



## **Board Briefs** - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)

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#### [March 7, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Board voted to approve the March 7 agenda as presented.

### **Recognition**

#### *Lake County Principal of the Year Award Presentation*

Illinois Principals Association Lake Region Awards Chair Dr. Erica Berger shared congratulations and presented DHS Principal Kathryn Anderson with the Lake County Principal of the Year Award. As a county-level winner, Principal Anderson will be entered into the statewide competition for Illinois principal of the year.

### **Board Reports**

#### *President*

Board President Ken Fishbain reported that the Board and DEA Bargaining Teams met on March 1, 2023, for the eighth bargaining session. The teams continued discussion on leaves, and began discussion on the rights and responsibilities of licensed staff members. The next session is scheduled for March 13, 2023.

#### *TrueNorth*

Board Member Jodi Shapira had no report as there has not been a TrueNorth member district meeting since the D113 Board meeting, February 21.

### **Administration Information Reports**

#### *Superintendent*

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law began his report by providing highlights from the March 6 Institute Day. Dr. Law said that teachers were together at DHS in the morning, spending that time improving their knowledge and sharpening their skills in preparation for next year and de-surveyed classes at the freshman level. One of the highlights, he said, was that the breakout sessions offered were led by D113 staff. D113 staff-led professional development had been practiced in the past, and that the decision to go back to that model was well received. He noted

that future professional development plans are being made for summer and the 2023-24 school year.

Dr. Law then pointed out that March 8 is International Women's Day, and in honor of the day, Highland Park High School's Girl Up is holding a women's leadership symposium led by two student board liaisons, Evelyn Gehrig and Raquel Bach. Dr. Law closed by saying that there is still work to be done in support of equity for women.

### *FOIA*

Dr. Law reported the FOIA requests received since the last meeting and their disposition. The report is posted in BoardDocs online.

### *A Passion for Excellence Video Series: Bea Wagener*

[The sixth installment of the video series, "A Passion for Excellence," focuses on DHS Special Education Teacher Bea Wagener.](#) The series highlights teachers and staff telling their stories as educators, which tell the story of the passion for excellence in District 113 that drives the passion for students' potential. Future installments will come to the Board on a monthly basis throughout the school year.

## **School Reports**

### *Student Liaison Reports*

Deerfield High School student board liaison Keshav Shah and Highland Park High School student board liaison Jeremy Bach provided some highlights from the previous month to the Board.

## **Discussion**

### *Planning for Section and Staffing, Part Three*

In continuation of the planning for section and staffing for the 2023-24 school year (which is also fiscal year 2024), the Board heard a presentation on the non-personnel budget for next year. Due to significant increases in non-personnel special education expenses along with other cost centers like utilities, the non-personnel budget for fiscal year 2024 shows a net increase of \$950,000 year over year. Approximately 90 percent of the non-personnel special education expenses are attributed to tuition costs through outplacement sites and TrueNorth. Dr. Law recommended that the deficit in the non-personnel budget not be solved by making corresponding cuts in operations. Dr. Law added that due to increases in special education staff and efforts to keep class sizes low, the number of licensed-staff is also showing an increase. That corresponding financial increase may be mostly offset by reductions in the non-personnel budget but other solutions are also being pursued.

## **Action**

### *DHS Auditorium Improvements*

The Board voted to accept bids from trade contractors for auditorium improvements at Deerfield High School. The current project total amounts to \$8,681,151. For a detailed list of contractors and award amounts, see item [10A in BoardDocs](#).

*Summer 2023-2024 Infrastructure Projects*

The Board voted to accept bids from trade contractors for the Districtwide capital improvement projects. The project total for summer 2023 and 2024 construction is \$17,062,320. For a detailed list of contractors and award amounts, see item [10B in BoardDocs](#).

*DHS Auditorium Improvements – Pepper Construction Project Authorization*

The Board voted to authorize Pepper Construction to serve as the construction manager for the DHS auditorium improvement project. Under the agreement, Pepper Construction is paid a fee of 2.1 percent plus cost of the work for a total amount of \$7,358,345.

*Approve Professional Services for the DHS Auditorium and Capital Improvement Projects*

The Board voted to award contracts for professional services firms for the DHS auditorium and capital improvement projects. For a detailed list of professional services firms and fees, see item [10D in BoardDocs](#).

**Consent Agenda**

The Board approved [the consent agenda](#) as presented. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

**Upcoming Meetings-**

March 14, 2023

Special Meeting

5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building

March 21, 2023

Regular Action Meeting

6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building