



Stevenson High School Board Bulletin

A monthly message from the Board of Education

DECEMBER 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

The Physical Welfare Division's Applied Health team presented on their social emotional learning efforts. The goal of the class is to teach students emergency life-saving responses and communication skills to use during emergency situations. While results from the Fall 2023 Student Voice Survey showed that the classroom climate was very strong, the team discovered an opportunity to boost students' perception on the value of the class content.

The team zeroed in on the value of **communication: a skill that is taught in class for the purposes of emergency response but also provides value in day-to-day life**. To help students develop their communication skill, the team integrated communication exercises early and often in the semester. The exercises included a period to debrief on the quality of communication used in the exercises. Were other students' communication clear and/or concise? Moving forward, the team will build on this work by incorporating communications exercises with a cultural competency component.



The presentation is timely with the announcement of this semester's Prominent Patriot Awards. This semester, the top honor went to Junior Ananya Prakash, who took Applied Health and learned many of the skills mentioned in this presentation.

This summer, Ananya was in Boston visiting the Museum of Science as part of a summer program. She observed a man having all the common

signs/symptoms of a heart attack and asked him if she could help. The man fell unconscious a few seconds after. She told her friend to call 911 and get an AED, checked him and immediately started chest compressions. Fortunately the man's wife, who was also present and trained in CPR, delivered rescue breaths while Ananya performed chest compressions.

Ananya continued giving care until she saw the man move and his breathing and pulse returned. She stayed with him until EMS arrived and took over. Ananya selflessly helped someone in need and incorporated what she learned in class to save a life. She reflected, "I'm so glad I found the mindset to not shy away and let someone else handle the issue even when I recognized what was occurring."

2

The Board of Education voted to approve an increase to the levy for the 2024 tax year, amounting to \$126.8 million. This tax levy factors CPI (3.4%), EAV (7.8%) and new construction (totalling approximately \$20 million). This is an increase of 4.92% to cover expenses for the 2025-26 school year.