



Board Briefs

Mission: To ensure that District 70 students experience learning that prepares them to live and work in the 21st Century.

Board Briefs from School Board Meeting Oct. 26, 2020

Board Briefs are a communication tool designed to highlight important conversations and decisions made on behalf of students, families, staff, and the larger community by the District 70 School Board at each monthly School Board meeting.

District 70's eLearning Plan

There are times when school may need to be canceled due to the inclement weather or other events beyond our control (flooding, school power outages, etc.). That is why five (5) emergency days are built into our school calendar annually.

Instead of using one or more of these five (5) emergency days which would extend the school year, districts can continue to provide instruction remotely to students via an approved e-Learning plan.

A public hearing on District 70's proposed e-Learning plan took place at 6:30 p.m. on October 26, 2020, before the regular school board business meeting. The school board approved the proposed e-Learning plan during the regular meeting.

Now we will submit our plan to the Regional Office of Education. Once the Regional Office of Education approves the plan, we would be able to use e-Learning days instead of one or more of the 5 emergency days built into our calendar should the need arise.

More information about D70's proposed e-Learning plan can be found in the presentation below as well as on the District's website.

[Here is a link to the School Board presentation](#)

Highland Middle School Hybrid Reopening Model

Dr. John Hallmark, Ms. Elizabeth Davis, Mrs. Michelle Langlie, and Mrs. Sarah Grant presented on the Highland Middle School Hybrid Learning Model. A [handbook](#) and [special HMS Reopening website](#) for the Highland Middle School Hybrid Learning Model is available for review on the district and HMS website. Registration is now open for families to elect either an in-person or fully virtual option for their child(ren) and closes on Oct. 29, 2020.

[Here is a link to the School Board presentation](#)

Thank you, Linda Lucke!



During the Board of Education meeting, President Tom Vickers thanked former school board member Linda Lucke for her 5.5 years of service to the board that followed 26 years as a District 70 teacher. Lucke, known for her quiet reflection and thoughtful precision statements, moved out of the District 70 community and could no longer serve on the school board to finish out the rest of her four-year term.

Personnel Update

The Board approved the following personnel recommendations on Monday night:

RETIREMENT

- **Martha Althoff**, School Nurse at Butterfield, affirming resignation received September 30, 2020, effective October 22, 2020;

NEW EMPLOYMENT

- **Melissa Chambers**, Remote Fifth Grade Classroom Teacher, effective October 12, 2020;
- **Lindsay Wagner Marcum**, Remote First Grade Classroom Teacher, effective October 13, 2020;
- **Brianna Penton**, Remote Kindergarten Classroom Teacher, Effective October 13, 2020;
- **Rebecca Powell**, School Nurse at Butterfield, effective October 14, 2020;
- **Michelle McCorry**, Paraeducator at Copeland, effective September 23, 2020;
- **Nikkolette Krissoff**, Paraeducator at Rockland, effective October 21, 2020;
- **Danielle Pesovic-Schmidt**, Paraeducator at Rockland, effective October 21, 2020;
- **Eileen Hoch**, School Administrative Assistant at Copeland, effective September 24, 2020;
- **Katie Coyle**, Administrative Assistant to Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, effective October 5, 2020.

Policy

The administration and school board use a policy subscription service provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards as the basis for developing, reviewing, recommending, and approving policy language. This service is used by the majority of school districts in Illinois and is known as the Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS).

Policy Approvals

No policies were presented for approval this month

First Reading

No policies were presented for a first reading this month

Superintendent's Report

HMS Student Mask Business

Highland Middle School teachers (in the HIP program), including Lindsey Fry, Jessica Key, Max Zbilut, and Monica Goldberg, are working with students to create a business selling school apparel and face masks. In doing so, students are learning about money management, budgeting, marketing, sales, communication, etc.

So far, students have sold to staff members and their family members, and are considering expanding to sell to students when children return to the school in-person. The group also is planning on selling Highland spirit wear t-shirts.

“ Our main goal is to create natural opportunities for students to engage with others in the Highland community and to learn new life skills in the process,” said teacher Lindsey Fry.

Niche Rates D70 Safe

[Niche](#) rated Libertyville School District 70 as the sixth safest school in the Chicago area, and the safest elementary school district for the current school year. This is the second time District has received this high rating for safety.

The Safest School District ranking is based on an analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education along with reviews from students and parents. The data includes more than 94,000 public schools and reviewed in- and out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, law enforcement referrals, and in-school arrests as part of the analysis.

Halloween Reverse Parades

Halloween parades will be held outside of all the elementary schools on the afternoon of Oct. 30.

Staff will take a break from their schedule Remote Learning Planning Day and stand outside as students either walk past them in custom or families drive past staff slowly as students show-off their costumes.

What a great way to get together and celebrate this festive event.

Fire Safety Poster Contest

In partnership with the Libertyville Fire Department, it is time for the 47th Annual Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest. This year's theme is "Serving Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen." Students in grades 1-5 interested in participating can ask their parents to drop off their poster at the ERC (across from Butterfield School) by noon on Nov. 2, 2020. First, second, and runners up at each grade level will receive recognition; however, everyone who participates will be safer in the kitchen for their efforts!