

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: August 12, 2015, Regular Meeting

Public Hearing on the Adoption of the FY2016 Tentative Budget: The Board conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2015-16 budget, which was first presented at the Board's June 17 meeting, and will be presented for adoption during the Board's next regular meeting on Wednesday, September 9.

The current budget proposal outlines approximately \$150 million in operating fund revenues and \$153 million of operating fund expenditures resulting in an estimated \$3 million deficit. That shortfall is projected to reduce the District's June 30, 2016, fund balance to approximately \$52 million, or roughly 34 percent of the District's budget. The budget includes \$3.35 million of capital projects funding, and \$1.5 million of expenditures related to the District's new math curriculum adoption.

During the hearing, Michael Adamczyk, chief school business official, explained how the proposal had slightly changed since the June 17 meeting, and he emphasized that it would continue to be updated to reflect the District's latest calculations as they relate to staffing changes before it is presented for adoption. Also during the hearing, one citizen commented, asking the Administration to provide more information on the assumptions that the budget is built upon.

Later in the meeting, during his reports to the Board, Scott Thompson, Ed.D., superintendent of schools, outlined his proposal to reduce the budget by roughly \$1 million. These cost savings would be realized by leasing technology that the District had planned to purchase, and by a 5 percent across-the-board reduction of the District's supplies and purchased services funds. These reductions will be included in the budget when it is presented to the Board for adoption on September 9.

Superintendent's Reports—Introduction of New Administrators: Dr. Thompson introduced the Board to the District's 2015-16 class of new principals and assistant principals:

- **Rachel Bland** will serve as Stuart R. Paddock School's principal. Mrs. Bland served for the past 10 years as an assistant principal at Gray M. Sanborn and Willow Bend Schools.
- **Matt Warren** will serve as Winston Campus Junior High's principal. Mr. Warren has served for the past five years as an assistant principal at Winston Campus Junior High and John G. Conyers Learning Academy.
- **Jennifer Seoane** will serve as Lake Louise School's principal. Mrs. Seoane has served for the past three years as the assistant principal at Lake Louise.
- **Kelly Rice** will serve as an assistant principal at Winston Campus Junior High. Mr. Rice has served for the past six years as the dean, physical education director, and activities and athletics director at Naperville Bridge School.
- **Michelle LaCamera** will serve as assistant principal at Lake Louise School. Mrs. LaCamera has served for the past five years as an assistant principal in Chicago Public Schools.
- **Pablo Arboleda** will serve as assistant principal at Winston Campus Elementary. Mr. Arboleda has served for the past six years as an assistant principal in Waukegan Community Unit School District 60.
- **Marilynn Smith** will serve as assistant principal at Gray M. Sanborn School. Ms. Smith has served for the past five years as a teacher in Round Lake Area School District 116 and Waukegan Community Unit School District 60.
- **Patricia VanWinkle** will serve as assistant principal at Central Road School. Mrs. VanWinkle has served for the past three years as an assistant principal in Keeneville School District 20.

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Superintendent's Reports—Recommendation for Construction Management Firm: During a special meeting on July 23, the Board heard presentations from two firms interested in serving as the District's construction manager—Gilbane Building Co. and IHC Construction. The construction manager will represent the District's interests as it works with an assortment of contractors to complete the \$21.6 million of Life Safety Study projects that are categorized as requiring completion within two years. Following that meeting, the Administration evaluated the two firms by analyzing the details of their fee structures and checking their various references. The Administration then recommended, and the Board approved its recommendation, that the District enter into a contract for Gilbane to serve as its construction manager for the Life Safety Study construction work that will begin next summer.

Superintendent's Reports—Extracurricular Soccer Program Extension: Dr. Thompson recommended, and the Board later approved, an expansion of the junior soccer program that the District launched last year. The cost of offering this program last year was approximately \$45,000. This expansion is estimated to cost an additional \$35,000, but it will double the size of this popular new interscholastic athletic offering, as each junior high will now field boys' and girls' teams at both the seventh- and eighth-grade levels. In its first year, nearly 500 students tried out for the new soccer teams. However, each school fielded just two teams—a boys' team and a girls' team, each of which was comprised of a combination of 18 seventh- and eighth-grade students. So unfortunately, just 144 students were able to play on the new soccer teams. This year, with each school fielding four teams, 288 students will be able to participate.

Superintendent's Report—Board of Education Annual Goals (2015-16): Dr. Thompson presented the Board with a draft of the 2015-16 Annual Board Goals. The five main goals outlined within the 2015-16 Annual Board Goals were developed in accordance with the five-year Strategic Goal Map approved by the Board in the fall of 2011, and they have remained consistent since that time. They are as follows:

- **Improve Student Achievement:** Examine and align the comprehensive curriculum to include the Common Core Standards to meet student growth targets and the diverse needs of all students.
- **Learning & Organizational Development:** Enhance D15 schools as places creating successful young people who are knowledgeable, emotionally and physically healthy, motivated, civically inspired, engaged in the arts, prepared for work and economic self-sufficiency, and ready for the world.
- **Effective Instructional Environments:** Promote safe, inclusive and positive learning environments that encourage respect, foster collaboration and support equity.
- **Stakeholder Involvement:** Increase strategic communication initiatives that allow every stakeholder voice to be heard, making them active participants in our organization.
- **Resource Stewardship:** Ensure the District remains fiscally responsible while maintaining quality educational programs and facilities for our students.

In their entirety, each of these goals includes timelines, specific action items, and evaluation tools, and they assign specific administrators responsibility for each component of these plans. The specific actions outlined beneath each of these main goals are updated each year.

The Board is now seeking the community's input on these plans. To review the proposed 2015-16 Annual Board Goals in their entirety, and to provide your feedback on plans, click [here](#). Please submit comments by Tuesday, September 1. A final draft of the 2015-16 Annual Board Goals will be presented for approval at the Board's next regular meeting on Wednesday, September 9.

Superintendent's Report—Opening of the 2015-16 School Year: Dr. Thompson presented the Board with a brief preview of the upcoming school year. The District's 12,000-plus students are anxiously preparing for the first day of school later this month—buying school supplies, choosing new clothes, organizing backpacks, and awaiting teacher assignments to see which of their friends will be in their classes, he said. Meanwhile, noted Dr. Thompson, a variety of activities has occurred in the District over the summer:

- Fifty-five new teachers have joined the District this summer; 22 of them come to the District with master's degrees. These new teachers average 2.3 years of experience. They have gone through the District's

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orientation program and been paired with mentors to assist them with their transitions into their new teaching positions.

- A new Executive Director for Personnel & Human Services, a new Director for Assessment, Accountability, and Programs, three new principals, and five new assistant principals have joined the District and its Leadership Team, which continued to work hard over the summer to prepare for the upcoming school year.
- The District completed approximately \$3.65 million of summer maintenance projects, including roughly \$2.2 million in galvanized piping replacements and bathroom upgrades at Lincoln School and Plum Grove Junior High, \$235,000 of parking lot repairs at Plum Grove and Lake Louise School, and \$750,000 of fire alarm replacements at Thomas Jefferson, Gray M. Sanborn, Marion Jordan, Pleasant Hill, and Frank C. Whiteley Schools.
- In the midst of these various construction projects, the District's custodians have worked hard to deep clean the buildings in preparation for the new school year.
- The District continued to offer its Summer Early Learning Academy as a way to reach out to its emergent readers who need continued support over the summer months, and its Summer Blast program as a way to help its neediest students.
- The District will pilot new math programs in more than 150 classrooms this year, and it will continue its preparations to implement the Next Generation Science Standards next year.
- Teachers throughout the District are continuing to be trained in the new CHAMPS classroom management program that the District implemented last year.
- Principals underwent two days of professional development with representatives from the Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Washington. This training was designed to help principals clearly identify and develop the behaviors that excellent teachers exhibit, and it will help principals support their teachers' efforts to improve their instruction.
- Transportation is set to begin the school year with 152 drivers covering 144 routes.

ED-RED Council/Legislation: It was reported that the state has yet to approve a budget, but that Gov. Bruce Rauner signed into law a bill that increases K-12 funding by \$220 million. That has resulted in the proration amount for general state aid increasing from 89 percent to 92 percent, which has added an estimated \$355,486 to the District's 2015-16 budget.

District Fifteen Educational Foundation: It was reported that the Foundation's Board of Trustees will meet on Wednesday, August 26.

Citizens Address the Board: One resident addressed the Board regarding the District's bilingual programs and services.

District 15 Transportation Union (DTU) Agreement: The Board approved a new five-year collective bargaining agreement with the District 15 Transportation Union. The new contract becomes effective with the start of the 2015-16 school year and runs through the end of the 2019-20 school year. It provides for 2015-16 hourly wages for bus drivers and bus aides ranging from starting rates of \$16.70 for drivers and \$13.05 for aides, to top hourly rates of \$23.52 for senior drivers and \$19.41 for senior aides. After a prior two-year contract containing back-to-back wage freezes, the first-year cost to the District for this new contract is projected to average 2.51 percent. Hourly rates for the second through fifth years of the new contract are aligned with the state's property tax cap formula, which determines the percentage of property tax revenue coming to District 15, with each returning driver and aide receiving a minimum raise of 1.75 percent. In addition, drivers and aides will receive one additional paid holiday for each of the next three years to bring them in line with holidays enjoyed by the District's other work groups. The parties also agreed to continue their efforts to improve student safety by agreeing to new language involving training, mentoring, professional development, regular attendance, catastrophic illness, and traffic violations.

Also during the meeting:

- The Board approved the August 12, 2015, Personnel Report, as presented.
- The Board approved a renewed contract for Web hosting services with Blackboard Engage/Edline, Washington, DC, for a total cost of \$26,520, as presented.

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- The Board voted to award the contract for the AHU Replacement at the Educational Service Center Bid (16-001) to Amber Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Alsip, IL, for a total cost of \$377,900, as presented.
- The Board approved the following 17 Consent Calendar items:
 - June/July 2015 Investment Report
 - June/July 2015 Treasurer's Report
 - June/July 2015 Report of Payroll Vouchers and Invoices
 - May/June 2015 Activities Fund Report
 - June/July 2015 Budget Report
 - June/July 2015 Imprest Detail
 - Disposal(s) of District Property
 - Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Invoice (MAP Annual Renewal Subscription)
 - Purchase Requisition—Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (Math Workbooks)
 - Purchase Requisition—Heinemann (Fountas & Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention Program)
 - Purchase Requisition—Learning A – Z Program Licenses
 - Purchase Requisition—Benchmark Education Company (Soluciones)
 - Agreement for Professional Therapy Services—Primecare Health (Speech/Language Therapy Contract)
 - Agreement for Professional Therapy Services—SHC Services Inc. d/b/a Supplemental Health Care (Occupational Therapy Contract)
 - Pediatric Services of America Provider Agreement—Pediatric Services of America, Inc., d/b/a PSA Healthcare (Nursing Contract)
 - Hazardous Transportation Routes
 - Destruction of Executive Session Audio Recordings—October 2013
- It was reported that nine Freedom of Information Act requests were received last month.
- It was reported that the District received an \$11,521.96 impact fee checks from the Village of Palatine last month.

Next Regular Board of Education Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2015, at 7 p.m. at Walter R. Sundling Junior High School, 1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine.