



Board Briefs

[Para español, por favor haga click aquí](#)

[December 12, 2023 Regular Action Meeting](#)

[Board Meeting Videos](#)

Public Hearing

As required by law, the Board held a public hearing before voting to adopt the 2023 levy later in the meeting. In accordance with *Public Act 102-0895*, the District disclosed the cash and investment balance of \$175,933,919 as of the November 30, 2023 Treasurer's Report.

Approval of Agenda

The Board voted to approve the December 12 agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

In his report, Board President Dan Struck said on behalf of the entire Board that he wished everyone success in the final weeks of the first semester and a pleasant, peaceful break with family and friends over the holidays. He asked people to be on the lookout for updates concerning the search for the next superintendent. Noting that although dates are not yet final, he hoped that sometime in early February there will be opportunities for staff and community stakeholders to participate in interviews with final candidates so that feedback can be given to the Board.

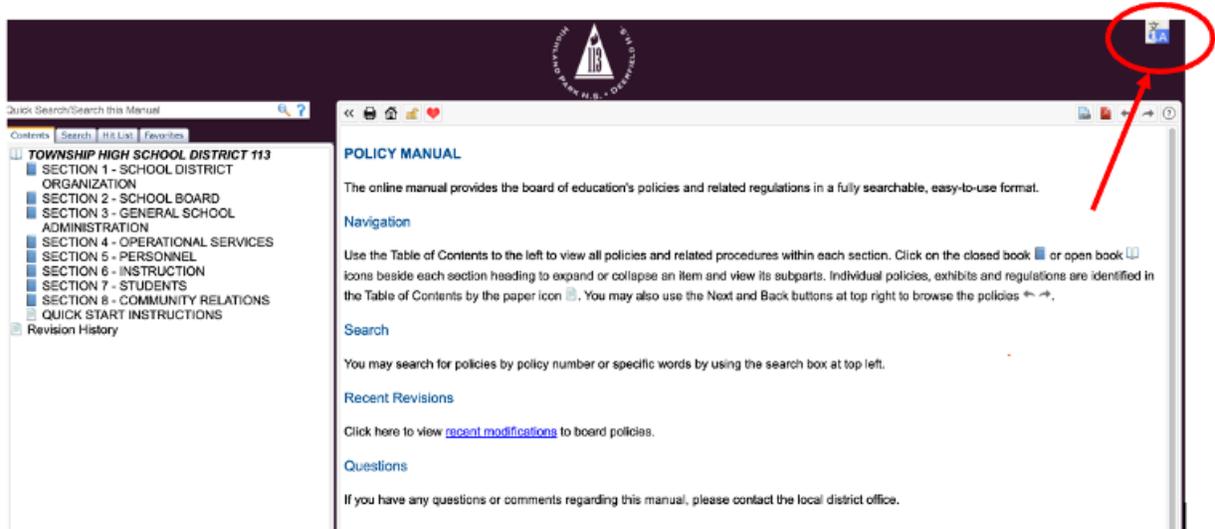
He said that as the calendar year closes, he recognizes that the District is blessed with the staff, resources, and community to make District 113 one of the highest achieving high school districts anywhere. He emphasized that everyone is committed to meeting the challenge of providing a rigorous and engaging curriculum and cultivating the individual passion and resilience of students and that these principles will continue to be the lodestar of District 113.

Mr. Struck then congratulated Deerfield High School Principal Dr. Kathryn Anderson on the school's participation in presenting at the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence conference. Dr. Anderson said DHS had been invited to present as a recent winner and that she along with Director of Student Activities Brian Verisario and Golden Apple Winner Nikki Lazzaretto presented and one of the key facets of their presentation was about how District 113 promotes student voice and that she looked forward to growing those opportunities in years to come.

Administration Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law began by reporting that District 113 Board policies are now available in more languages than English. [The District's policy manual](#) is hosted on the Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) PRESS policy site. Users can click on the translate icon in the upper right-hand corner to select from the other languages available. (See screenshot below).



Dr. Law then shared the success of the community-wide event hosted as part of the soft opening of the new Performing Arts Center at Deerfield High School on November 30. The event featuring best-selling author Julie Lythcott-Haims drew approximately 300 people. He shared that the next and final event for this year in the speaker series will be on Tuesday, February 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. at HPHS with Devorah Heitner, author of *Growing Up in Public: Coming of Age in a Digital World*.

He noted that he was looking forward to the grand opening of the new Performing Arts Center the following evening for the Holiday Music Extravaganza.

In follow up to the November 28 update on security, Dr. Law reported that the number of traffic guard applicants has risen from one to two and that so far, one of the applicants is moving through the application process.

Finally, noting that the December 12 meeting is the last of the semester and that finals are coming up, Dr. Law wished students well on finals and wished everyone a restful break. He also reminded everyone that as has been the practice since December 2020 to encourage a much-needed break, Dr. Law said he is directing the IT Department to set up an auto-reply for emails sent during winter break to all 10-month certified staff. The auto-reply will indicate that responses should not be expected until the week of January 9 when students return to school.

Implementation and Enactment of Required Automatic Accelerated Placement Rules and Board Policy 6-135

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Dr. Michael Lach presented to the Board the details about the implementation and enactment of automatic

accelerated placement (AAP) as required by [Public Act 101-0654](#) and associated Board [Policy 6-135](#).

Under AAP, students are automatically recommended for higher-level coursework based upon their performance on standardized tests (PSAT, SAT, AP) and status against state standards. This new law and required policy are intended to place students in the more rigorous courses for which they qualify. Ultimately, AAP will provide additional opportunities for more students. Dr. Lach said recommendations are available for students and their parents/guardians to view in the [D113 Briefcase](#) in Infinite Campus. He also emphasized that the decision to participate in more rigorous coursework should be made by students and their parents and guardians and that the decision should take a holistic approach in looking at each student's educational and school goals. Dr. Lach said more information will be sent from him to families in the coming week.

FOIA

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

School Reports

Student Liaison Reports

The Board received the written reports from the student liaisons. DHS Student Liaison Lillian Dowlatshahi shared with the Board some brief highlights on the implementation of the weapons detection system, success raising funds through School Chest for Gigi's Playhouse, and that auditions for Stunts are coming up.

Action

Course Proposals for the 2024-25 School Year

The Board approved as presented the additions and changes for the 2024-25 Program of Studies.

Award the Synthetic Turf Agreement under Sourcewell Co-op Contract # 031622-FTU

The Board approved as presented a motion to award the synthetic turf proposals for both schools to FieldTurf USA in the amount of \$1,129,550.08.

FY 2024 Capital Improvement Projects Bid Package 1 – Mechanical Pre

The Board approved as presented a proposal for the pre-purchase of mechanical equipment for a total budgeted cost of \$1,117,670. Dr. Law said that this item met the criteria discussed at the November 28 meeting as being part of a project that had already been presented to the Facilities Committee, discussed and approved by the Board, and identified as having a long lead time. Public content in the agenda noted all of these details.

Approval of the 2023 Tax Levy

The Board voted to approve as presented the 2023 tax levy. The 2023 levy will fund the 2024-25 school year.

Resolution authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the District

The Board voted to adopt a resolution authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the District.

Resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay debt service on the District's General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2022A

The Board voted to adopt a resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay debt service on the District's General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2022A.

Approve Four-Year Salary and Benefits Agreement with the Administrative Assistants Group

The Board voted to approve as presented a four-year salary and benefits agreement with the administrative assistants group.

Consent Agenda

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

January 9, 2024

Finance Committee Meeting

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Administration Building

January 23, 2024

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building