

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Butler School District 53

Board Report

A news report of the June 4 and 7, 2018 Board of Education meetings

Board appoints new member

At its special meeting June 7, the Board appointed Laura Bieselin as a new Board member, replacing Cabin Kim who resigned because he and his family are relocating. Bieselin, an attorney, is a former District 53 student who returned to Oak Brook several years ago. Mrs. Bieselin and her husband are the parents of a young daughter who will be attending District 53 schools in a few years.

The Board interviewed seven applicants and said they were impressed with each candidate's qualifications and enthusiasm. Bieselin earned her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Juris Doctor, with a Certificate in Intellectual Property, from the Chicago-Kent College of Law. While in private practice, she represented a diverse sampling of clients in complex litigation and transactional matters.

She will be sworn in at a special Board meeting, Monday, June 25 at 6 p.m. The term expires in April 2019. Board President Dr. Elizabeth Chun thanked Kim for his thoughtful service. Kim resigned May 16 after a little more than a year of Board service.

Board approves Master Facility Plan

At its June 4 meeting, the Board approved the Master Facilities Plan, which identifies necessary facility repairs and improvements over the next five years. The plan was developed to identify and prioritize needs in the two aging buildings, including state-mandated Life Safety items. Besides Life Safety, the plan calls for completing the air conditioning project at Butler Junior High, installing a wireless interior door system at both schools, tuck pointing both buildings and replacing the roof at Butler Junior High within five years. The plan was reviewed and vetted by the Board's Buildings and Grounds Committee. The plan is meant to be a living document and will change as priorities change and other needs become apparent.

Board approves meeting dates, job descriptions, policies

In other news, the Board:

- Approved job descriptions for the Curriculum & Instruction Specialist, English Language Learner (ELL) teacher, social worker and preschool teacher.
- Approved Board business meeting dates for 2018-19. In 2018, meeting dates are: Aug. 13, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10. In 2019, meeting dates are: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 11, April 8, May 13 and June 10. Additionally, an April 25, 2019 Committee-of-the-Whole meeting will be held. The July 9, 2018 business meeting has been cancelled. Board Vice President Sally Beatty suggested moving the D53 Board meeting so it doesn't overlap with District 86 meetings. She noted that the D86 Board of Education is discussing redrawing attendance boundaries and that parents may want to attend both meetings.
- Approved 15 revised policies. These address uniform grievances, student issues of bullying and intimidation, education of homeless and fund balances. The new policy on fund balances requires 180 days of cash on hand.
- Accepted the resignation of band director Katherine Cobb.

Budget is amended

The Board held a public hearing to amend the school budget and subsequently approved the amended budget. The difference from the original budget was \$210,000, said Business Manager Dr. Sandra Martin. No one spoke during the public comment portion of the hearing.

Purchases and plans for next year

The Board reviewed a number of purchases for the coming year and acted on the following:

- Approved a contract with Heartland Business Systems to decommission old technology servers and consolidate new servers with existing ones for \$27,251. They also approved a one-year contract with Heartland Business Systems for network support for \$1,290 a month plus a one-time fee of \$560.

- Approved the purchase of student Chromebooks for 3rd and 6th grade for \$36,463. The Chromebooks are used for three years.

- Approved the purchase of Apple devices for the STEM lab at Brook Forest for \$9,516.

- Approved a one-year renewal of Powerschool to operate the student database for \$5,269.

- Approved the purchase of 20 Dell laptops for staff for \$19,981.

- Approved for the renewal of Cisco Smartnet Infrastructure Hardware and for all servers including VoIP and security camera for \$15,889.

- Approved three contracts with Frontline, one for software solutions for employee evaluation, professional learning, recruiting and hiring for \$5,012; an annual subscription for \$4,227 for absence and substitute software management and implementation of Frontline's Absence Management System for \$4,000.

- Approved the renewal of the Northwest Evaluation Association web-based assessment called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) for \$5,500.

- Approved a five-year contract with AT&T for the Wide Area Network (WAN) plan for \$1,166 per month. Technology Director Farheen Beg said this contract saves the District \$823 a month compared to the previous contract.

Finance Committee discussions

The Board heard an update on the Finance Committee, which has recommended a number of operational changes. These include designating Heartland Bank and Trust as the new primary depository. The recommendation was made after interviewing and reviewing detailed proposals from four area banks. The committee is also looking at new general ledger software, some investment options and other changes. The committee also reviewed changes in the amended 2017-18 budget.

Finance Committee discussions

In the District and School Reports:

- Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom noted that it was the last day of school on June 4. "Our teachers' amazing efforts will live on in the hearts of their students. Thank you for the year-long dedication. Our teachers are selfless and show endless patience and love. Our staff considers all the students in the school to be their students. They are not just tending the needs of their class."

- Brook Forest Principal Dr. Chad Prosen highlighted Health and Fitness Week, thanking PE teacher Todd Beyer. He also highlighted the success of Exploremore Day and commended Assistant Principal Lisa Owen and the PTO for organizing the event. He gave special thanks to social worker Ann Wolff, who is retiring after 28 years. Finally, he noted that MAP test results and placement letters were distributed to parents earlier this month.

- Butler Junior High Principal Amy Read thanked board members who participated in the graduation ceremony and parent Michelle Edmonds, who planned and coordinated 8th grade end-of-year events and graduation. "It was a pretty extraordinary evening," said Read.

Board Calendar

- June 25** Special Board Meeting - 6 p.m.
Administrative Center
- Aug. 13** Board of Education Meeting- 6:30 pm.
Administrative Center



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

School Calendar

- Aug. 16-17** Teacher Institute - No School
- Aug. 20** First day of class for students

