

Board Briefs

Meeting of the East Maine School District 63 Board Of Education

November 9, 2016

The Board of Education approved the following items:

- Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting, October 5, 2016
- Minutes of the Closed Session, October 5, 2016 #1 and #2
- Accounts Payable for November 2, 2016 (\$835,416.23)
- Fund Balance Report for September 2016 (\$62,494,188)
- Gross Payroll (\$2,403,967.62) and Board Share Expenditures (\$492,685.50) for October 2016
- Payroll Accounts Payable for October 2016 (\$1,276,608.27)
- Appointment for Staff at Apollo, Melzer, and Washington
- Resignation for Staff at Apollo, and Washington
- Retirement for Staff at Mark Twain
- Lane Changes
- Destruction of Verbatim Recordings of Closed Session
- Freedom of Information Act Report for October 2016
- Policy Revision - Policy 1:10 School District Legal Status
- Policy Revision - Policy 1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements
- Policy Revision - Policy 1:30 School District Philosophy
- Policy Revision - Policy 2:10 School District Governance
- Policy Revision - Policy 2:70 Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies
- Policy Revision - Policy 2:130 Board - Superintendent Relationship
- Policy Revision - Policy 3:10 Goals and Objectives
- Policy Revision - Policy 3:30 Chain of Command
- Policy Revision - Policy 4:80 Accounting and Audits
- Policy Revision - Policy 5:150 Personnel Records
- Policy Revision - Policy 6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program
- Policy Revision - Policy 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies
- Policy Revision - Policy 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs
- Policy Revision - Policy 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- Policy Revision - Policy 7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
- Policy Revision - Policy 7:285 Food Allergy Management Program
- Policy Revision - Policy 8:90 Parent Organizations and Boosters Clubs
- Policy Revision - Policy 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns
- Resolution BR09-16/17 School Board Members Day - November 15, 2016
- Resolution BR10-16/17 American Education Week - November 14-18, 2016
- Resolution BR11-16/17 Transfer into the Debt Service Fund
- Donations
- 2016 Tentative Tax Levy
- Policy Revision - First Reading - Policy 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks

President's Report

President Kaczkowski reported on the following items:

- Attended the Nelson Fundraiser at Culver's
- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
 - Congratulations to Board Members Scarsella and Brook for achieving Level II for School Board Member Activities, Member Zec for achieving Master Board Status, and Members Gluzkin, Urban and Kaczkowski for maintaining their Master Board Status.
- Attended the Lights ON Afterschool event

- Attended Advantage 63: Success Without Borders
- Participated in the Niles Public Library Strategic Plan Focus Group for Education Leaders

Upcoming Events

- November
 - November 10, Abriendo Puertas at Apollo, Room 119, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 - November 9, Gemini Band, Choir Orchestra Fall Concert, Gemini, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - November 10, Mark Twain Bakers Square fundraiser, Niles, 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 - November 10, Special Education Parent Workshops - Speech Language Services in the Schools at Melzer, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
 - November 15, Nelson School Cici's Fundraiser, Niles, 3:00 – 9:00 p.m.
 - November 18-20, IASB Annual Conference
 - November 26, Gemini Band at Holly Jolly Market & Festival, Oasis Walter Park in Niles, 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. Our students perform at 3:15 p.m.
 - November 30, District PTO meeting, Melzer, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- December
 - December 5, Elementary Winter Orchestra Concert, Gemini, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - December 7, Board meeting at Nelson, 7:00 p.m.
 - December 8, Elementary Winter Band Concert, Gemini, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - December 15, Special Education Parent Workshops - Assistive Technology in the Schools, Melzer, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Board Member Reports:

Member Simmons

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
- Attended two EMEA negotiation meetings
- Attended a Foundation meeting

Member Gluzkin

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
- Attended the Gemini Band, Choir, Orchestra Fall Concert

Member Urban

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
- Attended the Gemini Band, Choir, Orchestra Fall Concert
- Attended the Nelson Fall Festival
- Attended the One District – One Author event
- Attended the Gemini 8th grade girls volleyball championship game

Member Zec

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
- Attended a 4th grade robot show focusing on energy
- Attended the Nelson Fall Festival
- Attended the One District – One Author event
- Attended the Halloween festivities at Nelson School

Member Brook

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting
- Attended two EMEA negotiation meetings
- Attended the One District – One Author event

- Attended the Washington Boo Bash

Member Scarsella

- Attended the North Cook Division Dinner Meeting

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Clay reported on the following items:

- Attended the Annual ED-RED Kick-off Luncheon
- Negotiations with EMEA have continued
- We had our first Realtor Lunch with 13 area realtors. They asked great questions and said they learned a great deal about our school district
- One District, One Author has wrapped up with a very successful finale. Dr. Cobb will share some details
 - The One District – One Author Event went amazingly well. The multi-purpose room at Gemini was filled to capacity with students and families. Author Andrew Clements was very generous with his time, taking pictures with students, autographing their books, and answering multiple questions from students.
- Yesterday was Institute Day and Dr. Cobb will give you a summary of the events
 - K-6 general education teachers, 7-8 math teachers, and SPED Resource teachers attended a session with Eureka Math professional trainers. The session focused on fluency with time available for questions about planning and instruction.
 - ESL and Bilingual Resource teachers participated in a session focused on instruction to support vocabulary development.
 - Physical education, Art, Music, and Librarians met as departments. All K-6 groups met with some 7-8 PFA teachers joining those sessions.
 - Many of the Gemini staff participated in sessions related to Executive Functioning. These sessions will continue the work they began last year.
 - Related Services Staff attended job – specific sessions, based on identified needs.
 - Teaching Assistants, Secretaries, and Nurses also attended job – specific sessions.
- Veteran's Day in our Schools:
 - Apollo: First Steps PreK will have an active member visit their class. Additionally, all other classrooms will be discussing the importance of this day through books, videos, and learning activities. Links to resources were provided in their Staff Weekly Update
 - Gemini: There will be a Words Of Wisdom announcement related to Veteran's Day and then many classrooms will write letters/post cards to veterans
 - Mark Twain: Students will be writing thank you letters to an organization called A Million Thanks
 - Melzer: Teachers and students will be doing read alouds and activities around the books "America's White Table," "The Wall," and " H is for Honor"
 - Nelson: Kindergarten will be doing a Scholastic News activity; Grade 1 will be doing some Veteran's Day read alouds, as well as a shared reading of a Veteran's Day poem. Student's will also be writing "Thank You" letters to a Veteran; Second grade will be reading Scholastic News and then making flip books or a poster; Grades five and six watch CNN student news daily which features Veteran's Day news stories

- Stevenson: individual classroom activities, including letters to veterans, reading about veterans, and writing activities
- Washington: 1/2 classrooms will read a book about Veteran's Day and then they will compare and contrast two articles from Readworks; 3/4 and 5/6 will be reading both a fiction and nonfiction article and watching a short video about Veterans on Veteran's Day. They will then compare and contrast the articles, write about what they learned from each, which they preferred, and why. They will be expected to cite evidence from both texts and to explain their thinking
- Last night we elected a new president and today we had children in tears in our schools out of fear that they would not be allowed to live in the United States anymore. Our staff, as always, has done a terrific job comforting the students. All of us who serve this district do so because we care about the people of this community, regardless of where they come from, what religion they practice, or their economic status. Although we have all heard the rhetoric during the long presidential campaign, we move forward with the hope that the president elect will govern with compassion and understanding. While we may be anxious about the future, we will continue to love and care for the children of this community. That will never change.

Presentation - Bulldog TV News

Apollo Elementary School continues to push the bounds of 21st Century learning and its newest student-led Bulldog TV News team does just that. From school surveys to interviews and from green screen segments to student editing, our Bulldog News Team takes the lead in informing and entertaining Apollo students and staff.

At the board meeting students introduced themselves along with their specific responsibilities. These included the position of anchormen, reporter, cameramen, producer, editor, and two Bulldog managers. All necessary positions that need to be involved in order to prepare and present the Bulldog News. A segment of the morning news was shared, an interview with Ms. Cassidy regarding the One District – One Author program, students were interviewed asking what their favorite Halloween costume was, and an interview with Ms. Palucki and Ms. Root about the start of Bulldog News.

Presentation - 2016 Tentative Tax Levy

Tax Levy Background

- Approximately 74% of District 63's revenues come from local property taxes.
- In order to collect property taxes on behalf of the District, Cook County must receive a resolution from the District stating the amount the District needs. This is the levy amount.
- Calculation of the levy amount is subject to laws and procedures, primarily the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL). This law is generally referred to as the tax cap.

Term Definitions

- Levy: Amount of property tax revenue requested.
- Extension: Amount of Property Tax Revenue approved.
- Assessed Property Values: In Cook County represents a % of property market value (10% residential and 25% for commercial).
- EAV: Equalized Assessed Value. Process used by the state to bring assessed values to 1/3 of Market Value across all counties.
- PTELL: Property Tax Extension Limitation Law. This law caps the amount of revenue the district will receive from property taxes.
- Limiting Rate: The tax rate calculated by PTELL that caps the current year extension at 5% or CPI (whichever is less).
- CPI: Consumer Price Index or the rate of inflation used by PTELL.

Tax Levy Background – PTELL

- “Tax Cap” law enacted in Cook County in 1995.
- Limits the amount of property tax revenue a district can receive to 5% or CPI, whichever is less
 - CPI (All Urban Consumers)
 - Essentially rate of inflation
 - Does not limit new property
- In summary: The district is allowed to receive the same amount of property taxes as last year, adjusted for inflation.....PLUS the property taxes on new construction/additions.

Summary and Important Points

- The District will only receive a 0.7% increase over last year’s extension plus the taxes associated with new construction, regardless of how large of a levy request is made.
- Consistent with prior year methodology, the recommended levy covers the district for approximately \$38M in new construction.
- Any reduction as a result of a levy in excess of the amount permissible by PTELL will be taken from the Education Fund. (Same as prior levies)
- The bond and interest tax levy is determined at the time the bonds were issued and reflects required bond payments.

Next Steps

- December 7th – Levy Adoption
- December 9th – File with County Clerk

Presentation - Eureka Parent Website

Dr. Cobb shared information about the Eureka Math Parent Resources webpage. Launched in early October this page provides benefits for all grade level parents. When parents click on a specific grade it brings them to resources including the Parent Tip Sheet column where they will find documents that provide an overview of each module. The links in the Topic Newsletter and Homework Videos column provide more specific information related to each topic, along with videos that explain the homework for each lesson.

In addition to the resources found on our website, there are additional resources to be found on the Eureka Great Minds website. Parents can also check out Zearn. This resource provides students with opportunities to practice and accelerate their learning, provides personalized, digital lessons in a game format, and is directly aligned with Eureka Math.