



Burbank School District 111

Board Briefs

September 23, 2020

Board of Education Meeting Summary

- Dr. Fleck announced that Member Duzakowitcs has achieved LeaderShop Member status and Member Thomas has achieved Master Board Member Level II status for completing professional development with the Illinois Association of School Boards.
- Ms. Lindemann provided a brief update on staffing for the district. She also spoke about the self-directed staff development program that took place last spring and over the summer. She said the program allowed teachers to complete courses of training for the platforms to be used for remote learning such as Microsoft Teams, Freckle, and Seesaw. She said that staff were compensated for each course completed and that over 3,000 courses were taken since last spring. Ms. Lindemann also said that the human resources department completed a COVID response protocol in accordance with ISBE, IDPH, and CDC guidelines and launched the CrisisGo application. She said that the PERA Joint Committee is being reconvened to review the teacher evaluation process during remote learning. She also reviewed the changes in the proposed amended school calendar.
- Ms. Flavin said that the E-learning Plan was shared digitally and reviewed at the September 21 Curriculum Council meeting. She said that there are no changes at this time and the plan will be updated and reviewed again in the spring. She also reviewed other topics on the Curriculum Council agenda. Ms. Flavin said that the September 16 half-day inservice included time for grade level and department teams to discuss what is working with remote learning, how digital resources are being used, and best practices for supporting students. She said that teachers also had time to continue training on digital platforms. She said that mid-terms have been updated based on parent, teacher, and principal input to more accurately reflect student progress with remote learning. Ms. Flavin said that many digital resource platforms are seeing unprecedented traffic and she has been working with publishers' technology teams to troubleshoot issues. She said that the curriculum department is also working on filling textbooks/manipulatives requests as well as purging outdated materials at Liberty.
- Ms. Welsh said that Child Find evaluations for pre-k and walk-in speech students have begun. She said that two new Emergent Bilingual staff members have joined the team and teachers have been completing screenings for kindergarten and new students. She said the district purchased the Mango Languages program, which will be beneficial for newcomers, but also for all students learning a second language. Ms. Welsh said an added benefit is the ability to select a native dialect and that family members can participate in the English as a Second Language learning program as well. She said that instructional coaches have been spread thin this year, with two assigned to long-term teaching assignments and the other two focusing on troubleshooting for remote learning. Ms. Welsh said that coaches and EL teachers participated in the technology troubleshooting sessions for families and that the student help desk has received over 220 student requests for assistance.

- Dr. Hock said that IEP teams have been meeting on students due for annual reviews, re-evaluations, initial evaluations, and 504s as well as following up on meetings from the school closure in the spring. She said that special education teams have been working with parents to best support students during remote learning and providing additional materials to send home as needed. Dr. Hock said that IEP teams worked diligently the first week of school to develop remote learning plans for all students with special needs in accordance with ISBE. She said the coach from Easter Seals met with special education staff during the September 16 half-day to discuss ways to improve student engagement in remote learning, provide differentiated instruction, and address disruptive or impulsive behavior. She also gave an update on the Read 180, System 44, and Ultimate SLP platforms. Dr. Hock said that department meetings were also held in the afternoon of the half-day and announced that the district nurse will begin the required ISBE classes for IEP designation.
- Dr. Ochoa said that the auditors are finalizing the annual audit, which will be presented to the board in October. She said she met with principals to review their building budgets and activity accounts. She said that minor changes are being made to the budget, which will be adopted at the special meeting on September 28. Dr. Ochoa reviewed grab & go meal numbers and said that the district was approved to provide free meals seven days a week. She said that fewer meals are being picked up than meals served during normal operations, but numbers are slowly increasing. Dr. Ochoa reviewed information on both CLIC and SCIP insurance cooperatives and said that she will ask the board for direction at the special meeting on September 28.
- Mr. Ficker said that they are currently working on punch list items such as touch-up painting, door hardware replacement, HVAC, marquis, and landscaping. He said the steel should be in early October for the small gym to be completed. He said that custodial and maintenance staff are working on projects while students are not in session, which includes weeding/trimming, painting, cleaning window units, cleaning windows and screens, deep cleaning restrooms, clearing out storage, and fixing old furniture. Mr. Ficker also said that he will begin working on summer projects now in order to lock in the best contractors and pricing. He said the projects would include lighting, HVAC upgrades, painting, and sealcoating. He said the facilities committee will be meeting soon and recommendations will be presented in October.
- Mr. McCartney said that new devices were ordered for K-5 teachers due to slow response times and unsuccessful troubleshooting. He said devices have been distributed and they will be hooking up projectors and extra USB ports when they arrive. He said the audio system installment at Maddock should be finished by the end of the week. Mr. McCartney said that the internet service will be getting upgraded and should be live by mid-October. He also mentioned that the firewall would be getting an upgrade at a discount since the model Sonicwall recommended was actually undersized for our district. He said that a technology staff member was present to assist at the technology troubleshooting sessions and that coaches and interventionists have been invaluable assisting with the Student Help Desk. Mr. McCartney also mentioned work on rostering, punch list items at Liberty, and upcoming projects for October.
- Employment recommendations for 2020-21 were approved.
- Salary lane changes for 2020-21 were approved.
- Student teaching placements for 2020-21 were approved.

- The board approved the amended 2020-21 school calendar. The changes are as follows:
 - November 3 – State Holiday (Election Day)
 - December 23 – Half-Day In-service
- The board adopted, for first reading, Board Policy 3:30E – Organizational Chart and changes to board policies as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) via PRESS and as recommended by the attorney.
- The board will conduct interviews for the vacant board seat during the special board meeting already scheduled for September 28 at 5:15 pm at Kennedy School. The meeting will reconvene to continue interviews on October 1 at 5:00 pm at Kennedy School and reconvene again on October 5 at 5:00 pm at Kennedy School to seat the new member.