

BOARD BRIEFS

May 15, 2018 Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Board of Education:

Mr. Bob Hiatt, President
Mr. John Corcoran, Vice President
Mrs. Natalie Watkins, Secretary
Mrs. Lori Bryant
Mr. Neil DeSimone
Mrs. Jennifer Gusentine
Mrs. Laurie Scheer

Administration:

Dr. Patricia Viniard, Superintendent
Mrs. Ali Beiermeister, Director of Teaching & Learning
Mr. Michael Duback, Director of Operations/CSBO
Mr. Brian Graber, Elementary School Principal
Mr. Michael Papierski, Middle School Principal

Communications, Visitor(s) Comments and Participation

The Board sponsored the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Celebration on May 4th. Dr. Viniard expressed the many verbal thank yous sent by staff and passed around the written notes and cards received. It was enjoyable and most appreciated. During the event, staff were presented service awards for 5, 10, 15, 20, and 30 years of service. Because she was unable to attend the luncheon, Board President Hiatt presented to Mrs. Natalie Watkins the Highlands 5-year award for her service as a school board member.

Reports

West Suburban Consortium for Academic Excellence Report

Dr. Viniard reported that the West Suburban Consortium for Academic Excellence (WSCAE) is a network of 15 high-performing districts that was created a number of years ago for the purpose of providing extended learning opportunities which these districts individually could not otherwise provide. Examples of the extended learning opportunities WSCAE offers Highlands students include a regional science fair hosted by Brookfield Zoo; a formal art exhibit at Cheney Mansion; a math/science FUSION program through a partnership with the Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy; a civic service weekend in Chicago; and access to SAT/ACT out-of-level assessments through Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS), followed by an academic awards ceremony. Highlands' active involvement WSCAE continues to grow, with many Highlands students participating in the extended learning opportunities. Dr. Viniard has served as the organization's chairperson for the past two years and will continue in this role for the 2018-2019 school year.

Services for Advanced Students Report

Dr. Viniard shared the highlights of a new district document, titled **Programs and Services for Students with Gifts and Talents**. Sections highlighted include an overview of what it means to have gifts and talents, draft of a district philosophy regarding supporting students, best practices relative to

serving students with gifts and talents (i.e., acceleration, enrichment, differentiation, social-emotional support), and current programming at Highlands. All research and experts in the field emphasize the need for an integrated continuum of special services. These services should include acceleration (i.e., content-based or grade-based) which moves a student through curriculum content at a more rapid pace or timeline; curriculum enrichment (e.g., clubs, competitions, beyond-school-day opportunities) which adds depth and breadth to areas of learning and interest; differentiation (e.g., flexible or cluster groupings, student choice, academic support); and social-emotional support (e.g., counseling, mentoring). Some aspects of the document are still in development, including the specific options and processes for acceleration, per the new *Illinois Accelerated Placement Act* which goes into effect July 1, 2018. Mrs. Ali Beiermeister will provide information regarding acceleration at the July meeting. Once completed, the document will be shared with parents and posted on the district website.

Budget Assumptions

As the Board's approved designee to prepare the preliminary budget, Mr. Duback presented the 2018-2019 Budget Assumptions. The revenue assumptions reflect the following: the local tax levy and changes to property values; state revenues (of which more have been timely this year); and the potential for new grant and service reimbursements. The expenditure assumptions reflect the following: a 3% base salary increase for certified staff; a "flat" projection for health insurance costs; planned capital projects; and maintenance of operating costs at current levels. The goal is to present a tentative FY19 Budget in July.

Personnel

The Board accepted and approved the following:

- Employment recommendations for two summer technology interns; a long-term substitute as a Health Office Assistant through the end of the school year; and 1.0 FTE School Nurse effective 2018-2019.
- Resignations included a 1.0 FTE middle school language arts teacher; a 1.0 FTE middle school math paraprofessional; a 1.0 middle school paraprofessional, and a 0.5 FTE Health Office Assistant.
- 2018 Summer School staff/vendors

Your Board Approved:

1. 2018-2019 paper bid with Veritiv Paper Company
2. Lauterbach and Amen, LLP to provide FY18 annual audit services
3. Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment
4. Revised Board Policy - 2nd reading
5. Minutes of the April 17, 2018, regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education
6. Minutes of the April 17, 2018, closed session meeting of the Board of Education
7. May 2018 bills payable
8. April 2018 financial report
9. April 30, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$403,403.25 and the May 15, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$413,974.24

Future Agenda Items

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Tuesday, June 19, 2018**, in the LRC at 1750 W. Plainfield Road, LaGrange, IL 60525.

- Personnel Review (June)
- Administration/ESP Salary Discussion (June)
- Ninth Grade Survey Report (When Available)
- Learning Walks Report (June)
- MAP Report (June)
- Prevailing Wage (June)
- Local Writing Assessment Report (June)
- District Report Card (June)
- Resolution to Abate Funds (June)
- Approval of Contract Over \$1,000 (June)
- 2017-18 Goals Report (June)
- ES/MIS SIP Reports (June/July)

Have comments for the Board of Education?

Email: boardofeducation@district106.net