

## District 38 "Board Briefs" for the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2016

*The information below summarizes highlights from the Kenilworth Board of Education meeting held on September 19, 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.*

### **Financial Hearing**

- Dr. LeRoy gave a [presentation](#) summarizing the expected revenues, expenses and assumptions that went into the FY17 budget. Dr. LeRoy explained that this year's budget will remain largely similar to last year's budget. Dr. LeRoy noted that the budget includes a \$3 million placeholder to cover any potential facility projects started during the 2016-2017 school year. The Board is in the preliminary stages of planning for potential building updates and all key stakeholders will be involved in the process.

### **Recognition of Appreciation**

- Mr. Wallace presented resolutions of appreciation from the Kenilworth Board of Education to The Joseph Sears School Booster Club and The Joseph Sears School Parents' Volunteer Association. Resolutions were presented to the following: [2014-2015 Booster Club](#); the [2015-2016 Booster Club](#); the [2014-2015 JSSPVA](#); and the [2015-2016 JSSPVA](#).

### **Community Presentation**

(You can watch a recording of the community forum [here](#).)

- Mr. Wallace gave a [presentation](#) that summarized district finances, facilities, student performance and stakeholder satisfaction during the community open forum. Mr. Wallace noted that:
  - The District continues to operate from a strong financial position.
  - The Board has entered the preliminary stages of planning for potential capital improvement projects. Facility projects will focus on enhancing the student educational experience. The District's financial profile supports upgrades to the facility and the Board will look to make these upgrades without imposing a referendum on residents.
  - Students in the District perform better on average than other New Trier Township districts. Data from New Trier Township High School indicates that graduating Joseph Sears School students are taking more advanced courses and earning higher grades when compared to other high school students.
  - Parent and faculty survey satisfaction ratings have declined in some key areas during the past year. The Board has deployed resources to address issues raised in surveys.
- Following Mr. Wallace's presentation, the Board engaged in dialogue with community members on a variety of key topics.

## Administrative Reports

- **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. LeRoy reported that village construction is still on schedule to be completed by the end of October 2016.
- **Chief School Business Official's Report:** Dr. LeRoy reviewed the [Extreme Heat Procedures Protocol](#) that the District has implemented to support students and faculty during warm weather days.
- **Principal's Report:** Mrs. Wallace reported that the longer blocks of time incorporated in the Master Schedule have supported critical thinking and depth of learning in the classroom. Mrs. Wallace also discussed the new "Second Cup of Coffee" parent information sessions. A session about children and technology usage will take place at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 29. An additional session, which will feature keynote speaker Carol Jago, will cover English/Language Arts writing standards and the Common Core. This session will take place at 8:30 a.m. on Oct. 5.

## Board Action

- The Board unanimously approved the consent agenda to include the approval of: [minutes for the August 15, 2016 regular meeting](#) and closed session; financial report for August 2016; investment report for August 2016; accounts payable from August 16, 2016 to September 15, 2016; authorization to destroy closed session recording for March 2016; release of closed session minutes; family medical leave request for certified employee(s); acceptance of certified employee request for retirement; the proposed fiscal year 2017 budget
- The Board also unanimously approved administrator goals pending revisions of select goal items related to survey data. Approved administrator goals for the 2016-2017 school year are as follows:
  - [Superintendent's Goals](#)
  - [Principal's Goals](#)
  - [Director of Student Services' Goals](#)
- The Board unanimously approved the hiring of Ms. Debbie Beluch as a 0.7 FTE science teacher and 0.3 FTE instructional assistant and long-term substitute.
- The Board unanimously approved the recommendation to increase sixth grade science teacher Ms. Andrea Urquhart from 0.7 FTE to 1.0 FTE.
- The Board unanimously approved the recommendation to increase salary and benefits for instructional assistants. Mr. Wallace noted that the increased compensation is a result of an increased school day along with an effort to provide competitive wages to instructional assistants when compared to other districts in the township.
- The Board unanimously approved the recommendation to increase teacher substitute salary rates. Mr. Wallace noted that the increase was made to provide competitive wages to substitutes when compared to other districts in the township.
- The Board unanimously approved a salary increase for Mr. Max Casas. Mr. Wallace noted that the salary increase will align with the increased job responsibilities of Mr. Casas' position.

## **Board Discussion**

- The Board discussed the [Faculty/Staff Contact Guide](#) and the [Community Contact Guide](#). The Faculty/Staff Contact Guide will be shared with faculty and the Community Contact Guide has been posted to the district website.
- The Board discussed the 2016 Annual Report. Board members suggested several changes to the annual report, include the addition of a faculty spotlight section and the inclusion of PARCC data. Mr. Erokwu noted that the annual report will be printed and distributed to all district households in October.

**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](mailto:listen@kenilworth38.org). Thank you!

Scott Wallace, President  
Kenilworth Board of Education