



Board Briefs

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[April 25, 2023 Regular Action Meeting](#)

[Board Meeting Videos](#)

Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

The Board voted to approve the April 25 agenda as presented.

Recognition

Student Recognition

Deerfield High School students and members of the [You Are Enough](#) Club Executive Leadership Team Adison Schwartz, Sydnee Jarol, and Ella Riback provided a presentation on the mission of their non-profit. Adison Schwartz founded the nonprofit in 2020 to help break the stigma surrounding mental health and to promote overall wellness. The student-run organization raised \$20,000 to open a wellness space at Deerfield High School. That donation is listed later on the agenda for action.

CTAD

Executive Director of Community The Anti-Drug (CTAD) Barbara de Nekker along with other members of the CTAD Leadership Team and students Anthony Lopez and Eliza Kalina from the affiliated student group Delta spoke about CTAD's community and school efforts to reduce the use of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs among youth in communities of District 113. CTAD is a supporting organization under Policy 8-100.

District 113 Foundation

The District 113 Education Foundation President Mary Beth Arzac and Executive Director Paige Arnold Farber provided the Board with an update on the Foundation, its community involvement and fund-raising efforts. Student Board Members Evelyn Gehrig, Lindsey Katai, Jessica Lew, and Julia Nathanson announced the grants the Foundation has awarded for the 2022-23 school year. The District 113 Education Foundation is a supporting organization under Policy 8-90.

Board Reports

President

Board President Ken Fishbain spoke about some updates to the upcoming Board meeting schedule, announcing that the May 23 Regular Action Meeting will be moved to May 30 because of the conflict with HPHS graduation. He reminded everyone that a Project 440 meeting, District 113 with sender elementary Districts 106, 109 and 112, is on the calendar for May 2 but the Board was still awaiting meeting topic and agenda details, and that May 9 will be the Board reorganization meeting immediately followed by the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Fishbain spoke about the events held the previous week commemorating Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) and Genocide Commemoration Day at both schools, as well as, the return of Focus on the Arts 2023. He said all the events were well done and well received, and he thanked all those who volunteered for all their work.

Mr. Fishbain then shared the most recent update from collective bargaining, reporting that the Board and DEA Bargaining Teams met on April 20 for the thirteenth bargaining session. The teams reached tentative agreement on leaves, association rights and personnel files. The teams continued discussion on Special Education, Salary, Fringe Benefits, and Retirement. The next session is scheduled for April 26, 2023.

Facilities Committee

Facilities Committee Chair Jodi Shapira provided a report from the April 18 meeting, saying that the Committee discussed a donation agreement regarding two scoreboards at HPHS, digital displays, lead paint abatement, sitework for capital improvement plans and a summer 2024 architectural services agreement. She noted that many of the items were listed later on the agenda for discussion.

TrueNorth

D113 Board Member Representative for TrueNorth, Jodi Shapira, shared that at the meeting held the week prior, the 11 outgoing representatives from the 18 member districts were honored for their work. She also shared that TrueNorth is seeking assistance from its member districts to access larger meeting spaces for its professional development needs. Ms. Shapira said those requests may come before the Board in the future for formal approval.

Administration Information Reports

Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law began his remarks by speaking about Focus on the Arts and Genocide Commemoration Day events held the previous week. He said now that a successful Focus 2023 has closed, Executive Director Tamara Jenkins should come to a future meeting to report on the event. Dr. Law added that when Ms. Jenkins presents, he is sure she will thank the many volunteers that gave their time to it. He then thanked the District's IT, security and custodial staff for all of their hard work in keeping everything running with the many workshops and evening events taking place and people in attendance.

Dr. Law added that graduation is soon approaching and changes to security procedures at graduation will be discussed when discussing the security topic as a whole later in the agenda.

He also shared the following news:

- The Association of School Business Officials has awarded District 113 the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for the FY2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. This is District 113's 31st consecutive Certificate of Excellence.
- District 113 placed #13 on America's 50 Best Places for Teachers using data calculated by Niche.

Local food pantries have asked to amplify their need for donations of food and other items. For details, please go to [Moraine Township Food Pantry](#) and [West Deerfield Township Food Pantry](#).

FOIA

Dr. Law reported the FOIA requests received since the last meeting and their disposition. The report is posted in BoardDocs online.

Discussion

Security

In its lengthy discussion on security, the Board reviewed *publicly disclosed* security improvements put into place prior to July 4, 2022; School Resource Officers (SROs) - armed, uniformed police officers, D113 Tip Line (January 2020), visitor ID check and badge system, drills and training with local law enforcement, improved and increased number of security cameras, improved building communications, advanced counseling and threat assessment procedures, and *publicly disclosed* security improvements put into place after July 4, 2022 in time for the start of the 2022-23 school year; six additional security guards, all students scan in upon arrival every day to ensure students who should be in our buildings are in our buildings and to identify entrance door for every student, centralized door alarms alert security personnel if doors are propped open, enhanced security camera capability, coordination with elementary districts working with same security consultant. The Board also looked at [current conditions at peer districts](#) with information provided by their superintendents, when it comes to school resource officers (SROs) who are uniformed, armed police officers, armed security, and metal detectors, noting that currently, all peer districts have SROs, only one has armed security, and none has metal detectors.

The Board then discussed next steps.

Hire Director of Security

First, it was announced that a Director of Security to provide coverage in the buildings when the SRO is absent and oversee the entire security function will be hired for the 2023-24 school year, including, staffing levels, security plans and technology. The successful candidate will be required to meet the state and federal laws to carry a firearm.

Identify and Evaluate Metal Detection Technology Options and Scope

As many types of metal detection/scanning technologies are in the marketplace, the Board asked Administration to continue to research potential options, understanding that if implemented, until at which time our security experts provide suggestions on a more refined scope, the expectation for scope is that everyone would be required to pass through the device every day at every event.

Security Consultant to Make Recommendations on Metal Detection Technology, Efficacy, and Logistics – May 30, 2023

The District's Security Consultant, who is one of the experts the District uses to lead the District's frequent review of security procedures and technologies, will be at the May 30 meeting to review options and recommendations on various aspects of security including but not limited to metal detection technology, their efficacy, as well as the logistics and staffing necessitated by

potential implementation. Please note, that while some discussion and recommendations may take place in Open Session, some will likely take place in Closed Session for security reasons.

More Stringent 2023 Graduation Security Procedures at Ravinia

The Board directed Administration to implement more stringent security procedures at 2023 graduation ceremonies. The procedures will be aligned to more closely reflect Ravinia's security procedures for its concerts. More details will be shared with families and staff soon.

Donation Agreement

The Board discussed an agreement to accept a \$100,000 donation from the Highland Park High School Giants Club toward the purchase and installation of new scoreboards at Wolters Field. The current scoreboards are in need of replacement. The item will come back for a vote at the May 9 meeting.

Correct Digital Displays Proposals for Highland Park High School Wolter's Field Scoreboards

The Board discussed proposals from Correct Digital Displays for replacing the Wolters Field baseball and football scoreboards that are in need of replacement. The item will come back for a vote at the May 9 meeting. The District is also working with the City of Highland Park to secure the appropriate approvals in compliance with local ordinances.

Site Work for Capital Improvement Plan

The Board reviewed the recommendation from the District's Construction Manager Pepper Construction for bids received for capital improvement projects related to paving, as well as asbestos and lead abatement. The item will come back for a vote at the May 9 meeting.

Lead Paint Abatement – DHS HVAC and Auditorium Renovations 2023 Bid Results

The Board reviewed Administration's recommendation to award a bid to Husar Abatement for the summer 2023 capital improvements projects and the DHS Auditorium renovations project. The item will come back for a vote at the May 9 meeting.

2023 Athletic Apparel and Spirit Wear Bid

The Board reviewed a bid from its current vendor, BSN Sports, to supply athletic and spirit wear apparel for a three-year term. The item will come back for a vote at the May 9 meeting.

Action

Accept Donation Per Policy 8-80

In compliance with Policy 8-80, the Board approved as presented a donation in the amount of \$20,000 from Deerfield High School students. The money will be used to fund a new Wellness Center at DHS. HPHS put in a similar space following the Highland Park shooting.

Approval of Third Amendment to Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract with Performance Services, Inc. Regarding Solar Improvements

The Board approved as presented an amendment to the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract to conduct a feasibility study for installing solar panels on both schools.

Technology Fees for FY24

The Board approved as presented an increase for technology fees from \$40 to \$100 and eliminated the \$40 fee for Chromebook repairs beginning in the 2023-24 school year.

2023-24 Paper Bid

The Board approved a bid reviewed for its portion of the 2023-24 cooperative purchasing paper bid in the amount of \$24,434.50.

Approve Settlement Agreement Addendum for Student 2021-08

The Board approved as presented a settlement agreement addendum for student 2021-08.

Approve Amendment to the July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 Superintendent Contract

The Board approved as presented an amendment to extend the Superintendent's contract until June 30, 2025.

Consent Agenda

The Board approved [the consent agenda](#) as presented. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

May 2, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Administration Building

May 2, 2023 440 Meeting

7:00 p.m.

District Center of Deerfield Public Schools District 109

517 Deerfield Road, Deerfield, Illinois 60015

May 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting

6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building

The 2021 Board will adjourn *sine die* and the 2023 will be sworn in at this meeting.

May 23, 2023 Regular Action Meeting - **Canceled**

6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building

May 30, 2023 Regular Action Meeting

6:00 p.m. Closed Session, 7:00 p.m. Open Session

Administration Building