



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 June 8, 2020

Highlights

Congratulations to The Joseph Sears School Class of 2020

Members of the Kenilworth 38 Board of Education congratulated The Joseph Sears Class of 2020 graduates. The Board, administrators, staff, graduates, and their families held the school's first-ever drive-in graduation ceremony on June 4, 2020, at the New Trier Northfield West parking lot, followed by the traditional Kenilworth car parade.

Appointment of New Board of Education Member- Mr. Bill Graham

The Kenilworth 38 Board of Education approved the appointment of Mr. Bill Graham as a new Member of the Kenilworth 38 Board of Education. The Kenilworth Citizens Advisory Committee recommended Mr. Graham to fill a Board vacancy through April of 2021.

Petition & the Diversity, Equity, and Belonging Committee

The BOE received several emails and welcomed visitors to the meeting during public comment to discuss a petition virtually circulating to change the name of The Joseph Sears School. The Board acknowledged that they are aware of the petition to change the school's name on change.org, and have read many emails concerning the petition and the school curriculum. The Board will look more closely at this issue and continue to address diversity, equity, and inclusion as a school and as a community.



Mrs. Mia Casey Sachs, board liaison to the school's Diversity, Equity and Belonging Committee (DEB), formed in 2019, commented that the school community will examine our current state of diversity as well as the history in collaboration with the broader community. While this work will be difficult and may be uncomfortable, it is necessary, and undertaking this will help the community grow. The DEB committee believes that broadening perspectives by listening and engaging in productive dialogue about how we can expand efforts in the school community to be more actively anti-racist will help us develop productive ways to take action and make positive change. This initiative is critical for our children because to be an engaged learner, a child must feel safe, included, and valued. The primary goal of the DEB Committee is to build and nurture a culture where inclusiveness is a reflex, not an initiative. The committee can address some things some things in the short term such as:

- Create opportunities to give voice to individuals who have felt marginalized in our community and find ways to support them
- Be transparent about the past, the present and the steps we are taking to make our community more inclusive in the future
- Ensure our curriculum adequately addresses race issues in our country

The Board was impressed by many of the Sears graduates and current and former New Trier graduates who are using their voices and actions to support social justice.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Leali provided an update on Remote Learning happenings during the COVID-19 school closure. The Remote Learning Steering Committee (RLSC) continues to work through many issues relating to the closure of in-person instruction, and we're starting to discuss reopening scenarios for the fall. The Communications and Feedback sub-committee formulated a comprehensive Remote Learning survey. They've also reviewed and approved the communication that went out today, Monday, June 8, which outlines the various reopening strategies that are under consideration in the decision-making process.

Although the Board has approved the 2020-2021 school calendar, the RLSC will be considering a modified/alternative school calendar as an option. In addition to the results gathered through the Remote Learning Survey, the school district will continue to solicit additional feedback as we evaluate the following learning scenarios:

1. Remote Opening (Enhanced Remote Learning) Restore Illinois Phase 1-3



2. Hybrid Opening (Teaching and Learning adaptations combined with physical adaptations noted above) Restore Illinois Phase 4
3. Adapted In-Person Opening (Back-to-Normal with physical adaptations, such as temperature checks, masks, social distancing, etc.) Restore Illinois Phase 5

The Curriculum and Assessment sub-committee has provided feedback and helped to structure the trimester three report cards, which will go home on June 15.

Additionally, the school celebrated a very successful eighth-grade promotion ceremony. Thanks to the work of our Eighth-Grade Graduation Committee of parents and teachers who worked hard to transform the traditions that have been beloved by the Sears community for many years into a virtual and outdoor celebration. A special thanks to the Board of Education for its encouragement and financial support, and for the participation of the community.

Enrollment projections are currently at 448 students enrolled in the 2020-2021 school year, and the full projection report is in the board packet.

Financial Reports

Dr. Zabilka reviewed district financials and is coordinating work on the 2020-2021 budget with Mr. Joe Bailey, the new CSBO. The Board approved the monthly financial and investment reports from May 2020, and the summary accounts payable. Dr. Zabilka set a Special BOE Meeting on June 29, 2:00 p.m., to review the budget process, the proposed 2020-2021 budget, and recommendations for improving the ongoing process. This will also serve as a timely transitional meeting for the incoming administration.

The Board approved the recommendation of the school administration for salary increases to the instructional assistants and 12-month support staff of 3 percent.

Summer School Recommendations

The Summer School/Extended School Year sub-committee for the Remote Learning Steering Committee developed a proposal for a summer JumpStart program to provide remote summer learning opportunities for students entering first through eighth grades. After much discussion, the collective decision was made not to offer a JumpStart program due to the many unknown factors regarding the future of in-person versus remote learning at this time. The primary focus of the administration should be reopening school in the fall and providing the best possible education in whatever form that takes. The sub-committee compiled a list of [Suggested At-Home Learning and Resources for Summer 2020](#) to engage students over the summer.



Mandated Extended School Year Services will be provided and held remotely. Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) that qualify for ESY Services will be notified.

Master Facilities Planning

New Vista Design and DLA Architects held highly successful teacher input sessions for the Master Facilities Plan (MFP). Four sessions were held with each of the grade bands and specials teachers. Enthusiasm is high for the project, and there was strong alignment with the guiding principles that had emerged from our Community Visioning sessions.

Next steps are:

1. Reconvene the Educational Leadership Team on June 9 to review teacher input and begin design visualization
2. Meet with Park District to discuss community space and potential design elements on June 24
3. Conduct a second Community Visioning session which will be scheduled in early July to obtain feedback on specific design options
4. Develop a draft MFP by DLA for review at our September Board Meeting

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](#).

Policy Update

The Policy Committee is looking into the possibility of working with the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to update our policies to encompass the most current legislative changes. This comprehensive approach would allow them to do a policy audit to make required updates. This may also be a less costly approach than the current practice of attorney review of policies.

The committee is also looking at the policy that concerns tutoring in the district and would like to hear community feedback on the topic to have thoughtful considerations on suggested changes.

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!