



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND BOARD MEETING RECAP

**October 18, 2022**

### **School Board President's Report to the Board**

Board President Nadine Scodro welcomed everyone in attendance and asked board member Susan Szafranski to recite one of the sections of the Oath of Office to affirm the board's commitment to faithfully discharge their duties.

#### **Update on Upcoming Events**

- October 21 MPA Harvest Fest at Palos South 5-8 pm
- October 25 Student Outcomes and Accountability Meeting 6pm -Central
- October 28 PFA Trunk-or-Treat at Palos West from 6pm-8:30pm
- November 1 Finance and Facilities Meeting 6 pm at Palos South Applied Tech Lab
- November 9 PFA Meeting at Palos East at 7 pm
- November 11 Veterans Day Celebration at Palos South at 8:30 am

#### **RECOGNITION**

District 118 Principals and Assistant Principals were recognized by Dr. Scarsella and the board for National Principals Month.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Anthony Scarsella thanked the PFA (Parent Faculty Association) volunteers for all of their efforts organizing the first-ever Fall Fest at Palos South. He noted the great turnout for the event and recognized all of the hard work that the PFA does on behalf of District 118 families.

Dr. Scarsella encouraged families to support the MPA (MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION) by attending the Harvest Fest fundraiser on Oct. 21 at Palos South. The evening will include performances by Palos 118's fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade bands, the Performing Arts Ensemble, and Choirs.

Dr. Scarsella recognized Director of EL, Huwaida Hamed, and her teams who hosted the District's first BPAC (Bilingual Parent Advisory Council) meeting of the year at Palos East in October. BPAC is the District's Bilingual Parent Advisory Council and the meeting included informational sessions for EL and multilingual families in English, Arabic, Polish, and Spanish. Over 50 families attend the event which included information about District EL programming, MAP testing, report cards, and EL progress reports.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board of Education held a second reading of the following Policies: 2:230 Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board; 3:30 Chain of Command; 5:80 Court Duty; 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program; 4:70 Resource Conservation; 6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues; 6:140 Education of Homeless Children; 6:290 Homework; 7:15 Student and Family Privacy Rights; 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students.

The board approved the proposed 2022 Tax Levy and set a public hearing date for November 15.

## **STUDENT OUTCOMES & ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

Student Outcomes & Accountability Chair Dr. Tim Baker reported that Director of Student Services Erin Deval; Director of EL, Huwaida Hamed; Chief School Business Official, Justin Veihman; and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Anthony Scarsella presented on the topic of non-academic student data which included a review of general enrollment statistics, special education demographics, English learner demographics, social emotional data, and the impact of demographics on District finances.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Board Secretary Mr. Mike Pizur reported on the October 11 meeting of the Finance Committee where Mr. Justin Veihman, Chief School Business Official, presented the tentative 2022 estimated tax levy, a 7.56% increase over last year's actual property tax extension. He explained the reason he is recommending a 7.56% increase over last year's extension is to capture up to \$50 million in new property although he anticipates a much lower amount. Mr. Veihman estimates the actual increase in total taxes extended for the 2022 levy to be approximately 5.2%.

Mr. Veihman and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Anthony Scarsella reviewed preliminary plans for a multi-year classroom renovation project at all three schools with a focus on updated floors, lighting, ceilings, walls, technology, and casework which are in poor condition.

Mr. Veihman informed the committee that he will be asking the Board for approval to participate in the state's School Maintenance Grant program, which provides school districts with up to \$50,000 for infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Veihman also recommended an agreement for financial planning services with the school district's financial advisement firm PMA.

## **EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Mrs. Sheila Pacholski, Foundation president, reported on the final tally raised from their Laps for Literature fundraiser in September. The event raised \$7800 for District 118, and she presented checks to each of the school's principals. Mrs. Pacholski also

announced that the date for the Trivia Night fundraiser is February 4, 2023, with a location to be announced.

### **MUSIC PARENT ASSOCIATION**

Mrs. Paris reported that the MPA Harvest Fest will be held Oct. 21.

### **PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION**

Mrs. Monica Rettker, PFA President, reported that the PFA hosted the Fall Fest event on Oct. 8 at Palos South. She thanked the PFA for all of their efforts on behalf of the District. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The board approved a consent agenda which included:

- Approval of the application to participate in the School Maintenance Grant Program for FY2023
- Approval of agreement with PMA for financial advisory Services in an amount not to exceed \$6,500
- Approval of 2023-2024 School Supply Kits with School Toolbox for East, West and South
- Approval of Personnel Report A-Certified-FMLA, Jill Martinez, Social Worker, South
- Approval of Personnel Report B-Support Staff; FMLA, Janine Lockman, Bus Driver, Transportation; Resignation, Keith Gustafason, Bus Driver, Transportation
- Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes dated September 20, 2022, and Special Meeting Minutes dated September 27, 2022, and October 11, 2022
- Authorize Payment of Bills Payable and Payrolls in Aggregate Total: \$2,991,955.61