

BOARD RECAP

JULY 20, 2023

The High School District 211 Board of Education met Thursday, July 20, 2023, in the Board Room of the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of items acted upon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes from its [regular meeting](#) on June 15, 2023.

EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER SCHOOL TEACHERS

This year, we expect to employ approximately 200 academic summer school teachers plus administrators. **Jacquese Gilbert**, Director of Summer School and Community Outreach, provided names of teachers with pending contracts for the 2023 summer school session. The Board adopted the resolution to employ licensed staff for the 2023 summer school session as presented. Full details are [here](#).

HAZARDOUS TRANSPORTATION AREAS

Per state law, school districts normally receive no state aid for transporting students who reside fewer than 1.5 miles from school. However, where vehicular traffic and roadway conditions are such that walking constitutes a serious safety hazard to students, the Illinois State Board of Education will grant partial reimbursement to school districts for the cost of bus transportation for these students. The level of reimbursement is the same as that received for transporting students more than 1.5 miles.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has established criteria to determine the relative safety of routes used by students walking to school. These are: walking along, on, or across a roadway or walking across railroad tracks. State law requires school districts to approve a hazardous transportation area resolution annually.

The Board approved a resolution identifying hazardous transportation areas for students walking of James B. Conant, Hoffman Estates and William Fremd high schools.

More information, including maps, is available [here](#).

DISTRICT 211 ENGLISH LEARNER INFORMATION AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Board reviewed a report on English Learners within District 211, including learning standards and enrollment standards. The full report is available [here](#).

2023-2024 TENTATIVE BUDGET: TRANSPORTATION FUND

The Board reviewed the District 211 Fiscal Year 2023-2024 tentative budget for the Transportation Fund. The Transportation Fund tentative budget was prepared with the best information available at this time. State funding allocations and new information available may affect the tentative budget presented, and any changes will be incorporated in the final tentative budget presented in August 2023. The full report is available [here](#).

SAFETY & SECURITY PERSONNEL REMINDER

Commitment to safety and security within all District 211 schools remains a critical priority. During the first semester of last year, the Board approved safety and security upgrades for the District that included a new classification of personnel.

This position will work in tandem with school and central administration, School Resource Officers, and Student Supervisors to ensure student and staff safety, maintain order, monitor school facilities, and respond to incidents and conditions that pose a risk to school safety.

All Safety and Security Personnel have either previous law enforcement, military or public safety experience and training. These staff will also be trained in a number of safety, interpersonal, and security-specific areas including emergency and medical responses, equity mindset training, and non-violent intervention and de-escalation techniques. This staff will be visibly identifiable and present on each campus throughout the school day, after school hours and during high volume school-related events.

CLEAR SOFTWARE

Every year our Student Services Department personnel work diligently to register and enroll eligible, resident students and families. Often the first contact with a new family occurs when they enroll their children. We often hear from families that they purposefully move into our boundaries to access the resources and excellent education. There are also instances where families attempt to enroll under false pretenses to gain access to these same resources. In accordance with Board Policy JECB Residency and Tuition and in order to ensure that all of

our students are eligible to enroll, it is essential that our staff review all enrollments and investigate when there are concerns.

Typically, during the summer and into the first semester, staff review hundreds of residency cases and requests from families across a spectrum of circumstances.

Thomson Reuters CLEAR residency verification services is an online service that allows administrators to determine with confidence that the residences that families indicate where they reside are accurate according to publicly available records. Effective this year and in line with many other school districts, administrators will use the CLEAR service to verify individual residencies as well as a mechanism to cross-check all student registrations. This is an invaluable tool to make enrollment and registration processes more efficient and the results of staff' energy and investigations significantly more productive.

The Board approved the purchase of CLEAR software for a three-year term at an initial cost of \$24,835.20 with an annual increase of 5% in years two and three of the contract.

PURCHASE OF HUMAN RESOURCES SOFTWARE PACKAGES

The most critical District resources are the people that serve our students. How we allocate these resources and manage staff time ensures efficiency and responsive service. Since 2014, District 211 has made a concerted effort to upgrade and modernize the human resources, payroll, and financial software that allow us to manage the interactions between the human and financial capital of our district. As part of that effort, the Board in 2017 approved the adoption of products to manage absences and substitute teacher assignments and track time for employees that clock in and out daily.

The transition to these software solutions allowed us to make a leap forward. However, we have encountered limitations with the current products.

The Board authorized the purchase and implementation of new Red Rover software at a cost of \$4,000 for implementation and training in the 2023-2024 school year and \$36,540.00 as an annual fee for the 2024-2025 school year. This software operates similarly to the current system. Full information on the product is [here](#).

FY2024-2025 STUDENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM BUDGET

District 211 has offered an academic Building Construction program for its students for more than three decades that has provided students with the foundational skills necessary to enter an area of architecture, construction or building trades post-graduation. Since 2001, the program has served nine communities through the development and sale of more than 40 homes.

Building construction budgets were approved by the Board in July 2022 for fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Due to the impact of inflation on building materials, it is recommended that the budget be adjusted for one current and one planned constructed home.

The Board approved construction of a student-built home during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years on a district-owned lot on Louise Lane in Palatine and set the costs for construction, consulting and contingency fees at \$680,000, spread over the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 fiscal year budgets. The Board separately set the budget for construction costs, consulting fees and contingency fees for an in-progress home on Gloria Drive in Elgin at \$366,029 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Read more [here](#).

2023-2024 EDUCATION RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT/LEGISLATIVE RENEWAL

Education Research Development (ED-RED) was formed in 1971 as a suburban high school advocacy organization. ED-RED has evolved and developed into a strong and united voice that advocates for the particular needs of suburban school districts, including high school districts, elementary districts, special education cooperatives, and intermediate service centers.

ED-RED's goals are to research, develop, and initiate legislation that is advantageous to member districts; to actively advocate for or against legislation affecting member districts; to engage school districts in the legislative process; to communicate proactively with member districts; and to develop and nurture collaborative relationships with state agencies, advocacy groups, state legislators and legislative staffs, and other organizations to accomplish mutual objectives.

The Board renewed its membership in ED-RED for the 2023-2024 school year at a fee of \$5,350, the same cost as the prior year.

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM PROPOSAL: PALATINE AND SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOLS

Several components of the District's public address (PA) systems are original to our schools and in need of updating. The PA systems are used to communicate across our schools on a daily basis and are a critical component of our safety and security plans within our schools. Upgrades will provide integration of a communication system that links office and classroom locations with additional safety features.

Implementation of the public address system at James B. Conant High School was completed during the 2022-2023 school year. Installations at Hoffman Estates High School and William Fremd High School are underway.

The Board approved Sound Incorporated to upgrade the public address system at Palatine and Schaumburg high schools at a total cost not to exceed \$1,010,163.

Full information is available [here](#).

BOARD MEMBER EXPENSES

The Board approved the Pre-Approval Form for Future Expense Reimbursement for **Anna Klimkowicz** and **Steven Rosenblum** to attend the ED-RED Legislative Breakfast meeting, August 3, 2023 as submitted.

BOARD POLICY SECTION H. NEGOTIATIONS

At its June 15, 2023 meeting, the Board asked that the Policy Committee make a recommendation to keep or remove Board Policy Section H. Negotiations, which currently has no policies in place.

The Policy Committee is working with the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to evaluate the benefits of a service they provide called an IASB Policy Manual Customization Project. If this is recommended to and approved by the Board at a future meeting, this would begin the process of aligning the District 211 policies by section and number to the IASB Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS) policies. The use of the IASB PRESS policy system is the typical alignment of policies of school districts in the State. This alignment would also coincide with a multi-year PRESS policy review cycle procedure that is included with the IASB membership.

The Board reviewed a history of the Board Policy section names and the laws which govern negotiations. The negotiations section was added to policy in 1975 with no record of policies in the section. In 1984, the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act was put in effect which would supersede any policies regarding negotiations. More information is available [here](#).

POLICY IIAA SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board of Education approved recommendations following a Hearing Officer review of the District's Comprehensive Sexual Education lessons for 9th and 10th grades and the Edgenuity lessons for students who opt out of those lessons.

The summary and recommendations are available [here](#).

SELLING PRICE OF REAL ESTATE SALE OF STUDENT-BUILT HOUSE

Section 105 ILCS 5/5-22 of the School Code provides that a board of education may approve a resolution engaging a licensed real estate broker to sell school owned residential property

constructed or renovated by students as part of a curricular program for a commission not to exceed 7%, contingent on the public listing of the property on a multiple listing service for a minimum of 14 calendar days and the sale of the property within 120 days.

The District has a student-built home located at 358 W. Michigan Avenue in Palatine that was completed and listed for sale on the Multiple Listing Service for a price of \$925,000 following Board of Education approval on June 15, 2023.

On June 28, 2023, 358 W. Michigan Avenue was listed for sale on the Multiple Listing Service at a price of \$925,000. The District received three offers by the specified date.

The Board accepted the sale of the property to Erich and Courtney Nathe in the amount of \$930,000. The requested closing date is within 30 days from contract acceptance.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held Thursday, August 17, 2023, with closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and open session beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.