



**Board Briefs** - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)  
[April 6, 2020 Special Meeting](#)

### ***Reports***

#### ***Board President***

Board President Elizabeth Garlovsky extended a big thank you to Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law, his team and the faculty and staff for keeping remote learning moving smoothly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ***Superintendent Report***

Dr. Law reported that teachers have been working diligently to stay connected to students and to deliver content to them, noting that teaching is a much more complex task than meetings and is more difficult to do remotely than simply moving meetings online. He also noted that Tuesday, April 7 marks the first completed week of remote learning and that at the April 20 meeting, there will be a presentation of examples of what teachers are bringing online for students.

For deductibles and copays related to COVID-19 for employees who participate in District 113 health insurance, Dr. Law recommended that the Board cover those expenses and that the health insurance plan changes to reflect that recommendation. The Board agreed and gave direction to Administration to do that.

Dr. Law also reported that both schools have been thinking about prom and graduation since the pandemic closed school buildings. While everyone hopes that both events can continue as planned, both schools have been looking at alternative options for some time in the event that conditions require changes to those plans. He said that the contingency discussions are at the point that input of students and parents is needed for contingency planning. More information on how that will happen will be coming soon.

Dr. Law asked the Board for their availability to meet before April 15 in order to meet the statutory requirements for voting on reductions in force (RIFs) for the 2020-21 school year. Also at that meeting Dr. Law said Administration will present an updated five-year financial projection showing three different scenarios given the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the economy. The Board agreed to meet on Monday, April 13.

### ***Discussion***

#### ***Providing Five Additional Sick Days to Employees***

At its March 26 meeting, the Board of Education provided Licensed Staff Members five additional sick days as an acknowledgement of the extraordinary health situation created by the coronavirus pandemic. These five additional sick days expire June 30, 2020. Administration is recommending that the Board provide all other employees five additional sick days that expire June 30, 2020. This recommendation will come back to the Board for consideration at its April 20 Regular Action Meeting.

## **Action**

### *Approval of Donation of District 113 Surplus Supplies*

The Board voted to approve a donation of surplus supplies requested by the community. District 113 is part of a community taskforce group of municipal and community organizations that is sharing information and coordinating efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Highland Park Fire and Police Departments and the North Shore University Health System created a list of needed supplies. Click to view [a list of supplies](#) District 113 has provided to the City of Highland Park Fire and Police Departments and to the North Shore University Health System.

### *Approval of Bennett & Brosseau Roofing, Inc. for Deerfield High School Roof*

The Board voted to award a bid for roofing work at Deerfield High School to Bennett & Brosseau Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$1,527,000 as presented at the March 16 meeting.

### *Addition to the 2020-2021 Program of Studies*

The Board voted to approve as presented at the February 18 meeting the addition of a course called Fit for Life at Highland Park High School.

### *Setting District Goals*

Following up on the discussions the Board has been having about District goals, the Board adopted [District goals](#) as presented by directed Administration to change “all students” to each student to emphasize that each student is included in District goals.

*Note: The following capital expenditures were presented to the Board in January and February as possible depending on favorability in the FY20 budget.*

### *Transportation Capital Purchases - School Buses and Activity Buses*

The Board voted to approve a bus replacement contract with Midwest Transit Equipment for five used school buses and four activity buses. The total cost for all nine buses is \$479,502. All of the buses are used so the District does not have to go out to bid for this purchase.

### *Physical Education Equipment Purchase for DHS and HPHS*

The Board voted to approve the purchase of Physical Education equipment for Deerfield High School and Highland Park High School to replace equipment that is more than 15 to 20 years old. The funds will purchase spin bikes, ellipticals, and treadmills. The total cost for all of the equipment is \$208,017.76 at Deerfield High School and \$56,390 at Highland Park High School. Direct Fitness Solutions is part of a state-approved contract so the District does not have to go to bid for this purchase.

### *Band Instruments Purchase for DHS*

The Board voted to approve the purchase of band instruments for Deerfield High School. The Business Office has obtained a quote from Music & Arts, which is part of a cooperative on the state-approved list of vendors for band instruments. The total cost for all of the items is \$91,690.71.

### *Science Equipment Purchase for HPHS*

The Board voted to approve the purchase of science equipment for Highland Park High School. The Business Office has obtained a quote from School Specialty, which is part of a cooperative on a state-approved list of vendors for science equipment. The total cost for all of the equipment is \$29,197.48.

### *2020-2021 Wage Increase for Employees Not Affiliated with Employee Groups*

The Board voted to approve the motion as presented to increase the year-over-year spending in the budget for wage increases for employees not affiliated with employee groups by three percent for 2020-21.

*Approve Three-Year Employment Contracts*

The Board voted to approve three-year employment contracts with the following employees:

Kathryn Anderson, Principal, Deerfield High School

Thomas Krieger, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Ali Mehanti, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

*Approve One-Year Employment Contracts*

The Board voted to approve one-year employment contracts with the following employees:

Mirah Anti, Director of Equity and Inclusion

Nate Flannery, Associate Director, Athletics at Deerfield High School

Alesia Margetis, Assistant Principal, Highland Park High School

Jon Rowley, 12-Month Athletic Director, Highland Park High School

Loren Stillwell, Assistant Principal, Highland Park High School

Ken Williams, Assistant Principal, Deerfield High School

*Approve Contract Amendments*

The Board voted to approve contract amendments with the following employees:

Brian Ahmer, Director of Facilities and Operations

Deborah Finn, Principal, Highland Park High School

Ron Kasbohm, Director of Technology and Business Support Services

Dr. Michael Lach, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Dr. Tiffany Rowe, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Joseph Taylor, Assistant Principal, Deerfield High School

Karen Warner, Director of Communications & Alumni Relations

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

**Upcoming Meetings - Subject to Temporary Rule 2:230 Public Participation at School Board Meetings During COVID-19 Emergency**

April 13, 2020 - 6:00 p.m. Special Meeting

Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035

April 20, 2020 - 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building 1040 Park Ave W, Highland Park, IL 60035