



**Board Briefs** - [Para español, por favor haga click aquí.](#)  
[April 26, 2022 Regular Action Meeting](#)

### ***Approval of Agenda***

The Board voted to approve the April 26 agenda as presented.

### ***Board Reports***

#### ***President***

Board President Jodi Shapira said she had spent all day Monday, April 25 at Genocide Commemoration Day, and she remarked that it is one of her favorite days because it represents who District 113 is as a community. President Shapira also highlighted that the event began in 2015 because of the efforts of just one student. She spoke about the day's three speakers and how the event also highlights the experiences of marginalized groups. Then she thanked the students and staff for all their work in planning the event.

#### ***Facilities Committee***

Facilities Committee Chair Jodi Shapira provided a summary of the April 19 meeting, reporting that the committee discussed a woodshop alternate as part of the Deerfield High School auditorium project and discussed moving District administration into the two schools. A discussion item specific to the relocation of District administration is listed later in the agenda.

### ***Administration Reports***

#### ***Superintendent***

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law shared that earlier in the day the District received news of its two schools' rankings in *U.S. News & World Report*, with DHS ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in the state in Illinois and HPHS ranked 28<sup>th</sup> in the state. Dr. Law noted that of the top 30 schools in Illinois, 10 are selective enrollment. Dr. Law added that although rankings do not define a school, the criteria in the methodology are things the District cares about and is always looking to improve. Methodology for the rankings include graduation rate, percentage of students who took an AP exam, percentage of students who passed an Advanced Placement (AP) exam, as well as math, reading and science proficiency.

Dr. Law then shared an image of the cover of the May issue of *Deerfield Neighbors*, showing the DHS Special Education Department, which is the subject of one of the stories in the issue. He added that the week of May 2 is Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, and he thanked everyone for all the work they do.

Dr. Law reminded those in attendance of the second Project 440 Board of Education meeting on April 27 at Northwood Middle School. Project 440 comprises District 113 and its three sender elementary districts, Bannockburn School District 106, Deerfield Public Schools District 109, and North Shore School District 112. He also reminded everyone of the Special Meeting May 3 for student and staff recognition, and that he hoped the time allotted for the meeting is enough given all of the accomplishments of the current school year.

Dr. Law announced that the District had earned for the 30<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award (COE) for the transparency and financial reporting for its fiscal year 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. He also announced that the District had received Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) reimbursement for some of its pandemic expenses, and he thanked Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti and his team for their work in securing the reimbursement. Dr. Law said that many schools did not pursue the FEMA grant because of the onerous application process. District 113 will continue to chase grants to offset costs caused by the pandemic.

In closing his remarks, Dr. Law echoed President Shapira's comments on Genocide Commemoration Day, saying that the students today care about what is happening in the world. Dr. Law thanked the students and staff at both schools for all the work they did to hold the event in person for the first time in two years.

#### *Special Education Workload and Multi-Year Plans*

Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Dr. Tiffany Rowe, with educational consultant Dr. Michael Volpe, provided detailed information to the Board about the Special Education Workload and Multi-Year Plans. The Workload Plan analyzes responsibilities and time commitments of special education staff and establishes limits on their workload to ensure students receive the services they need. The Multi-Year Plan is a strategic plan for the Special Education Department being developed with input from staff and parents/guardians. Dr. Rowe noted that they had already received a number of parent/guardian volunteers for this work.

#### *FOIA Requests*

Dr. Law reported the FOIA requests received since the last meeting and their disposition. The report is posted in BoardDocs online.

#### *Discussion*

##### *Cooperative Purchasing Paper Bid*

Administration shared with the Board that there were no responses to the cooperative purchasing paper bid, citing the paper industry's shift in focus to making corrugated boxes instead of paper due to the pandemic's influence on shipping demand. The District's procurement efforts will still buy copy paper from multiple sources, leveraging spot quotes and the state contract, but supply cannot be guaranteed nor when supply will be available.

### *Administration Building Relocation*

Following up from the discussion at the April 19 Facilities Committee meeting, the Board directed Administration to continue a programming exercise with the architects to examine moving District administration into the two schools. Once the programming exercise is completed, the Board would then decide whether to add these construction projects to the list of capital projects in the master facilities plan.

### **Action**

#### *COVID-19 Booster and Testing Requirement for Employees*

No action was taken on the resolution passed at the meeting on January 25, 2022 that required booster shots for all staff members who do not have an exemption. Under his delegated authority in that January 25 resolution, Dr. Law moved the compliance date to July 1, 2022.

#### *HPHS Library Construction – Furniture Procurement*

The Board voted to approve as presented a proposal quote for furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Highland Park High School Library in an amount not to exceed \$471,342.88. Director of Facilities and Operations Brian Ahmer said that the impact of inflation is evidenced in the quote and that the District continues to work to lower that amount through a variety of means including repurposing existing furniture.

#### *Intergovernmental Agreement between the Park District of Highland Park and District 113*

The Board voted to approve as presented an update to the intergovernmental agreement between District 113 and the Park District of Highland Park.

#### *Resolution for the Honorable Dismissal of Educational Support Personnel Employees*

The Board approved as presented a resolution for the honorable dismissal of educational support personnel employees.

#### *Approve Settlement Agreement for Student 2021-02*

The Board approved as presented a settlement agreement for student 2021-02.

### **Consent Agenda**

The Board approved the consent agenda as amended. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills. Click on [this link](#) to access the meeting agenda and then scroll down to see consent agenda items beginning under number 9.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

### **Upcoming Meetings-**

May 3, 2022 – Policy Committee

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Administration Building

May 3, 2022 – Special Meeting – Student and Staff Recognition

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Deerfield High School

May 10, 2022 – Committee of the Whole Meeting  
6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session  
Administration Building