

Board Briefs - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)
[October 21, 2019 Regular Meeting](#)

Approval of Regular Board Meeting Agenda

The Board voted to approve the October 21, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.

Reports

Board President

Board President Elizabeth Garlovsky asked the Board to be prepared November 18 to discuss resolutions that will be before the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) delegate assembly at the annual conference November 21. As the representative of the Board, she asked that the Board give her direction in voting to adopt or not adopt various resolutions that IASB is considering.

President Garlovsky also asked the Board to consider future resolutions that could be proposed to IASB written with Project 440, which is the collaboration between District 113 and the sender elementary districts.

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law provided an update to the Board on discussions taking place in the Village of Deerfield regarding marijuana dispensaries. There were reports that a dispensary was being considered in a strip mall near Deerfield High School. Dr. Law reported to the Board that he spoke to Deerfield Village Manager Kent Street and that no dispensary is being considered that near to the school. Dr. Law also received assurances from Mr. Street that the District and School would be part of the due diligence if a dispensary were considered in that strip mall or anywhere close to Deerfield High School.

Dr. Law also provided the Board an update on construction projects proposed for summer 2020. Detailed drawings for the Deerfield High School auditorium have been reviewed by its end users, and based on their concerns that what is being proposed will not solve all the issues of the auditorium, Dr. Law recommended to the Board that renovations to the DHS auditorium be deferred until the summer of 2022 to allow time to assess options for addressing all the auditorium needs and to review the priority of other projects at DHS. Because renovations to the DHS auditorium will not be completed in summer 2020, Dr. Law advised the Board that an inspection of the efforts to improve the safety of the auditorium should be done right away to determine if any additional measures need to be addressed sooner than 2022.

Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti reported that the bids for the Highland Park High School cafeteria have come in under budget and that information would be coming to the Board soon.

Discussion

Legal Firm for Property Tax Appeals

Administration recommended to the Board continuing to use the firm of Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn (HLERK) to provide legal representation on behalf of Township High School District 113 for property tax appeals. Representation would be for appeals seeking reduction of \$500,000 equalized assessed valuation (EAV) or more. An EAV in the amount of \$500,000 represents a market value of \$1.5 million. The item will come back for a vote at the November regular meeting.

2019-20 School Calendar Amendment

Administration presented the Board two changes to the 2019-20 school calendar that at the end of each semester extends the final exam time frame from three days to four. The proposed amendment designates Monday, December 16, 2019, as the first day of finals at the end of first semester and designates Thursday, June 4, 2020, as a student attendance day and the last day of finals at the end of second semester. The item will come back for a vote at the November regular meeting.

Note that student non-attendance days during the school year that could be designated as emergency make-up days remain as follows:

- Friday, December 20
- Friday, February 14
- Monday, February 17
- Monday, March 2
- Monday, April 13

2020-2021 School Calendar Draft

Administration presented the proposed 2020-21 school year calendar for review. The item will come back for a vote at the November regular meeting.

Policies for First Read

The following policies were listed for First Read as recommended by the Policy Committee:

- 6-190 School Organizations/Student Clubs
- 7-150 Agency and Police Interviews
- 8-25 Advertising, Donations, Gifts, Tributes and Naming of Facilities

At the October 21 Policy Committee meeting immediately preceding the Regular Meeting, the Policy Committee requested further revisions to policies 6-190 and 7-150 before bringing them to the Board for First Read.

The Policy Committee did recommend that the full Board discuss Policy 8-25. After discussion, the Board requested changes to streamline the process of District organizations selling advertising on scoreboards, athletic fields, and other district locations while providing appropriate oversight. At its next meeting, the Policy Committee will review revisions and discuss other issues that were raised during the Board's discussion of this policy.

Action

Determination of Tax Levy

The Board voted to determine the amount of the 2019 tax levy. In November, the Board will vote to adopt the 2019 tax levy, which will fund the 2020-21 school year.

Approval of Internal Controls Audit Recommendation

The Board voted to approve a contract with Sikich LLP in an amount not to exceed \$23,573 for an internal controls audit. In September, Dr. Law presented the recommendation that the Board to improve the processes the District uses for transactions it conducts.

Approval of Engagement with Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

The Board voted to approve a contract with CASEL in the amount of \$65,000 for a social emotional learning (SEL) readiness and engagement analysis as well as professional development services to provide training to implement the plan.

Approval of Blackboard Services Agreement

The Board voted to approve a three-year contract with Blackboard at a net cost of \$74,276 for website design and hosting, a new District mobile app, and emergency notification system.

Policies for Second Read

Following First Read at the September 16 meeting, the Board approved changes to the following policies recommended by the Policy Committee:

- 6-320 Granting Credit
- 7-40 Home and Private School Students
- 8-90 Parent-Teacher Organizations
- 8-100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies
- 4-40 Incurring Debt

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills. Click on the link to access the meeting agenda and then scroll down to see consent agenda items beginning under number 10.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

November 4, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. - Workshop Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

November 13, 2019 - 5:30 p.m. - Policy Committee Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

November 18, 2019 - 5:00 p.m. - Policy Committee Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

November 18, 2019 - 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035