

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, May 10, 2018, 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.

Recognitions

The Board of Education recognized state award-winners from James B. Conant and Palatine High Schools' state competitions in Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The complete list of state award-winners is available [here](#).

Parent club presidents and their respective Booster Clubs were honored by the Board for their service to District 211 schools during the 2017-2018 school year:

Beata Candre, President Conant High School Booster Club

Mike Anzalone, President Conant High School Band Booster Club

Joe Kraus, President Fremd High School Viking Booster Club

Hema Kaiwar, President Fremd High School Music Association

Chelle Kase, President Hoffman Estates High School Loyal Parents (HELP)

John Helminski and **Jean Choi**, Co-Presidents Palatine High School Pirate Booster Club

Karla Frantz and **Kathy Pyde**, Co-Presidents Schaumburg High School Very Interested Parents (VIPs)

Alan Grimm, President Schaumburg High School Band Booster Club

Proposal to Contract with a Commercial Driver Training School for Behind-the-Wheel Services for Driver Education

Historically, all driver education instruction for District 211 students enrolled in driver education during the regular school year was provided by District 211 teachers. The current model of instruction requires both a classroom component of 30 hours of instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel (BTW) instruction. The District staffing plan ensures that all students will receive these hours of instruction under an efficient staffing schedule. Even with this efficiency, some sections of driver education require as many as five teachers, one for the classroom and four for the BTW instruction. Because of the significant staffing requirements, driver education instruction under the current model is costly.

District 211 had developed an alternative model for providing driver education instruction for the 2018-2019 school year. In the proposal, the District would

continue to provide classroom instruction; however, the BTW instruction would be provided from a private commercial driving school.

Applying the previous model, the District would employ 11.2 full-time equivalency (FTE) to cover both the classroom and BTW instruction for students district-wide. It is anticipated that with the third party instruction of BTW training, 2.8 FTE will be allocated for driver education classroom instruction, and 8.4 FTE could be redeployed to instruct other curriculum next school year; particularly, the District's student wellness initiative.

The commercial driving school will provide the BTW instruction predominantly during the period in which students are scheduled for driver education. If needed, students may be able to schedule driving times between the end of the school day and the late after-school pickup on Mondays through Thursdays. Regardless of the timing of instruction, all third party instructors must hold a current Illinois State Board of Education Professional Educator License with a Driver Education Endorsement.

The District released a Request for Information (RFI) in March to 10 commercial driving schools to solicit interest in providing BTW instruction. Although many vendors were interested, the requirement that all instructors hold a current ISBE license limited the ability of many to respond.

District 211 received two responses to the RFI, which were reviewed with regard to requirements in the areas of staffing and certification, screening and background checks, fleet maintenance, insurance, curriculum, record keeping, grading methodology, and references. One commercial driving school, Top Driver, indicated that it could meet the full requirements of all schools in District 211.

The District proposes to defray the costs of the BTW services on a per pupil basis through the use agreement with Top Driver. Top Driver will provide BTW services at a cost of \$499 per pupil, contingent upon their ability to use classroom space, requiring use of one classroom at two designated schools (one on the north end of the District and one on the south end of the District) to provide classroom instruction to their private students after school and on weekends. The difference in the cost of District 211 BTW driving instructors and BTW instruction provide through Top Driver is approximately \$540,000 annually.

District 211 can reduce both salary and auxiliary costs. The District can reduce its fleet of 32 driver education cars and repurpose approximately 12 to fill needs with the current fleet of transportation and maintenance vehicles. The remaining cars exceed 10 years in age and could be sold. Additional savings would be realized in eliminating fuel and maintenance costs.

Following a public hearing, in accordance with section 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2 of the Illinois School Code, the Board of Education authorized the superintendent to enter into a contract in a form approved by the superintendent and the Board's attorney with Top Driver to provide behind-the-wheel instructional services to District 211 students enrolled in a District 211 driver education course for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years.

Additional information is available [here](#).

Presentation: Business Pathways

Over the past two years, District 211 faculty from different departments have collaborated to develop the career pathways for the 16 College Major and Career Clusters. Dr. **Lisa Small**, associate superintendent for instruction; Mrs. **Anna Griffin**, Schaumburg High School business education department chair; Mr. **Chad Jonas**, Fremd High School business education department chair; and Mrs. **Adrienne Stewart**, Palatine High School business education teacher presented examples of the many opportunities District 211 offers students who are interested in the business pathways.

Additional information is available [here](#), along with a copy of the presentation [here](#).

Student Readiness Plan

The pilot implementation of the District 211 Student Readiness Plan (SRP) has proceeded as described to the Board of Education at its November 9, 2017 meeting. The 500 students taking part in the pilot have helped the District align the Plan's components with the District's guidance program while providing insightful feedback about the SRP's functionality.

A promotional video has been created and will be released to students and parents. The video will be used to help build awareness and interest as the District prepares for the full-scale launch of the SRP in the fall with all District 211 students. The video is available for viewing [here](#).

Approval of Minutes

The Board of Education approved the minutes from its regular meeting on [April 26, 2018](#).

Proposed Policy Revision

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 **Mucia Burke**, Board Member **Robert LeFevre**, Associate Superintendent **Lisa Small**, Director of Administrative Services **Matthew Hildebrand**, and Assistant to the Superintendent **Kathe Lingl**.

The Board approved a revision to Board policy file: [BDB Special Board Meetings](#), as presented, after initially reviewing the policy at its April 26, 2018 meeting.

Curriculum Committee Report

The spring round of the 2017-2018 Curriculum Committee meetings has been completed, with 15 departmental meetings taking place. Each department's Curriculum Committee has 11 members, including five school department chairs, five principals, and the associate superintendent for instruction. The following topics were reviewed at each department's Curriculum Committee meeting this spring: Dual Credit Courses, Course Modifications and Proposals, Critical Learning Standards, and Type 2 Assessment Series.

The Board of Education approved the Curriculum Committee report and recommendations as presented. A summary of Committee activity is available [here](#). *(Note: recommendations requiring Board action are in bold and listed by department.)*

Early Morning Work Sessions 2018-2019

Early Morning Work Sessions provide a designated time when faculty members who teach the same course to have an opportunity to meet to examine multiple data points relating to student success. These sessions allow teachers of the same course to be involved in instructional planning and review of student performance. Prior to the start of the school year, each department chair and principal determine which courses will be the priority for professional learning team discussions during the Early Morning Work Sessions.

The professional learning teams (PLTs), formed for the school year, focus on one particular course. Information is gathered from multiple sources, including local, District, and national assessments. This information determines areas of focus for increasing student success. The team investigates particular instructional choices made by faculty and the associated student learning outcomes. Best practices regarding instruction can be determined and then implemented at the source. During institute days, key instructional practices are shared across all schools.

The 75-minute sessions allow PLTs to increase the number of students who are meeting District 211 expectations on Critical Learning Standards (CLS) for each course. Teams will evaluate multiple pieces of assessment data; continue the discussion of student performance relative to each CLS; and make instructional changes based on evidentiary discussions with colleagues. This is a continuation of the format used for the past five years.

The Board of Education authorized the superintendent to approve 12 morning work sessions, each of which would be 75 minutes in length, on the following Tuesdays: August 21, 2018; September 4, 2018; September 18, 2018; October 2, 2018; October 16, 2018; November 6, 2018; January 22, 2019; February 5, 2019; February 19, 2019; March 5, 2019; March 19, 2019; and April 16, 2019.

In-District Professional Learning Opportunities – Summer 2018

The Board of Education approved offering the following professional learning opportunities for staff for in-district credit: “Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor Among Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students (Book Study);” “Marching Off the Map (Book Study);” “The Little Book of Talent (Book Study);” “The Talent Code (Book Study);” “Understanding and Applying the Framework for the Teaching Evaluation Document;” “Positive Coaching I;” and “Yoga in Wellness” as proposed.

Additional information on the approved professional learning opportunities is available [here](#).

Health & Dental Program Claims Administration

The Board of Education approved the continuation of its self-insurance program for health and dental benefits for 2018-2019 and retained Blue Cross and Blue Shield to provide claims administration services for medical, dental, and utilization review. Further, the Board authorized the purchase of aggregate and specific stop-loss insurance from Blue Cross and Blue Shield, as presented.

District 211 provides employees and eligible retirees with health and dental benefits through a modified self-insurance program. Under the program, costs are based on claim experience, administrative fees per program participant, and stop-loss insurance. The District’s multi-plan health design structure supports four Preferred Provider Options (PPO) plan variants and two Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans. The current multi-plan structure integrates varied cost control factors for deductibles, coinsurance, prescription drugs, health savings accounts, and varied levels of premiums based on plan benefits.

Through the modified self-insurance program, the District continues to benefit from improved cash flow and access to PPO and HMO discounted claim costs.

The renewal recommendation for 2018-2019 reflects no increase in the administrative monthly rates for PPO or HMO medical of \$50.26 per employee per month; an increase in the HMO managed care fee from \$12.44 per employee per month to \$14.26 per employee per month (+14.6%); a decrease in the HMO physician service fees from \$386.30 to \$384.53 (-0.5%) per plan participant per month; no change in the network access fees at 0.63% of PPO discounts; and dental rates will remain the same at \$2.58 per employee per month. Applicable prescription drug utilization rebates increase to \$26.49 per employee per month, and will be applied as a credit to monthly billing statements. Individual stop-loss insurance will increase to \$350,000 with premium costs increasing from \$40.14 to \$44.14 (+10%) per employee per month for PPO participants and from \$27.88 to \$29.09 (+4.3%) for HMO plan participants.

Employee premium rates and fee structure are renewed on a calendar year basis, with the most recent plan rate changes taking effect January 1, 2018. As more data becomes available to assess claims costs associated with each individual health insurance plan, employee premium rates will be analyzed and a recommendation will be brought to the Board in the fall of 2018.

Additional information District 211's health and dental program claims administration is available [here](#).

Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NSSEO) Budget

The Board of Education ratified the NSSEO budget for 2018-2019 fiscal year and agreed to pay the District's proportionate share of the budgeted revenues.

Additional information on the NSSEO budget is available [here](#), with a copy of the District's share of the NSSEO budget.

Administrative Appointment

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **David Grelyak** as District 211's facilities and energy manager, effective July 1, 2018. Since graduating with a bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University in 1993, Mr. Grelyak has been involved in the management and improvement of District 211 facilities. From 1993-1998, he worked in general maintenance and the District warehouse at the Administration Center. Between 1998-2003, Mr. Grelyak served on the District's Central Maintenance Force installing electrical and networks for the District's infrastructure. In 2003, he was promoted to building manager at Palatine High School, and has served in this position for the past 15 years.

While at Palatine High School, Mr. Grelyak has coordinated major construction projects, worked with mechanical and automation systems, and provided supervision and oversight of the building's custodial maintenance staff.

Next Board of Education Meeting

The next scheduled regular Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2018, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center.