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[December 13, 2022 Regular Action Meeting](#)

Tax Levy Public Hearing

As required by law, the Board held a public hearing before voting to adopt the 2022 levy later in the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The Board voted to approve the December 13 agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

Board President Ken Fishbain gave a summary of the December 8 meeting of the District 113 Education Association (DEA) and the Board of Education to discuss a new collective bargaining agreement. The current contract expires June 30, 2023. Mr. Fishbain said after each session a joint statement will be emailed to all stakeholders and those statements will be housed [on the District's website](#). The next negotiation session is scheduled for December 22.

Mr. Fishbain reported that Representative Bob Morgan introduced to the Illinois General Assembly HB5855, a gun control bill which contains a provision to ban assault weapons and proposes to raise the age of legal gun ownership from 18 to 21. He also shared that City of Highland Park Fire Chief Joe Schrage, Police Chief Lou Jogmen, and Mayor Nancy Rotering, among others, served as witnesses at the December 12 Illinois General Assembly Judiciary – Criminal Committee's review. Mr. Fishbain read an excerpt from Mayor Rotering's statement at the review, that statement can be found on [the City of Highland Park website](#).

Mr. Fishbain then reported that he and Board Vice President Anne Neuman had completed a listening tour of meetings with supporting organizations under *Policy 8-90*. He said the tour was part of an effort to expand communication with the community, that the meetings went well and they received valuable feedback.

Mr. Fishbain asked Board and cabinet members to hold January 31 for a possible meeting.

He closed his remarks by wishing everyone a very happy holiday season and encouraged all to take some time to relax.

Administration Information Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law began his comments noting that the meeting was the last of the first semester. He said that the District will continue the practice of the past few years and set an autoreply for all certified staff starting December 24 that notifies the sender not to expect a response until the week of January 9 when school resumes. He thanked everyone for all their hard work and encouraged all to rest and enjoy time off over the break.

With registration for the 2023-24 school year beginning soon, Dr. Law said he wanted to be clear that the structure of each school's schedule will be maintained for 2023-24 regardless of the outcome of bargaining, *i.e.*, DHS and HPHS will each have early bird plus eight periods next year.

Dr. Law walked through the timeline of the work completed thus far to address the exploration of a common schedule between the two schools. He noted that at the October 26, 2021 meeting, the Board directed Administration to explore creating a common, daily and weekly schedule for DHS and HPHS. At the January 11, 2022 meeting, the Board gave Administration direction on several parameters to guide that exploration and that work was ongoing. Once the Board received notice that the DEA had filed a petition with the Illinois Education Labor Relations Board to unionize, the schedule parameters in place at DHS and HPHS were required to remain in place because the schedules are considered a current working condition that would be subject to the outcome of bargaining.

2022-23 Goals Update

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law continued his mid-school year 2022-2023 goal update that began at the November 15 meeting, which focused on goals that related directly to students:

- Improve climate
- Develop leadership capacity
- Improve communications

He said that expanding opportunities for decision-making from the ground up is one of the mechanisms in use to achieve the goal of improving climate. He gave the example of asking teachers who will be teaching new levels of courses next year the supports they need for students to be successful and going back to those teachers with proposals and continuing that feedback loop with the District Advisory Committee, a committee of the DEA.

In developing leadership capacity, the District is building a pipeline that continues professional development. Dr. Law noted that the District already has a very successful teacher mentor program for new teachers. Expanding professional development to teachers as they progress in their careers will help build the internal pathways to leadership positions.

To improve communications, Dr. Law said the District is increasing the number and frequency of communications as well as the media tools. He noted the next agenda item, *A Passion for Excellence* video series as one example.

[A Passion for Excellence Video Series: Deb Wilson](#)

The third installment of the video series, “A Passion for Excellence,” focuses on HPHS Math and Computer Science Teacher Deb Wilson. The series highlights 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. 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.

School Reports

Student Liaison Reports

Highland Park High School student board liaison Evelyn Gehrig and Deerfield High School student board liaison Anna Catella provided some highlights from the previous month to the Board. Both student liaisons served as active student members providing input about success and support during the stressful time of finals week, as well as the 2023-24 course proposals.

Action

Resolution authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of the district

The Board voted to adopt as presented a resolution authorizing a supplemental property tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds. To be able to capture 2022 Consumer Price Index (CPI) growth on its existing non-referendum debt service payments, the Board of Education must adopt headroom in the debt service fund due to increases in CPI and file it with the Lake County Clerk on an annual basis.

Resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay debt service on the District's General Obligation School Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source) Series 2022A

The Board voted to approve as presented a resolution abating the taxes levied for the 2022 tax year to pay debt service on the District's general obligation school bonds (alternative revenue source), series 2022A. The Board must adopt this resolution and file it with the Lake County Clerk on an annual basis.

2022 Tax Levy

The Board voted to approve as presented a resolution for the 2022 tax levy and the resolution authorizing tax for special education purposes. The levy approved is the same levy the Board reviewed and approved as a preliminary levy estimate at the November 29 meeting. The 2022 levy will fund the 2023-24 school year.

Course Proposals: Additions to the 2023-24 Program of Studies

The Board voted to approve as presented the proposed additions to the 2023-24 Program of Studies.

Approval of student costs for international trips

The Board tabled this item for a subsequent meeting.

Consent Agenda

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings-

January 10, 2023

Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Administration Building

January 24, 2023

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building