

District 38 "Board Briefs" for the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2016

The information below summarizes highlights from the Kenilworth Board of Education meeting held on December 12, 2016. As always, the community is welcome and encouraged to attend board meetings or, for your convenience, watch them streaming live. In addition, the meetings are taped and posted to the website within 24 hours for viewing at a later date. Finally, the Board posts to the website its agendas 48 hours in advance of meetings, and board packets prior to each meeting and board minutes once approved.

Tax Levy Public Hearing

- Dr. LeRoy gave a [presentation](#) on the 2016 tax levy. Dr. LeRoy noted that this year, the District would request \$11.6 million in funding to cover operating expenses. The Board affirmed that they would continue the practice of requesting funding as necessary to cover operating costs.

Administrative Reports

- **Superintendent's Report** - Dr. LeRoy presented the Board with a [new draft of the 2017-2018 school calendar](#). Dr. LeRoy noted that the new draft of the calendar includes a winter break from Dec. 23 to Jan 7 that is exactly aligned with the 2017-2018 New Trier Calendar. Spring break, which takes place from March 26 to March 30, is also exactly aligned with the New Trier Calendar. Other dates, such as the school start and end dates, will be finalized in February. Citing feedback received from the community, the Board fully endorsed the new draft of the calendar. The Administration will work with faculty on a number of items before presenting a final draft of the calendar to the Board in February.
- **Chief School Business Official's Report** - Dr. LeRoy reviewed the monthly financials and presented the [FY15-16 Salary and Benefits Report](#). Dr. LeRoy also proposed the District purchase Forecast5 financial software in order to improve enrollment projection reports and general business office efficiency.
- **Principal's Report** - Mrs. Wallace presented an overview of the updated system of disciplinary policies and procedures. A team of teachers have successfully conducted a soft rollout of the system and it will be introduced to parents through several communication channels in the upcoming weeks. The discipline system is based on a three-tiered system of offenses with defined consequences based on severity.

Mrs. Wallace also gave a [presentation](#) summarizing the data from the Spring 2016 New Trier Township High School Freshman Preparedness

Survey. Mrs. Wallace noted that the data shows former Sears students report feeling well prepared for high school and at rates that generally exceed the Township average. That said, Mrs. Wallace did note two curricular areas - science and foreign language - where students report feeling somewhat less well prepared than average. This was highlighted as an area of focus in the coming year and could be related to the very wide range of course offerings at New Trier in science and foreign language that do not overlap with course offerings at Sears.

- **Director of Student Services' Report** - Mr. Sabourin noted that the Administration would meet with Dr. Kurt Schneider, Superintendent of the Northern Suburban Special Education District, to discuss the collaboration between NSSED and the District. The Board will also meet with Dr. Schneider in the spring to discuss how best to align the District's strategic vision with that of NSSED.

Board Action

- The Board unanimously approved the consent agenda to include the approval of: [Minutes of the December 1, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#); [Minutes of the November 14, 2016 Regular Meeting](#) and Closed Session; Approval of Monthly Financial Reports for November 2016; Approval of Investment Reports for November 2016; Approval of Accounts Payable for November 15, 2015 to December 12, 2016; Destruction of Closed Session Recordings for June 2015; Authorization to Recycle Defective Equipment; and Authorization for Bill Reviewer to Approve Payment of Accounts Payable for January 2017.
- The Board unanimously approved the recommendation to hire Ms. Janine Macris as a 1.0 FTE Instructional Assistant.
- The Board unanimously accepted the resignation of Ms. Challen Stadler.
- The Board unanimously approved the framework for the updated student discipline plan.
- The Board unanimously approved a billing settlement pursuant to finalization of technical details in the agreement.
- The Board unanimously approved the contract term and salary for Dr. Crystal LeRoy as Superintendent/CSBO from 2017-2020. It was noted that additional contract details would be worked out over the next few months. Board members noted that Dr. LeRoy has accepted the terms and they are pleased to continue operating under Dr. LeRoy's leadership.

Board Discussion

- The Board discussed the facilitation and development of the 2017-2018 Strategic Plan. Through a [presentation](#), board members identified best practices for creating a strategic plan. The Board will develop strategic goals then work with the administration to develop actionable items

specific to the upcoming school year. Input from various stakeholders will be incorporated during the process.

- The Board discussed the timing of the faculty/staff and parent school climate surveys. The Board will issue an annual survey to faculty/staff in February and an annual survey to parents at the end of the school year.

Questions -- Please direct your questions or comments to the Kenilworth School District No. 38 **Sounding Board** that was created to provide community members the chance to share comments, questions, compliments and concerns. All messages are sent to the Board of Education members, Superintendent/CSBO, Principal and Director of Student Services. We are listening and you can communicate with us by sending an email to listen@kenilworth38.org. Thank you!

Scott Wallace, President
Kenilworth Board of Education