



September 25, 2013 meeting

Summit Hill District 161 Board Briefs

Serving 3,316 students living in portions of Tinley Park, Mokena, and Frankfort

For additional information, please contact Supt. Barb Rains at 815.469.9103

Board of Education approves \$36.9 million budget for 2013-14 school year

The Summit Hill School District Board of Education approved a \$36.9 million budget for the 2013-14 school year. Supt. Barb Rains said the District anticipates \$37.7 million in revenues and foresees \$36.9 million in anticipated expenditures. She said the District is in for another tight year. "The District will closely monitor expenditures as we go. Our local economy has shown signs of recovery but we know we will not be sure until we see steady, sustained growth. We continue to excel in student achievement while being fiscally responsible with our available human and financial resources."

Supt.'s Financial Advisory discusses building usage, structure of registration fees

The Superintendent Financial Advisory met on Sept. 19 to review changes to the facility usage rules and regulations and application form. Revisions include earlier submission of date requests; the need for all adults associated with the activity to wear their organization's ID for safety reasons; and insuring the organizations meet the required 50+% membership of District 161 students. The updated forms are available on the District website. The Advisory also began reviewing the structure of the District registration fee and associated school supply list items. Currently parents pay a \$150 registration fee and also incur expenses for grade level supplies. The District is exploring opportunities to cooperatively purchase some of the non-educational items on the supply lists such as tissue, paper towel, and sandwich bags so that parent purchases of supplies more clearly relate to classroom learning. Additionally, the District is looking into the local debt recovery program through the Illinois Office of the Comptroller to help recover uncollected debt such as unpaid registration fees. The local debt recovery program is at no fee to the District. The program reconciles uncollected debt with such income as tax refunds. If a match is found, the amount owed is deducted from the debtor plus a service fee. The process begins with the development of an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Office of the Comptroller as stated in Board Policy 4:45. Specific details will be brought forward at a future Board Meeting. The next meeting of the Superintendent's Financial Advisory is Nov. 21 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the District Administrative Center training room. Interested parents and staff members are welcome to attend.

Board recognizes students who participated in Tinley Park Library reading program

The Board recognized Arbury Hills and Walker students who participated in a summer reading program at the Tinley Park Public Library entitled, "Reading Takes You Anywhere". The District's Tinley Park Library liaison, Raknshanda Ahmad shared that students were given a "passport" to record their reading travels. The passport was then turned in and students received prizes for reading a certain number of books. More than 30 students received certificates of congratulations from the Board and Superintendent.

In personnel matters, the Board

- accepted the resignations of Sean Bartelt and Christy Galati;
- approved the request of an extraordinary leave; and
- employed Melissa Buishas as a paraprofessional, Kathleen Barry as a secretary, and Kimberly Leyendecker as a lunchroom supervisor.

In other matters, the Board

- heard a presentation by Auditor Ed McCormick on the financial audit process;
- appointed Board Member Stacey Borgens to the Negotiations Team with Board Vice-President Rich Marron as the alternate;
- heard an update on the Oct. 11 teacher in-service;
- heard curricular updates on the Honors Program Review from Assistant Principals John Wade and Dana Wright, the Math Common Core Teacher Leader meeting from Principals Pam Hodgson and Kathy Bisch; and English/LA Teacher Leader meeting from Principals Dan Pierson and Kathy Klein.
- heard a report on the Lincoln Way Curriculum Council meeting. Lincoln Way North teachers will meet with Summit Hill Jr. High teachers on Oct. 16 and Jan. 28 to articulate content changes resulting from Common Core implementation. They will then begin to map the gaps.
- heard a report on the SHEF meeting. It was additionally shared that 365 people participated in the 4th Annual District wide Run/Walk for Fun.
- heard an update on the status of maintenance projects at various district buildings;
- set the special meeting for planning for the 2014-15 year to be January 25, 2013; and
- set Sept. 29 as the date for the special meeting for Board Member candidate interviews.

Next Meeting of the Board of Education will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2013.

Sean William Doyle
President

Rich Marron
Vice President

David Faber
Secretary

Stacey Borgens
Member

Pam Kohlbacher
Member

Member

Richard Ward
Member