assist staff. District 70 is implementing an Employee Assistance Program. The rollout for staff is scheduled for Tuesday, April 27. Additional information will be sent out routinely. This is a no-cost program, is available to all staff and their families, and does not require that they be enrolled in any district insurance plan.

Here is a [link](#) to the School board presentation (Item 9.6 on the agenda)

The last Day of School is June 7, 2021

The last day of school for District 70 will be June 7, which will be an early release day.

Here is a [link to the 2020-21 School Calendar](#)

Personnel Update

The Board approved the following personnel recommendations on Monday night:

RESIGNATION

Maddy DeRose, Paraeducator at Butterfield, effective May 12, 2021;

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CHANGE IN STATUS

Chris Lueder, from Lunch Hostess at Butterfield to Paraeducator at Butterfield, effective April 12, 2021;

NEW EMPLOYMENT

Bella Mampe, Health Clerk at Copeland, effective March 31, 2021;

Jillian McMahan, School Psychologist Intern, 2021-2022 school year;

Barbara Bowlby, Bookkeeper, effective May 3, 2021;

Edgar Balanag, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Erin Deanda, Lunchroom Supervisor at Adler, effective April 12, 2021;

Nicole Eloff, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Kate Govorchin, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Laurel Hahle, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Denise May-Stortzum, Lunchroom Supervisor at Butterfield, effective April 12, 2021

Elizabeth Moss, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Lisa Pinsky, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Chase Prendergast, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

Krystal Rodriguez, Lunchroom Supervisor at Butterfield, effective April 12, 2021;

Christine Wilk, Lunchroom Supervisor at Copeland, effective April 12, 2021;

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

Following the required second reading of recommended policy language, the school board approved changes to the following policies:

- 6:20 **INSTRUCTION**: School Year Calendar and Day
- 6:70 **INSTRUCTION**: Teaching About Religions
- 6:255 **INSTRUCTION**: Assemblies and Ceremonies
- 6:260 **INSTRUCTION**: Suggestions and Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
- 6:290 **INSTRUCTION**: Homework

Approved policies can be viewed [here](#).

First Reading

Due to time constraints, revisions to policies were deferred until next month.

Superintendent's Report

At Monday night's board meeting we honored seven students for their work in helping others this school year.

We honored Copeland Manor students Youssef Fahmy, William Neff, Kailyn Montgomery, Megan Andrews, Kieran East, Leah Toll, and Rockland student Colin O'Connell.

We honored this year's Copeland Manor Student Council, comprised of only fifth-graders, because they decided to take on only philanthropic work, focusing on service projects that benefit children. The District 70 students stated they "feel lucky to go to a great school in a nice town" but know that not all children are so fortunate and that they wanted to help other children. The student council is supported by teachers Ali Gattone and Victoria Vaccaro.

Their projects this year included:

- A letter-writing campaign for Cards for Hospitalized Kids. Cards for

Hospitalized Kids is a national program based in Chicago that provides hospitalized children with joy and hope through homemade cards.

- Ran special Copeland Manor spirit wear pop-up shops with specially designed clothing and used profits to buy needed PE equipment for the school or purchase wishlist items for the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospitals.
- Partnered with the Copeland Staff Service Committee to collect donations for Fill a Heart for Kids. They participated by collecting fun items for homeless and foster children for a spring Fill a Heart 4 Kids collection called "Project Hop."

We also honored Rockland fifth-grader Colin O'Connell, who began an online bakery to support charities.

While staying home during the pandemic, Colin developed a love of baking and honed his skills in making cookies and cupcakes for his family. Two months ago, while in Nate Baker's fifth grade classroom, he about children who made a difference. One of the children featured in the article baked cupcakes to donate to local homeless shelters. This inspired Colin to start his bakery. Adjusting his plan during a global pandemic, Colin sells his cookies and cupcakes and donates 35% of his profits to the United Nations COVID Relief Fund and the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Colin says donating makes him feel like he's making a difference because the Northern Illinois Food Bank can buy \$8 in groceries for every dollar that is donated. So far, Colin has donated \$58 to charities.

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