



Board Briefs - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)
[December 16, 2019 Regular Meeting](#)

Approval of Regular Board Meeting Agenda

The Board voted to approve the December 16, 2019 Regular Meeting agenda.

Reports

Board President

No Report. Board President Elizabeth Garlovsky was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Board Vice President Gayle Byck did not give a report at the meeting.

Board Governance Meeting

Vice President Byck announced that the Board will hold a Board governance meeting on January 9, 2020.

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law congratulated Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Dr. Michael Lach for being named a Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science for his contributions at a national level to the improvement of K-12 science education and policy. Dr. Lach is one of 443 Fellows selected in 2019 for scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. Dr. Law noted that Dr. Lach was in good company with nearly all of the other fellows in the education section coming from universities such as Indiana University, California State University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Discussion

Highwood TIF Extension and Intergovernmental Agreement

Administration presented to the Board a proposed intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the City of Highwood that would extend for 12 years Highwood's tax increment financing (TIF) district. The City of Highwood initially requested an IGA for an extension at the July Finance Committee meeting. The item will come back for a vote at the January meeting.

FTE Reconciliation

Administration presented to the Board a reconciliation of current FTE (full time equivalent) positions with the staffing recommendation the Board approved in March 2019 for the 2019-20 school year. The number of licensed persons in position control matches the FTE approved.

Staffing Framework

Administration presented to the Board a document entitled Staffing Philosophy that outlines the principles and criteria that will be used to design the staffing recommendation that will be presented to the Board in spring 2020. The Staffing Philosophy was created with the input of District leadership, Department Chairs, and teachers. The Board stated their appreciation for having a collaborative approach

used to put these important practices into writing. They also commented on the positive elements of equity and social emotional learning embedded within the philosophy, and highlighted the importance of using research and evidence in making decisions.

Analysis of 2019 ISBE Report Cards

As required by *School Code*, Administration presented to the Board the Illinois State Board of Education Illinois School Report Cards for [Deerfield High School](#) and [Highland Park High School](#). Parents were emailed information about the report cards in early November along with the link to their school's report card on the school website. Parents can request to have a hard copy of the report card sent to their home by calling 224-765-1000.

Financing Capital Projects for Summer 2021 and 2022

Because the Board has expressed an interest in refreshing the Master Facilities Plan that was adopted in 2012, Administration presented to the Board for discussion summer 2022 projects, adding to the projects the Board has already discussed for summer 2020 and 2021.

On November 18, the Board approved bids to renovate the HPHS cafeteria and PE offices in the summer of 2020. Also on November 18, the Board approved the DHS auditorium and the HPHS library as the capital projects for summer 2021. On December 16, Administration recommended the locker rooms at DHS and the music wing at HPHS as the projects for summer 2022. Also on December 16, Administration presented an option for funding these projects without having to ask taxpayers to increase their taxes to pay for referendum bonds.

The Board indicated that they wanted to begin to review these projects and their rough order of magnitude costs in greater detail starting in January.

Policy for First Read

7-260 Exemption from Physical Education

The Board considered for First Read revisions to *Policy 7-260 Exemption from Physical Education* so that the policy will comply with *School Code*. Coming into compliance will change current practice and will require students who take Health over the summer to take PE during the following school year unless a student qualifies for an exemption outlined in *School Code*. The policy will come back for Second Reading and a vote at the January meeting.

Action Items

Addition to the 2020-21 Program of Studies

The Board voted to approve the additions to the Program of Studies for the 2020-21 school year presented in November. The additions are the result of the curriculum review process that includes Department Chairpersons, teachers, building curriculum committees, building administrative teams, and Cabinet.

Proposal to Purchase Two Used Wheelchair Passenger Buses

The Board voted to approve the purchase of two used wheelchair passenger buses for a total cost of \$64,916 as presented in November. With the purchase of two wheelchair buses, the District anticipates saving \$25,000 annually by bringing the transportation in house for students who require the use of a wheelchair.

Diverse Learners Assessment Recommendation

The Board voted to approve a recommendation to engage District Management Group (DM Group) in the amount of \$76,000 to assess the District's effectiveness in meeting the needs of diverse learners. The last analysis was completed in 2001. DM Group is conducting a similar assessment for North Shore School

District 112 and because of that work, DM Group will be able to provide District 113 a comprehensive analysis of services and experiences of students pre-K to grade 12 as they move through the two school districts. That analysis will also inform collaboration with all sender districts. The report is expected to be completed in February.

Approve Contract for Interim Director of Facilities

The Board voted to approve a contract with Cotter Consulting to appoint Brian Ahmer as the Interim Director of Facilities through June 30 or when a permanent director can be hired, whichever comes first.

Settlement of PA System Construction Dispute

The Board voted to authorize a settlement with Gilbane, Perkins + Will, and Elara Engineering compensating the District in the amount of \$325,000 for the public address system, subject to review and approval by legal counsel and Administration.

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 11.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

January 9, 2020 - 5:30 p.m. Special Board of Education Meeting
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

January 21, 2020 - 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session
Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035