



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

ELMHURST COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

December 14, 2021

Board of Education Meeting

Here are highlights from the December 14, 2021 regular business meeting of the Board of Education. The complete recording of the meeting can be found [here](#). The Agenda and supporting materials can be found on [BoardDocs](#).

DISTRICT 205 STUDENTS WERE HONORED WITH "YES I CAN" AWARDS

Two District 205 students, Paul Rosland and Franco Bibbiano, were honored with "Yes I Can" awards from the Illinois Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), which recognizes children and youth with exceptionalities who have demonstrated their determination and achievements in multiple ways. Click [here](#) to read more about Paul and Franco.



STAFF RECOGNITION

Danielle Mitchell, a K-2 special education resource teacher at Hawthorne Elementary School was honored as one of 100 exceptional educators by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) as part of its 100th Anniversary celebration.

Mitchell is in her eighth year with District 205. Click [here](#) to read more about Danielle.



BOARD APPROVES TAX LEVY

The Board held a public hearing and approved the 2021 tax levy. The district's operating levy totals \$20,985,000, a 3.26 percent increase over last year's actual extension. Additionally, the non-operating or debt service portion of the levy totals \$15,730,788. The total levy of \$136,715,788 which includes the approved referendum funding was approved by the Board. Click [here](#) to watch the video presentation.

UPDATE ON REFERENDUM PROJECTS

All four neighborhood/parent concept design meetings have been held (Jackson, Jefferson, Field and Fischer). All have been positive meetings with modest turnout. Recordings of the meetings are on the website. The Board approved bid recommendations for the renovations at Field, and additions for a media center and two classrooms at Jackson. Also approved were bid recommendations for pre-purchase of mechanical electrical equipment for next summer's projects at Fischer and Jefferson

PRESENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN PROPOSAL

Staff presented a proposal for the creation of a new Strategic Plan with Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates. The proposal includes extensive work in partnership with parents, community members, educators, as well as a shared focus on students and excitement about the future. The plan will create collective movement in the same direction with focus, determination and persistence. The approval of this Strategic Plan provides an opportunity to further align the work at the schools to achieve ambitious goals for our future and provides a basis to implement, measure and communicate key indicators of success. The request for budget approval will be on the January 11 Board Meeting. View the presentation [here](#)

TONYA DANIELS NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Effective December 6, 2021, Tonya Daniels is the District 205 Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations. Daniels replaces Beverly Redmond, who left District 205 in September after serving over three years in the role. Click [here](#) to read the press release.