



Board Briefs

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[July 16, 2024 Regular Action Meeting](#)

[Board Meeting Videos](#)

Approval of Agenda

The Board voted to approve the July 16 agenda as presented.

Board Reports

President

Board President Anne Neumann began her report by announcing the assignments of Board members to Board Committees and as liaisons and representatives to outside groups for the 2024-25 fiscal year. She distinguished between the terms representative and liaison, noting that the term representative for organizations in which a Board member has an opportunity to vote on behalf of the Board. Liaison is denoted for situations/groups when a Board member serves as an information gatherer or guide.

Committee assignments:

Finance

Chair: Greg Nieder

Members: Rick Heineman, Jenny Lupa

Facilities

Chair: Rick Heineman

Members: Greg Nieder, Jody Elliott-Schrimmer

DEI

Chair: Jody Elliott-Schrimmer

Members: Jaime Barraza, Jodi Shapira

Policy

Chair: Jaime Barraza

Members: Anne Neumann, Jody Elliott-Schrimmer

TrueNorth Representative

Jenny Lupa

HR Liaison

Anne Neumann

ED-RED Representative
Rick Heineman

TIF Liaison
Rick Heineman

The Board will hold its self-evaluation with the Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) representative on August 19.

Ms. Neumann provided a brief update on the North Trail Stormwater Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Village of Deerfield and District 113. She reported that discussions to draft the IGA have focused on ensuring an equitable division of resources to improve the configuration and functionality of this shared storm system as well as adequately provide for its future maintenance and long-term upkeep. She added that more recently she had discussed the agreement with Mayor Shapiro and appreciated his time in those conversations. Based on those conversations she recommended pausing efforts for now to reset for later engagement to finalize a mutually beneficial agreement.

ED-RED

ED-RED Representative Rick Heineman reported that he attended the ED-RED-Lake County Regional Office of Education June 24 Mini Summit. Mr. Heineman said that this summit was the first time a meeting included resources from both entities to focus on education and development. Mr. Heineman indicated he attended two sessions, one on TIFs (tax increment financing districts) and the other on engaging the community about a tax referendum. He said for the first topic, the panel recommended school districts pursuing strong relationships with municipalities as school districts have no real power in determining or awarding TIFs. For the referendum topic, the panel recommended engaging the community about any effort to seek taxpayer funding for ballot initiatives. The next event is a legislative breakfast on August 12.

Mr. Heineman suggested that Board members and administrators may find some events useful. Ms. Neumann agreed and asked Mr. Heineman to alert the Board to future opportunities.

TrueNorth

TrueNorth Representative Jenny Lupa provided an update from the most recent meeting June 12. She said the meeting began with Deerfield Optimist Club recognizing nine students for their incredible improvement in writing skills throughout the year. She said the Highland Park-Highwood Disability Inclusion Working Group, a new working group that has taken a long time to put together, is working toward advocacy in promoting a high quality of life experience for disabled people in the community. Ms. Lupa said one of the discussion topics was the withdrawal of Glenview School District 34 from the TrueNorth Coop, noting that it will take about a year before that item comes to District 113 for consideration. She closed by adding that the FY25 budget was approved.

Administration Information Reports ***Superintendent***

In the first Board meeting as Superintendent, Dr. Chala Holland said since beginning in her role July 1, she has been surrounded by an amazing team, passionate staff members, and a very committed and involved Board. She said she will be spending the year, especially the first 90 days, meeting with stakeholders across the school communities with the intent to learn as much as possible about the state of the District and what various stakeholders prioritize. Dr. Holland asked everyone to consider this a time for her to listen, learn, and to launch, and that she would share her insights and recommendations with the Board at a meeting in November.

Graduation Venues for 2025 and 2026

Dr. Holland confirmed that Ravinia will be the site for HPHS graduation on May 28, 2025, and DHS graduation on May 29, 2025. In 2026, however, Ravinia has confirmed it will not be available because of a renovation project that will alter their schedule and programming. The District has begun vetting venue options for 2026 and future updates will be brought back to the Board as more information becomes available.

Shift from ACT to SAT

Dr. Holland reported on the latest information about the Illinois State Board of Education's shift from SAT to ACT as the provider of the state's required accountability assessment for graduation beginning in spring 2025. As a result of this shift, District 113 will begin working on transitioning to the ACT suite of assessments for students in grades 9-10 as well, to prepare students for taking the ACT in spring of their junior year.

For fall 2024, District 113 will offer the PSAT/NMSQT, the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, on October 26, free of charge to any junior or sophomore who wishes to take it. A separate communication will be sent directly to all families in the coming days about the shift and related important information about testing accommodations. More details specific to sophomores and juniors will be sent to them and their families as students return to school.

Dr. Holland assured all that District 113, DHS and HPHS will communicate more information about details and deadlines frequently as everyone navigates this change.

K9 Pilot

Dr. Holland shared that the pilot of a K9 detection team during summer school at Deerfield High School the week of July 8 went extremely well. She said the dog, Hunter, was warmly welcomed by both students and staff. This past Tuesday, staff tested Hunter's ability to locate threats, and everyone was amazed by his success. On Wednesday, students took the survey and signed up for voluntary focus groups. A full report regarding the plan, feedback, and take-aways will be provided to the Board in August.

FOIA

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

Board of Education Policies – First Reading ***2-40, Board Member Qualifications***

2-260, Uniform Grievance Procedure

2-270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

5-20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited

5-100, Staff Development Program

7-160, Student Appearance

7-190, Student Behavior

Policies updated due to Policy 2-265, Title IX Grievance Procedure title change

Dr. Holland noted that there may be additional changes to Policy 7-190 between the July 16 meeting and approval of the policy at the August 6 meeting. Any potential changes and implications to related policies will be discussed at the July 30 Policy Committee meeting. These potential changes are a result of an update to the policy about artificial intelligence. Going forward, Policy 7-190 will be reviewed earlier in the spring in preparation for the student handbook updates necessary for the subsequent school year.

Acceptance of Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, issued by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

The Board voted to accept a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the District for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. This award, issued by the GFOA, recognizes state and local governments that go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure. The District has received this award for seven consecutive years. The Board thanked Assistant Superintendent for Finance/CFO Ali Mehanti, who in turn thanked his team for all their hard work in helping the District achieve this award.

Review of Closed Session Minutes

The Board approved as presented a motion to open or keep closed Closed Session minutes from December 12, 2023 through May 28, 2024.

Action

Resolution Authorizing Reduction in Working Hours/Days of Educational Support Personnel

The Board voted to approve as presented a resolution authorizing reduction in working hours/days of educational support personnel.

Approve Resolution Authorizing Notice of Dismissal to Educational Support Staff Employee

The Board voted to approve as presented a resolution authorizing a notice of dismissal to an educational support staff employee.

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Resolution Providing for the Reduction in Force of Educational Support Staff

The Board voted to approve as presented a resolution providing for the reduction in force of educational support staff.

Consent Agenda

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

July 24, 2024

Finance/Facilities Committee Meeting

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Administration Building

July 30, 2024

Policy Committee Meeting

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Administration Building

August 6, 2024

Committee of the Whole Meeting

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

Administration Building

August 20, 2024

Regular Action Meeting

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

Administration Building