

Community Consolidated School District 15 Board of Education

580 N. 1st Bank Drive, Palatine, Illinois 60067 • 847-963-3000 • www.ccsd15.net

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MISSION STATEMENT

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



BOARD BRIEFS: *December 14, 2016, Regular Meeting*

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

Pledge of Allegiance—John G. Conyers Learning Academy: ([Video Clip: 00:00-03:31](#)) Kathy Pluymert, Ph.D., John G. Conyers Learning Academy Principal, introduced a group of preschool students to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. “The focus of this particular classroom is kindergarten readiness,” said Dr. Pluymert. “Our preschool students learn the Pledge through a call-and-response format, so we will be saying the Pledge together this evening in this way. Our Board of Education members, parents, and community members can join us to experience one of the ways in which we teach our young students to learn complex and challenging tasks.”

Presentation—Student Achievement Report: ([Video Clip: 03:31-31:02](#)) Thomas Edgar, Ph.D., Director of Assessment, Accountability, and Programs; and Laura Swanlund, Ph.D., Coordinator of the District 15 Psychology Department and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Response to Intervention (RTI) Programs, presented the 2015-16 Student Achievement Report to the Board. This annual report is intended to inform the community and enhance its understanding of current District profiles and levels of achievement by providing the following:

- A comprehensive accounting of the District’s progress over the past year toward meeting its rigorous Student Performance Targets.
- Factual information regarding the current student demographic profiles of District 15 and their potential impact on student achievement results.
- Background information on the assessments used.
- Measures from multiple assessments to gauge proficiency, growth, and outcomes.
- The most up-to-date information regarding current educational practices, programs, and initiatives implemented to enhance proficiency, growth, and outcomes while narrowing the achievement gap.
- An easy-to-read narrative report with embedded tables and charts that can be posted on the District’s website and shared with all stakeholders.
- Information on future updated student performance monitoring reports.

Superintendent’s Report: ([Video Clip: 31:02-48:39](#)) Scott Thompson, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, shared the following with the Board:

- **Water Quality Testing:** He reported that water testing will be conducted over winter break at all of the District’s facilities to ensure drinking and potable water is safe for consumption by students and staff.
- **Bus Driver Qualifications and Licensure:** He reviewed the process of selecting, training, and qualifying District bus drivers.
- **New Curtain Wall at Frank C. Whiteley School:** He shared that RFPs have been issued for the replacement of curtain walls at Whiteley, and noted that the Board will be asked to approve bids for this project in January.
- **Community Engagement Planning Committee:** He announced plans to invite all D15 stakeholders to apply for membership on the District’s new Community Engagement Planning Committee, which will be tasked with engaging the community to obtain its values and priorities. The committee will 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

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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.

Citizens Address the Board: No citizens chose to address the Board.

Approval of the 2018-19 School Calendar: ([Video Clip: 56:52-56:27](#)) The Board approved the official 2018-19 school calendar. Key dates are as follows:

- **Beginning of the School Year:** Staff Institute Days are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, August 13 and 14. Grades 1-8 will begin classes on Wednesday, August 15. Kindergarten and early childhood classes will begin on Thursday, August 16.
- **Thanksgiving:** Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Thursday, November 22. There will be no school that week, but parent-teacher conferences will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 19 and 20.
- **Winter Break:** There will be no school from Monday, December 24, through Friday, January 4, with schools reopening on Monday, January 7.
- **Spring Break:** There will be no school Monday, March 25, through Friday, March 29, with schools reopening Monday, April 1.
- **End of the School Year:** The last day of school—including snow days—will be Wednesday, June 5. Depending upon the number of snow days used, the last day of school will be moved back accordingly at the April 2019 Board meeting.

Bid Award—2017 Summer Life Safety Projects: ([Video Clip: 56:27-59:01](#)) The Board approved \$13.5 million of bid awards related to the District's list of 2017 summer life safety projects, which will include electrical, mechanical, roofing, plumbing, and flooring replacements and upgrades at nine schools. Prior to approving the bids, the Board also approved a resolution authorizing life safety amendments that will allow the District to complete additional life safety projects at Carl Sandburg Junior High, Pleasant Hill School, and John G. Conyers Learning Academy. Savings realized as the District completes its initial list of life safety projects will allow the District to use its life safety bonds to fund these three projects, as well.

Authorization of Certificate of Tax Levy: ([Video Clip: 59:01-1:00:26](#)) The Board approved the District's levy for the 2016 tax year. The levy provides for the slight increase in property tax revenue that the tax cap allows each year for inflation and new growth. This levy proposal is expected to result in a 2016 extension increase of roughly 1 percent (0.7 percent for inflation and 0.3 percent for an estimated \$10 million in new growth) to approximately \$124.72 million for all funds, including debt service.

The Board is considering abating the value of this year's 0.7 percent inflation adjustment from the District's debt service levy, and has through the end of February to pass an abatement resolution should it choose to do so. Such an abatement would reduce the District's 2016 extension by \$825,908 to a total of about \$123.9 million for all funds, including debt service.

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2017, at 7 p.m. at Walter R. Sundling Junior High, 1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine.