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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD Via LIVESTREAM January 4, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M., CLOSED SESSION 5:30 p.m.

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### **Call to order**

President Kristin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Board members present: Charles Cush, Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Janet Yang Rohr, Paul Leong, Joe Kozminski, and Donna Wandke.

Administrators present were:

Dan Bridges, Superintendent,  
Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO

### **Closed Session**

Janet Yang Rohr moved, seconded by Paul Leong to go into Closed Session at 5:32 p.m. for consideration of:

1. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District.
2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal.
3. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.

### **Meeting Opening**

Janet Yang Rohr made a motion, seconded by Kristine Gericke to return to Open Session at 7:02pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Leong, Yang Rohr, Fitzgerald, Gericke, Wandke, Cush and Kozminski. No: None. The motion carried

### **Welcome and Mission**

Kristin Fitzgerald welcomed all and read Naperville Community Unit School District 203's Mission Statement.

### **Roll Call**

**Board members present:** Kristin Fitzgerald, Donna Wandke, Paul Leong, Joe Kozminski, Kristine Gericke Janet Yang Rohr, and Charles Cush

**Administrators present:** Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer, Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer/CSBO, Chuck Freundt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Christine Igoe, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Rakeda Leaks, Executive Director of Inclusion and Diversity, Sinikka Mondini, Executive Director for Communications, Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, Stephanie Posey, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer, and Jayne Willard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by the Board of Education

## Good News

Sinikka Mondini, Executive Director of Communications reported that DuPage County Health Department has put together 500 adult and 300 youth mask kits that social workers will be handing out to families. The kits contain a mask and hand sanitizer.

### Public Comment:

We have reached the point in our agenda for public comment. The Board of Education welcomes comments from the public at its meetings.

President Fitzgerald stated the parameters of public comments, comments by individuals would be limited to three minutes. If an individual submits multiple comments, they will be combined and read with a limit of three minutes. The public comments are included as a part of the record of our meetings and can be accessed under public comment in Board Docs on the agenda for this meeting. In future meetings, our ability to read all email messages aloud will be determined by the number of comments received.

Mrs. Mondini read each of the submitted public comments aloud. We want to thank all those who submitted public comments by email or have contacted the Board of Education. Issues raised in public comment will be taken under advisement by the Board of Education but will not be discussed this evening. Issues raised during public participation may be added to future agendas or addressed by administrative staff. The Superintendent is the Board's designee to coordinate response to public comment and will apprise the Board accordingly.

As has been communicated by our Superintendent, answers to questions raised in public comment will be posted on our website under Frequently Asked Questions.

All public comments are posted in Board Docs under Public Comment.

This will conclude our public comment period.

### Action by Consent:

#### Adoption of the Personnel Report

	Effective Date	Location	Position
<b>REVISED RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED</b>			
Tabitha Kahl	25-Jan-21	NCHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
<b>RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED</b>			
Linda Weisenberger	31-Dec-20	WJHS/Naper	Certified School Nurse
<b>APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME</b>			
John Frantzen	12/10/20-6/10/21	Maplebrook	Music-Vocal
Joan Laxton	1/6/21-6/10/21	Mill St.	Certified School Nurse
Kaelyn Pettit	1/6/21-6/10/21	NCHS	School Counselor
Emily Yung	1/25/21-6/10/21	NCHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED</b>			
Jennifer Rembrecht	1/11/21-4/6/21	Ann Reid ECC	Early Childhood Teacher
<b>RETIREMENT-CLASSIFIED</b>			
Christina M. Foster	4-Jun-21	Transportation	Bus Driver
<b>RESIGNATION-CLASSIFIED</b>			
Anne Galkin	14-Dec-20	Connections	Special Education Assistant
Mirna Garcia	5-Jan-21	Beebe	Health Technician
Shannon Sanders	22-Dec-20	Ann Reid	Special Education Assistant
Isidi Troqe	22-Dec-20	Ellsworth	Special Education Assistant

Angel DiBenedetto	21-Dec-20	Beebe	Instructional Assistant
<b>EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED FULL-TIME</b>			
Rachel Anderson	4-Jan-21	Kingsley	Special Education Assistant
Carlos Arredondo	11-Jan-21	NNHS	Custodian
Sheila Johnson	4-Jan-21	Kingsley	Learning Commons Assistant
Denise Koshay	4-Jan-21	Maplebrook	Special Education Assistant
Kathryn Kuna	4-Jan-21	Beebe	Computer Support Associate
Amanda Perry	4-Jan-21	KJHS	Special Education Assistant
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CLASSIFIED</b>			
Melissa Herth	1/6/2021	Kingsley	Special Education Assistant

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: Cush, Leong, Yang Rohr, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, and Gericke. No: None.

## Superintendent/Staff/School Report

### Return to Learn Update

Superintendent Bridges gave an update on the Return to Learn plan. He noted there are many celebrations including:

- While we continue to update and adjust our plan, our return to learn goals remain consistent.
  - to develop a plan that can be responsive to changes in safety and health needs
  - focused on returning all students to in-person instruction.
- Currently, we are in the Enhanced eLearning stage 2 of our plan. We expect to transition to stage 3 in the coming weeks and to be in hybrid learning beginning the week of January 25.
- As shared at the last Board meeting, we are making a shift in the evaluation criteria we utilize from what was recommended by health department in the fall (primarily monitoring community spread) to now focusing on consistent and correct use of the mitigation strategies in each school, using D203 community data to determine community spread, our contact tracing ability, staff availability, and PPE supply. This is in alignment with the suggested measurements published by the CDC for schools.
- As we have said in the past, there is not one indicator that will determine if/when an adaptive pause is necessary.
- In reviewing this criteria for transitioning to hybrid model on 1/25:
  - Our community positivity rate falls within the moderate range.
  - We have an adequate supply of PPE and cleaning supplies;
  - The students who have been coming in have been following face mask and social distancing mitigation strategies;
  - We have been able to notify all close contacts within 24 hours.
  - There have not been any instances in the last 2 weeks of transmission within our buildings;
  - And staffing levels are sufficient
- In partnership with Safeguard Surveillance, LLC, pending Board approval, Naperville 203 will be offering weekly screening tests for COVID-19 to all staff and secondary-level students. The goal of the program is early identification of potential COVID cases so that we can reduce transmission of the virus and quarantines due to close contacts, especially from asymptomatic individuals. Ultimately, we believe this mitigation strategy will allow us to begin a hybrid-learning

model. This voluntary program will provide an additional mitigation strategy to complement the others already in place.

- The saliva-based test will be administered once a week and will screen for high viral loads of the COVID-19 virus. Safeguard Screening, LLC will provide results to the district within 24-hours, and individuals with a clinical finding will be notified of the next steps. The test does not make a diagnosis but identifies individuals who need to seek a PCR COVID-19 test. The test is extremely accurate, with 99.9% of clinical findings resulting in a positive COVID-19 test.
- All of our mitigation strategies are important and work together to slow the spread of the virus within our schools. The return to learn guide identifies all of the strategies and the videos provide an opportunity to see what the strategies look like in action. Building principals will be sending out school specific information in the coming weeks.
- There will be activities for students transitioning into K, 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades as well as students new to the buildings determined by each school. Information will be forthcoming.
- The community will continue to be updated about our Return to Learn plan via our Talk 203 system, social media outlets, as well as website updates at [naperville203.org/returntolearn](http://naperville203.org/returntolearn). The COVID-19 dashboard is updated weekly and the frequently asked questions after each Board meeting. Throughout the coming weeks, we will be sending many reminders about our health and safety protocols in preparation for the transition to in-person learning.
- Reminder - you do not want to hear this but I needs to be said. We have to remain ready to pivot if our local metrics or guidance from our public health agencies require a change. We are committed to doing all we can to get to our hybrid stage.
- As stated in the beginning of this presentation our ultimate goal is for all students and staff to return to full, in person learning. Our number one commitment is to keep all people in our organization safe and healthy while modeling and staying grounded in our district mission. We are excited and looking forward to welcoming more of our students back to in person learning in the coming weeks.

#### **Board Questions/Comments:**

**Thank you for the report. Thank you to the community for the questions asked either in public comments or via email. The Board of Education members submit some of the questions raised during public comment as well as those emailed ahead of time so they can be answered in the presentation.**

**Good to see that we will be able to do some COVID testing in the district. Is there concern about a self-selection bias in the population that we may not be able to get a handle on the actual rates within the district?**

Superintendent Bridges reminded that this is a surveillance test not a diagnostic test. It is an additional mitigation strategy.

Dr. Igoe added that bias has not been an area of concern. This I more about the number of people we are testing and making sure we are getting good samples.

**It sounds like false positive rates are low. What is the data on false negative results?**

Dr. Igoe stated that this test looks for high viral loads so it is less likely to give a false negative. We will look into the exact numbers.

**The testing is voluntary and as an additional mitigation. What is the level of volunteerism needed in order for us to get a good reading?**

Dr. Igoe responded we have set 70% of students and staff who are in person as good threshold.

Superintendent Bridges added encouragement of the community and staff to opt in so that we do get the information that we need to make decisions. We will likely have to spread our testing over several days of the week so that all can be processed.

**What is the lower limit of participation that we would be able to see some level of report while still maintaining confidentiality?**

Dr. Igoe noted that none of the information that we give would identify anyone being tested. We will likely use what we always use and that is to have at least ten individuals before we would report. We do not anticipate that being an issue.

Superintendent Bridges reminded the Board and community that this is not a diagnostic test so we will not be reporting positives or anything that is a clinical possibility.

**Thrilled that you are looking at testing. How will this be impacted by individuals who have taken the vaccine?**

Superintendent Bridges stated that is a good question, we may have to go back to the company to ask. The DCHD says they will still need to be quarantined if they come in close contact.

Dr. Igoe added that we would need to follow up with the company but as a reminder we will not be vaccinating anyone under 16.

**How will we quarantine students who may have already had COVID?**

Superintendent Bridges noted they are treated the same as any other close contact.

Dr. Igoe added there is some guidance around having had COVID within 90 days. We have not had anyone in that situation to date.

**It will be important to know how we will handle that.**

**What is the schedule for testing that we will use for when students return to school?**

Dr. Nolten noted that as soon as students have had a period of adjustment, we are anxious to issue the NWEA Map growth in reading and math in all grades K-8. We do not want to rush it and want to do it when students are ready to show us what they can do. Other tests are on course to be given within a window that opens March 15.

**When can we expect to see results for SAT and PSAT in the fall?**

Dr. Nolten stated that we saw no difference in the average SAT score difference with this group relative to the group who took it in the spring. News is positive for those who took it in September. The NMSQT results are slower coming due to students who had accommodations.

**When can our parents receive information regarding the surveillance testing and protocols?**

Mrs. Mondini stated that we would be pushing out all those videos again in the coming weeks as well as a contact tracing video that we are finalizing now.

**Superintendent Bridges added that we would be working with building staff to work out the logistics of the surveillance testing. We will need to have a small pilot so the company can read the bar codes. Will be communicating as soon as we have the information.**

**Do we plan to invite remote students in for assessments?**

Dr. Nolten stated that we would invite all students to participate in for testing whether it is for internal assessments or for any standardized assessments. We will be inviting remote students in to take the testing at schools following all protocols. While parents can choose to not participate, we will have to work with ISBE on how to count that and how to make sure we are not penalized for that. We have to have 95% participation to have confidence in the scores.

**Thank you. Sounds like you have a good plan in place and covering many bases.**

**Is the surveillance testing available to all staff?**

Superintendent Bridges responded, yes.

**Does that include our childcare providers?**

Superintendent Bridges stated that we would have to check with legal counsel. That should not be a problem but we will have to look into that.

**What about 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders who mix more?**

Dr. Igoe noted that in speaking with districts who are doing this, it is teachers not students who may share the disease.

**Testing has been a big part of those schools in other countries for mitigations. Can you walk us through how this will work for students?**

Superintendent Bridges responded that we would be relying on our buildings to help us learn the best ways to do this. This is a spit test. We will collect the samples, send to the lab and the company will contact a district contact person if there is a clinical indication of elevated levels of the virus. Some districts collect onsite, some send the test kits home, and have them bring them back on certain days.

Dr. Igoe added that the students and families would be responsible for returning the test back to us in a safe way.

**All information is unidentifiable so there are no HIPAA concerns, correct?**

Dr. Igoe remarked that is correct; there is just a bar code.

**When will parents get more information?**

Superintendent Bridges reminded the Board and community that in the coming weeks there will be information coming out.

**How have other districts who have used this testing seen this help with their success?**

Superintendent Bridges noted that some elementary districts have used it and found it allowed them to stay open longer. We do not really have any information from larger districts like ours.

Dr. Igoe added the value is in the asymptomatic individuals. Finding the people with the higher viral loads will really help us open and stay open.

**Dates in the Return to Learn plan are unchanged, correct?**

Superintendent Bridges stated that is correct. All presentations are on the R2L website.

**How will students be able to continue without having the dedicated lunch period?**

Mrs. Posey noted there would be time built in for students to take a break for eating or drinking. There will be a small percentage of students who will not have that built into their schedules. More details of this will be included in school specific emails.

I would like to clarify that SAT recent results are from seniors who would have taken it as Juniors.

Dr. Nolten noted that there is a 5 month difference. The good news is that we did not see a dramatic decline. It is given at a different time developmentally, from March to September. Safe to say that scores were stable.

**Do we have that relative to national benchmarks?**

Dr. Nolten added that yes and our profile was very similar nationally. We had the choice to take it and we wanted our students to take it to be able to use it for applications.

**If we are not able to get to the 70%, are there some thoughts to encourage people to participate in the surveillance testing?**

Superintendent Bridges reminded the Board and community that Mrs. Mondini is in the process of developing a comprehensive communication plan. This testing is confidential and the company will not be able to know who is taking it. Some districts are making it mandatory. We are not there yet. As a large district, mandatory testing would be a large number that would burden the provider.

**This participation rate is an ongoing rate, not just a one-time participation. We need a high consistent participation.**

Superintendent Bridges commented that if the contract is approved, it is for a weekly test for those who opt in for at least 12 weeks.

Dr. Nolten added that these current test scores continue to place us in an exemplary place.

**How long in the future do you think it will be before our staff members to be vaccinated?**

Superintendent Bridges responded that in talking to DCHD, they are not sure when. Our school nurses have been able to be vaccinated now. We have learned that Social Workers, SLP's, OT's and PT's are eligible now as well. They are looking for partnerships with school districts to help. We could be in group 1B by the end of February. Will have to look at the operations, would not want to send all from one building at the same time. The health department has been receiving their shipments.

**In terms of students who are transitioning grades or schools, I know that schools will have specific days. When will information be forthcoming?**

Mr. Freundt reports that teachers and principals are finalizing plans on what the details will be for K and any new students. This information will be coming out late this week or early next week.

Mrs. Posey added that for 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades she is working with buildings to have autonomy as well as having some consistency.

**What about WEB for 6<sup>th</sup> graders?**

Mrs. Posey responded that would be discussed later this week when she meets with principals.

**President's Report:**

None

**Board of Education reports:**

None

**Discussion without Action:**

**School Improvement Plans:**

**Dr. Nolten walked thru the process, philosophical beliefs. This is about student improvement not only school improvement.**

- **We target ELA, Mathematics and SEL.**
- **Every school is allowed to write about a target group of students where they want to see growth.**
- **We did not change the SY21 goals despite not knowing where we finished SY20.**
- **We have looked at every grading period so far to see what standards have remained successful and where we have seen challenges. We have found that some standards are easier to teach remotely.**
- **In a normal year, about 1% of grades are F's at the junior high level and this year we are about 2%. At the High School level, we typically see about 1% of grades as F's, this year is about 4% of grades.**
- **We are starting to see the addition of equity action steps and goals. Some schools are in different places with implementation. The goal to have this added for all schools is 2023.**
- **We are well poised to administer these tests as soon as we transition back to in person learning.**

**Board Questions/Comments:**

**Thank you. It is so evident the work and care that the SIP teams put into these plans.**

**Thank you for the presentation. I am thrilled that we are keeping the SY21 goals. How are the goals developed and why do schools have different percentages on goals?**

Dr. Nolten responded that there are profile differences across schools. Some schools have different programs so those schools perform differently. We strive for about 3%-5% growth. That number is different at each school. We ask schools to identify groups who have needs that they want to focus on while helping all students improve. We look at internal assessments as well in making these numbers for growth.

**The peer review is important as well. The 3%-5% can be lofty. How can we better have our community understand how large that gain is?**

Dr. Nolten expressed gratitude that people are interested. It is important to look at the increases of students meeting or exceeding standards over time. It is important to understand the actual numbers that those percentages represent.

**It is important to get some understanding on what it takes to maintain these numbers as well as getting other students to improve as well.**

Dr. Nolten stated that we are fortunate to have dedicated staff keeping us at altitude.

**These plans have changed not only in the numbers of students but what the goals are as is the case with SEL and the equity action steps. This is not only about growth in grades but is a holistic approach.**

**Thank you for the presentation. Exciting to see the growth in SEL goals. It seems they are more implementation goals. When are we going to start looking at more quantitative data to measure growth in SEL? What about the quantitative measurements of equity growth.**

Dr. Igoe noted that is our hope and plan especially with the Panorama survey. We continue to look for quantitative measurements without losing site that some of these skills are not measureable. We will continue to look at that.

**ISA will be given this year as well as an assessment that will be tuned to the NGSS. Will there be a set of standards for science?**

Dr. Nolten responded that the assessment aligned to the ISA were to have been rolled out in the spring. The deployment has been delayed until spring 2021. Once the refining and revisions are complete, we will be able to write in science goals.

Mrs. Willard added that our curriculum is already upgraded to those standards. Jenny Donatelli sits on the assessment committee and makes sure we are meeting those standards.

**Thank you for this whole process that helps us understand where we are. Thrilled to see the action steps and the thought processes. I am thrilled to see the addition of the equity goals. Want to make sure we are talking about maintaining our growth not just maintaining where we are.**

**When you talk about the 4% of grades that are F's at the High School, what are the action steps that have been taken? What kinds of F's are you talking about?**

Dr. Nolten responded that PLC's are looking at these grades as to who are the students, are they individuals or groups of students. These are looked at by the PLC and then down to gender, race/ethnicity. They are looking into whether there is an attendance or engagement issue by student or group. Are there group level interventions that need to happen?

**It is important to know what data we have and how are we using it. What steps are being taken by counselors as it relates to executive functioning and SEL?**

Dr. Igoe noted that it goes back to Carrie and Jacque leading that charge and working with PLC's for additional supports for students who need help with Executive functioning.

**What about how students are doing at the EC and elementary level?**

Dr. Nolten noted that we see stable performance on standards, as teachers are able to assess them. We are seeing a higher level of achievement in some standards are some are easier to work on remotely. We have also found that some are harder to work on remotely. We see great growth at the elementary level.

**I know we are using the data as we receive it. Any information on EC we would be happy hear as I know those strategies are a bit different.**

Dr. Igoe noted that assessment is much harder at the EC level as it is very much play based. We will establish where they are as soon as we come back.

**I love that they use family engagement as part of their action plan to achieve these goals.**

**The Board is appreciative of all the context that goes into the plans.**

**We will take action on these at the January 19 meeting.**

**Tax Reimbursement Account Resolution:**

Superintendent Bridges reminded the Board and community that at the December 21 meeting he indicated that based on the audit report, we ended the year with a larger than planned surplus. One of the Board's goals has been to provide relief to Naperville 203 taxpayers. We have done that in past years through the abatement of the debt service levy and reduction in the extension. This year the Board is in the unique position to provide additional relief to its taxpayers. With input from the Board of Education and in consultation with our CFO/CSBO Michael Francis, we have a draft of a resolution for the Board to consider. There is also a memorandum that breaks down a number of options. We recommend the Board to consider a \$10 million surplus as a onetime disbursement to owners of property in Naperville 203's taxing district paid to the district under the most recent tax bill as well as a onetime reimbursement of 2020-2021 fees at a cost of about \$1.1 million.

We have also begun a process to create a framework for systems of support to ensure that we continue to achieve at a high level. We want to address the interruption of in person instruction.

We have identified some ideas of onetime costs like increasing summer school. We are looking at a number of ideas.

In addition to our resolution for disbursement of taxes and fees, we will ask the board to allow us up to \$5 million for additional supports to react to the impact of the reduction of in person learning.

To pay for surveillance testing, we will need about \$2 million. At a future point in time, we may want to look at supporting some additional capital expenses.



This is a discussion without action.

Mr. Frances add that this resolution follows the fiscal responsibility law. We will be following that law if the Board approves this resolution.

Superintendent Bridges added that a reference to policy 4:20 has been added to the resolution.

**This memo covers a number of items but the action we will be looking for on January 19 is the taxpayer disbursement.**

**Board Questions/Comments:**

**Happy to see we continue to be good stewards. If we approve the resolution and if we make some adjustments, can we add to the \$10 million for reimbursement later?**

Superintendent Bridges responded that that would be hard to do because we are under a time crunch to get this processed.

Mr. Frances added the logistics are involved, as we have to work with a number of agencies to get this completed. To comeback to add to this would be difficult. The best process is for the board to pick a value and stick with that.

**I appreciate the tax reimbursements and fees as well as the support for learning loss and the surveillance testing. I would like to understand more details on the capital improvements.**

Superintendent Bridges noted that we have identified some areas in our capital improvement plan that require our attention and some of our academic and improvement goals are related, for example, expansion of Ann Reid Early Childhood Center. There are other areas in the capital improvement plan as well that will need some extra support.

**In my mind, I am looking at this initially as it the first time we've seen it so I am just questioning if we would need some additional to support more learning opportunities even next summer. I would like to understand what other Board members are thinking.**

**Delighted that we are looking at this. Important to look deeper into the capital improvements. There are some of these needs embedded in the memo. Would like to clarify that we feel comfortable with the \$10 million and that we are not going to wish we kept some of that for return to learn.**

Mr. Frances responded that it is accurate. This is a onetime expenditure. This relates to the Fund Balance policy that the board approved last spring. We feel it is a good allocation of the funds that we have. We are in a good financial position. We feel this is the right mix of options.

Superintendent Bridges added that we happen to be in a unique spot to be able to do these things this year.

**Any sense of order of magnitude of what this tax reimbursement will be for property owners.**

Mr. Frances stated that we do not have all the data but with a home worth about \$400,000, the taxpayer would receive about \$270.

**Thrilled that we are going in this direction. I think the \$10 million is not enough and would like to see it doubled and the fee amount increased to \$3 million. I do not know when we will have this much support for doing it again.**

**Appreciative of the work that has gone into this. We were very uncertain at the beginning of the pandemic we were not sure what the future would look like. This is responsive to those conversations. Including all of these areas is important. I understand that we continue to have areas where we are underspending as well as overspending. We may have additional money at the end of this year. Want us to be able to be nimble and respond to problems that may arise. Would like to see us be able to respond in the coming years as needs arise. We have to continue to look long term. Some of these decisions can wait until the end of the school year to be made. We will then have a better idea as to any surplus form this year.**

**Thanks for putting this plan together. Comfortable with the \$10 million disbursement to taxpayers. It still gives us enough to work with in terms of addressing learning loss. Capital improvements are important long term to the school district.**

**The goals that we have around stewardship are the goals of the whole board. To be clear, we have all had this as a goal that we have been fighting for. I do not feel like capital improvement**

is unimportant, I am not sure about the amount of money we are putting aside. Perhaps we can put any surplus we have this year into capital improvement, which is more of a long term goal. I am comfortable with amounts now, just wondering if we want to look at this in terms of short term and longer term. In the longer term, we look to see if there are additional needs for learning loss support or taxpayer reimbursement.

Mr. Frances stated that nothing in the memo speaks to a specific capital project. This is more of a commitment of reserve dollars towards future capital projects. This is a commitment by the board as it relates to the Fund Balance policy. The deadline for committing some of the reserve funds to capital improvement is the end of the school year.

To keep it at \$10 million is keeping it close to the surplus amount and we will be refunding those who paid it this year.

Agree that looking at that amount from the audit and disbursing that amount. We can make some of the other decisions later in the year.

We already have a capital improvement plan. There are other ways to get money for capital improvement. Distracts can go to referendum if money is needed for capital improvements. The taxpayer reimbursement is time bound, as I understand it. This is a one time situation for the taxpayer reimbursement. This is not something we will be able to do year after year.

Yes, that is correct but it does not preclude us from ever doing something that is taxpayer assistance.

I understand this to be a one time disbursement because we are in a unique situation this year. \$10 million is fine if we can look at reducing the levy before March. The reimbursement is not something we are going to be able to do year after year, is that correct?

Superintendent Bridges responded that is correct.

**What is the timing that this must be done?**

Mr. Frances responded that it can be done at another time but this gets it as close as possible to getting the money back to those who paid it this year.

Superintendent Bridges reminded the Board that this is the unanticipated and unplanned surplus that we had. That is how we got the number.

**Administration is proposing at the tax reimbursement of \$10 million and additional spending that is tied to the audit and then looking long term at some capital expenses. This amount can be determined by the Board and does not have to be the amount in the memo.**

Superintendent Bridges noted that any adjustment that is made to the budget has to go thru a process before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Frances added any adjustments would have a ripple effect. We have started processing next year's budget and will have to amend this year's budget.

**Even if we double it, we are not paying taxpayers more than they paid in. We have had surpluses every year.**

**Do we want to look at the overarching policy to be sure we are getting to the percentage we want? Alternatively, we can look at what want to do this year and then revisit this in the future or do we want to look at it now?**

Superintendent Bridges stated that the memo is an umbrella of areas that we are thinking bout. These numbers are numbers that we feel comfortable recommending. Recommendation is that we look at these at the next board meeting and reallocate if needed. We will work with building leaders to see if there are areas that may need to be supported. We can look at capital improvements separately.

**We have agreement that we will break these out and may postpone some of these decisions at the next board meeting. Some are time bound so we will look at those.**

## **Second Reading Policy 7:310-Restrictions on Publications**

In January of 2020, we brought this forward. There was input from the Board of Education members and then some contact from some of our student journalists for suggestions. Those were all incorporated into the policy.

**Mrs. Posey noted a reflection of changes to board policy with feedback from PRESS, legal counsel, staff and students. We will be recommending action at the January 19 board meeting.**

**Board Questions/Comments:**

**Thank you for the review. Can you speak to the process and incorporation in terms of making sure we hear the feedback from our student journalists?**

Mrs. Posey noted that most of the comments and feedback are reflected in this policy. I will follow up with both schools to be sure they have enough time to offer feedback.

**Can we look at the name of the policy so that it is more positive?**

Mrs. Posey responded that she would look into changing the name of the policy.

**We had two students come and speak to us about this and make sure their concerns have been addressed. Can we understand if we did address their concerns and if not, why did we not?**

Mrs. Posey stated she would speak to the current editors to be sure we have addressed their concerns.

**Discussion with Action**

Agreement with Safeguard Surveillance, LLC

Superintendent Bridges noted that at the December 21 meeting we talked about the investigation of some type of surveillance testing. This contract has been reviewed by our legal counsel and is similar to what other districts. We do have to work with the company as to numbers. Administration is looking for approval of an amount of \$2 million that will cover testing of all staff and students 6-12 for 12 weeks. It will be less than \$2 million as we are planning to test 70% of those in person.

Board Question/Comments:

**What is the process that was used to use this company?**

Superintendent Bridges stated that it is very limited as to what is available for this type of surveillance testing. This is local so the turnaround is quick and there are not a lot of options. It is highly recommended from other districts who are using it.

**There are others but we do not meet the criteria.**

**This is a great step to make returning to learn safer for all students. Thank you for putting this together.**

**When will we start?**

Superintendent Bridges noted that ideally we would start the week of January 25.

Charles Cush made a motion to approve the Agreement with Safeguard Surveillance, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$2 million, seconded by Donna Wandke. Those voting yes: Leong, Kozminski, Wandke, Cush, Gericke, Yang Rohr, and Fitzgerald. No: None.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Janet Yang Rohr noted that she would be sworn in on January 13 as a State Representative. She will submit her resignation on January 12. It has been an honor to serve on this board in a district that my husband and I attended. The foundation laid has been strong. The dedication has been inspiring. This will be one of the guiding lights when I represent our community in Springfield. Our students and schools are in very good hands.

President Fitzgerald offered congratulations to Mrs. Yang Rohr on her new endeavor. We thank you for all you have brought to the Board. We thank you for your service and you will be missed. We look forward to working with you as represent Naperville in Springfield. I know the whole board believes the same.

Superintendent Bridges thanked Mrs. Yang Rohr for her service. We look forward to you representing this community and school district in Springfield. We hope we continue to have a very clear and professional positive relationship. WE look forward to your advocacy on our behalf.

Superintendent Bridges shared the process for filling the Board vacancy.

We will have a vacancy on the board on January 12. We will have 5 days to notify the Regional Superintendent of the vacancy. The person who fills the vacancy will complete her term. The Board will have 45 days to fill the seat. If not filled, the regional superintendent then would fill the position.

The qualifications are the same as those who run for election.

**Thank you for giving the process. We will give public notification as well.**

### **Upcoming Events**

**Superintendent Bridges noted the next Board of Education meeting would be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Week of January 25 we plan to transition to Stage 3 Hybrid learning of our Return to Learn plan.**

**Mrs. Fitzgerald added that January 6 is the first day back.**

### **Adjournment**

Janet Yang Rohr moved seconded by Paul Leong to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 p.m. Those voting yes: Leong, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Yang Rohr, Gericke, Cush and Kozminski. The motion carried.

Approved: January 19, 2021

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Kristin Fitzgerald, President, Board of Education

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Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of Education