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#### [October 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Board voted to approve the October 11 agenda as presented.

### **Board Reports**

#### *President*

Board President Ken Fishbain began his report by sharing an update from the City of Highland Park in response to the July 4 mass shooting. He said the City has announced steps for the City's interim memorial until plans for a more permanent memorial are finalized. He said the District 113 Director of Recovery Jen Ginopolis is already following up with staff and students who may be impacted by the City's plans.

Mr. Fishbain said that he, along with D113 Board Vice President Anne Neumann, attended a recent HPHS PTO meeting as they continue to dialogue with stakeholder groups in the District. Mr. Fishbain reported that they had an engaging conversation as they spoke about District goals and Board responsibilities.

Mr. Fishbain then said he wished to remind everyone about what the Board worked on at their September 14 self-evaluation meeting with the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) facilitator about Board, Superintendent and District staff responsibilities. He said that the evening's agenda included many informational items for the Board to learn more, discuss and ask questions, but he emphasized that the discussion for informational items was for informational purposes only.

#### *Illinois Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly Resolution Review*

The Board discussed the process they should follow to review the resolutions before the IASB Delegate Assembly at the annual conference in November. The Board determined that the Policy Committee should review the resolutions and provide recommendations at a subsequent Board meeting before the IASB Delegate Assembly. Board Secretary Dan Struck will serve as the Board's representative to the Delegate Assembly this year.

### *Finance Committee*

Finance Committee Chair Ken Fishbain provided a report on the September 27 meeting, sharing that the Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti gave a review of all financial reports and that the financial picture of the District is solid. Mr. Fishbain noted that just as the Business Office tracked and reported on itemized expenses related to the pandemic and submitted applicable expenditures for reimbursement through grants, the Business Office is tracking recovery related expenditures from the July 4 mass shooting and will apply for reimbursement through grants if and when grants are available.

## **Administration Reports**

### *Superintendent*

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law updated the Board on efforts to improve communications with neighbors around Highland Park High School. For the neighborhood adjacent to Deerfield High School, there is a homeowners association in place, and any relevant items are communicated through the homeowner association representative. There is no such mechanism in place for the neighborhoods adjacent to Highland Park High School and Wolters Field. To alleviate this issue, the District has sent postcards to the residents who live within 800 feet of HPHS and Wolters Field, asking them to join neighborhood-specific email lists so they can be apprised of any relevant activities or meetings specific to their respective neighborhoods. Current HPHS families who live near HPHS or Wolters Field should also sign up for these specific neighborhood lists for neighborhood-specific information. General HPHS/District 113 information will not be sent to the neighborhood email lists.

Dr. Law demonstrated a feature that has been enabled in the District's board governance software BoardDocs that can track agenda items by the [District goals the Board approved in August and September](#).

Dr. Law closed by highlighting that the week of October 17 is Principal Appreciation Week. He said that although no job in education is easy or unimportant, a Principal's job is very challenging and extremely important, and he expressed his heartfelt appreciation for how much time the Principals devote to their job and how much they care.

### *Advanced Placement and District 113 (Informational Only Presentation)*

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Michael Lach presented an overview of District 113's Advanced Placement (AP) results from 2022, noting that 52 percent of District 113 students took at least one AP exam in 2022 and earned a score of 3 or higher, meaning those students were eligible for college credit.

Dr. Lach reported that the AP program is strong. He added that the data over several years show that when looking at total District enrollment, the proportion of students of color enrolling in AP courses and passing AP tests does not match the proportion of white students who do.

Using the College Board's AP Potential tool, Dr. Lach said the tool identified that many more students demonstrate the academic aptitude to take AP courses than currently take AP courses. Dr. Lach also showed that while some District 113 students do take several AP courses in an academic year, in 2019 66 percent of students took no AP courses. Furthermore, Dr. Lach said

that the research shows that there are significantly stronger college outcomes among students who take AP courses compared to college students who do not take AP courses.

Based on the data, Dr. Lach believes that the District can increase enrollment in AP courses while maintaining existing levels of excellence. The district can ensure that prerequisite courses—starting in ninth grade—are aligned to standards and content lays the groundwork for future success. He added that by sharing more data about options and opportunities, parents/guardians and students will have the information they need to make better course registration decisions. Finally, Dr. Lach said course teams can work together to make sure that all AP courses are designed and taught so that all students who meet the criteria to take AP courses feel they belong in those spaces.

#### *A Passion for Excellence Video Series*

Dr. Law introduced a video series of teachers and staff telling their stories as educators, which tell the story of the passion for excellence in District 113 that drives the passion for students' potential. [The first video in this series](#) begins with the 2022 Golden Apple Award Winner Nikki Lazzaretto from Deerfield High School. Future installments will come to the Board on a monthly basis throughout the school year.

#### *FOIA*

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

#### *Student Liaison Reports*

Highland Park High School student Evelyn Gehrig and Deerfield High School student Jada Harris provided some highlights from the previous month to the Board.

### **Discussion**

#### *Legal Firm for Property Tax Appeals*

As it does every year, the Board approves a law firm to represent District 113 in property tax appeals. The Board discussed Administration's recommendation that the Board authorize Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn (HLERK) for this work. Representation would be for appeals seeking a reduction of \$500,000 equalized assessed valuation (EAV) or more. An EAV in the amount of \$500,000 represents a fair market value of \$1.5 million. The item will come back for a vote at the October 25 meeting.

#### *IHSA Cooperative Softball Team Sponsorship*

Due to the small number of participants in both schools' softball teams, the Board reviewed the resolution request written by Deerfield and Highland Park High schools' Athletic Directors. Once signed by the Board, the request to combine the DHS and HPHS softball teams into one co-op team will be submitted to the Central Suburban League and the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) for approval. If approved by IHSA, the District will have one varsity and one junior varsity team of DHS and HPHS softball players until the program is large enough to return to single-school programs. The Board must adopt a resolution to begin this process. The item will come back for a vote at the October 25 meeting.

### *Policy 8-90, Supporting Organizations – First Reading*

As determined at the [September 6 Policy Committee meeting](#), the Board delayed bringing Policy 8-90 for first reading until October to provide time for organizations that fall under this policy to comply with and submit the application to be a Board-approved supporting organization. Supporting organizations under Policy 8-90 must comply with certain statutory requirements as well as Title IX. Superintendent Law said he would meet with any 8-90 organization seeking clarity on the proposed revisions.

At the October 25 meeting, the Board will vote to approve the revisions to the policy, including Exhibit A, which is the list of supporting organizations formally recognized and approved by the Board. Board approval of organizations under 8-90 confers certain benefits as well as recognizes the strong partnerships District 113 greatly values with its supporting organizations.

### *Community Affiliates under Policy 8-100*

The Board reviewed the organizations to be identified as Community Affiliates under *Policy 8-100, Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies*. Community affiliates are defined under Policy 8-100 as "nonprofit organizations that have missions aligned with the Board's educational mission and that provide ongoing services and/or support to the District." The list of organizations that fall under Policy 8-100 will come to the Board for consideration at the October 25 meeting.

### **Action**

#### *Deerfield High School Auditorium Improvements Project - Construction Manager Approval*

The Board approved as a presented a proposal for Pepper Construction to serve as construction manager for the project.

#### *Summer 2023 Capital Improvements Project - Construction Manager Approval*

The Board approved as a presented a proposal for Pepper Construction to serve as construction manager for the project.

### **Consent Agenda**

The Board approved [the consent agenda](#) as presented. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

### **Upcoming Meetings-**

October 18, 2022

Finance Committee Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Administration Building

October 18, 2022

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting

5:00 p.m.

Administration Building

October 25, 2022

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building