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[October 25, 2022 Regular Action Meeting](#)

### **Approval of Agenda**

The Board voted to approve the October 25 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 temporary memorial is moving to the Rose Garden and will be available to all seeking a place of quiet reflection beginning Saturday, November 5. Mr. Fishbain closed his remarks by expressing his anger about yet another school shooting, the most recent in St. Louis this past week. He reflected on the resolution the District 113 Board adopted in response to the July 4 shooting, asking for effective and comprehensive action from federal and state government to protect staff, students and the community from gun violence.

#### *Finance Committee*

Finance Committee Chair Ken Fishbain provided a report on the October 18 meeting, noting that two of the items discussed, the 2022 tax levy and alternative revenue bond expenditures, appear later on the agenda. He said the committee also talked about the double-digit increase the District is seeing in health insurance costs, which reflects national trends. Mr. Fishbain said for fiscal year 2023, it is estimated that the cost for insurance will be approximately nine percent of the District's budget.

#### *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair Jaime Barraza reported on the October 18 meeting. He said the committee received an update on the District recovery plan from the July 4 mass shooting and at the direction of Board President Fishbain took over review and analysis of student discipline information. For the recovery plan, Mr. Barraza said the update summarized the progress to date and how the District has come together as a community. Echoing Mr.

Fishbain's comment from earlier in the evening, Mr. Barraza said he was thankful for the work that has been done in the recovery effort but angry that it needed to be done in the first place.

On the topic of student discipline, the committee discussed goals in reporting and in reviewing the data. The committee agreed that reporting will be two times per year and the district goals this reporting will support, equity and student academic growth.

## **Administration Reports**

### *Superintendent*

Noting that *Policy 8-90 Supporting Organizations* is on the agenda later in the meeting, Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law shared that since the October 11 meeting he had held productive discussions with several supporting organizations about the updates to the policy. Dr. Law explained that a common concern is related to fundraising. He clarified that the updated fundraising language has been added to ensure against discrimination and compliance with Title IX because supporting organizations act as extensions of the Board. Dr. Law added that as a result of input from those discussions, the policy's exhibit will expressly state that the Principal is the designee liaison for each organization.

Dr. Law closed his comments by expressing his and the District's gratitude to bus drivers in honor of Bus Driver Appreciation. He said the important role bus drivers play in the lives of District 113 students became even clearer during the pandemic. He said the District acknowledges the important contribution bus drivers make to students and schools, underscoring how bus drivers are often the first and last District 113 staff members many students interact with each day.

### *FOIA*

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

### *Summer School 2022 Recap*

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Michael Lach along with Summer School Principals Matt Walsh and Joe Taylor, as well as Director of Student Services Roslyn Martin presented an overview of District 113's 2022 Summer School Program, including extended school year services. Dr. Lach shared that expectations in summer school matched school year courses. Students were auto-enrolled if they had incomplete grades for the class during the school year and of the 68 students auto-enrolled, 81 percent attended and 91 percent of those attending earned credit. He added that the shift from enrichment to acceleration based courses produced strong results and that students participating in extended school year services showed no regression of skills over the summer. Overall, he said it was clear that with high standards and support students can achieve great things.

### *Illinois State Board of Education Compliance Update*

Dr. Law informed the Board that Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) accepted the District's October 14, 2022 update to the December 21, 2021 remediation plan the District submitted and that was approved by ISBE on January 11, 2022.

## **Discussion**

### *2022 Tax Levy*

Following his presentation to the Finance Committee, Assistant Superintendent for Finance Ali Mehanti presented information to the full Board about the 2022 tax levy it must adopt by December 2022 to fund school year 2023-24. The amount the Board can levy is based on the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from December to December, capped at a maximum of five percent by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, or PTELL.

### *Alternative Revenue Bonds Expenditures*

The Board discussed the Finance Committee's review of construction costs and the legal requirement that 85 percent (\$42.5 million) of the alternative revenue bonds issued be expended by April 2025. The Board agreed that the Facilities Committee should discuss the addition of another project to account for any unexpended contingency funds and to ensure that 85 percent of the funds are spent within the required timeline.

## **Action**

### *Transition Center Intergovernmental Agreement between District 113 and TrueNorth*

The Board voted to approve as presented an intergovernmental agreement with the TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804 Transition Program.

### *IHSA Cooperative Softball Team Sponsorship*

The Board voted to adopt as presented a resolution to approve the Illinois High School Association cooperative softball team sponsorship.

### *Legal Firm for Property Tax Appeals*

The Board voted to approve the law firm Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn (HLERK) to serve as the District's legal representation for property tax appeals.

## **Consent Agenda**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

## **Upcoming Meetings-**

November 1, 2022

Policy Committee Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Administration Building

November 15, 2022

Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Administration Building

November 22, 2022  
Facilities Committee Meeting  
3:00 p.m.  
Administration Building