

## MINUTES

The Minutes of the First Regular Meeting  
of the Month of January of the Board of Education  
Township High School District 214 held on January 21, 2021  
at the Forest View Educational Center,  
2121 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois  
at 7:02 p.m.

President Petro called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and R. Knoepfle called the roll. The following members were present:

William Dussling	Vice President
Mark Hineman	Member
Alva Kreutzer	Member
Mildred Palmer	Member
Dan Petro	President

The following members attended the meeting remotely:

Leonard Walker	Member
Todd Younger	Member

Absent at roll call:

None

Also present at the meeting were: D. Schuler, superintendent; C. Johnson, associate superintendent for finance and operations; K. Kraft, associate superintendent for human resources; L. Lopez, associate superintendent for teaching and learning; M. Johnson, assistant superintendent for student services; P. Mogge, director of community engagement and outreach; T. Schlorff, director of instructional technology and technology services; E. Holmes, assistant director of community engagement and outreach; R. Knoepfle, executive assistant to the school board and superintendent; C. Uhle, director of administrative services; staff members; parents; students; and citizens.

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Petro led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Palmer and seconded by Kreutzer that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020 and the Closed Session of December 10, 2020.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro

Nays: None

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

E. Bauer, an Arlington Heights resident, addressed the Board regarding student success rates and the third quarter plans for return to school instruction.

M. Zaflocka, an Arlington Heights resident, addressed the Board regarding the third quarter plans for students return to school.

R. Menninga, an Arlington Heights resident, addressed the Board regarding in-person instruction and the school board election.

T. Bauer, a RMHS student, addressed the Board regarding students' ability to have in-person instruction consistently.

#### 4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

D. Schuler reported that the district responded to the following Freedom of Information Act requests consistent with Illinois School Code:

- E. Bauer requested student information.
- T. Oliver/Sycamore Learning Co. requested student information.
- K. Murschel requested communication/correspondence information.
- N. Hoover/Amazing Educational Resources requested personnel information.
- M. Jankowski requested student information.
- K. Rhan/Local 1185 requested School Board contact information.
- T. Robb/Journal & Topics requested financial and personnel information.
- J. St. Paul/Chicago Carpenter Local 1185 requested bid information.

D. Schuler noted that beginning this week, District 214 implemented the updated plans to maximize the opportunity for in-person attendance for those wishing to attend more frequently while still maintaining social distance requirements. Remote learning continues to remain an option for all. At this point, there are approximately 2,800 students at the six comprehensive schools who chose in-person instruction for the third quarter. D. Schuler also explained that since the beginning of the academic year, students in select programs have been in school, and all have had the opportunity to participate in co-curricular activities in line with public health guidelines. The administration's first priority remains the health and safety of students. The ultimate objective is to get all back in school safely, in accordance with public health recommendations.

D. Schuler introduced Dr. Lopez, associate superintendent for teaching and learning to share a teaching and learning update.

L. Lopez explained that since the onset of school mitigation efforts, the District has been concerned about the potential impact on course completion. L. Lopez presented information on the fall's course pass rates including grades of A, B, C, D, and P. The overall success rate for students first semester was just under 95%, which is a testament to the hard work of staff and students.

L. Lopez described an overview of plans for academic interventions and support across the district. The administration anticipates approximately 125-150 students, particularly seniors, will take advantage of a February intersession. This credit recovery opportunity will be facilitated through the Young Adult Program and will be available to all students with priority being given to seniors. The traditional course fee will be waived.

L. Lopez noted that on-going professional development has been key to supporting classroom teachers challenged with delivering instruction in entirely new ways. There are a variety of academic interventions being employed throughout the District 2nd semester. Schools reached out personally to their at-risk

student populations to encourage them to come to school. Both virtual and in-person tutoring sessions are occurring and school psychologists are integrating executive functioning skills in the classroom. L. Lopez noted a highlight of academic interventions being shared and deployed across the school sites.

Knowing that the pandemic has taken a toll on the mental health of our students and families, student services staff, are identifying the best tools to deliver needed supports, honoring schedule changes that are in the best interest of the student, and adapting counseling curriculum for delivery in classrooms with a focus on mental health awareness. The Community Resource Guide supports families in need of food, clothing, housing, and mental health assistance. District-wide, school staff have increased their communication with families, conducted home visits, and facilitated support groups based on data collected by problem-solving teams.

Board discussion included:

- the challenges schools have had adjusting to the limitations set by governmental agencies and by a constantly moving plan;
- the district continues to lead with a relevant curriculum for students, with over 10,000 dual credit enrollments even during these challenging times;
- the student services staff are doing the best they can to support families and provide therapy for families who have lost everything;
- problem solving teams meet weekly to review students who need additional services, both academic and for social and emotional support, and for anyone in crisis, the district is able to respond rapidly with partner agencies. The intensity and quantity of services has greatly increased with the pandemic and the District is developing screening plans for the reintegration of all students back in the schools;
- the District continues to develop additional paid internships to assist students who need to work while still attending school.

D. Schuler announced that the District is beginning the Winter Sports programs as of today, in line with IDPH and IHSA guidelines and protocols, and is prepared and ready to begin spring and summer sports seasons as soon as given a 'thumbs up' to do so. The District has been very active in advocating for sports to return to high schools when public health officials deemed it is safe to do so. Staff is on weekly calls with IHSA (Illinois High School Association) and IDPH. D. Schuler remains optimistic that students and parents will see more high school sports this second semester.

D. Schuler reported that earlier this week, President Petro asked him about the possibility of visiting a school and some classrooms. If other School Board Members would like to visit schools and talk with students and teachers, he asked them to reach out to the principals directly or let his office know and that will be to facilitated.

Anecdotally, the administration has heard that students and staff like the block schedule being used this school year. As planning begins for next school year, the District will survey students and parents next week regarding whether they would prefer to stick with a block schedule for next year or return to the schedule that was in place last year at their respective school building. He encouraged everyone to share their thoughts and perspectives.

D. Schuler reported that an education omnibus bill was approved by the General Assembly recently that has a significant impact on K-12 school districts. The bill was introduced only a few days before the end of last session and was approved 4-5 days after the language had been released. The legislation that was passed calls for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2028 – 2029 school year to pass two years of a World Language in order to graduate. It also includes a graduation requirement for students to pass a new

year-long Technology Literacy class. D. Schuler reminded the Board that the District is very active in advocating with our elected officials on pending legislation that may have an impact on our district and noted that this certainly was one of those pieces of legislation.

D. Schuler reminded everyone that the District will hold a Board Candidate Orientation on February 4, 2021 for all of the candidates running for the School Board in the April election.

Lastly, D. Schuler pointed out that beginning on Monday individuals in the 1b category will be able to begin getting vaccinations. Category 1b includes teachers and school personnel. While there doesn't seem to be a significant amount of vaccine available currently, the administration has been working very hard to ensure our staff have access and opportunity to the vaccine as it does become available. Administrators have reached out to medical providers and the Cook County Department of Public Health about partnering with them. Developments will continue to unfold fairly quickly, and he noted that he will keep the Board, our staff, and the community informed as events warrant.

Board discussion included:

- appreciation of the administration efforts to bring vaccination sites to the district to decrease the time needed by staff to secure the vaccines;
- the District currently is not mandating staff receive the vaccine, however, once the vaccines are readily available, the expectation is that lack of a vaccine will not be an excuse to work remotely;
- food service continues to provide daily snacks to students while still offering the weekly food packs to families each Wednesday afternoon for pick-up;
- how the process for scheduling students for third quarter was done to accommodate those students wishing to return to full in-person instruction using the technology department programming and then the hand-scheduling by school personnel to safely maximize the number of students in classes.

## 5. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

B. Dussling reported that the fine arts staff proceeded last week with a virtual "Art Expo Throwdown," which was a twist on the annual Art Exposition, which features work created by District 214 and students from the sender districts. This year the show went virtual, presenting five works of art from each school and giving art lovers a chance to vote online for their favorite high school and middle school. He also reported that the State Comptroller's office is approximately \$2.6 million behind in remitting Illinois State Board of Education approved funds to the district.

M. Palmer reported on the numerous conversations she has had with students and parents in the RMHS community and the difficulties for students in general, now amplified during a pandemic. She asked about the return to full-time instruction, the survey, and the communications from the District. She also asked about the discrepancies she was hearing regarding what the plans and expectations were for the final week of first semester

## 6. APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

2021-001 through 2021-008

Items 2021-001 through 2021-008 appearing on the Consent Calendar were presented for the Board's consideration.

A. Kreutzer requested that item 2021-007 be considered separately.

It was moved by Dussling and seconded by Kreutzer that the Board of Education approve Items 2021-001 through 2021-006 and Item 2021-008 appearing on the Consent Calendar as presented.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nays: None

A. Approve Accounts Payable 2021-001

Actual December 10, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$1,867,265.02
Operations and Maintenance	187,519.18
Transportation Fund	258,144.52
Capital Projects	119,415.61
TOTAL	<u>\$2,432,344.33</u>

Checks Dated: December 10, 2020  
Check Numbers: 740589 through 740882

Actual December 16, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$30,259.84
Operations and Maintenance	1,072.80
TOTAL	<u>\$31,332.64</u>

Checks Dated: December 16, 2020  
Check Numbers: 740891 through 740894

Transfers Dated December 1-31, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$4,369,903.00
Operations and Maintenance	43,552.71
Capital Projects	126.00
TOTAL	<u>\$4,413,581.71</u>

Actual January 7, 2021 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$2,138,874.36
Operations and Maintenance	373,393.65
Transportation Fund	740,063.74
Capital Projects	182,113.99
TOTAL	<u>\$3,434,445.74</u>

Checks Dated: January 7, 2021  
Check Numbers: 740905 through 741255

B. Personnel Transaction Report 2021-002

Approved Personnel Transaction Report attached to these minutes.

C. Destruction of Closed Meeting Audio Recordings 2021-003

Approved the destruction of closed session audio recordings for the following meetings:

June 13, 2019

D. Bleacher Repairs - Bid 2021-004

Accepted the bid from Carroll Seating Company in the amount of \$87,915.00 for the repair of bleachers and reject all proposals for the purchase of replacement bleachers.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Repairs</u>	<u>New Bleachers</u>
<b>Carroll Seating Company (Elk Grove Village, IL)</b>	<b>\$87,915.00</b>	\$198,540.25
Paddock Bleachers (Lockport, IL)	\$129,332.00	\$230,503.00

E. Athletic Flooring - Bid 2021-005

Accepted Base Bid 1 and 2 and Alternates 1 and 2 from Direct Fitness Solutions in the amount of \$67,945.13 for the purchase and installation of athletic flooring & the removal and reinstallation of athletic equipment at Buffalo Grove High School and Elk Grove High School.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Base Bid 1</u>	<u>Base Bid 2</u>	<u>Alt 1</u>	<u>Alt 2</u>
<b>Direct Fitness Solutions (Chicago, IL)</b>	<b>\$43,010.60</b>	<b>\$24,934.53</b>	<b>No additional charge</b>	
Consolidated Flooring of Chicago (Chicago, IL)	\$75,500.00	\$39,700.00	No Bid	No Bid
Dynamic Construction Inc. (Leander, TX)	\$80,740.00	\$49,407.00	No Bid	No Bid
Globe Line Construction Co. (Chicago, IL)	\$65,800.00	\$34,650.00	\$4,500	\$4,500
Sorinex Exercise Equip. Inc. (Lexington, SC)	\$75,191.39	\$40,210.48	No Bid	No Bid

F. Weight Room Equipment for Prospect High School - Bid 2021-006

Accepted the bid totaling \$35,465.00 from Direct Fitness Solutions for the purchase of weight room equipment for Prospect High School.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Direct Fitness Solutions (Chicago, IL)</b>	<b>\$35,465.00</b>
Combat Brands, LLC (Lenexa, KS)	\$23,017.48**
Heartline Fitness – Midwest (Crest Hill, IL)	\$18,448.35*
The Fitness Connection (Elgin, IL)	\$20,312.15*
Tiles in Style LLC (DBA) Taza Supplies (Willowbrook, IL)	\$87.354.00

\*Partial Bid

\*\* Non-Compliant Bid

G. Elk Grove Park District Intergovernmental Agreement 2021-008

Approved the Master Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Regarding Recreational Use of Facilities Between Township High School District No. 214 and Elk Grove Park District.

7. SAINT VIATOR TURF FIELD AND STADIUM USE AMENDMENT NO. 2 2021-007

It was moved by Kreutzer and seconded by Dussling that the Board of Education approve Item 2021-007 appearing on the Consent Calendar as presented.

A. Kreutzer requested that this item be considered separately to get clarification about the length of time regarding the agreement. D. Schuler noted that this agreement is only for the remainder of this year as, with the potential increase use by the District and by RMU/Roosevelt University, the District wants to have additional time to review potential future schedules prior to extending any additional agreement with St. Viator.

There was no further discussion.

There were no comments from the public.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro

Nayes: None

Approved the Amendment No. 2 To The Agreement Regarding Turf Field and Stadium Enhancement, Construction Costs, And Use of The Forest View Educational Center Stadium Between Township High School District 214 and Saint Viator High School.

8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMENCEMENT OF VAPING LITIGATION 2021-009

D. Schuler reported that the District's counsel Franczek informed the District about the federal litigation against Juul, Labs, Inc. and therefore, they wanted to bring this to the Board for discussion regarding any interest in partnering with other Districts across the country. He referenced the Illinois Youth Survey that indicates that the use and perceived use of vaping has been on a decline in the last couple of years, and the hope is that the pandemic has not changed that trajectory. In response to Board questions, D. Schuler clarified that the District would not need to direct any financial resources to join in this lawsuit, but could receive settlements that could offset the costs to the District that are used to deter the use of vaping by students.

Comments from the public following this discussion item:

E. Bauer, an Arlington Heights resident, addressed the Board regarding the incentives for law firms to entertain lawsuits such as this for their own benefit.

M. Zaflocka, an Arlington Heights resident, addressed the Board regarding whether or not the District's law firm is receiving a referral fee for signing districts onto this litigation.

9. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Dussling and seconded by Kreutzer that the Board of Education convene in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a

volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with [the Open Meetings Act]. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459;

- Collective negotiating matters between the district and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nayes: None

The Board convened in Closed Session at 8:10 p.m.

10. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

It was moved by Palmer and seconded by Kretuzer that the Board of Education reconvene in Open Session.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nayes: None

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 10:07 p.m.

11. PERSONNEL TRANSACTION REPORT II - Appointment 2021-010

It was moved by Palmer and seconded by Kretuzer that the Board of Education approve Personnel Transaction Report II, the following appointment, effective July 1, 2021:

- R. Kiolbassa, APSA for John Hersey High School

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nayes: None

12. PERSONNEL TRANSACTION REPORT III – Resolution Authorizing Suspension Without Pay 2021-011

It was moved by Hineman and seconded by Kreutzer that the Board of Education approve Personnel Transaction Report III, the Resolution Authorizing Suspension Without Pay for J. Rubio.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nayes: None



13. PERSONNEL MATTERS – JOB DESCRIPTIONS

2021-012

It was moved by Kretuzer and seconded by Hineman that the Board of Education approve the following new and revised job descriptions as amended:

NEW

Assistant Director of Student Services  
Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Professional Learning  
Communication Coordinator  
Digital Content Specialist  
Community Engagement and Outreach Project Manager  
Community Education Program Manager  
Marketing and Multimedia Services Supervisor  
Visual Communications Coordinator  
Student Success Coach

REVISED

Director of Employee Relations  
Executive Administrative Assistant – Superintendent  
Executive Assistant to the School Board and Superintendent  
Finance and Operations Supervisor  
Human Resources Supervisor  
Research Assessment Program Analyst  
Student Information Systems Analyst  
Teaching and Learning Supervisor  
Student Services Administrative Assistant  
Technology Assistant Help Desk 12 Month  
Technology Assistant Help Desk 10 Month

and that the following additional duty be added to all Administrative and Supervisory job descriptions:

*Collaborates with district and building leadership to ensure equity is infused in practice and remains at the forefront of efforts to disrupt inequities.*

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

Ayes: Dussling, Hineman, Kreutzer, Palmer, Walker, Younger, Petro  
Nays: None

14. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Kreutzer and seconded by Petro to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

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F. Daniel Petro, president

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William J. Dussling, vice president