

Community Consolidated School District 15 Board of Education

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MISSION STATEMENT

To produce world-class learners
by building a connected learning community.



BOARD BRIEFS: *January 11, 2017, Regular Meeting*

[Meeting Video](#) and [Agenda Attachments](#)

Pledge of Allegiance—Stuart R. Paddock School: ([Video Clip: 00:00-03:50](#)) Rachel Bland, Stuart R. Paddock School Principal, introduced the school's chorus, which performed a song before leading the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent's Report—Superintendent's Goals Update: ([Video Clip: 05:06-09:18](#)) Scott Thompson, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, presented the Board with a summary of the work that has been done thus far to meet his six goals for the year.

- **Goal #1: Full-day Kindergarten:** The District continues to have inadequate space for considering full-day kindergarten for all children. It currently has 12 full-day programs for bilingual students (funded through federal grants). This topic will be a discussion item at the District's upcoming community engagement sessions.
- **Goal #2: Academies:** The concept of the academies will also be examined during the community engagement sessions. Stakeholders will provide feedback on the ideas of dual-language, STEM, or other types of academies.
- **Goal #3: Curriculum Revision Schedule:** This goal has been achieved. The District's curricular review cycle is operational, and the many improvements to student learning have been shared with the Board regularly through previous communications.
- **Goal #4: Preschool Expansion:** The plan was created, and the improvements made in the 2015-16 school year continue to be in operation this year. They will provide additional opportunities for 20 at-risk preschool students by securing additional funding through the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge: Illinois Preschool Expansion Grant. Although constructing these two additional preschool classes at John G. Conyers Learning Academy has not allowed the District to expand its preschool program, it has freed up needed space in other schools and reduced the time preschool students spend on their bus rides.
- **Goal #5: Potential Transportation Savings through Busing Schedule Changes:** The District's Transportation Task Force met last year and crafted a report that was shared with the Board in March. Its recommendations will be reconsidered after the upcoming community engagement sessions have identified the D15 community's priorities. However, changes implemented this summer produced an additional \$340,000 in transportation reimbursements from the state by consolidating preschool students onto regular routes.
- **Goal #6: Enhanced Student Extracurricular Opportunities:** The following are recent enhancements to the District's extracurricular offerings for students:
 - The Winston Campus Junior High Community School continues to offer an extensive selection of extracurricular opportunities for students, as well as programs for parents and families.
 - This fall, the Capital One Codes Club program that launched last year at Carl Sandburg and Winston Campus Junior Highs expanded to Plum Grove and Walter R. Sundling Junior Highs, where the partnership provided another 40 students with the opportunity to learn coding. Another group of students will get to participate in these Capital One Coders Club programs this spring.
 - Museum of Science and Industry partnerships at Plum Grove and Walter R. Sundling Junior Highs are bringing curricular and programmatic additions to science instruction.

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Superintendent's Report—Water Quality Testing: ([Video Clip: 09:19-10:19](#)) Dr. Thompson reported that water testing was conducted over winter break at all of the District's facilities. The District should have the results of those tests by early February, and it will use those results to ensure that the potable water sources in each of its schools are as safe as possible, and to make improvements where testing data indicate they are needed. District 15 will also share the water quality testing results with the general public, and should the testing indicate any concerns regarding any water sources in any of its facilities, the District will directly inform those school communities of the issues that have been encountered and the solutions that will be implemented.

Superintendent's Report—Community Engagement Planning Committee: ([Video Clip: 10:19-14:08](#)) Dr. Thompson reported that 42 residents applied to be part of the District's new Community Engagement Planning Committee, which will hold its first meeting on Thursday, January 19. All of the applications have been forwarded to the two committee co-chairs selected to run the committee, and their plans are to invite all 42 applicants to participate in the planning process.

The Community Engagement Planning Committee will be tasked with engaging the community to obtain its values and priorities. The committee will initially meet to determine the structure and content of an upcoming series of community engagement sessions. Those sessions will involve a broad base of stakeholders and will aim to produce a set of principles embodying the District 15 community's values for its schools. Committee members will participate in those community engagement sessions, and each member will then be a part of analyzing input from those meetings and creating a set of recommendations that will inform the Board of Education's policies and decisions related to the future of District 15's schools.

Board Policy—First and Second Readings: ([Video Clip of First Readings: 15:36-17:29](#); [Video Clip of Second Readings: 31:49-33:09](#)) As a result of the federal government's transition from the expired No Child Left Behind Act to the new Every Student Succeeds Act, the District must make minor changes mostly related to wording to 176 pages of policy as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Board's Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS). In December, the Board conducted first readings of nine of the affected policies relating to the Board of Education, School Administration, and Operational Services. During this meeting, it approved those policies after it conducted a second reading of them. It also conducted first readings on another 42 affected policies related to Operational Services, Personnel, Instruction, and Students.

Citizens Address the Board: ([Video Clip: 17:30-19:42](#)) Two residents addressed the Board—one regarding the Community Engagement Planning Committee, and one regarding the District's Google Chromebook pilot.

Resolution—Bond Issuance for Life Safety Projects: ([Video Clip: 23:44-26:14](#)) The Board approved a resolution providing for the issue of up to \$9.9 million of General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2017. These bonds will be used to fund the rest of the \$27.25 million in life safety projects that the District began over the 2016 summer break and plans to complete over the 2017 summer break. The projects funded by these bonds include all of the items in the District's life safety study that must be corrected within one year, as well as some items that must be corrected within five years.

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Wednesday, February 8, 2017, at 7 p.m. at Walter R. Sundling Junior High, 1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine.