WASHINGTON
Community High School District 308

BOARD BRIEF

The Washington Community High School District #308 Board of Education consists of seven members who are elected by the community to serve a four-year term.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Board Meeting
November 9 (7:00 PM)

October 2020 Board Meeting Summary

Highlights of Reports and Discussion Items

The following items were presented to the board:

Visitors and Correspondence – A parent in attendance addressed the board with questions about the schedule for second semester and expressed interest in the school returning to a seven period day with full population. The superintendent answered questions and explained that the district will keep the current schedule for second semester, but the intent is to transition to a seven period day when the guidance from the State of Illinois allows for a safe return to a full-time schedule.

Auditors Report – Koch Consultant Ltd. conducted the annual audit of financial statements. After reviewing financial statements ending June 30, 2020, the auditors found no material weaknesses. The Illinois State Board of Education assigned a score of 3.9 out of 4 for Washington Community High School District #308, which resulted in the highest possible rating of Recognition Status as it relates to financial standing.

Enrollment Report – The enrollment report as of October 1, 2020, includes a total of 1,434 students. Approximately 200 students enrolled in distance learning for the fall semester. Section 5.3

Food Establishment Inspection Report – The food services department participated in a routine inspection and passed. Changes were made to comply with observations and corrective actions. Section 5.5

Library Grant – The library completed and submitted the School District Library Grant for FY 2021. The library received $1,005 for the FY 2019 grant and applied that to electronic resources. Section 5.6

Athletic Directors Report – The athletic director shared an update about fall sports including team and individual standings within the mid-Illini conference and the region. Section 5.7

Financial Report – Dr. Sander presented the investment and insurance report, which shows investments of approximately $7.4M. Insurance costs as of August 2020 have increased over July 2020 to the break-even amount. Section 5.8

Board Committee Reports – The board policy committee met since the last Board of Education meeting.

Board Policy Committee: The board policy committee met and discussed the Press Plus Policy Packet. Dr. Freeman reviewed all new policies and discussed other minor changes to current policies. The committee voted to recommend approval to the board of all changes discussed. The group also discussed resuming the mission and vision statement committees, which had been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In-Person and Distance Learning Update – Dr. Freeman provided a high level update about how the school year is going with in-person and distance learning. Overall, the number of COVID-19 cases and those in symptomatic and healthy quarantine have remained relatively low. We attribute much of those results to our reduced population schedule and safety protocols. It is important that everyone continues to work together to keep each other as healthy and safe as possible. Students should not attend school if they are ill or have any of the common COVID-19 symptoms.

There are currently about 200 students in full-time distance learning. Information will be sent to parents later this month that will require choosing second semester in-person or distance learning for their student.

Illinois Report Card – The suspension of in-person instruction during the 2019-20 school year affected many of the metrics measured on the Illinois Report Card. Impacted metrics will have one of the following data qualifiers: Data Unavailable Due to COVID-19, Possible Data Impact Due to COVID-19 Calculated with Concern, and Caution Statewide Threshold. Section 6.2

Press Issues – Revisions to policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits in press issue 103, 104, and 105 were presented to the board of education. Section 6.3

October 2020 Board Meeting Summary (continued)

Highlights of Action Items

The following items were approved:

Europe Trip – The board of education approved moving the Europe trip to the tentative dates of June 13 - June 21, 2022.

Executive Session – The board of education approved a memorandum of understanding with the Washington Education Association regarding evaluations for the FY 20-21 school year.

Links of interest

Finance Report

September Approved Minutes

October Board Agenda

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The information in this document is intended to be a general summary of the board meeting results and does not include all topics discussed. If there is a discrepancy between this summary and the official board meeting materials, the official documents prevail.