



Burbank School District 111

Board Briefs

December 15, 2021

Board of Education Meeting Summary

- A Public Hearing for the 2021 Tax Levy was held at 5:45 pm prior to the regular board meeting.
- Ms. Rein and Dr. Walker-Hood submitted a principal's report which included a flashback of events and activities that were held the previous month and a flash forward of great things to come.
- Ms. Lindemann said that the LGBTQ+ Committee held a parent workshop in the evening of December 8 which focused on Gender Identity. She recognized the staff in the health department who have been instrumental in maintaining COVID protocols and communicating with families while taking care of the other health needs of all our students. Ms. Lindemann said that teachers will be compensated this month for additional quarantine pay and reviewed the Return to School Plan and protocols. She reviewed recent communications with staff to clear up any confusion and said staff would be paid on the December 17 check.
- Ms. Flavin reviewed the recent half-day inservice which reviewed key components of the Branching Minds platform. She said a teacher from Sahs Elementary School visited the STEM lab at Liberty to view a class in action, review lesson/unit planning, and learn about resource choices and funding. Ms. Flavin said that she collaborated with the Overdrive SORA team at Liberty to provide Spanish language books for Spanish class and first language students on the online e-book platform. She said that Twig Science teams have been meeting to work on pacing guides and "at-a-glance" guides for grade levels. She said Curriculum Council will meet on December 20 and will preview Learn Zillion EL Resources prior to the regular agenda. Ms. Flavin said that she attended the Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) online summit on December 8 and will incorporate the ideas and practices into the MTSS process in District 111.
- Ms. Welsh said that nine new at-risk students were invited to the pre-school program this month. She said the Emergent Bilingual department will meet to review expectations regarding IAR accommodations and any new information regarding ACCESS testing. She gave an update on coaching impact cycles and other assignments. Ms. Welsh said that interventionists will meet as a team to discuss data and growth of students who have been serviced by this department over the past few months.
- Dr. Hock said that virtual modules for de-escalation training have been sent to staff at Liberty, Fry, and Tobin and that they will have the opportunity to participate in in-person training during the half-day inservice on January 26. She said Easter Seals will be at Fry and McCord December 16 and that all eight buildings are working on establishing calming spaces for students. She said she met with St. Francis University to establish a partnership for social work interns beginning in the Fall of 2022. She said that student services has begun exploring furniture options for the instructional K-5 classrooms for the next school year. And finally, Dr. Hock recognized select student services staff members for going above and beyond.

- Dr. Ochoa gave a brief overview of the tax levy during the public hearing. She said the tax levy remains unchanged from the tentative levy presented last month and is limited to a 1.4% increase. She also noted a new Public Act taking place immediately where a taxing district's levy will automatically be increased each year to recapture property tax refunds made in the 12 months prior arising from PTAB appeals, tax objections, or certificates of error. Dr. Ochoa asked the board to adopt the Resolution Abating Taxes for Payment of Series 2021 General Obligation Bonds in order to pay the district's portion of the AERO Therapeutic Center project. She gave an update on the waiver extension for the grab and go breakfast program. Dr. Ochoa reviewed the policy renewal for SSCIP Property and General Liability at a 5% increase from last year. She said the Treasurer's Office has prepared, published, and filed the FY21 Annual Statement of Affairs (ASA), which contains a financial summary of district funds, tax rates, equalized assessed valuation, and enrollment. Dr. Ochoa said that she and Mr. Ficker have been working with Vanguard Energy Services to lock in low rates for natural gas and electric and plan to renew the agreement for a 3-year period.
- Mr. Ficker asked the board to approve the purchase of flexible, modern classroom furniture for multiple elementary buildings. He said the new library furniture for Byrd and Maddock has been ordered and the libraries will be prepped over winter break. Once again, Mr. Ficker thanked the board for approving summer projects back in October as it's helped the district get ahead in preparations as well as ensuring our district's projects will actually be completed on time. He said that during winter break, the buildings & grounds staff will have professional development, a team building activity, new hire training, some maintenance projects, and deep cleaning of the schools.
- Mr. McCartney said the technology department is continuing to roll out the multi-form authentication (MFA) to all staff to be completed by December 30. He said they have been working with PowerSchool to enable Single Sign On using Azure to our student information system. He said he is currently reviewing the six proposals received for WAN and internet services. Mr. McCartney said they are working with Rival5 on a possible phone system migration for the 2022-23 school year, which would allow the district to discontinue all aging and expensive analog lines. Consolidate faxing services, and comply with new E911 laws. He also reviewed technology projects taking place over winter break.
- The board approved employment recommendations.
- Coaches and sponsors for the 2021-22 school year were approved.
- Student teaching placements for the 2021-22 fall semester were approved.
- The board approved contracts for classroom furniture for Byrd, Kennedy, Maddock, McCord, and Tobin.
- The board approved the renewal with SSCIP Property & General Liability Policy.
- The board adopted the Resolution Abating Taxes for a Payment of Series 2021 General Obligation Bonds.
- The board the adopted the Resolutions and Certificate of Tax Levy for the 2021 Tax Year.
- Dr. Fleck announced that Dr. Abousweilem will be surveying the students and parents of the Class of 2022 and Class of 2023 for their preference on having a traditional or drive-thru graduation ceremony.

- Dr. Fleck mentioned the possibility of updating the board policy on student uniforms to include navy blue shirts. He said the topic of uniforms was recently discussed at Liberty's Unity Meeting. He said it will be discussed again at the next board meeting and the board suggested inviting the student council president to present.