



BOARD OF EDUCATION *Highlights*

Highlights from the November 18, 2013 business meeting

To see the meeting video, visit: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE9xr0ZOX1I&feature=em-uploademail>



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A Sweet Thank You



Transition Program student Joe Ciucci presents Board Member Julia Beckman with handmade cookies

November 15 was National School Board Recognition Day. Superintendent Dr. Mark McDonald thanked the Board members for serving on the Board, noting that they work long hours, both in meetings and at home, in the giving of themselves to community service.

To recognize the efforts of the Board, faculty and students from the District 99 Transition Program, where students with cognitive and health impairments learn work and life skills, made a special presentation and presented the Board members with cookies they baked.

“Throughout my 16 years with District 99, I am continually impressed with the culture of acceptance our student body displays on a daily basis,” said Lead Teacher Mike Dellamaria. He credited the Board’s “inclusive tone” as one reason for the day-to-day, positive actions of all District 99 students.

A photo gallery is available at <http://www.csd99.org/board-of-education-meeting-on-november-18-2013/>



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Minutes Approved



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The Board approved the minutes from the regular and closed meetings on [October 21](#) business and closed meetings and the [November 4](#) workshop and closed meetings.

Recommendations and Reports of Superintendent



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2014-15 Capital Improvement Plan

Each fall, the District develops and prioritizes a list of capital improvement projects it wishes to move forward with in spring and summer. Planning ahead allows staff time to prepare the necessary bid documents. The Board reviews and approves when the projects are put out to bid.

Director of Facilities Jim Kolodziej presented the list of projects that building administrators identified and prioritized as needing to be addressed during the next school year:

[http://www.boarddocs.com/il/csd99/Board.nsf/files/9DDVQ76ED96B/\\$file/Capital%20improvement%20plan%202014-15-FINAL.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/il/csd99/Board.nsf/files/9DDVQ76ED96B/$file/Capital%20improvement%20plan%202014-15-FINAL.pdf)

The projects total \$1.7 million, which includes an anticipated \$100,000 grant for the replacement of a dehumidification system for the pool at North High. Kolodziej noted the number of projects related to lighting, noting that the district is reaping the benefits of better LED lighting, but also seeing savings in energy costs.

The members discussed the amount budgeted for repairs and maintenance, turf repairs and signs.



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School Improvement Plan

The district continues to be required to develop and formally approve an improvement plan for our schools [because we did not make Adequate Yearly Progress \(AYP\)](#) according to the No Child Left Behind legislation. The state now uses a system called "Rising Star" that measures schools on a variety of performance factors for effectiveness—not just on math and reading, as it had done in the past. New indicators investigate different areas of what makes a school effective, such as: leadership, professional development, curriculum, instruction, assessment, conditions for learning and community and family engagement. Teams from both North High and South High have



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studied the indicators and created a plan based on District 99's strategic plan and goals.

Administrators from both schools shared an overview of the plans and highlighted different aspects of each one, including the minority recruitment, professional development and AVID program:

- [North, South and District Goals 2013-14](#)
- [North High Improvement Plan](#)
- [South High Improvement Plan](#)

The plans provide a clear structure for school improvement plans, a way to monitor progress, outlining goals, what it means for those goals to be fully implemented and tasks and activities needed to achieve the goals.



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2014-15 School Calendar

The [proposed 2014-15 school calendar](#) was shared. Dr. McDonald explained that the goal is to schedule the same number of days in the first half and second half of each year. The final calendar will be approved by the Board at its business meeting on December 16.

Consent Agenda



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The Board members **unanimously approved** the following items:

- Personnel report
- [Financial pages](#)
- Board Policies to be deleted:
 - [4.35 Non-resident Tuition](#) - this is covered by Policy 7.60-Residency
 - [4.36 Summer School](#) - current District practice - no need for Board policy
 - [4.37 Fees for Materials](#) - this is covered by Policy 7.55 - Student Fees
 - [4.51 Paying for Goods and Services](#) - current District practice - no need for Board policy
 - [4.376 Monies in School Buildings](#) - current District practice - no need for Board policy.



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Recommendation for Action



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The Board members **approved** the following items:

- The [2013 recommended tax levy](#), which has a projected increase of 2.1% over last year, by a vote of 5 to 1
- The School improvement plans presented earlier at the meeting, by a unanimous vote
- The [School Maintenance Project Grant](#), by a unanimous vote

Old Business



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Board members **unanimously approved** these policies recommended by the Policy Committee:

- [5.270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment](#)
- [4.10 Fiscal and Business Management](#)
- [4.15 Compliance with Identity Protection Act](#)
- [4.110 Transportation](#)
- [4.120 Food Service](#)
- [4.130 Free and Reduced Price Food Services](#)
- [4.140 Waiver of Student Fees](#)

New Business



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The Policy Committee offered the following policies for first reading:

- [4.30 Revenue and Investment](#)
- [4.40 Incurring Debt](#)
- [4.50 Payment Procedures](#)
- [4.60 Purchases and Contracts](#)
- [4.80 Accounting and Audits](#)

Member Terry Pavesich suggested that the District perform the required annual board member training (related to labor law, financial oversight, accountability, fiduciary responsibilities) in-house, and invite associated districts to a future workshop.



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Communications and Announcements

- Member **Keith Matune** reported that LEND will hold its annual breakfast at the “Triple I” conference in Chicago, and on December 3 members of the General Assembly may possibly convene will consider changes to pensions.
- Member **Julia Beckman** shared that SASSED approved its contract with staff and shared the new technologies that the organization is using.
- Member **Julia Beckman** shared that the Illinois Humanities Council met in October, and shared information about its programming.
- Member **Terry Pavesich** reported about District 99 Education Foundation fundraisers at Tom & Eddie’s and the upcoming Pizza Wars fundraiser to be held at South High on Thursday, January 16.

Upcoming Board Meetings

November 25, 2013 6:30 p.m.

(Student and Staff Recognition/District Open House at South High)

December 2, 2013 7 p.m.

December 16, 2013 7:30 p.m.

Administrative Service Center
6301 Springside Avenue, Downers Grove

*This publication is for information purposes only;
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