

# BOARD BRIEFS

## REGULAR MEETING & WAIVER HEARING JANUARY 21, 2016

HUNTLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 158 BOARD OF EDUCATION

### DISTRICT SEES SAVINGS ON ENERGY COSTS

Admin building gets Energy Star, Solar a possibility at HHS

The Board of Education heard a report on the significant cost savings and positive environmental impact the District has realized through proactive energy-saving efforts over the past several years.

Among other highlights presented by Doug Renkosik, Director of Operations and Maintenance,

was the recent recognition from the federal Energy Star Program of the efficiency of the District

Administration and Transportation Building at 650 Academic Drive.

Commercial buildings that earn EPA's ENERGY STAR certification use an average of 35 percent less energy than typical buildings and also release 35 percent less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Huntley 158 improved its energy performance through a variety of efficiency projects, including:

- updating Heating, Ventilating, and Air

Conditioning controls and operating strategies

- lighting retrofits in facility and on-site
- facility operational adjustments.

In addition to saving on environmentally damaging emissions, the District's energy

efficiency efforts at the Administration Center have helped save more than \$20,300 over the past two years.

The efforts are just one part of the District's continuous

improvement practices, which have led to District-wide operational savings in excess of \$460,000 annually in recent years.

In addition, Renkosik presented on a potential solar panel installation at HHS that could produce an estimated savings of \$5.4 million over the next 25 years.

The Board will seek further information about the solar option at future meetings.



### BOARD HEARS REPORTS ON PROGRESS TOWARD STRATEGIC GOALS

The Board heard a mid-year update on progress toward goals outlined in the Strategic Plan for 2015-2016.

While most measures are as of yet incomplete, many key academic and operational indicators have either been met or are on track for completion.

Among others, the high school has met the goal of increasing AP and dual credit course offerings, and has made significant progress toward developing new online courses.

In addition, staff retention and professional development efforts are well underway.

For fiscal goals, the District is on track to meet its goals of maintaining a AA bond rating, spending 20% fewer per student than benchmark districts, maintaining a fund balance well over 25% of operating budget, and construction at HHS is on time and on budget.

### Update on Assessments

Chief Academic Officer Erika Schlichter informed the Board that the District will give the ACT to high school students this year, at the District's expense. Whether the school will give the SAT, which the State of Illinois selected as its college readiness assessment, will depend on whether the state funds and/or makes mandatory the SAT. In addition, PARCC testing will be online in April, and a possible NGSS assessment may be ready in April or May.

### Board to Consider Debt Services Savings Opportunity

Financial firm Piper Jaffray discussed an opportunity for potential savings on its debt services. With rates at historic lows, the Board will consider options for refunding of Series 2008 and 2009 bonds at potential savings of about \$660,000. Administration will consider future action on the opportunities at coming meetings.

### Informational Updates

The Board heard the following reports and updates:

- Monthly Fiscal Updates and Activity Fund Balance Report
- Revenue and Expenditures report, indicating an operating net surplus of \$3.18 million
- Progress on the HHS Construction project, which is continuing on time and under budget.
- Monthly HR Report, Fiscal Updates, Activity Fund Balance Report, Operations and Maintenance report, legislative updates.

### Additional Actions

In addition, the Board approved:

- Minutes from the Regular Meeting December 17, 2015 and Levy Hearing December 15, 2015, as well as closed executive session meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting December 17
- HR Personnel and Addendum Reports as provided
- An increase in some pay rates for substitute positions, to be more competitive with area districts
- Second reading of a number of policies as discussed at previous meetings
- Purchase Orders at \$4,651,679.43; Accounts Payable at \$18,613.24; Imprest Checks at \$225,639.02; and Disbursements at \$17,446,172.30, as presented
- Designating \$2.6 million from the Educational Fund for future capital improvements
- Change orders for the HHS Additions and Renovations Project in the total of \$8,531.00 for Bid release One contracts and a total amount of \$14,469.00 for Bid Release Two contracts
- A two-year extension of the contract with Fox Valley Fire & Safety for Life Safety Systems inspection
- Procurement of science program supplies from Flinn Scientific's Quotation for the six new science rooms being constructed in the west addition at HHS, at a total of \$30,531.43
- Designating Mr. Troy as the authorized agent of the Board of Education to sign approval of natural gas and electricity procurement contracts until January 2017
- Trading in a small trailer and purchasing a larger trailer from RA Adams Ent. at net cost of \$9,967.00
- A 3-year chiller maintenance service agreement with Daikan Applied, at annual cost of \$6,768.00
- A waiver request from publishing the 2016-17 ASA in a newspaper, saving the District about \$6,000.

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