



Lombard Elementary School District 44

Board Highlights

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.... from the March 14, 2017 Board of Education Meeting

Presentations

Mr. Shahe Bagdasarian, Principal of Glenbard East High School and Ms. Sandra Coughlin, Principal of Glenbard South High School shared a presentation regarding the smooth transition from Glenn Westlake Middle School to their respective high school.

Reports from Superintendent and Leadership Team

Superintendent Robey discussed the past meeting of the Middle School Task Force where norms were established with the purpose of the committee. Challenge facing the task force is to help develop broad vision for the staff to begin implementing. Work is being held in conjunction with the Middle School Teacher Team Leaders. Groups discussed strengths and challenge that the middle school currently faces. Superintendent Robey is very pleased with the initial work and enthusiasm of both groups. Team leaders will continue to meet monthly with the Superintendent and staff. Middle School Task Force has two more meetings planned for this year on Wednesday, April 19 and Thursday, May 18 5:00-7:00 PM

The Superintendent continues his goal of reading to every Kindergarten class this year. He is over half finished and had donated a book to each class for further enjoyment.

Cabinet members will build off of the Superintendent Coffee theme and visit each school starting the week of May 1. Staff members will be treated to "Coffee with Cabinet" where progress on Board goals will be reviewed and staff members will have the opportunity to discuss other relevant topics in an informal setting with all Cabinet.

Finance and Facilities

Assistant Superintendent Ted Stec stated that the annual renewal meeting for EBC would be on March 15th, where the final renewal rates will be discussed.

There was a Special Ed transportation bid opening on February 17. We received 2 bids and SEPTRAN was the lowest which was significantly higher than this year. If we accept the bid, our transportation costs will double. We have met with the other CASE districts and we are going out to bid together to try and control costs.

One classroom at each of the elementary buildings will test flexible learning furniture. Been working with staff over the last several months to reduce costs. The classrooms will be ready on April 3rd.

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The next facility committee meeting will be in early April. The focus will be flexible learning spaces in common areas and LRC's.

The board approved R.B. Crowther Company Inc. to perform the Glenn Westlake Middle School Roof replacement this summer.

Teaching and Learning

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Annetta Spychalski shared that we have had a couple of districts visit our teachers to observe Eureka Math.

The K-5 Science Committee has been studying and receiving professional development about the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) for the past two years. After studying the new philosophy and the depth of the changes in the standards, we are recommending the adoption of the engineering /STEM portion of the NGSS during the 2017-2018 school year and the science portion of the standards during the 2018-2019 school year.

The K-5 Language Arts Committee is currently hearing presentations from the final 3 curriculum representatives. At the conclusion of the three presentations, we will compile the results and evaluate each curriculum in order to find the best fit for our students. Our plan for the 2017-2018 school year will be for only LA Committee members to implementing this curriculum. Studies standards will be implemented in the 2017-2018 school year and we do not want to overwhelm all of our teachers; the LA Committee members, while implementing will be able to refine the roll-out process so that it will be smoother for all of our teachers in 2018-2019 and develop common assessments along the way.

The K-5 Social Studies Committee has been working to familiarize themselves with the new Illinois Social Science Standards. Inquiry standards are new to all grades and the teachers are continuing their learning about the development of inquiry skills through differentiation and release of gradual responsibility. The 6-8 Social Studies Departments have been collaborating on the vertical alignment of the complexity within the continuum of standards.

The Dual Language Committee met in March and discussed any impact of mobility using local student data. They concluded that mobility is not a factor as we move forward with planning. The committee will meet one more time in April to discuss and finalize their mission and vision, grade level rollout, entry criteria, curriculum materials, professional development and content and language allocation plan.

The Illinois Science Assessment will be administered on one day to our 5th and 8th grade students over the next couple weeks.

Special Services

Director of Special Services, Kari Smith shared that the EC and Kindergarten teachers met as a focus group after school to discuss the transition from early childhood to kindergarten.

The District 44 team met with ISBE and began their action plan for continuing articulation between elementary and middle school staff and teachers and to develop a goal for increasing achievement for students with IEP's. Staff will participate in articulation meetings between the

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5 and 6 grade teachers and related services on March 23rd our next Early Release Day. This will give us an opportunity to support a successful transition to Glenn Westlake Middle School.

Information Services

Director of Information Services, Alicia Duell shared that the ITC's have been providing and receiving a great deal of professional development the last month. The ITC's have also continued to meet with Middle School grade level departments on a biweekly basis and provided staff professional development on every District Early Release Day.

Ms. Duell and the ITC's have continued to work together to develop and adapt the K-8 Technology Skills Scope & Sequence. The 6-8 grade Scope & Sequence draft is in the process of being revised based on the feedback that was received from the middle school. K-5 grade Scope & Sequence draft is nearing completion and will be shared with the elementary teachers. The K-8 Technology Skills Scope & Sequence is on track to be completed and shared by the end of the year.

Human Resources and Public Relations

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Public Relations, Aldo Calderin shared the potential vacancies for the 2017-2018 school year. All non-tenured evaluations have been received making it possible for all certified staff to receive their SB7 letter confirming their current certifications, most recent evaluations and tier group.

In collaboration with the LEA, a tentative decision has been made to use Evaluwise (online evaluation program) beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

We will be enabling a text messaging service through School Messenger starting in April and a text-messaging alert went out last week. The test text will go out on April 10th and we will then know exactly how many have signed up for this.

Mr. Calderin recently visited ISU for a job fair where he met over 70 candidates. He will be attending a bilingual job fair with Maria Martin and Yesenia Vazquez next month.

The board approved the 2017-2018 newly tenured and non-tenured certified staff.