

Board Briefs

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April 11, 2023 Special Meeting

Board Meeting Videos

Discussion

School Security

The Board held a Special Meeting to discuss school security in light of the April 4 lockdown at Highland Park High School. During the discussion, the Board and Administration reiterated that the review of safety and security procedures, practices and improvements in technology is ongoing, and that any time there is an incident, that incident is debriefed to analyze the circumstances for any opportunities to improve practices and procedures. Debriefs occur across both schools and with all appropriate emergency response organizations regardless of which school the incident occurred in to maximize learning and procedural improvements.

Because detailed security discussions take place in Closed Session to keep confidential the particulars of security measures in place, the Board summarized some of the non-confidential additions and improvements that have been made since the Highland Park shooting and publicly announced, such as adding six more security guards, installing door alarms that alert personnel that a door has been propped open, and scanning in students daily. The Board also ensured that meeting attendees understood that our District employs armed School Resource Officers (SRO) through a collaborative agreement with both Highland Park and Deerfield Police Departments.

The Board appreciates the parent and community feedback received through the special email D113secure@dist113.org. This feedback has helped guide debriefing questions to drive procedural updates. The community is encouraged to continue to submit feedback as the safety and security of the District's students and staff is a priority and ongoing effort.

It is anticipated that Administration will be bringing back to the Board updated information and research on additional security options the Board could evaluate, including but not limited to technology, metal detectors, additional armed and unarmed personnel.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

April 18, 2023 Facilities Committee Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Administration Building

April 25, 2023 Regular Action Meeting 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session Administration Building