



April 10, 2019 meeting

Summit Hill District 161 Board Briefs

Serving 2,990+ students living in portions of Tinley Park, Mokena, and Frankfort

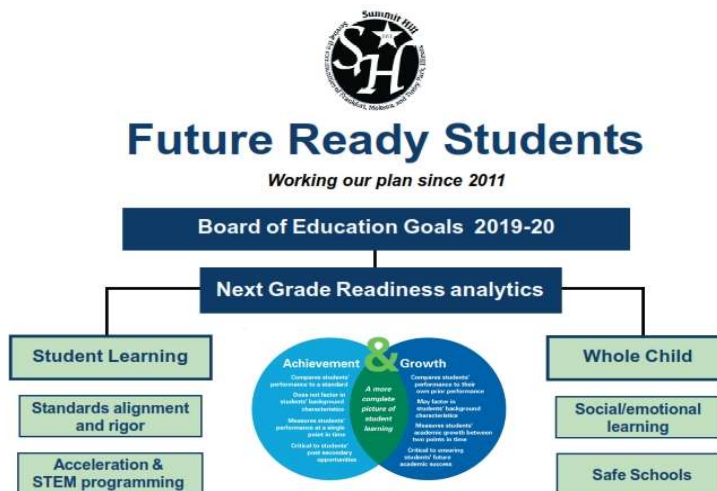
For additional information, please contact Supt. Barb Rains at 815.469.9103

Board hears school presentation, recognizes Those Who Excel recipients

At Wednesday night's meeting, the Board heard a presentation from Frankfort Square School music teacher Mrs. Leslie Ramick on how Class Notebook is accessed by her students to play their instrument for online feedback and grading. Students also shared three musical selections with the Board using their recorders. The Board also recognized two colleagues selected by their peers as Summit Hill District 161's Those Who Excel award winners. This local award honors staff members who have made outstanding contributions to public elementary education and shows these individuals how much their efforts are valued and appreciated. The honorees were Miryam Zayed, SHJH 8th grade math teacher and Frankfort Square School Nurse Anita Brown.

Board hears 2019-20 Plan for Student Achievement: Future Ready Students

For the 2019-20 school year, the District's Plan for Student Achievement will focus on Future Ready Students. Meetings with next grade readiness software advisors are underway to begin connecting live data sources so that grade-level readiness metrics can be developed later this fall. In addition to academic readiness, whole child indicators will be included so that students are viewed as individuals and not just a test score. The individual goals or indicators will be developed over the summer. Monitoring the Plan for Student Achievement: Future Ready Students aligns with Board Policy 6:15 which specifies multiple indicators to ensure students possess skills necessary for success in high school.



Board Goal 1 will focus on student learning via continued standards alignment and assessment design work, accelerated math and ELA programming, and development of STEM programming in the 2020-21 school year.

Board Goal 2 will focus on the whole child via a continued emphasis on social/emotional learning, cultural awareness, and the District Safe Schools plan which emphasizes bullying prevention.

Board Goal 3 will focus on future ready communication. Development of our SHSD161 mobile communications app is underway. The app will pull content from school and district websites, resources, and district social media streams into one convenient location for on-demand access to keep the entire community involved, informed, and engaged. Users will be able to personalize their experience. Additionally, District parents will be able to select on-demand academics from their PowerSchool account and instant notifications like emergency alerts. We look forward to communicating the launch of the SHSD161 mobile app in May to kick off our future ready communication.

Board Goal 4 will focus on a continued review of supports for students and staff, extended discussions of future building utilization, and monitoring of our financial forecast.

Board hears update on accelerated programming

At Wednesday night's meeting, the Board heard an update on accelerated programming. The District's 5-8 ELA and Math teachers have been a tremendous help in planning for the accelerated program. Relevant discussions have taken place during team meetings to shape this program. The program criteria document was reviewed with teachers and administrators. We have carefully reviewed the impact accelerated classes will have on our 70% / 30% special education balance. The committee believes the Board's inclusiveness factor has been met so that parent opt-ins during this first year would be minimal. As such, the opt-in waiver includes a statement that indicates the waiver is not a guarantee of participation in the program. The administrator will follow an appeals process. This will include a review of current data, review of current enrollment figures and a conversation with the parent / guardian. Placing additional students will be subject to availability.

The Illinois Learning Standards (Common Core) are the core of our curriculum. The Accelerated Program will utilize the same instructional materials and resources.

The topic of summer support was discussed for students in the math program, at all levels. Rather than limiting any student with a required summer program attendance, the committee will create a packet of summer work with links to online support. The packet will be distributed to all students in the accelerated program. It is the student's responsibility to review the packet over the summer. The topics covered will be reinforced by teachers during the first few units of the school year.

Parent notifications will take place in mid-May to correspond with Summit notification letters.

In personnel matters, the Board

- approved the employment of Jennifer Gritzenbach and Tierney Mokos as custodians;
- approved employment for the ESY (extended year program) as follows: Wendy Webster, Special Education Teacher; Janet Cassetari, Speech Pathologist; Laura Defalco, Occupational Therapist; Jeanette Denning, Todd Fitzpatrick, Kelli Mena, Sandy Ahrendt, Jean Costigan, Jeanne Demma, and Stephanie Studer as paraprofessionals;
- approved the employment of Deniz Azlan, Coordinator of Instructional Supports for the 2019-2020 school year; Christine Hudziak, Tina Prorok, and Kyle Fischer, Elementary math/tech support teachers for the 2019-2020 school year; Danielle Capps, math support teacher for the 2019-2020 school year; Ken Cronin, Jack Mecher, Tammy Johnson, Leah Fischer, and Michael Doody as math teachers for the 2019-2020 school year; and James Welsh, PE teacher for the 2019-2020 school year; and
- approved the release of one educational support person.

In other matters, the Board

- approved adoption of social studies instructional materials from Pearson MyWorld in grades K-5 and McGraw Hill Networks for grades 6-8;
- approved the last day of school to be June 6, 2019 due to use of three snow days;
- approved an hourly rate increase for building technicians for the 2019-20 school year;
- discussed an amendment to the length of the intergovernmental agreement with Frankfort Square Park District;
- approved a one-year contract extension for custodial cleaning services with Alpha Building Maintenance;
- approved the contract with Elens & Maichin for roof renovation at Frankfort Square School;
- approved the contract with K.M. Holly Construction for HVAC renovation at Walker School;

- authorized administration to seek bids for the recoating of one section of the Mary Drew roof;
- heard that summer hours for 12-month support staff will begin June 10 and end August 2;
- discussed developing family insurance options for non-certified staff; and
- heard an update on the English Learners program at Rogus School.

Rich Marron
President

Stacey Borgens
Vice President

David Faber
Secretary

George Leonard
Member

James Martin
Member

Patricia Martin
Member

Joy Murphy
Member