

# BOARD BRIEFS

January 16, 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

Dr. Viniard welcomed the guests who were in attendance for a special honor awarded to a Highlands' student by the LADSE Assistive Tech team. Mrs. Amy Laskowski, Director of Student Support Services, introduced the student, Alex, and the LADSE staff members who presented him with the "Empowered by Assistive Technology" award. Alex received this recognition due to the exciting growth he has made using assistive technology. A wonderful video was shown which highlighted how the device empowers Alex to fully participate in the educational program at Highlands. On behalf of the Board, Dr. Viniard congratulated Alex and thanked all who have supported Alex in his educational accomplishments--parents, teachers, support staff, LADSE staff, administrators, and the Highlands' school community.

## Reports

### First Reading of 2018-2019 School Calendar

Dr. Viniard presented a draft of the 2018-2019 school calendar. As in the past, the draft is aligned to the LTHS calendar in many respects (e.g., holiday breaks, a shared institute day). The proposal contains the same number of institute, late start, and early dismissal days as previous calendars. The draft has been reviewed with Union leadership for feedback. Next month, the board will vote to approve the 2018-2019 school calendar.

### Learning Walks Report

Dr. Viniard briefly overviewed the Learning Walks process which was implemented in a revised format last year. The purpose continues to be student achievement through focused teacher observations and reflective dialogue. In the first semester of 2017-18, 151 Learning Walks were conducted, and a full data report was shared with Highlands' educators. The Learning Walks are gradually becoming an important part of the district's ongoing professional development.

### Middle School Boiler Replacement Project

Mr. Duback explained the middle school boiler bid process began on January 10 with the release of bid documents, which included specifications. The bid opening meeting will be held on February 7.

## Personnel

The Board accepted and approved the following:

- Employment recommendations for .5 FTE Early Childhood long-term substitute, and .5 FTE Early Childhood paraprofessional
- Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) request for 1.0 FTE Elementary school Social Worker
- Parental Leave request for 1.0 FTE Elementary school Social Worker and 1.0 FTE Elementary School Teacher through the end of 2018-2019 school year.

## Your Board Approved:

1. Resolution to Designate Mr. Michael Duback to prepare the 2018-19 preliminary budget
2. Minutes of the December 19, 2017, regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education
3. Minutes of the December 19, 2017, closed session meeting of the Board of Education
4. January 2018 bills payable
5. December 2017 financial report
6. December 29, 2017 payroll in the amount of \$418,966.46 and the January 12, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$444,220.55
7. Revised Board policies as presented

## Future Agenda Items

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on [Tuesday, February 20, 2018](#), in the LRC at 1750 W. Plainfield Road, LaGrange, IL 60525.

- Set Date for 8th Grade Graduation (February)
- Approve the 2018-19 School Calendar (February)
- MAP Report (February)
- Approve Awarded Bid Contract - Middle School Boiler Replacement (February)
- Student Services Update (February/March)
- Services for Advanced Students Report (March/April)
- Technology Purchase and Sale of Tech Assets (April)

Have comments for the Board of Education?

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