

District 38 "Board Briefs" for the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2017

The information below summarizes highlights from the Kenilworth Board of Education meeting held on April 17, 2017. 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.

Administrative Reports

- **Superintendent's Report** - Dr. LeRoy discussed the upcoming board reorganization meeting in which the newly elected members will be seated on the board. The reorganizational meeting will take place at 5 p.m. on April 27. The board will select a new president and vice-president during the meeting. Dr. LeRoy noted that all board members, including newly seated members, are eligible to be an officer for the board.
- **Chief School Business Official's Report** - Dr. LeRoy provided opportunity for discussion on district finance and investment reports.
- **Principal's Report** - Mrs. Wallace gave a brief update on ELA curriculum development. The district's adoption of ELA writing curricular materials may be delayed as faculty and staff continue to test and research new materials.
- **Director of Student Services' Report** - Mr. Sabourin summarized the student services workload plan and gave an update on extended school year offerings. Due to low interest from families, the District will no longer partner with Wilmette School District No. 39 to provide extended school year offerings during the summer. The extended school year program will continue at Sears.

Board Action

- The board unanimously approved the consent agenda to include the approval of: [minutes from the March 20, 2017 regular meeting](#) and closed session; [minutes from the April 10, 2017 special meeting](#); approval of the monthly financial report for March 2017; approval of investment reports for March 2017; approval of accounts payable for March 21, 2017 to April 17, 2017; authorization to destroy closed session recordings for October 2015.
- The board unanimously approved the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the

Kenilworth Park District related to a potential long-term lease of a renovated Village House.

- The board unanimously authorized the refinancing of District general obligation bonds. The District's Series 2007 Bonds are subject to optional redemption prior to maturity on December 1, 2017. Interest rates have been volatile and the Federal Reserve is expected to continue to raise interest rates several more times in 2017. In order to lock in savings, the District has exercised the option to refund the bonds now in advance of the redemption date. The estimated savings from refunding the bonds is approximately \$432,770.
- The board unanimously approved the 1:1 technology device proposal (see below.)
- The board approved the extension of Mrs. Wallace's employment contract through the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Wallace noted that the contract extension discussion came as a result of the need to stagger administrative contracts for the three District administrators. The contract terms and rates of salary increase and bonus eligibility included in Mrs. Wallace's contract would remain unchanged.

Board Discussion

- Dr. LeRoy led the board in a discussion about the strategic plan. A small group of board members worked with the administration to incorporate feedback from parents, students and teachers into a revised draft of the plan. After discussion, it was determined that the mission, vision and strategic goals would be further revised then presented for board approval in July.
- Board members discussed the annual parent survey set to be released at the beginning of May. The parent survey will include the same questions used last year along with several questions intended to measure satisfaction in various District departments. Board members encourage all parents to participate in this year's parent survey.
- Mr. Erokwu presented the first [draft of the District's communication plan](#) for the 2017-2018 school year. A final version of the plan will be presented for board approval in June.
- Mrs. Allison Drew, Mrs. Enza Fox and Ms. Elizabeth LeBris gave a presentation on the District's 1:1 technology device initiative. A five-year plan, which the board approved, has been put in place to purchase and standardized tablet devices across all grade levels. Starting next year, the district will provide 1:1 iPads in grades 3-8 with additional devices available for lower grade levels. Board members discussed options for student accountability with District devices, including a potential insurance offering and a fee assessment

schedule.

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 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