

BOARD BRIEFS

January 15, 2019 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
Mrs. Amy Laskowski, Director of Student Support Services
Mr. Michael Papierski, Middle School Principal

SPECIAL NOTE:

**Since November 26 was a snow day (non-student/staff attendance day),
AT THIS TIME
the last day of school will be Tuesday, June 4, 2019**

Communications, Visitor(s) Comments and Participation

Student Recognized - Patriot Pen Essay Contest

Mr. Papierski congratulated and introduced 8th grader, Grace Gleason, the winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay contest for Western Springs Memorial VFW Post 10778. Her essay has been entered into the VFW 4th District contest. On Friday, January 18, Grace and other essay winners will attend the **Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Dinner**. During the dinner event, the VFW 4th District essay winner will be announced. The winning essay will be entered into the state contest and, if successful, the national contest held in Washington D.C. Dr. Viniard, the Board, and audience warmly congratulated Grace with a round of applause!

A Snapshot of First Grade

Dr. Graber introduced the first grade team who presented "A Snapshot of 1st Grade." As part of the responsive classroom framework, each day begins with morning meeting greetings and ends with discussion and reflection. For social emotional learning (SEL), the team reinforces positive self-talk, staying in the "green zone," and the actions students should take when in non-positive zones. The team described the academic areas of focus, including guided (leveled) reading, mystery readers, Eureka math (flexible grouping), writing, foundations (letter and vowel groupings), social studies (community, long ago vs. today), WIN ("What I Need") time (various leveled student groups), and seesaw tools. The first grade team thanked the Board for their support in providing the tools to educate Highlands students. The Board and administration thanked the team for their responsive efforts and for the presentation.

Introduction of New Superintendent

Mr. Hiatt, introduced the next superintendent, Dr. Amy Warke, and her husband Christopher. Dr. Warke will join the district on July 1, 2019. Dr. Warke thanked the Board and stated how privileged she is to be working with this amazing district and community.

Reports

Grand Avenue Daycare Rental

The Grand Avenue Preschool and Day Care, Inc. lease expires July 31, 2019. Mr. Mike Duback (Director of Operations/CSBO) and Dr. Viniard stated that Grand Avenue has been an excellent partner in providing services to District 106 students and families. In keeping with past practice, administration recommends the Board renew the lease for a five-year extension (August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2024). The lease payment based on square footage of 4 classrooms, after-school use of the middle school cafeteria, and prorated share of utility costs. The annual total increases by CPI each year.

Middle School Elective Schedule Proposal

Middle School principal, Mr. Mike Papierski and Director of Teaching and Learning, Mrs. Ali Beiermeister detailed a proposal which addresses persistent issues resulting from the band and orchestra electives being scheduled outside the school day. The issues include frequent interruptions to core academic classes for band/orchestra lessons and special rehearsals, limited band opportunities for students who take advanced math at LTHS, extracurricular conflicts, and student/family challenges arising from multiple early-morning practices. The proposal considers including band and orchestra as during-the-day electives. This would necessitate the implementation of trimesters (likely for both schools, for consistency sake) instead of quarters, and the Middle School electives (band, orchestra, chorus, art, and health) would operate on an alternating day (A/B) schedule. Mr. Papierski and Mrs. Beiermeister stated the next step will be to communicate specific information to, and get feedback from, parents and students. Further developments will be communicated to the Board and school community.

First Reading of 2019-2020 School Calendar

Dr. Viniard presented a draft of the 2019-2020 school calendar. The draft takes into account the LTHS 2019-2020 calendar, with holiday breaks and late start days being aligned. Once the Middle School electives' schedule has been finalized, parent-teacher conferences and end-of-quarter or end-of-trimester dates will be added. Union leadership has reviewed the proposed calendar. At next month's meeting, the Board will review the updated draft and, if finalized, will vote to approve the 2019-2020 school calendar.

Capital Projects/Roofing Update

Mr. Kent Hoefling, Director of Facilities, provided a roofing update. Based on the results of an evaluative roof core sample, the replacement of the fifth grade wing roof planned for this summer will be postponed. The option is being explored to create a consolidated roofing capital project in either 2020 or 2021. This may include multiple roofs, including the fifth grade wing, the 1992 building, and the area over kindergarten and second grade. A consolidated project could result in a more competitive bid, while fully maximizing the life of the existing roofs.

Updates/Discussions

Township Treasurer's Office Update (TTO)

Board president Mr. Bob Hiatt reported no meetings of the area school board presidents have occurred since the last board meeting. The next meeting will be held later this month. He noted all of the LTHS elementary feeder districts have passed a resolution with regard to the relationship with the TTO. LaGrange Highlands District 106 passed the resolution at the December 18, 2018 board of education meeting.

Your Board Approved:

1. The resolution designating Mr. Michael Duback to prepare the 2019-20 tentative budget.
2. Second reading of revised Board policies.
3. The new superintendent contract for Dr. Amy Warke.
4. Minutes of the December 18, 2018, regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education.
5. Minutes of the December 18, 2018, closed session meeting of the Board of Education.
6. January 2019 bills payable.
7. December 2018 financial report.
8. December 31, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$422,589.17; and the January 15, 2019 payroll in the amount of \$458,380.71.

Future Agenda Items

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Tuesday, February 19, 2019**, in the LRC at 1750 W. Plainfield Road, LaGrange, IL 60525.

- Set 8th grade graduation date (February)
- Middle School schedule update (February)
- Approve 2019-2020 School Calendar (February)
- MAP report (February)
- Student Services Update (February/March)

Have comments for the Board of Education?

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