



Board Briefs

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[February 6, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)

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Approval of Agenda

The Board voted to approve the February 6 agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

Board President Dan Struck said the Board thanked everyone who provided input through the surveys and focus groups as part of the process to select the next D113 superintendent and those who participated in the panel interviews of the three finalists. The panelists included groups representing teachers and building administrators, support and non-classified staff, parents, community members, and students. Mr. Struck said the insight provided to the Board was helpful and instructive. He added that any time that the Board has the opportunity to see students participate in public life, the Board is reassured about the future. Mr. Struck then commented that all three finalists were outstanding candidates that the Board had a really difficult decision, adding that the next superintendent will build on Dr. Law's dedication and embark on an exciting era in District 113. He closed by saying the Board hopes to announce the next superintendent at the February 20 meeting.

Administration Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law began his report by noting that the first week of February is National School Counseling Week, thanking school counselors for the important role they play in the lives of students in high school.

The annual District 113 art show displayed at The Art Center is currently running, and he said he had enjoyed seeing this year's student work. He encouraged others to go to The Art Center Highland Park before the show closes on February 10.

Dr. Law shared with the Board a recent study of the effectiveness of tip lines conducted in North Carolina and published in *Pediatrics*. The study found that the tip line in North Carolina prevented 38 possible instances of gun violence and more than 100 planned suicides. He then provided some statistics about the inception and evolution of the D113 tip line. From December 2016 to January 2019, the D113 tip line was an unmonitored Google form that received five tips. In January 2020, D113 implemented an enhanced, monitored tip line that has received 179 through January 2024, a substantial increase considering pandemic-related closures during that time period.

Dr. Law emphasized that the evidence supports tip lines in helping to promote safety in school. He reminded everyone how important it is to exhort students to say something if they see or hear something. He concluded by letting the Board know that as part of their commitment to continuous improvement, the Administration is investigating to see if there is a more robust tip line than the one currently in place.

Common Bell Schedule Committee Update

Dr. Law introduced the item by highlighting that this is one of several committees in D113 to solve problems and improve current practices to positively impact students. The collective bargaining agreement (CBA) negotiated between the Board and the District 113 Education Association requires that both schools will be on a common schedule for the 2025-26 school year. For the upcoming 2024-25 school year, the CBA indicates that both schools will pilot the schedule of Deerfield High School.

Deerfield High School Principal Dr. Kathryn Anderson chairs the Common Bell Schedule Committee. Dr. Anderson began the presentation by stating that the committee will present two options to the Board by June 1, 2024. She then went through all the feedback and research the committee had gathered thus far. She added that student input will be gathered in March. Dr. Anderson said the committee will continue to gather feedback and make adjustments and bring another update to the Board later this semester.

After questions and discussions, the Board shared that the committee is directionally correct in its approach. The Board thanked Dr. Anderson and the committee for all their hard work trying to find the right balance among the many constraints and considerations.

Action

Annual Renewal of the Agreements Regarding the Receipt of Developer Subdivision Contributions and Indemnification

The Board approved as presented the agreements with Lake County regarding developer fees. The agreements support the District in collecting impact fees from any unincorporated area in the District should it be developed.

Consent Agenda

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

February 13, 2024

Special Meeting

5:00 p.m.

Administration Building

February 20, 2024

Regular Action Meeting

6:00 p.m.

Administration Building