



Stevenson High School Board Bulletin

A monthly message from the Board of Education

AUGUST 2024

Welcome to our Stevenson High School Board Bulletin, a monthly message from our Board of Education that will include key updates that impact student life at Stevenson. We are very pleased to share several key takeaways from our most recent board meeting below. Thank you for your engagement on these very important issues! We look forward to staying in touch.

Sincerely,
Stevenson High School Board of Education

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Our board meeting agendas often include many items for discussion. While you will always be able to review the agenda, meeting minutes and video recordings of these meetings on [our Board webpage](#), this Board Bulletin provides key takeaways for our Stevenson community.

- 1** Following a period of public viewing and comment since the June board meeting, the Board voted to adopt the 2023-24 budget. The budget remains unchanged from the tentative budget:
 - Revenues are expected to increase by approximately 8%, driven by the CPI increase in property taxes and ELC distributions.
 - Operating expenditures (minus construction costs) are projected to rise by 6.5%, primarily due to salaries and purchased services. A construction budget of \$4.5 million was approved to complete summer projects.
 - Excluding construction costs, the operational budget is balanced.
- 2** The board was presented a brief summary of this summer's summer school activities: Of note, more than 2,870 students enrolled in summer school, with freshmen making up nearly 70% of this number. World History ranks as the top summer school course choice for incoming freshmen.

New to our summer school offerings is Project Impact, a career exploration opportunity for students interested in collaborating with other students in the intersection of communications, social studies and science to solve real-world issues in our local community. Anecdotal feedback from the students have been positive:

“I have so many takeaways from this course but I feel like it kind of showed me most of all that when you have an idea and dread executing it because the process seems complex you should just start it. It seems scary starting such a big project on your own. However this course showed me step by step you can do anything with time and a good work ethic. This motivates me to follow through with any other project ideas I have on my own because I now feel like I'm capable of undergoing that process on my own.”

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The board was also pleased to announce that it has been recognized for their exceptional governance practices by the Illinois Association of School Boards. The honor recognizes Stevenson’s Board of Education specifically for its highly effective governance behaviors and their commitment toward obtaining the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively lead the district.