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2801 York Rd., Oak Brook
District Office: 630-573-2887
Fax: 630-573-5374
www.Butler53.com



Butler School District 53

Board Report

A news report of the July 10, 2017 Board of Education meeting

Summer work, storm water damage update

The Board heard an update on summer construction projects and storm damage. Business Manager Dr. Sandra Martin said that with the recent storms and the roofing project, water has infiltrated the duct work and leaked into halls and classrooms at Brook Forest School. Buildings and Grounds staff and an emergency recovery company were on site within hours to move furniture, extract water, set up dehumidifiers and remove building material. “We are doing everything we can to make sure our buildings are clean and safe for the opening of school,” said Martin. She said the construction company has taken responsibility for the leakage.

Board President Dr. Elizabeth Chun commended Buildings and Grounds Director Bob Jakupi for mitigating damage and ensuring that the buildings are clean and dry for the start of school. In construction news, the Butler Junior High courtyard project is on schedule. Currently, workers are hauling concrete in small batches so that trucks will not damage concrete walkways. She also said that work to restore athletic fields has progressed. The fields are in good shape and should be open for student play in August.

Annual report reviewed

The Board reviewed a draft of the District’s Annual Report that lists goals, accomplishments, statistics and initiatives for the 2016-17 year. The report will be published later this summer. The purpose of the report is to provide information to potential new families, offer a status update to the community and detail accountability measures to residents.

Personnel

Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom introduced new administrators, Dr. Chad Prosen, Principal of Brook Forest and Andrea Prola, Director of Student Services. She said the District is working on filling other open positions. In related personnel action, the Board approved new staff members, who filled existing staff positions. They are:

- Brittany Ruttenberg as Registrar,
- Michelle Milani as part-time (.50 Full Time Equivalent) math teacher at Butler Junior High.

The Board also accepted the resignation of Diane Chaps as Registrar and Mary (Betsy) Fons as teacher’s aide at Brook Forest.

Board holds strategic retreat

Following the business meeting, the Board discussed goals, challenges and a strategic plan in the first of several meetings as part of a summer retreat. With four new members on the Board, members said it was important to define a direction for the District.

Board Calendar

- Aug. 14** Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Administrative Center
- Aug. 31** Board of Education Committee-of-the-Whole -
6:30 p.m. Administrative Center

School Calendar

- Aug. 15 BJH 6th grade student walk-through
- Aug. 16-18 Teacher Institute Days
- Aug. 21 First day of school



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