



**Board Briefs** - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)  
[July 27, 2020 Special Meeting](#)

### ***Reports***

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

Board President Jodi Shapira thanked everyone for sending in questions and participating in the four virtual town halls held last week, with a special thank you to Highland Park High School sophomore Evelyn Gehrig for doing a fabulous job hosting the student session. Ms. Shapira said the town halls provided a great way to get together virtually when the community cannot get together in person.

Ms. Shapira also shared that she, Dan Struck and Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law met with four members of the DEA leadership to discuss possible changes to working conditions because of the pandemic. She shared that in part of their discussion it was clear that teachers want to be in school but we need to be able to conduct school safely and people need to understand school will look very different than it did in March. She also noted that they also had a nice discussion of all the ways synchronous learning can be presented.

Ms. Shapira reported on progress in creating the Equity Committee the Board approved July 13, and she is working with the Director of Equity and Inclusion Mirah Anti on reaching out to community members and recent alumni to serve on the committee. After talking with all the Board members and all of them expressing that they want to be a part of the committee, Ms. Shapira said she is going to set up the committee as a Committee of the Whole

#### ***Superintendent***

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law said one of the best questions received at the town halls last week came from a student asking what students could do to ensure a return to school. Dr. Law responded that it will take a community effort to respond to coronavirus. He said that the District will practice all safety measures inside school but students need to make good decisions outside of school because those decisions have an impact on school, so practice all the things that the CDC and health departments have been recommending, wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands.

Providing an update on ACT and SAT standardized tests, Dr. Law said that DHS is a confirmed site for the SAT on September 12, HPHS has submitted its paperwork and is awaiting approval. Both the College Board and ACT are working to add more testing dates for the fall. If parents are looking on the College Board and ACT websites for District 113 sites they will not find them because District 113 is not listed as

a national testing site. By remaining unlisted, District 113 can limit the testing to District 113 students. As soon as we have more details we will share those details with our families.

Dr. Law finished his report by asking the Board to hold August 3 as a meeting date on their calendars for items related to the return to school.

### ***Discussion***

#### *2020-21 Return to School Plan and 2020-21 Teaching and Learning Plan*

Following reports previously provided to the Board, District administration presented a report in two parts. The first part includes the recommendation for returning to school August 17, the 2020-21 Teaching and Learning Plan. Administration recommended returning to school in remote learning plus services with the goal of transitioning no sooner than second quarter to a rotation of up to 50 percent of students and staff onsite. Standards for transition points will be determined, such as all remote, more students and staff onsite, etc. Families will also have the option of remote learning for the first semester. Since everyone is starting remotely, the question of asking families to make a decision about the rotation of onsite instruction will come at a later time. All students will have access to “services,” which refers to nearly all the non-class experiences in school. Some of these services will begin when school begins, others will be gradually added. This part of the report provides more detailed information about how remote learning will work and has changed since we last discussed it with the Board July 13.

The second part of the report is the 2020-21 Return to School Plan and describes in more detail the operational aspects of returning to school in the middle of a pandemic.

It is important to note that although this report presents the final recommendations to the Board of Education for returning to the 2020-21 school year, it is a recommendation made at a point in time. It was noted several times during the discussion that conditions caused by the pandemic are constantly changing and those changes could impact plans for returning to school.

### ***Action***

#### *Approve One Year Contract for Interim Student Assistance Provider at Highland Park High School (Ronald Strong)*

The Board voted to approve as presented a one-year contract for an interim student assistance provider at Highland Park High School.

#### *Approve One Year Administrative Consulting Agreement (Suzan Hebson)*

The Board voted to approve as presented a one-year administrative consulting agreement with Suzan Hebson.

#### *Resolution of the Board of Education of Township High School District 113 Approving the 2020-21 Return to School Plan and 2020-21 Teaching and Learning Plan*

The Board voted to adopt a resolution to approve as presented the 2020-21 Return to School Plan and the 2020-21 Teaching and Learning Plan.

### ***Consent Agenda***

The Board approved the consent agenda as amended. 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 6.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

**Upcoming Meetings**

August 3, 2020 - Special Meeting

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

August 10, 2020 - Regular Board of Education Meeting

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

August 24, 2020 - Regular Board of Education Meeting

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