

## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, March 19, 2015, in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of important items that were acted upon at the meeting.

### Military Recognition

The Board of Education honored Private Second Class **Trevor McLean**, a 2014 Palatine High School graduate who is now serving in the Illinois National Guard. Private Second Class McLean led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Recognitions

The Board of Education recognized students who earned honors in statewide activity and athletic competitions, including Chess, Speech, Business Professionals of America (BPA), and Wrestling. The Board also honored the William Fremd High School Girls Gymnastics Team that finished third at the state meet. A complete list of students recognized is available [here](#).

Also recognized at the meeting were [Illinois Music Educators Association](#) (ILMEA) all-state honorees from James B. Conant, Fremd, and Palatine High School. These students earned all-state honors in band, chorus, and orchestra.

Conant High School Music Teacher and Orchestra Director **Joseph Malmquist** was recognized by the Board for receiving the Distinguished Service Award from the Illinois Chapter of the American String Teachers Association. This honor is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the string teaching profession through leadership, performance, teaching, and service.

Hoffman Estates High School English Teacher and Speech Coach **Katherine Phillips** was honored for receiving the John Hires Award for Distinguished Service from the Illinois Speech and Theater Association (ISTA). This award recognizes teachers who have dedicated themselves to Illinois forensics and student achievement.

### Presentation: Five-Year Facilities and Capital Improvements Update: Year 2

The Board of Education viewed a presentation on the update for year two of the District's five-year facilities and capital improvements by Chief Operating Officer **Lauren Hummel**, Controller & Treasurer **Barbara Peterson** and Director of

Facilities & Business Services **Christopher Kontney**. The presentation included current project and financial updates, supporting the educational and technical objectives in the District's five-year instructional plan. Updates were provided on the project planning and development process, life safety capital improvement projects, and facilities and capital improvements including pool expansion and locker room remodeling, media center upgrades, the District 211 Higgins Education Center remodel, wireless access points expansion, Conant High School's second floor math/science corridor construction, auditorium lighting and sound upgrades, Incubator Program classroom renovations, athletic field upgrades, and relocation of the Palatine High School Adult Transition Program (ATP).

Additional information on the five-year facilities and capital improvements update is available [here](#).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [February 12, 2015](#).

### **Class Size Committee Report**

The Board of Education received a [report](#) from the Class Size Committee.

### **Enrollment Projections**

The Board received information on enrollment projections through the 2022-2023 school year. Enrollment projections are based on data received from Districts 15 and 54, with enrollment from private schools factored in. The projections include students who will attend the District's five high schools. Off-campus projections for students who are in Academy-South, Academy-North, and private facilities, such as N.S.S.E.O., are based on enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year and on a five-year average for the remaining years. Not included in the projections are the number of students who may enroll in District schools based upon their families specifically moving into District 211 boundaries for its educational excellence.

Projections indicate that the District's enrollment at its five high schools will decrease approximately 3% in 2015-2016. Enrollment will continue to decline through the 2018-2019 school year and then begins to increase in 2019-2020.

Additional information on enrollment projections is available [here](#).

## **District of Distinction Recognition**

The Board of Education received information that High School District 211 is one of 62 school districts across the nation to be recognized in the March 2015 round of Districts of Distinction by *District Administration Magazine*. *District Administration Magazine*, a subscription-based, nationally-recognized publication and resource for educators, honors districts that have innovative and established practices through its Districts of Distinction recognition program. This recognition is a professional acknowledgement of the efforts on behalf of District 211's teachers and administrators to improve all students' experiences, increase students' connections to positive school experiences, and facilitate students to function as partner stakeholders within the school community.

Additional information about the Districts of Distinction recognition is available [here](#).

## **IHSA Letter of Appreciation Recognition**

Since 1979, Palatine High School has hosted the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) girls gymnastics state finals. The Board received a copy of correspondence from IHSA Associate Director Kurt Gibson and Assistant Executive Director Tracie Henry expressing the IHSA's appreciation to District 211, Palatine High School, Principal Gary Steiger, and the many workers and volunteers who make this event a success.

A copy of the letter is available [here](#).

## **Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award**

Annually, the Association of School Business Officials International recognizes school districts that demonstrate high standards and best practices for financial reporting and accountability with the organization's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award. High School District 211 earned recognition as a recipient of this award for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2014, marking the ninth consecutive year the District has been honored.

Additional information is available [here](#).

## **Proposed Policy Revisions**

As part of its ongoing Policy Manual review, the Board of Education reviews proposed policy revisions and proposed new policies from the Administrative

Board Policy Group. The Group is comprised of Board Vice President **Mucia Burke**, Board Member **Robert LeFevre**, Associate Superintendent **Lisa Small**, Director of Administrative Services **Matthew Hildebrand**, and Assistant to the Superintendent **Kathe Lingl**.

After initially reviewing proposed revisions to Board policy files [BDDD Quorum](#) and [GBEA Employee Physical Examinations](#) at the February 12, 2015 meeting, the Board approved the policy revisions as presented.

### **Institute and In-Service Dates for 2015-2016**

The Board of Education approved August 26, 2015 and November 9, 2015 as teacher institute days as part of the 2015-2016 school year calendar. With this approval, the school year will open with teacher institute days on Tuesday, August 25 and Wednesday, August 26, 2015. The other institute days during the 2015-2016 school year will be Monday, November 9, 2015 and Monday, January 25, 2016.

Additionally, the Board approved September 10, 2015; October 21, 2015; November 6, 2015; February 19, 2016; May 20, 2016; May 27, 2016; and June 3, 2016 as shortened days for in-service training of certified staff and special events. In-service programs will be scheduled for staff on Thursday, September 10, 2015 (Parent Open House) and Wednesday, October 21, 2015 (District 211 College Night), when students will attend school for 4½ hours on these days.

### **District 211 Higgins Education Center**

The Board of Education approved the name of the property at 1030 W. Higgins Road in Hoffman Estates as the District 211 Higgins Education Center. The 26,000 square-foot office building, which the District secured a lease for in the spring of 2014, will house several special education programs that are being relocated including District 211 Academy-South and the Hoffman Estates High School Adult Transitions Program (ATP), as well as New Endeavors, a new program designed to serve students who demonstrate behaviors and characteristics along the autism spectrum.

### **Community School Services**

The Board of Education received a proposal to use the newly named District 211 Higgins Education Center as a community school, in order to provide services to distressed students and their families after students vacate the building following a regular school day. A community school is a partnership among community stakeholders, parents, and schools that is focused on supporting families,

providing social and emotional assistance to students and parents, and developing stronger communities to improve student success. By forming active partnerships, schools, families, and community agencies organize resources toward the common goal of healthy, stable development of young people in a student-centered environment. And, by providing community resources in close proximity to the school and the communities with distressed families, service providers can coordinate their communications and interventions to deliver more effective outcomes.

The community school model has been used for years in other communities. Through a series of inter-governmental agreements and joint certificates of insurance, each of the joint partners provides some form of service, contribution, or connection to the community school. The list of local community organizations that have participated in past community school meetings with District 211 include the Village of Hoffman Estates, the Village of Schaumburg, Partners for Our Communities (Palatine Opportunity Center), the Kenneth Young Center, School District 54, Harper College, State Representative Michelle Mussman, State Representative Fred Crespo, United Way, and WINGS.

The Board authorized the superintendent to engage in a process to identify service needs among students and families to be served by a community school within the Higgins Education Center.

Additional information on the community school is available [here](#).

### **Recommended Summer School Calendar for 2016**

The Board of Education approved the summer school calendar for 2016 as presented, with first semester beginning June 14, 2016, and ending July 6, 2016; and second semester beginning July 7, 2016, and ending July 28, 2016. The approved calendar will feature a four-day summer school week, with no classes on Fridays and each semester consisting of 13 school days lasting five hours and 15 minutes. The traditional Independence Day holiday will be observed on Monday, July 4, 2016.

### **Next Board of Education Meeting**

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2015, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.