



Board Briefs

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

[July 11, 2023 Regular Action Meeting](#)

[Board Meeting Videos](#)

Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

The Board voted to approve the July 11 agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

Board President Dan Struck remarked that it was a pleasure to again open Wolters Field to the City of Highland Park's fourth of July events, noting that it is a joy to partner with all of District 113's municipal partners, but that this event was particularly special.

Mr. Struck reminded everyone that all regular and committee of the whole meetings are being streamed live in addition to the recordings. The link to watch the stream live will be posted on [the homepage](#) of the D113 website the day of the meeting. The recordings are posted on the [Board's Vimeo channel](#) within two business days following the meeting.

He then announced that applications are open for financial assistance for the 2023-24 school year. The applications, known as free and reduced lunch applications, or FRAM, as well as additional information, can be found on each school's website: [DHS FRAM](#) | [HPS FRAM](#).

Mr. Struck provided an update on collective bargaining with the District 113 Education Association (DEA). He reported that the Board and DEA Bargaining Teams met on June 27 and 29. The parties exchanged proposals on committees, salary, professional development funds, insurance, retirement, and stipends. Due to scheduled vacations, the parties are taking a brief break in their discussions. When the parties reconvene, they will have the assistance of a mediator from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to continue these negotiations. A mediator, as a neutral party, is often helpful to guide and focus discussion and to facilitate resolution. The use of the mediator was previously announced in June.

Until an agreement is reached, the 2019-2023 agreement with the DEA will remain in effect, including salary and fringe benefits. Non-affiliated employees will also continue to be paid and receive fringe benefits under the terms of their employment from last year. It is typical that in years of teacher contract negotiations, corresponding pay adjustments are made across employee groups and the Board expects that to be the case this year.

Administration Information Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law reported that District 113 Assistant Director of Transportation Becky Castillo was selected as the winner of the 2023 Annie Award in the Doug Bolton Support Champion category from the Chasing Hope Foundation. The Chasing Hope Foundation is committed to singling out those in the special education profession who personify the best in the field and whose work serves as a standard toward which peers should strive. One of Ms. Castillo's responsibilities is overseeing transportation for students with disabilities. Dr. Law said supporting students is not just the job of teachers, or just those in the Special Education Department, but everyone's job in District 113. He noted how remarkable the award is, how it speaks so well of her and the work in the District.

FOIA

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

Discussion

College and Career Readiness

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Dr. Michael Lach gave a report to the Board on college and career readiness in accordance with *Public Act 102-0917*, which requires school districts to offer a program to prepare students enrolled in grades 6 through 12 for a career and technical education pathway, unless a district's board of education adopts a resolution to opt out. Dr. Lach recommended that District 113 work in collaboration with teachers, staff, and the community to develop and implement a college and career readiness plan that will

1. Define academic readiness for District 113 graduates, incorporating guidance from ISBE, local colleges, and other sources;
2. Ensure students graduate with the academic readiness needed for post-secondary success;
3. Provide appropriate career education experiences for all students; and
4. Comply fully with *Public Act 102-0917* and related laws and guidance.

The Board expressed its support for creating a readiness plan to prepare all students for college and careers.

DHS – Friends of the Arts (FOA) – Seat Naming Rights Agreement

Friends of the Arts, a supporting organization under Policy 8-90, discussed with the Board a naming rights agreement to place a naming placard on the edge of the seats as part of the DHS Auditorium renovation. This agreement would allow Friends of the Arts to raise money to support the arts program at DHS through the sale of the naming placards. The item will come back for a vote at the next meeting.

Scholarship Funds Transfer Between Township High School District 113 and the Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood

The Board discussed a transfer of scholarship funds in the amount of \$10,550.40 between District 113 and the Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood. The scholarship funds were donated for the Rohan Malempati Scholarship fund, with the original intent of awarding academic scholarships or subsidizing student costs of other trips or activities in memory of

Rohan. The transfer of the funds to the Rotary Club will fulfill the original intent of the donation. The item will come back for a vote at the next meeting.

Action

Student Disciplinary Rules for the 2023-24 School Year

In accordance with *Policy 7-190 Student Behavior*, the Board voted to approve as amended the disciplinary policies for the 2023-24 school year.

Consent Agenda

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

August 8, 2023

Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Administration Building

August 22, 2023

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building