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## Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, July 16, 2020, at Hoffman Estates High School in order to protect public health and to be in compliance with state directives to avoid large public gatherings. The following is a recap of items that were acted upon at the meeting.

### Presentation: 2020-2021 School Opening Plan

High School District 211 is planning for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, with classes beginning on Thursday, August 13, 2020. Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has not ended and observing the State of Illinois five-phase reopening plan, the District is considering multiple options for school operations.

Based upon guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Illinois High School Association, and in consultation with other local school districts, District 211 is prepared to activate three scenarios. Each scenario is responsive to current community conditions and allows for efficient transitioning between models.

Scenario 1: All students physically attending school each school day.

Scenario 2: A rotational block-schedule model with a percentage of students physically attending school each day while the remainder of students attend school remotely each school day.

Scenario 3: All students remotely attending school each school day.

Associate Superintendent for Student Services **Mark Kovack** and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher** presented details about each scenario, including information about the District's plans to safeguard students' and staff members' health and safety during the upcoming school year. A copy of the presentation is available [here](#).

### Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [June 18, 2020](#).

## **Annual Review of Safety Plans, Protocols, Procedures, and School Safety Drills Report**

The Board of Education accepted the Annual Review of Safety Plans, Protocols, Procedures, and School Safety Drills Report, and authorized the Superintendent to complete and submit the required paperwork to the Regional Office of Education or other office as designated.

Public Act 94-0600 requires school districts to submit a report to the Regional Office of Education recording that an annual review meeting was held to review safety plans, protocols, procedures, and school safety drills, and also requires school districts to invite all emergency response units to contribute to this yearly review.

Administration at each District 211 school conducted a minimum of the following required safety drills, involving both staff members and students: three School Evacuation (fire) drills, one Bus Evacuation drill, and one Severe Weather/Shelter in place (tornado) drill. Administration also conducted at least one Law Enforcement (lockdown) drill at each school. All schools had planned on conducting a second drill beyond the one required drill, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related school closure at the end of the 2019-2020 school year, not all schools were able to do so.

Additional information on the Annual Review of Safety Plans, Protocols, Procedures, and School Safety Drills Report is available [here](#).

## **Equity Report**

Township High School District 211 believes that equity is a fundamental concept to both student success and operation as a public school system, and the District is fortunate to serve students and families that represent a large number of diverse cultures and backgrounds. The District has a strong history as a school community where concepts of equity are valued and integrated into the mindset, actions, and daily interactions of every student, staff member, and parent. District 211 has been, and continues to be, aware of the necessity that it understands and responds to the ever-changing needs within both the school community and broader world. The District's previous work to reduce student opportunity based on previous educational experiences and achievement gaps has shown that when all stakeholders focus on promoting equity to close these gaps, student feelings of belonging, academic achievement, and social-emotional health increase dramatically.

Educational equity ensures that the District's decisions, policies, and practices are culturally sensitive and provide all students with access, opportunity, support, and resources. Having a clear plan of action is essential to growing knowledge,

building capacity, including diverse voices, promoting accountability, implementing effective practices, producing partnerships, and eliminating barriers to learning. In order to continue to ensure equity across all facets of the District, a District 211 Equity Team is being established. This team, led by a core committee of staff members, students, parents, Board of Education liaisons, and community members, will be responsible for:

1. Include and affirm the voices of students, staff, and families from the District community
2. Define the organizational priorities and practices that contribute to equity across District 211
3. Analyze qualitative and quantitative data to identify goals, metrics, and accountability measures to ensure high levels of equity across District 211
4. Create a strategic equity plan that will drive short- and long-term systematic changes and improvements for the entire community

The core committee will provide organizational leadership to multiple sub-committees, which will allow for increased participation from additional stakeholders. Sub-committees will be organized to research, analyze, and provide recommendations on the following areas of focus:

1. Equitable Opportunity and Achievement
2. Equitable Curriculum and Instruction
3. Equitable Practice and Mindsets
4. School, Family, and Community Relationships

The core committee will work within the following timeline:

Phase 1: Stakeholder Engagement – beginning August 2020

Phase 2: Research and Community Input – beginning October 2020

Phase 3: Data Analysis and Application – following Phase 2

Phase 4: Development of Strategic Equity Plan – drafted spring 2021

The core committee will present a District 211 Strategic Equity Plan to the Board of Education at its June 2021 meeting.

Additional information is available [here](#).

## **Proposed Policy Revisions**

As part of its ongoing Policy Manual review, the Board of Education reviews proposed policy revisions, proposed policy deletions, and proposed new policies from the Administrative Board Policy Group. The Group is comprised of Board President **Robert LeFevre**, Board Vice President **Anna Klimkowicz**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Joshua Schumacher**, Director of Administrative Services **Matthew Hildebrand**, and Assistant to the Superintendent **Kathe Lingl**. Proposed policy revisions also are reviewed by legal counsel.

The Board approved the proposed revisions to Board policy: [JFCH Prevention of and Response to Student Bullying](#) after initially reviewing policy revisions at its June 18, 2020 meeting.

The Board also initially reviewed proposed revisions to Board policies: [IKE Graduation Requirements](#); [IKC Promotion](#); and [BDDDB Agenda Format](#). No action was taken at the meeting.

### **Resolution: Township High School District 211 2020-2021 School Year COVID-19 Plan**

The Board of Education approved a resolution for the District 211 2020-2021 School Year COVID-19 Plan, as presented. The document presented to the Board contained the overarching details of the three scenarios that may be used during the 2020-2021 school year as a result of COVID-19 health concerns within the State of Illinois. The Plan represents the opportunity for in-person education when safety protocols are followed and family choice is available when in-person instruction is an option. District 211 will adapt this Plan to follow the most current educational, safety, and extracurricular requirements as determined by the District 211 Board of Education, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Cook County Department of Public Health, and the Illinois High School Association (IHSA).

Communications with all stakeholders will continue to be a priority as guidance, safety protocols, and scenarios may change. On July 17, a communication to stakeholders will contain information on topics needing additional detail. On July 22, three weeks prior to the start of the school year, information will be sent to stakeholders regarding at least the first two weeks of school with the understanding that the Plan may change based on the health situation in this region. Based upon the current health information of the region, District 211 will be in either the *Remote Scenario* or the *Hybrid Scenario* on August 13.

The document presented contained information on safety protocols, as well as the District's three learning scenarios: *Remote Scenario*, *Hybrid Scenario*, and *Traditional Scenario*. The scenarios are outlined on the District website by school at: [Conant High School](#), [Fremd High School](#), [Hoffman Estates High School](#), [Palatine High School](#), and [Schaumburg High School](#). Also outlined was information regarding nutrition services, transportation services, athletics and activities, students with disabilities and English learners, cleaning and disinfecting, and technology access.

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

## **Student User Fees**

At its February 13 meeting, the Board of Education set the general registration fee for the use of textbooks, instructional supplies, driver education behind-the-wheel, student parking, transportation, and school breakfast and lunch. Summer school fees for 2020 were set at the January 16, 2020 meeting.

The Board received a [report](#) containing additional information about student user fees and the recommended fees for the 2020-2021 school year. After discussion at its June 18, 2020 meeting and this meeting, and in light of the current COVID-19 health pandemic and financial challenges facing District families, along with the ending budget surplus for the 2020 fiscal year, the Board waived the textbook/instructional fees of \$170 for all students for the 2020-2021 school year. Further, the Board also waived the student parking fee of \$75 per semester for all students for the 2020-2021 school year.

## **Resolution Directing Interfund Transfers for Life Safety Projects**

High School District 211 has used both the Capital Projects Fund and Life Safety Fund as separate accounting funds for payment of its capital and life safety projects. Historically, life safety projects were paid through the use of life safety bonds, and over the past two years, the District has become debt free and pays for all facility improvement projects through its annual budget and budget reserves. At its meeting on March 12, 2020, the Board of Education reviewed the financial planning for capital and life safety projects, which includes payment of all projects through the Operations and Maintenance Fund. Approximately \$250,000 in fund balance remains in the Capital Projects Fund and \$1.5 million remains in the Life Safety Fund. The transferred funds will continue to be used for the same purpose – to pay for capital and life safety projects – but will now be budgeted in the Operations and Maintenance Fund budget.

Under Illinois School Code section 105 ILCS 5/7-2.11(j), a school district may transfer surplus taxes and interest earnings from the Life Safety Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund by proper resolution. In order to do so, the Board must publish notice of a public hearing and hold the hearing prior to adopting a resolution.

The Board of Education directs publication of a notice of public hearing to take place at its August 13, 2020 meeting to consider permanent interfund transfer of \$1,511,361 from the Life Safety Fund to its Operations and Maintenance Fund.

Additional information is available [here](#).

## **Revised School Calendar for 2020-2021**

Due to the signing of Public Act 101-0642 by Governor JB Pritzker on June 16, 2020, the approved school calendar required revision. Public Act 1010-0642 established November 3, 2020 as a State holiday to be known as 2020 General Election Day to be observed throughout the State of Illinois.

The Board of Education approved the revised school calendar for 2020-2021 as presented. To accommodate the new holiday, with the least amount of disruption, the District will move the teacher institute day originally scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2020 to Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Repositioning the institute day reduces winter break by one day for staff members and retains a status of no classes for students on January 5. The end of the school year is not disrupted by the movement of the teacher institute day.

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

### **Illinois Association of School Boards Annual Membership – 2020-2021**

The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) provides services for its membership such as training opportunities, networking opportunities, advocacy on behalf of public education, pooled services, information, expertise, and a platform for a strong collective voice on common interests and concerns. In addition, division meetings provide opportunities for professional development, networking, peer recognition, and participation in association governance. An additional service includes a complimentary subscription to PRESS (sample board policies).

The Board of Education approved renewal of its membership in IASB for 2020-2021 and authorized the Superintendent to pay the annual dues of \$19,714. In November 2019, the IASB Board of Directors approved changes to the formula used for membership dues. Membership dues are based on three variables: Base Charge + (Weighted Factor x Final Resources). The base charge and weighted factor are dependent on the District's enrollment, and resources are used instead of expenses. Membership dues for IASB for 2019-2020 were \$23,274.

### **2020-2021 Education Research Development/Legislative Renewal**

Education Research Development (ED-RED) was formed in 1971 as a suburban high school advocacy organization. Over the years, ED-RED has evolved and developed into a strong and united voice that advocates for the particular needs of suburban school districts, including high school districts, elementary districts, special education cooperatives, and intermediate service centers.

ED-RED's goals are to research, develop, and initiate legislation that is advantageous to member districts; to actively advocate for or against legislation affecting member districts; to engage school districts in the legislative process; to communicate proactively with member districts; and to develop and nurture collaborative relationships with state agencies, advocacy groups, state legislators and legislative staffs, and other organizations to accomplish mutual objectives.

The Board of Education approved renewal of its membership in ED-RED for 2020-2021 at a fee of \$5,000. ED-RED has established a dues structure for elementary and high school districts. Elementary districts are assessed on a student population, while high school districts are assessed a fixed amount, regardless of student enrollment. District 211's membership fee has been \$5000 each year since the 2015-2016 school year.

### **Potential Topics for Future Discussion**

The Board of Education requested that administration make a presentation at a future Board meeting on professional development for staff on diversity, inclusion, and anti-bias training. The Board also agreed to have a future discussion on participation in a Board workshop on equity.

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

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13, 2020, with closed session beginning at 6:30 p.m. and open session beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.

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