

## MINUTES

The Minutes of the First Regular Meeting  
of the Month of October of the Board of Education  
Township High School District 214 held on October 8, 2020  
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
Dan Petro	President
Leonard Walker	Member
Todd Younger	Member

Absent at roll call:

Alva Kreutzer	Member
Mildred Palmer	Member

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; J. Wardle, principal, BGHS; K. Rogers, principal, specialized programs; E. Brooks, assistant director of community engagement and outreach; H. Brown, associate principal, WHS; R. Hartwig, associate principal, BGHS; K. Kendrick, associate principal, PHS; R. Knoepfle, executive assistant to the school board and superintendent; P. Mogge, director of community engagement and outreach; V. Norris, associate principal, EGHS; K. Roiland, director of operations; T. Schlorff, director of instructional technology and technology services; Y. Stovall, associate principal, RMHS; 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 Hineman and seconded by Dussling that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2020 and the Closed Session of September 10, 2020.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

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

Alva Kreutzer entered the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

### 3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

D. Schuler noted that over the last few months Board Members have requested information around the Social and Emotional Learning, substance use, and the mental health and well-being initiatives going on in the schools. He introduced assistant superintendent for student services, M. Johnson, who provided a brief update to the previous spring's presentation with Linked Together Coalition and to the Illinois Youth Survey that reflected positive growth in student's perceptions of the dangers of vaping and marijuana use. She introduced the associate principals for student services, H. Brown, R. Hartwig, K. Kendrick, V. Norris, and Y. Stovall.

The APSSs noted that everyone has a story and the team has met every week to work on promoting student success by supporting students and addressing their needs, whether that be food assistance, mental health assistance, or other family assistance to make sure of student attendance and academic achievement. Homeless students are being supported by the homeless liaison and the Education Foundation 214Cares program is assisting almost 300 families with financial support for food and shelter. Students with basic needs for grooming and clothing are being supported through the donations to the school supply closets. Using data to identify students with academic struggles, the wellness groups and peer counseling program are supporting those students academically. The college and career counselors are supporting students with FAFSA application completion, college applications and remote college visits. Each school is compiling a resource guide for families. Customizing the support for the need of each student is critical as well as the overall instructional partnership with the core classroom teachers to accomplish the social and emotional growth each year in school.

D. Schuler noted that the Education Foundation's 214Cares campaign has raised nearly \$100,000 and aided 300 families who are struggling with finances or medical issues amid the COVID pandemic. The Foundation team is working closely with counselors in each building to determine families in need and allocate resources appropriately. Students in every building have been aided. The campaign remains ongoing and giving is possible at [www.214foundation.org](http://www.214foundation.org). District parents have graciously given to the Foundation this year amid the COVID pandemic, nearly doubling the amount typically given during the annual parent campaign. Other donations include Bosch, which has donated nearly 30 3D printers for use at all six of comprehensive schools as well as an additional eight printers to create a maker space for use with Community Education and the specialized schools.

D. Schuler announced that the online resource Niche has ranked District 214 among the top 10 districts in all of Illinois, giving the district a grade of A+. Many relocating families use Niche as a tool for deciding where to buy a home and enroll their children.

Weekly teachers are engaged in a Professional Learning Collaborative, created by staff for staff. The professional learning strands are offered on Tuesdays, fostering unprecedented collaboration across schools and District. Themed strands include Equity, Social Emotional Learning, authentic learning, instructional technology and teaching in a block schedule.

The District is using the hashtag #214Learns to share success stories via social media. Anyone who has a chance to search using #214Learns will find impressive engagement by staff and students sharing stories that demonstrate the creative, collaborative, authentic and innovative approaches that characterize learning in D214, even during the most challenging of times!

D. Schuler explained that the apprenticeship program is thriving in its second year. The second cohort of this rigorous and paid work-based learning experience consists of 7 students, up from 4 last year. And this

year, community hosts have been added to the mix of mentors guiding these seniors, who not only gain invaluable training for their chosen careers, but also receive a paycheck. State Farm and the Buffalo Grove Police Department are two of the local organizations where apprenticeships are occurring.

D. Schuler announced that a video link will go live featuring “Friday Night Highlights.” F. Mirandola and J. Randall, knowing that the bands are missing their usual performance opportunities, are conducting “Friday Night Highlights.” Each school’s band will perform and record one highlight piece, all of which will be merged into a video link that will go live for everyone to see and hear at 7 p.m. on October 23.

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

- S. Clear requested personnel information.
- T. Jankowski requested financial and student information.
- K. Cooper, Kirkland & Ellis, requested information regarding policies and procedures.

D. Schuler noted that the district’s annual salary report was shared with the Board and has been posted on the district’s website in accordance with School Code.

With regard to the return to in-person instruction update, based on the COVID-19 infection rate trends per 100,000 people in the communities served by District 214, D. Schuler announced that the District will move to Stage 3 of the return to school plan with hybrid in-person instruction beginning on Thursday, October 15. Based on data from the Cook County Department of Public Health, the rate for this past week in the district currently stands at 57.9 which is down from 72.9 from two weeks ago. The district will review the weekly rate and the 14-day weekly average moving forward. Parents will continue to have the option of having their child learn remotely.

Once the District begins the hybrid in-person instruction, it is the intent to remain in that stage until the District can move to Stage 4. D. Schuler noted that the District may need to temporarily revert a specific building to a previous stage based on the positivity rate or outbreaks in a building consistent with the mitigation metrics. District 214 will also continue to follow the mitigation efforts outlined by the CDC in their updated September guidance “Indicators for Dynamic Decision-Making,” which takes into account the case rate per 100,000, the percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days, and the ability of schools to “implement 5 key mitigation strategies.” The CDC references five key mitigation strategies, shown to enhance safety and decrease risks, which have been implemented in the District, including consistent and correct use of masks, social distancing to the largest extent possible, proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection and contact tracing in collaboration with the local health department.

D. Schuler acknowledged that there will be much to learn as the District navigates through the first few cycles of hybrid in-person instruction and asked for patience and grace as practices and protocols are fine tuned to safely have students return to school. He noted that the experience for students will be different from what they experienced before the pandemic. With very few exceptions, teachers will be teaching from their classrooms.

An email was sent out today that included additional details and logistics for students who will be in attendance. Parents are asked to review the information with their child and to look for additional information that will be sent from each school.

D. Schuler announced that the District received confirmation recently that the Board of Education has received the Illinois Association of School Board's Governance Recognition Award. He offered congratulations to the Board for that well-deserved recognition and presented them with their IASB Governance Recognition pins.

4. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

B. Dussling complimented the League of Women Voters who held a "Stroll to the Poll" day with many student volunteers handing out information to households on the upcoming election. He complimented the staff on their work on remote learning and all the co-curricular activities that are continuing.

T. Younger reported that he attended the mid-September Board meeting of the Education Foundation and reported that of the over \$100,000 in donations, more than \$80,000 has already been deployed to over 290 families. The goal is to also raise enough money to assist in paying for AP exams for students who would not be able to afford the exam fees. He thanked S. Yachtman who donated an additional \$175,000 for two additional robots to BGHS's lab. T. Younger also acknowledged the gifts from Bosch of the 3D printers, a gift from Macy's of 800 formal gowns, and 800 handmade masks from Northwest Community Hospital for staff. T. Younger also noted that of the monies raised this year approximately \$27,000 came from parents who paid their registration fees even though they were waived to help fund the 214Cares Campaign.

D. Petro announced that the Board has two Master School Board members, M. Hineman and A. Kreutzer, and he presented them with their certificates, thanking them for their considerable personal time and effort to continue their education to support the Board and District.

5. APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR 2020-128 through 2020-131

Items 2020-128 through 2020-131 appearing on the Consent Calendar were presented for the Board's consideration.

It was moved by Kreutzer and seconded by Dussling that the Board of Education approve Items 2020-128 through 2020-131 appearing on the Consent Calendar as presented.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

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

Nays: None

A. Approve Accounts Payable 2020-128

Actual September 17, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$732,620.15
Operations and Maintenance	413,909.84
Transportation Fund	25,645.30
Capital Projects	3,556,516.32
TOTAL	<u>\$4,728,691.61</u>

Checks Dated: September 17, 2020

Check Numbers: 738847 through 739162

Transfers Dated September 1-30, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$1,983,739.28
TOTAL	\$1,983,739.28
Actual October 1, 2020 listing:	
Educational Fund Listing	\$555,709.01
Operations and Maintenance	200,872.37
Transportation Fund	251,804.16
Capital Projects	126,324.93
TOTAL	\$1,134,710.47

Checks Dated: October 1, 2020  
 Check Numbers: 739172 through 739415

- B. Personnel Transaction Report 2020-129

Approved Personnel Transaction Report attached to these minutes.

- C. Destruction of Closed Meeting Audio Recordings 2020-130

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

March 7, 2019  
 March 21, 2019

- D. 2021-22 Budget Calendar 2020-131

Approved the 2021-22 proposed Budget Calendar as presented.

6. 2021-22 CURRICULUM CHANGES AND ACADEMIC HANDBOOK 2020-132

D. Schuler introduced L. Lopez, associate superintendent for teaching and learning, who reported that there were very minor changes to the content of the Academic Handbook for discussion as the district last year rewrote the descriptions for every course.

He acknowledged executive administrative assistant, S. Pick, who has for over a decade been the individual that has combed through and edited the handbook, during a time that significant change has occurred in the academic programs and offerings. He extended his appreciation to her for the many years of service as she is retiring this year.

The significant change in 2021-22 handbook is the full integration of the Board’s goals for College and Career Readiness in the change in design and layout. M. Knight, director of academic programs and pathways, led the redesign of the booklet, along-side partners in Community Engagement.

M. Knight noted that the Academic Handbook is the culmination of a 24-month collaborative process amongst the full District 214 administrative staff throughout the District.

The new Academic Programs and Pathways Guidebook represents the merging of what were once two distinct entities, the District 214 Academic Handbook and the District 214 Career Pathways Booklet,

reflecting the actualization of the District's nationally recognized Career Pathways Program.

Organized under the umbrella of the seven State of Illinois College and Career Pathway Endorsements and the 16 nationally recognized Career Clusters, the Academic Programs and Pathways Guidebook puts the thirty-nine District 214 Career Pathways at the forefront of all that the District does, presenting students and their families with programs of study that are researched, relevant, and tied directly to their post-secondary options and opportunities.

M. Knight shared an example of one of the pathway presentations in the Guidebook, Health Sciences and Technology, that included a student spotlight profiling a recent District 214 graduate who successfully participated in and completed the pathway, the four-year sequence of career pathway courses that ultimately culminates in a capstone experience, the middle college health careers available, and connections to work-based learning and post-secondary opportunities.

Discussion included:

- the number of career pathways program offerings continues to grow;
- this new format is attractive and engaging;
- between this and the Career Nights, which will be held virtually this year on October 20<sup>th</sup>, students can explore and learn about many career opportunities;
- the number of certification programs available;
- most students don't know what they want to do in life when they enter high school and this provides them an opportunity to engage and explore;
- counselors can assist students through assessments determine where their skills best match up with various areas of study and career fields;
- allowing students to figure out what they don't want to do is just as important as them figuring out what they do want to do;
- career related activities are suggested based on research.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

J. Stefaniak, a JHHS student, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

C. Lee Holmes, an Arlington Heights resident, regarding the return to in-person instruction.

J. Ryan, a BGHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the metrics and the return to in-person instruction.

J. Derengowski, a PHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

D. McCall, a JHHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

R. Menninga, a JHHS parent, addressed the Board regarding metrics and the return to in-person instruction.

L. Schillmoeller, a RMHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

T. Rosselli, a JHHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction, metrics, number of Board meetings, parent committees, and union contact information.

K. Murschel, a BGHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction and teacher unions.

J. King, a RMHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

M. Zablocka, a BGHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

E. Paine, a RMHS parent, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction and mental health issues for students.

V. Mack, a Mount Prospect resident, addressed the Board regarding the COVID-19 survival rates, metrics and return to in-person instruction.

8. RECESS

It was moved by Kreutzer and seconded by Petro to recess the meeting.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

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

Nays: None

The meeting recessed at 8:51 p.m.

9. RECONVENE MEETING

It was moved by Dussling and seconded by Kreutzer to reconvene the meeting.

Upon roll call, the motion carried.

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

Nays: None

The meeting reconvened at 8:52 p.m.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

E. Bauer, a RMHS parent, addressed the Board regarding communication and the return to in-person instruction.

T. Bauer, a RMHS student, addressed the Board regarding the return to in-person instruction.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

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F. Daniel Petro, president

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William J. Dussling, vice president