



Board Briefs

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[June 10, 2025 Regular Action Meeting](#)

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Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

The Board approved the agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

Board President Anne Neumann asked ED-RED Representative Rick Heineman for an update from the most recent meeting on June 6. Heineman reported that the meeting focused on bills moving through the legislature. The Board discussed ED-RED calls for the time-sensitive submission of witness slips on pending legislation. It was determined that the Board should contact Superintendent Dr. Chala Holland so that she can provide contextual clarity to any issue before a Board member submits a witness slip.

Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chair Greg Nieder reported on the committee meeting held immediately prior. The committee reviewed and discussed the FY26 budget ahead of the budget presentation listed later on the agenda.

Administration Information Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Chala Holland reported that since the last meeting District 113 celebrated the Class of 2025 graduates with two beautiful graduation ceremonies. She thanked the Principals and their amazing teams who spend a lot of time planning, coordinating, and facilitating these special events. Dr. Holland said graduations are always an important reminder of the why behind our work and our efforts.

She then said that the district team has been working hard to support the transition of new administrators, supporting summer professional development for our staff, launching summer school, and beginning the planning process for strategic planning implementation. She noted that this important transition is also a period of progress and it is a busy but exciting time.

She closed by thanking Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Dr. Tiffany Rowe, who served in that role for 10 years and wished her the best moving forward.

FOIA

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

District-Issued Devices

The administration provided information regarding the history of district-issued devices in D113 and recommended steps and actions for enhanced use and alignment with district priorities going forward. After a thorough review which included security and safety, technology support, greatly improved functionality and lifespan of Chromebooks as well as the move to digital assessment by ACT, there will be changes made beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. Those changes will require 9th and 10th grade students to use district-issued devices during instructional time. Students in 11th and 12th grades can continue to bring their own devices but will be required to sign in to the District 113 secure network. A communication with more details will be sent to families, students, and staff June 16.

School Improvement Plans

The administration provided an overview of school improvement plans (SIPs) and the implementation of SIPs during the 2025-2026 school year. Dr. Holland explained that the presentation gave the Board a granular level of detail to see all that goes into improvement cycles and explained the relationship of the SIPs to the strategic plan.

Policies with Updates – First Reading

2-260, Uniform Grievance Procedure

2-265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure

4-80, Accounting and Audits

4-120, Food Service

5-10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment

5-20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited

5-100, General Personnel Administrative Procedure-Staff Development Program

6-150, Homebound and Hospital Instruction

7-10, Equal Educational Opportunities

7-20, Prevention of and Response to Harassment, Including Sexual Harassment

7-60, Residence

7-70, Attendance and Truancy

7-180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, Harassment by Students

7-185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

7-190, Student Behavior

7-200, Out-of-School Suspension Procedures

7-210, Expulsion Procedures

7-220, Bus Conduct

7-250, Student Support Services

7-255, Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence

7-270, Administering Medicines to Students

7-315, Restrictions on Publications; High Schools

7-325, Student Fundraising Activities

8-30, Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Policies with Updates to References/Footnotes Only– First Reading

5-60, Expenses

6-310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-entering Students

7-50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

8-90, Supporting Organizations: Parent Organizations, Booster Clubs, and District Foundations

8-100, Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

Discussion

FY2026 Tentative Budget Presentation

After presentation at the Finance Committee meeting, Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti presented the FY 2026 tentative budget. Highlights from the budget presentation include:

Operating revenues are expected to increase by 3.3% as a result of the following factors:

- Property tax revenue up 3.4%, increase driven by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law or PTELL, and CPI inflation rate of 3.4%.
- Interest income projected to be up 38% due to improved investment returns, which adds approximately \$855,000 but is excluded from long-term planning due to market volatility.
- Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT) is down 48%. CPPRT is highly variable revenue source tied to state-collected business income taxes.
- Federal revenue is down 32% due to a drop in special education reimbursements with fewer qualifying students and increased state proration.

Operating Expenditures are expected to increase by 4.0% as a result of the following factors:

- Salaries will rise 3.3% due to contractual obligations (COLA, step/lane increases), despite a reduction of approximately 9 FTE.
- Benefits are projected to rise 6.0% with PPO premiums up 10.1%, mitigated from an original 13.2% hike, HMO premiums are up 2%.
- Non-personnel expenditures are up 5% with professional development up 72%, an expense that supports instructional priorities and collaboration; expenditures not included in the FY2025 budget like ECRA & K9 security; as well as electricity up 28.3% as a result of market rate increases post-COVID contract expirations that are only partially offset by solar investment.

In sum, the district anticipates a \$743,000 operating deficit for FY26. Despite inflation and revenue unpredictability, leadership remains committed to sustaining educational quality through targeted adjustments and cost containment.

Action

Approval of Township High School District 113 Strategic Plan

The Board voted to approve as presented the District 113 Strategic Plan.

Approval of Resolution Notice of Intent to Withdraw from TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804

The Board voted to approve as presented the Resolution of Notice of Intent for Township High School District 113 to withdraw from TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804. Dr. Holland said that by taking this action the Board protects the district from being exposed to the brunt of expenditures pending dissolution of the Coop but also allows District 113 to partner in the meantime. As it stands, the withdrawal will take place July 1, 2027, which will provide time for the district to engage in a collaborative process of educational planning to make sure those plans are attentive to students' needs.

Approval of Posting the FY26 Tentative Budget, Set Public Hearing, and Authorizing Expenditures Thereunder

The Board voted to direct administration to post the FY 2026 tentative budget as presented, set the public hearing for August 26, 2025 and post required notice, and authorize expenditures and purchases during the first fiscal quarter in accordance with the tentative budget until the final budget is adopted in August.

2025-2026 Paper Bid

The Board awarded the 2025-2026 paper contract to Murnane Paper for a total of \$38,222.60.

2025-2026 Individual and Small Group Transportation Bid

The Board awarded bids as presented for individual and small group student transportation services to Collaborative Student Transportation, First Alt, 214 Enterprises, and CitiCare Transportation.

Approval of Resolution transferring funds from Operations and Maintenance to Capital Projects

The Board approved as presented a one-time transfer of \$2,121,637 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the 2024-2025 budget.

Approval of Resolution transferring funds from Operations and Maintenance to the Bond and Interest Fund to pay debt service on the District's General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2022A

The Board approved as presented a resolution transferring \$3.598 million from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Bond Fund to cover debt service on the district's general obligation school bonds.

Approval of Deerfield High School and Highland Park High School Hockey Association Agreements

The Board approved as presented agreements with the Deerfield High School and Highland Park High School Association agreements. These agreements aim to formalize the relationship between each hockey association and the district, specifically outlining the use of school resources, name, logo, and student participation rules.

Consent Agenda

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

Recognition

Cabinet Retirees

The Board recognized Chief Human Resources Officer Tom Krieger for his service to District 113 at his last Board meeting. Krieger is retiring July 16, 2025 after nine years.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

June 21, 2025

Committee of the Whole Meeting – Finance Workshop

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Administration Building

July 29, 2025

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building