



The information below summarizes highlights from the District 38 Board of Education (BOE) meetings. As always, the community is welcome and encouraged to attend BOE meetings. Agendas are posted 48 hours in advance of meetings to the website and [board packets](#) before each meeting and [board minutes](#) once approved. Regular meetings are recorded and posted to the site within 48 hours for viewing.

NOTE: At this time, the BOE will be conducting virtual meetings. Information to virtually attend a meeting is posted on the meeting agenda on our website under [Meeting Documents](#) 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Kenilworth District 38 Board Briefs

Regular Meeting of April 20, 2020

Highlights

➤ Remote Learning Update

Dr. Leali provided an update on Remote Learning happening during the COVID-19 school closure. To follow Illinois Governor Pritzker's STAY-AT-HOME order, the school building and the school playgrounds are closed for the remainder of the school year. The Remote Learning plans in place for students will continue for the duration of the school closure order; any changes to the process will be shared with student families through email and posted on the school website. The [Remote Learning Guidelines](#) posted on the school's website are designed to assist students and parents with the process. The programming will continue to evolve as we receive feedback from teachers and families, and we adjust to this current situation. A survey went out today asking for stakeholders to join a Remote Learning Steering Committee to help us determine what issues need to be addressed for the rest of the school year and beyond, including the summer schedule. Surveys are available on the [Remote Learning web page](#) for parents and students to give feedback on their virtual learning experiences. Registration is open (virtually) for returning students, and parents are encouraged to register as soon as possible to help determine the enrollment numbers for next year. An email to the registration link has been sent out to current students.

➤ New Hires

The Board of Education will be reviewing incoming student enrollment numbers and fiscally responsible cost structures in all hiring decisions to ensure school spending does not outpace enrollment.



Business Manager

The BOE voted to approve incoming Superintendent Kate Donegan's recommendation to hire Dr. Joseph Bailey as the Business Manager for next year. Dr. Bailey, a retired superintendent, recently served as the Business Manager at Golf District 67 in Morton Grove, and also as interim Business Manager at Fremont District 79 in Mundelein after retiring as superintendent in 2017.

Joe, as he likes to be called, earned his Doctorate in Education at the University of Illinois, and served as a teacher and principal before becoming a superintendent at Taft School District 90 in Lockport, IL, in 2001. He also served as superintendent in Medinah District 11 in DuPage County for ten years, before moving to Lincolnwood Dist. 74, where he retired after serving as superintendent for four years. His experiences as a superintendent and more recently as a Business Manager make him a quality candidate for Kenilworth School District 38, where he will work closely with the new superintendent.

Orchestra Director

The BOE voted to approve Interim Assistant Principal Dr. Stephanie Helfand's recommendation to hire Spencer Frie as the Orchestra Director for the 2020-2021 school year. The interview process consisted of one 30-minute screening, one 45-minute technical session, one 30-minute committee observed virtual cello lesson with a 4th-grade Sears student, and a final 60-minute administrative interview. It is clear that Spencer has an optimistic demeanor, tremendous orchestra knowledge, and is student-focused. Spencer will be welcomed fully by our faculty, students, and community.

Spencer received his Master of Music Education from VanderCook College of Music (Chicago, IL) with a specialization in String Pedagogy in 2019, and a Bachelor of Arts from Saint John's University (Collegeville, MN) in 2014. Spencer is certified to teach K-12 Instrumental and Classroom Music in both Minnesota and Illinois. Spencer has six years of experience as an Orchestra Director for students in grades 4-12 in both Minnesota and Illinois, provides private string lessons, and was an Orchestra Camp Conductor for many years. In addition to teaching, Spencer is an Orchestra Member (Section Cello and Principal Cello) for Lake Shore Symphony.

School Exec Connect

The BOE publicly thanked School Exec Connect, the search firm hired to handle the administrative study and the search for the superintendent and administrative openings. The team at School Exec Connect worked diligently to find a selection of highly qualified candidates. The analysis, benchmarking, and recommendations provided were essential to helping select the right candidates to serve in these critical roles.



➤ **Master Facilities Planning**

The BOE discussed weighing the importance of the Master Facilities Plan (MFP) with other priorities for the school right now. Our incoming superintendent will be working on three major projects as they start their role in Kenilworth. These include:

- Instituting a new budgeting process and moving to a zero-based budgeting approach to be completed and implemented by 2021-2022
- Teacher contract negotiations in 2020-2021
- Master Facilities Planning

DLA Architects will be working with Dr. Leali and Ms. Donegan over the next several weeks to get feedback from the administration and teachers for the Master Facilities Planning process. As we are all remote, this information gathering may be slightly delayed. The current plan involves a Community Review meeting in June/July where initial architectural plans will be presented. The goal is to have a working draft of the Master Facilities Plan for the August 2020, Board of Education regular meeting and final approval of this at the September meeting. We will not proceed with any significant capital projects this summer, pending completion of the MFP.

We will continue to keep the community informed and allow opportunities for feedback throughout the process. Details can be found on the [Master Facilities Planning web page](#).

➤ **School Policy Update**

The BOE unanimously voted to adopt legal updates and language changes to the policy [2:70 School Board - Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies](#) that allows 60 days (up from 45) to fill a BOE vacancy after it occurs by a public vote at a meeting of the BOE.

➤ **Special BOE Meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2020**

The Kenilworth School District No. 38 Board of Education will hold a virtual special meeting on the 28th day of April, 2020. Closed session will begin at 7:30 p.m., and open session will begin at 7:45 p.m. More information and the meeting link can be found on the [meeting agenda](#).

Please direct your questions or comments to the Kenilworth School District No. 38 by sending an email to listen@kenilworth38.org. All messages are sent to the Board of Education members, Superintendent, and the Board of Education Secretary, and are subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Thank you!