



June 2, 2021 meeting

Summit Hill District 161 Board Briefs

Serving 2,600+ students living in portions of Tinley Park, Mokena, and Frankfort

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

Board approves gifts from SCOs, thanks Dr. Rains for dedicated service

At the June 2 meeting, the Board approved, with appreciation, gifts from Arbury Hills Elementary STARS in the amount of \$1,903; Dr. Julian Rogus School RESCO in the amount of \$3,732; Frankfort Square School SCO in the amount of \$2,970; Indian Trail School SCO in the amount of \$1,504; Walker School SCO in the amount of \$1,800; and SHJH in the amount of \$6,543.

Also at the meeting, Board President Borgens surprised Dr. Rains by inviting the superintendent's family to the meeting as Mrs. Borgens recognized Dr. Rains, on behalf of the Board, for her dedicated service to the students of the district over the last decade. The Board purchased Harry Potter and Paw Patrol books recommended by Dr. Rains' grandchildren for placement in school media centers for students to enjoy.

Board holds public hearing, approves E-Learning program resolution

The Board adopted the district E-Learning program resolution that permits student instruction to be received electronically while students are not physically present in lieu of the district's scheduled emergency days on the district calendar. Following Board approval, the plan will be verified by the Regional Office of Education. Once approved by the Regional Office, the plan will be implemented for a period of three years (2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24) prior to renewal. To access the proposed plan, please click [Proposed E-Learning Plan for Emergency Days](#).

Board hears enrollment projections study presentation

The Board heard an enrollment projections study presentation by consultant Dr. Charles Kofron. The Board was originally scheduled to hear the presentation in spring of 2020. The presentation was postponed due to the pandemic. Dr. Kofron's projections are based on the number of children born within district boundaries and the number of resident children who enter kindergarten in the district. Briefly, K-8 enrollment projections are forecasting enrollment declines of between 6% and 9% at the K-4 levels, with sharper declines at Walker and SHJH. The enrollment projections study will be further updated this summer to push out the projections to 2024. To access the study, executive summary, and PowerPoint presentation, please navigate to www.summithill.org and click on the links under the Unit District Feasibility Study header located mid page.

District plans to reopen facility request software system beginning July 1

Based on current conditions and IDPH guidance, the district will reopen its facility request software system beginning July 1 for the 2021-22 school year. Use of district facilities was suspended during the 2020-21 school year. Groups who would like to request space can register through the district website. The web address for the ML Schedules software is <https://il8.mlschedules.com>. A link to this page can be found on the district homepage under District Info in the Facility Usage/Building Rental section. Groups wishing to request space in a District 161 building are required to register with the MLSchedules website. An instructional video on how to create an account is available on the Facility Use Request page. Clicking on the Register button will take you to the MLSchedules software website to begin the registration process. The group user will then enter all group and contact information. The

user will also select the Group Classification using the description provided on the website. A certificate of insurance is required to complete registration. A digital copy of the certificate will need to be uploaded to the website. Clicking on the Create User Account button will submit the registration for approval. If the registration is approved, the group user is notified via e-mail of the approval and can begin to submit facility requests. If the registration is denied, the group user is notified via e-mail with the reasons for denial.

Summer skill practice activities to be posted on district website

To promote summer skill practice at home, the district is creating educational activities to review concepts, sharpen skills, and preview content for the next grade level in the upper grades. These options are in addition to the summer academic boot camp intervention program. All activities are considered optional and will not be collected next school year. Activities will be posted on the district website in late June for families to access.

In personnel matters, the Board

- approved the employment of Julie Stearns, Director of Business Services; Glen Wysong, Manager of Operations/Transportation; Amy Griffin and Melony Baccof, kindergarten teachers; Mary Ellen Graff, Transportation Secretary/Substitute Secretary; Todd Fitzpatrick, ESY paraprofessional; and Roxanne Rogers, Summer Enrichment Camp Teacher.
- accepted the resignation of Jennifer Deaton.

In other matters, the Board

- approved the purchase of Action Lab STEM materials from Creative Learning Systems-Smart Lab to provide an updated action lab experience at Walker and SHJH that aligns to state standards and 21st century learning skills. The program offers embedded 3D printing and coding. Additionally, a coding program will be piloted at the elementary level next school year.
- approved a refund of student milk fees for the 2020-2021 school year.
- approved the purchase of Freckle, an online standards-aligned ELA and math instructional resource, to support student and teachers.
- approved the purchase of technology items including classroom projectors, ELMO document cameras, and student devices.
- approved a one-year software maintenance agreement with Johnson Controls for the Metasys control system.
- approved a resolution to declare unneeded special education and regular education materials and technology items for removal from the school district's inventory.



Thank you for sending us such great kids!!

Stacey Borgens
President

Stefanie McCleish
Vice President

Jim Martin
Secretary

Amy Berk
Member

Katie Campbell
Member

George Leonard
Member

Trudy Sturino
Member