

BOARD BRIEFS

June 19, 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

Mr. Hoeftling introduced the new maintenance engineer, Mr. Curtis Alsip, who said a few words and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for District 106. Also, a parent from outside the district addressed the Board to share information about her elementary-aged son and to ask for consideration to enroll him in the LaGrange Highlands District. Regarding the out-of-district tuition requirement, the parent requested consideration for some type of a sliding pay scale. Dr. Viniard thanked the parent for the advocacy for her child and stated she would follow up with the parent on the following day.

Reports

Acceleration Protocols for Advanced Students

Director of Teaching and Learning, Mrs. Beiermeister, stated the *Illinois Accelerated Placement Act* goes into effect July 1, 2018. The criteria for considering students for acceleration opportunities (i.e., Early Admittance to Kindergarten, Early Admittance to 1st Grade, and other subject or grade acceleration) were reviewed. The process to request student acceleration and the eligibility criteria will be posted to District website.

Highlands Elementary School Improvement Plan (SIP) Report

Mr. Graber highlighted the three 2017-18 goal areas of Math, Personalized Learning (reading and writing), and Social-Emotional Learning. The math MAP spring 2018 meets/exceeds percent of 69.6% is slightly higher than fall 2017 percent. Grade level Conditional Growth Index (CGI) 2017-18 compared to 2016-17 had a marginal decrease for 1st grade, a slight increase for 2nd grade, and decreases in 3rd and 4th grade. With the introduction of Eureka math resources, the younger students had the most growth, with the average of other grade students showing upward movement. Some reading and writing action steps for the personalized learning goal included professional development in tools and strategies, shared resources, student choice, and learning walks. There was an increase in district writing assessment achievement, but a slight decrease in MAP reading targets. The social-emotional learning (SEL) goal had the greatest successes with a significant decrease in student absences and a notable increase in teacher collaboration, which was influenced by learning walks. Mr. Graber noted a desire to continue the momentum, collaboration, and articulation that is occurring.

Highlands Middle School Improvement Plan (SIP) Report

Mr. Papierski presented the updated 2017-18 School Improvement Plan (SIP) which addressed the areas of literacy/writing, math, and social-emotional learning. Literacy action steps included pre- and post-writing assessment achievement, professional development, and analyzing assessment data. The Conditional Growth Index (CGI) percentile for reading was stronger at grades 5 and 6 than at 7 and 8. The post-assessments for argument, narrative, and informational writing showed some growth but also specific areas for improvement. For math, the CGI percentile was stronger at grades 5, 7, and 8, and the overall CGI percentile of 87.3 fell just short of the 90th percentile SIP goal. Mr. Papierski noted staff will analyze the data to facilitate moving student growth forward. He also shared that staff will participate in August in National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) training.

MAP Report

The spring 2018 MAP data, presented by Mrs. Beiermeister, continue to highlight Highlands Elementary and Middle schools as extremely high performing in both reading and math, as evidenced by National Percentile Rankings ranging from 88-98% for reading and from 82-99% for math. For READING, the percentage of students meeting Fall-to-Spring growth targets ranged from 54-74%. The CGI percentile, which compares Highlands to like schools, ranged from 41-84%. For MATH, the percentage of students meeting Fall-to-Spring growth targets ranged from 58- 84% and the CGI math percentile ranged from 51-98%.

The achievement of students receiving special education services continues to increase at a notable rate, with the percentage of students meeting Fall-to-Spring growth targets increasing from 51% (2015) to 71% (2018) for reading and from 57% (2015) to 77% (2018) for math. There are similar growth results for students receiving English Learner support, with the percentage meeting growth targets increasing from 54% (2016) to 63% (2018) for reading and from 42% (2015) to 74% (2018) for math.

The Board and Staff continue to support the rigorous district goal of attaining a Conditional Growth Percentile (CGP) at or above the 90th percentile. A CGP goal is a much more demanding target, as it compares our performance only against similar districts, not all districts. Although the reading CGP was 68% and the math CGP was 84%, the overall strong performance and upward trajectory in most areas show many areas for celebration, as well as some for further analysis and support.

Local Writing Assessment Report

Mrs. Beiermeister explained there are nine scoring categories for the writing assessment: overall, lead, transitions, ending, organization, elaboration, craft, spelling, and punctuation. A score of 3 equates to “meets” and 3.5 to 4 equates to “exceeds.” The 2018 district goal for writing was at least 85% of students would meet or exceed on the post-writing assessment. Although this goal has not yet been met, the district’s trend continues to be growth. With all data synthesized, the percentage of Highlands students meeting or exceeding has increased from 51% in 2015 to 72% in 2018. Next steps will include analyzing specific grade level data to identify strengths and areas for development, summer online professional development offered to K-2 teachers, staff sharing of expertise, and a planned book study.

District Report Card

Dr. Viniard presented the updated local report card for LaGrange Highlands District 106, an internal evaluation instrument the Board requested of the superintendent several years ago. The report card includes seven areas: collaboration, curriculum, instruction, achievement, personnel, technology, and facilities. Within those areas, a total of 11 indicators were targeted for implementation or revision in the 2017-2018 school year. Of these, 10 were met or implemented. Focus areas for next year will include expanding the Learning Walks instrument, refining use of Eureka math resources, completing

implementation of new Illinois social studies standards and art standards, incorporating data analysis results and steps to address into SIP plans, implementing a plan to provide leadership opportunities to staff members who aspire to leadership positions, and reporting to the BOE the results related to the reconfigured maintenance engineer and revised custodial staffing.

2017-18 District Goals Report

Dr. Viniard reported results for the 2017-2018 Board-established District 106 goals, which fall into two categories: Academic and Financial. As an exceptional district, we continue to set and strive for “stretch” academic achievement goals. A Conditional Growth Percentile (CGP) goal, for example, is much more rigorous than a National Percentile Ranking (NPR) goal, because CGP compares our performance only against similar districts, not all districts. Although math MAP achievement has grown, with this year’s CGI percentile reaching 84.1, this fell short of the 90th CGP goal. For reading, the goal was a CGP at or above the 85th percentile, and the 2018 percentile was 68. On the local writing assessment, the percentage of students who meet or exceed standards continues to grow. The 2018 result was 72%, which fell short of the 80% target. The Board commended Highlands’ educators for embracing the rigorous goals and working thoughtfully to increase student achievement. Of the four financial goals, Mr. Duback noted three were met (i.e., implementing a budget review process; developing a balanced operation budget; and receiving a district rating of “Financial Recognition”), and one is in progress (i.e., identifying additional funding sources and operational efficiencies and leveraging cooperative agreements).

Personnel

The Board accepted and approved the following:

- Retirement of Superintendent at the end of 2018-19 school year
- Employment recommendations for one summer technology intern; four summer custodians; 1.0 FTE maintenance engineer; MS music/chorus teacher; ES social worker; ES paraprofessional; evening custodian; and two 1.0 FTE long-term substitute teachers through the last day of the 2018-19 school year
- Resignations included 1.0 FTE ES paraprofessional; and 1.0 FTE speech/language pathologist
- FMLA request for 1.0 FTE middle school teacher
- Parental leave for 1.0 FTE middle school teacher effective the end of FMLA through 6/2/19

Your Board Approved:

1. Resolution authorizing the adoption of the Prevailing Wage Act.
2. Resolution to partially abate the working cash fund.
3. The VanGogh school photographer contract.
4. 2018-2019 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule.
5. 1st Reading of Revised Board Policy.
6. Compensation for non-collective bargaining unit staff and district administrators.
7. The recommendation of Closed Session minutes from 11/14/17 through 4/17/18.
8. The recommendation to destroy Closed Session Audio tapes from 7/19/16 - 12/20/16.
9. Minutes of the May 15, 2018, regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education.
10. Minutes of the May 15, 2018, closed session meeting of the Board of Education.
11. June 2018 bills payable.
12. May 2018 financial report.
13. May 31, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$425,343.82; the June 5, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$1,227,356.52, which includes the five teacher payrolls for the summer months; and the June 15, 2018 payroll in the amount of \$121,462.88.

Future Agenda Items

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Tuesday, July 17, 2018**, in the LRC at 1750 W. Plainfield Road, LaGrange, IL 60525.

- Ninth Grade Survey Report (July)
- Learning Walks Report (July)
- Approve the 2018-19 Tentative Budget (July)
- IASB Executive Search Presentation (July)

Have comments for the Board of Education?

Email: boardofeduction@district106.net