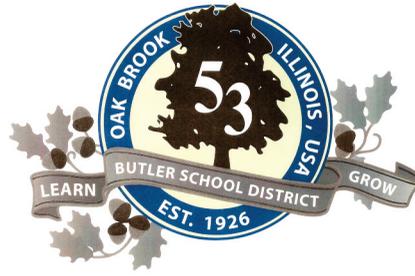


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Butler School District 53

Board Report

A news report of the Aug. 2 and Aug. 14, 2017 Board of Education meetings

Strategic plan discussions

The Board furthered discussion of its goals and vision for the strategic plan. Board members reiterated the focus on three areas: education, facilities and community. Specifically, the Board articulated a framework for academic-related goals include creating a high performing district with state and national rankings, best-in-class tools and curriculum, and a well-rounded child development experience. Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom stressed the importance of engaging staff, teachers, parents and community members in the development of the strategic plan. Board members said the plan should be concise, focused and detail measurable outcomes and metrics. The administration will come back to the Board at its September meeting with more detailed information and an opportunity for further discussion.

Teacher leader and Assistant Principal appointed

The Board approved the appointment of an Assistant Principal at Butler Junior High and a Curriculum and Instruction Specialist. Alison Prochaska will serve part-time as an Assistant Principal and part-time as a Language Arts Teacher at Butler. Christine Tomasino will be a teacher leader and serve as a Curriculum and Instruction Specialist.

Prochaska has been a 7th grade Language Arts/Literature teacher in Libertyville since 2008, where in addition to teaching, she was an Intervention Coordinator, served on a number of committees and sponsored student activities. Prior to that she was a long-term substitute in Lincolnshire District 103. She has a Bachelor's in Secondary Education from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Concordia University and a Master's in Educational Administration, also from the University of Illinois.

Christine Tomasino has extensive experience in curriculum, instruction and technology, having served in a number of educational roles. She served as Educational Technology Coordinator in Flossmoor District 161, a Consultant for Teaching and Learning and also Director of Technology, both in DuPage High School 88. In these roles, she helped build capacity for new instructional practices and organized and conducted professional learning programs, among others. She has a Bachelor's in Elementary Education from the University of St. Francis, a Master's in Teaching Gifted Education from Aurora University and additional coursework in Educational Leadership.

Personnel appointments

In personnel news, the Board approved the employment of:

- Courtney Whittaker, Reading Resource Teacher, Brook Forest,
- Kristen Lugo Mendez, Registrar/Student Database,
- Antonina Sproch, Special Education Resource Teacher, Brook Forest,
- Scott Thesen, Technology/STEM Teacher, Brook Forest.

In addition, the Board accepted the resignation of:

- Jessica Radek, Library Media Center Teacher, Brook Forest,
- Brittany Ruttenberg, Registrar/Student Database,

Enrollment, Institute days

- Danielle Fritsche, PE Teacher (.17 FTE)/PE Aide (.83 FTE), Butler Junior High, In other news, the Board:
- Heard an update on enrollment in the District. To date (Aug. 14) there were 308 students enrolled at Brook Forest and 183 at Butler Junior High. Prospective enrollment is expected to rise to 318 at Brook Forest and 189 at Butler Junior High. Total projected enrolled is 507 for 2017-18 compared with 531 in 2016-17.
- Heard information and reviewed the plan on the new teacher induction day and the back-to-school Institute Day. The three institute days included training on a new learning management system, enhancing teachers' toolkit on engaging students and improving the classroom culture in order to boost academic achievement, among other sessions.

Facilities update

Special meeting Aug. 2, 2017

At its Aug. 2 special meeting, the Board heard an update on facilities and the water damage related to reroofing work at Brook Forest this summer. In addition to administrators and building and grounds staff, the Board heard from its architects, disaster recovery company and environmental testing company. They outlined the process for clean up and the timeline, and affirmed that all affected areas of the building, including electronics and equipment, have been inspected and tested.

Systems such as fire alarm, electrical, security and public address were also evaluated and tested. Additional air quality, environmental testing and infrared thermal scans to detect water under roof membranes have been deployed. Aggressive environmental testing has been conducted throughout the clean up and repair process. The District will continue weekly testing through December for all conditions that affect air quality. Following the clean up, carpeting was replaced and new tile was added in common areas that were affected. Carpeting in other areas will be replaced over winter break.

In another facilities report, the Board heard an update to replace the interior courtyard at Butler Junior High this summer. The courtyard was replaced because the concrete was not pitched correctly and water was leaking into the adjacent library. The courtyard is completed and ready for student and staff use. "In addition to solving the problem, we also wanted an area that was conducive to teaching and learning in nice weather," said Business Manager Dr. Sandra Martin.

Tentative budget

The Board accepted the tentative 2017-18 budget for display purposes and established a public hearing on the budget for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11 in the Board room. The budget will include a planned deficit in order to repair and upgrade the facilities as part of the District's Master Facility Plan.

Board Calendar

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|-----------------|---|
| Sept. 11 | Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Administrative Center |
| Oct.16 | Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Administrative Center |



Want to learn more? Listen to the Board Meeting audio at www.butler53.com Click on the tab "Board of Education"