
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD AT NAPERVILLE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 440 AURORA Ave, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540
March 1, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M., CLOSED SESSION 5:00 p.m.

Call to order

President Kristin Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. Board members present: Charles Cush, Kristin Fitzgerald, Kristine Gericke, Joe Kozminski, and Donna Wandke. Absent: Paul Leong

Administrators present were:

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

Closed Session

Charles Cush moved, seconded by Donna Wandke to go into Closed Session at 5:02 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)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.
3. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3) The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the District is given power to appoint under law or ordinance.

Meeting Opening

Charles Cush made a motion, seconded by Kristine Gericke to return to Open Session at 7:03pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, Gericke, and Cush. No: None. Absent: Leong. 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, Joe Kozminski, Kristine Gericke, and Charles Cush. Absent: Paul Leong.

Student Ambassadors present: None.

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

Naperville Central Student Wins National NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing

Naperville Central High School Sophomore, Helena Ilic, has received the National NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC). The national award recognizes four hundred award recipients for their outstanding aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for post-secondary education.

Elmwood Elementary School Blood Drive

Elmwood will be hosting a Blood Drive at the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center on Sunday, March 14 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Appointments greatly appreciated; walk-ins welcome as the schedule and social distancing allow.

Incubator Students Company Donating to Essential Workers

Anthony Pendolino and Camryn Eickenberg are seniors at Naperville Central who started their college care package business, GOAT Gifts, to recognize heroes in Naperville while learning to be entrepreneurs. When you buy a care package, one is also donated to an essential worker. Learn more about their business and product at <https://www.goatgiftsusa.com/>

Ann Reid Virtual Pizza Party

Ann Reid's Early Choices program held a virtual pizza party last week with over 60 families participating! Trader Joe's staff assembled over 100 bags of goodies to support the effort. The kids (and families) had a great time showing off their cooking skills

Public Comment:

The Board of Education welcomes comments from the public. Comments from an individual are limited to three minutes, if the individual is representing a group, they shall be allowed to speak for five minutes. President Fitzgerald reminded the community that as outlined in Board Policy 2.30, individuals addressing the Board should conduct themselves with respect and civility toward others. Individuals are free to express their criticism regarding Board policy or decisions by the Board but should refrain from personal attacks.

Nikki Hansra-Godfrey- Expressed her concerns regarding a lack of planning for a return to in person learning.

Rick Eertemoed- Expressed his concerns regarding a lack of planning for a return to in person learning.

Nathan Laurinaitis –student, Wants to go back to school full time as too much screen time can cause vision loss and maybe brain damage. Hard to see friends.

Maggie Laurinaitis-2nd grade. We are not really learning anything online, the internet is bad, and we cannot see friends,

Jennifer Laurinaitis- mom expressed her concerns regarding a lack of planning for a return to in person learning. There are people outside who should be allowed to be inside.

Lauren Persin-Expressed her continued concern for a lack of planning for a return to in person learning.

Scott Persin-thank the teachers for the great work. Teachers at Prairie and LJHS. Expressed his continued concern for a lack of planning for a return to in person learning.

Addison George-NCHS-I am optimistic that you know that what we are doing currently is not good enough. School full time before we fall so far behind academically. Optimism without a plan is hope and that is not a plan.

Jenny George- Expressed her concern regarding a lack of planning for a return to in person learning given that teachers are being vaccinated over the next two weeks.

Jason Moderi- Expressed his concern over the lack of planning for a return to in person learning. Tired of your inability of you to get your job done.

Jim Parker-Expressed his concern regarding the lack of planning for a return to in person learning.

Jenn Reichardt- Expressed her concerns at a lack of planning for a return to in person learning as school districts all around us have been back for months.

Chris Pieters- Expressed his concern over the lack of planning for a return to in person learning. Presented a signed petition and demanded a return to in person learning by April 7 or be terminated.

Danielle Schaffer-Expressed her concerns with the lack of planning for in person learning. You need to make this happen by the week after Spring Break.

Sara Forster- Unlike other districts we cannot figure out how to let the people who are outside inside. I am here regarding the code of conduct in item 9.02. No end in sight. Plainfield and Elmhurst have had mass vaccinations what has D203 done? There is no plan whatsoever to get students back in full time. Waiting for the BOE to clarify the districts purpose.

Amanda Mullarkey-30 people outside wanting to be inside. We talk about racism but we cannot close achievement gaps. Better spark would be getting our kids back in school. We have the money to fix. How long are you going to keep kids in RTI?

Mike Dahm-Tired of everyone we know being shocked and appalled that we are just now in hybrid. The BOE is the problem with this district. Rescind the resolution and to return to act like an elected board. This board is beginning to look like politics. We need a board to do the job.

Brad Miller- tuned in to BOE meetings for the last several months and have seen parents sharing the sad statements. You are tone deaf to the community. You have not been listening to parents but you will on April 6.

Colleen Liacs-Expressed her concerns regarding the lack of returning to in person learning. Our children are suffering. They are not being heard or respected.

Samuel Liacs-5th grade. Online learning is terrible on my mind. I can tell that children in my classes are suffering. This BOE gave up power

Jennifer Cupp-The role of the school board decisions are based on input from Superintendent, community, parents and students. You should be fighting for the students of this community. We are the laughing stock of national news sources. What are we waiting for? Vaccines are available, metrics are down. When is when, when is now. There is a way. Give parents the choice of five days.

Jay Deegan-8th grader. Shared in November. Want to be in full time for five days a week. A sham of a school board and Dan Bridges I hope you resign.

Aderemi Soyade- why do teachers not have one unified way to teach the kids. This is having a detrimental effect on the kids. We try to entertain them. People have adapted to the new way of life. Why putting stress on families? Parents are not good teachers. In such a stressful situation. Why are there police who are intimidating the crowd?

Ami Grandy-moved to Naperville because of the award winning schools. Two working parents. Why are schools not able to figure it out? Enrolled in a Montessori. Want my kids in Highlands in person. Public school is the playground of life. How are they supposed to become socially intelligent? Education is essential. Our kids are the future. Put them first. Be creative. Reinvest the funds instead of reimbursing. Step up.

We want to thank all those who submitted public comments by email or have contacted the Board of Education. Reading your comments is a vital part of understanding the challenging issues faced by our community. Due to the volume of email, there are times where we are unable to respond in a timely way however, all emails are read and valued greatly by 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. As a reminder, because the questions raised in public comment address district operational matters, the Board has designated our Superintendent as the spokesperson for the district designee to coordinate response to public comment and will apprise the Board

accordingly. Answers to questions raised in public comments will be posted on our website under frequently asked questions.

Action by Consent:

1. Adoption of Personnel Report

	Effective Date	Location	Position
REASSIGNMENT-ADMINISTRATION			
Kim Fricke	2-Mar-21	JJHS	Principal
Brian White	2-Mar-21	JJHS	Assistant Principal
RESIGNATION-CERTIFIED			
Sara McMinn	End of SY 20-21	NNHS	Mathematics
Ellen Spitali	8/15/2021	NCHS	Foreign Language-Spanish
Gwendolyn Stephens	End of SY 20-21	LJHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Michael Pawelski	2/25/21-3/15/21	Ellsworth	3rd Grade
REVISED LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Dennise Torres	8/26/20-2/28/21	Steeple Run	Reading Specialist-Bilingual
Jennifer Rembrecht	1/11/21-3/19/21	Ann Reid	Early Childhood
EXTEND LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Anne Rauen	SY 21-22	NNHS	Special Ed & Comm Arts
Alma Tan Torres	9/14/20- end of SY 20-21	Naper	Occupational Therapist
Kimberly Pellegrini	1st Semester SY 21-22	Elmwood	Learning Support Coach
Amanda Bartman	SY 21-22 40%	Jefferson	School Psychologist
RETIREMENT-CLASSIFIED			
Cheryl McGrath	2/17/2021	Prairie	Health Technician
Teresa Strauss	3/26/2021	Prairie	Computer Support Associate
Tracey Wilson	6/30/2021	Naper	Instructional Assistant
RESIGNATION-CLASSIFIED			
James Bromiel	2/28/2021	Transportation	Bus Driver
Jennifer Marie Bulkley	3/5/2021	Scott	Special Education Assistant
EMPLOYMENT-CLASSIFIED FULL-TIME			
Maria Aima	2/4/2021	River Woods	Dual Language Assistant
Brittney Smith	3/1/2021	Steeple Run	Special Education Assistant
Rozina Bhimani	3/1/2021	Ann Reid	Special Education Assistant

Teal Cyko	3/1/2021	NCHS	Special Education Assistant
Kelly Capen	3/1/2021	Steeple Run	Special Education Assistant
Cathy Puscas	3/1/2021	NNHS	Attendance Specialist
Kristen Hughes	3/1/2021	Ann Reid	Special Education Assistant
Rupa Vasudev	3/1/2021	Prairie	Special Education Assistant

2. Band Uniform Bid-NNHS

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

Superintendent Bridges congratulated Kim Fricke and Brian White who have been serving as interim Principal and interim Assistant Principal respectively at JJHS.

Superintendent/Staff/School Report Return to Learn Update

Superintendent Bridges gave an update on the Return to Learn plan.

- An individual who spoke to the Board on February 16 identified herself as staff member at Linden Oaks hospital. The individual spoke about the high number of hospitalizations they are seeing at Linden Oaks because of keeping kids out of school and because of self harm. As a follow up, I reached out to and spoke with Gina Sharp, President of Linden Oaks Behavioral Health. Ms. Sharp is also a Naperville 203 parent. Gina and Linden Oaks have had a long time mutual partnership with Naperville 203. While we cannot discuss specifics of causes for hospitalizations in this forum, Gina did share that what they are seeing at Linden Oaks is consistent with what behavioral health providers are seeing nationwide. She also indicated that she would talk with her leadership team to get more specific information we can share with our staff to ensure we are providing the support we can for our students. Gina was supportive of our efforts in 203 and appreciative of our partnership. What I can share with the Board of Education is overall in our District, the total number of hospitalizations among our high school aged students is down compared to the number of hospitalizations at this time one year ago. We are committed to continuing to support all students in their social, emotional, and mental health.
- Another individual spoke at the meeting on February 16 about the harm we caused by not allowing our high school aged students to participate in athletics. I feel it is important to once again share this information because I believe it serves as an example of the efforts being made by this school district and our willingness to allow students to participate as much as public health guidance allows. Our high school students have participated in official Illinois High School Association conditioning, training, practices, and competitions to the full extent allowed by the IHSA based on the guidance it receives from the Illinois Department of Public Health. We will continue to allow full participation as allowed by the IHSA. Any deviance from the IHSA guidelines could jeopardize both individual and team eligibility in the future. Since IHSA is the governing body for interscholastic competition in our state, it is imperative we follow those guidelines so we do not put our individuals and teams in jeopardy of being able to compete. Unfortunately, this also serves as an example of the occasional conflicting guidance we get - it is frustrating to know there is a way to allow basketball games to be played, but public health guidance still makes fully attending school in person a challenge.
- Finally, I would like address a rumor that had been circulating via social media groups about next year. A couple individuals were stating with a sense of authority that Naperville 203 was

planning to move to a four day week permanently even after COVID restrictions are lifted. That is false. While we will communicate our plans for the remainder of this year in the coming days there ARE NO PLANS to make a full day, asynchronous, non-student attendance day part of future school district calendars. Community members are reminded that decisions about our plans, our programming, or anything related to the school district will be communicated only by the school district. Please consult our webpage for information.

- Want to provide a glimpse into our district leadership planning process that we have been using, with an overview of ongoing practices we are engaging in to develop and refine our learning models. Finally, we will preview the coming steps around increasing our in-person students.
- The CDC released updated guidance on how to determine when and under what conditions to provide in-person instruction.
- Important takeaways from the new guidance are:
 - In-person learning has not been associated with substantial community spread.
 - K-12 schools should be the last settings to close, and the first ones to reopen following any increased mitigation strategies.
 - When the five key mitigation strategies are consistently implemented- especially mask wearing and social distancing- transmission spread within schools is limited.
 - Use of multiple strategies or layered mitigation – provides greater protection by helping to break transmission chains.
 - They must consider the level of community transmission- and its impact on risk of transmission in schools.
 - Schools should use a phased mitigation strategy- that increases or decreases the intensity in which mitigation strategies are applied.
 - Indicators should be based on a 7-day rolling average, and the second is that we should use both indicators to guide decisions. If the two indicators suggest different levels, the actions corresponding to the higher threshold should be used.
 - Regardless of the level of community transmission- schools must consistently layer the five key mitigation strategies for supporting a healthy environment- consistent and correct use of masks, physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and ventilation, and contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine.
 - Schools who use voluntary weekly testing- as an additional mitigation layer can differentiate who they test based on community spread as well. When transmission is low, testing can focus on staff only and when transmission is moderate, substantial, or high- it should also include a minimum of 10% of students participating in in-person instruction.
 - Under this new guidance, when levels of transmission are low/moderate- schools should focus on providing 6ft of distance whenever possible- if 6ft of distance is not possible within a classroom- then schools should focus on maintaining 6ft of distance among classes, cohorts, and pods. If community transmission is substantial or high, schools must provide for 6ft of distance at all times- including within the classroom.
 - As we review our community health metrics, which includes all of the zip codes within our school boundaries, as of 2/28/2021- we have 108 new cases per 100,000 people and a positivity rate of 3.18%. The new cases per 100,000 falls within the high community transmission and the 3.18% positivity rate falls within the low community transmission. Since the two indicators suggest different suggest levels of transmission- we would follow the guidance for high community transmission.
- A majority of our students are participating in the hybrid/in-person model across all levels;
- Attendance rates are in the mid-nineties across both hybrid/in-person and online models;
- We have learned our model has a larger percentage of in-person learners than some surrounding districts; we also have a large number who opted for this model who are coming every day. While this is a huge celebration, this creates a hurdle for us in bringing in more students daily.

- Remember: we have to keep 6 feet spacing to the greatest extent possible, we need to limit interaction between pods; spaces cannot have over 50 people.
- Early childhood students in the PFAE and IEP strands have already been increased to 4 days per week allowing for a schedule that is close to traditional with the exception of Mondays. At the elementary level, principals and their staff have lengthened the 2.5-hour in-person day for more and more students based on attendance, engagement, assessment information, etc. This has typically been occurring during the 10:45-12:00 period of the school day allowing targeted AM students to stay longer and targeted PM students to begin earlier. Based on the most recent survey form sent out to elementary parents for trimester 3, we are expecting an additional 445 elementary students in-person beginning March 16.
- Junior High students have remained constant at a 72% in person rate and their daily attendance is high. The junior high administration has worked with PLC's, counselors and other staff to identify those students that may need additional support whether it is by attending up to four days per week, additional time during the afternoon intervention block, or other means.
- High School in person rates have dropped slightly from the original survey data to 66%, but daily attendance rates are consistently high. As changes occur, both high schools look to maximize our spaces with students who might need additional support as identified with grades, attendance, engagement, and work completion, looking to provide up to four days of in person where possible.
- We are grateful for the BOEs support of our partnership with DuPage Children's Museum and are excited about the upcoming plans for our 5th grade students to participate in onsite, in-person outdoor education. All junior high 8th graders will participate in a virtual field trip to the Holocaust Museum. Incubator students continue to meet with their mentors and health occupation students have guest presenters each week, which is a virtual version of their typical site visits. We are happy to report that sports and activities are continuing to meet in person following the IHSA regulations, which are different from the guidance that schools are, required to follow for onsite learning.
- First vaccination clinic will be available for district staff on Friday, March 5 in collaboration with CUSD 200 anticipate that this will continue the next several weeks based on supply.
- Staff continue to be scheduled with Edward-Elmhurst Health and other community providers
- Ongoing dialogue with Osco and Meijer Pharmacies with the goal of providing school-based on-site vaccination clinics - we have a district team that is ready to act.
- Regularly scheduled consultation with DuPage County Health Department, DuPage Regional Office of Education, and DuPage County superintendents
- Continued challenge of limited supply coupled with high demand and a relatively disorganized system of distribution
- During the pandemic, we developed new processes and structures to support ongoing plans for returning to in-person learning this year. We have many teams devoted to this work, all with the same goal of returning as quickly as possible to in-person learning. These planning structures and actions continue and will continue throughout the year and summer as we build our plans for the return to in-person learning this August. So long as our state government or public health officials do not tell us we cannot, we plan to be in person, five days per week to begin the next school year. In addition, we are planning to be there before this school year ends for those students who choose to be in person.
- At the March 15 BOE meeting we will communicate our models for bringing in all students who elected for in-person instruction once community transmission levels is within the moderate range. It is my expectation, based on what we know now and what we expect, this will occur after spring break. The current online option will remain for those who have chosen it.
- Along with increasing in-person learning this year, our plans for the 2021-2022 school year have been underway. The most desirable plan and one we are actively planning for, is to have all students in-person every day following our traditional schedule that we abruptly shifted away from on March 13, 2020. However, those plans are contingent on the safety guidance we

receive from CDC, IDPH and DuPage County Health Department. It is imperative that district and building leadership continue the process of planning for next school year today. It will be critical that we plan a parallel scenario to our traditional school day that includes 6 feet of social distancing with limited space considerations.

- As stated over the past few months, communication is a critical component of our Return to Learn plan and there are many important messages being shared across a variety of platforms.

Board Questions/Comments:

Thank you for this presentation. We acknowledge the concerns of the community and the desire of the community to returning to in person learning. We appreciate the petition and we share the community's support for in person learning. We appreciate the ongoing work of the administration to increase the amount of in person time and we look forward to the specifics of the plan on March 15. We appreciate the community's continued support and advocacy for the needs of your students.

We have 70% of students returning to in person hybrid. Other districts around us have 30-50% of students. We are really dealing with a capacity issue to maintain the six foot of distance, correct?

Superintendent Bridges stated he could not speak to the specific percentages in other districts; the biggest barrier for us is the maintaining 6 feet of distance. With the high numbers it makes this difficult.

What has staff done to know capacity of classrooms?

Superintendent Bridges noted that building administrators have worked with buildings and grounds to set up classrooms on a site by site basis to determine the amount of space within a classroom. Teachers were asked to remove all extra furniture. Administrative team has worked with staff to determine the space within each building.

What are the hurdles to getting students back in for more hours and more days?

Superintendent Bridges noted the number of cases/100,000. Continued efforts to reduce the community spread. If we can reduce the 6 feet, we would be able to reduce the space between pods or groups of students.

Can you give an update on assessing students now that they are back in school? When do you expect to have some results?

Dr. Nolten stated that we are in the third week of MAP testing. The window closes on March 12 so we should have some data shortly after. The IAR will begin the following week. We will not have those results until the summer.

Superintendent Bridges added that in April the Administration would be asking for additional learning opportunities in the summer.

Are online students coming into buildings for testing?

Dr. Nolten remarked that we are asking parents to reach out to building administration to make arrangements. Students can delay the testing.

Glad to hear that there will be a clinic to get teachers vaccinated.

Superintendent Bridges noted that the biggest barrier is the availability of vaccines.

Can you speak about vaccine availability-number of staff who can receive it at the clinic and how many have already received it?

Dr. Nolten stated that we have had about 200 indicate thus far that they are interested. There are about 100 doses available this week but expect more in other weeks.

So we have 100 for our staff?

Dr. Nolten responded, yes, there are 500 total so each district is allowed to have 100.

Superintendent Bridges added that we are hoping as we move forward, we will have access to more vaccines.

It is hard for all even if you qualify. There are some in the community who are saying that all teachers have been vaccinated. That is not true.

Dr. Nolten stated that there is no opportunity that we have not explored.

Thank you for report and efforts on vaccine front. Important to share these facts. For clarity, metrics have been revised based on new guidance. Both are on either end of the spectrum and the guidance

says that we have to follow the highest. You mentioned that our plan is to be back into in person instruction five days per week at the beginning of the next school year.

Superintendent Bridges remarked that is correct. The plan is five days in person in the fall unless we are told we cannot.

To be clear, the main barrier is the 6 foot of distance. The additional 445 at trimester of Elementary, does that take us above the 71%?

Superintendent Bridges responded that he would have to do the math.

On March 15, we will have a new plan based on the new metrics?

Superintendent Bridges stated that plans evolve as the guidance changes. On March 15, we are expectant that we will see a lower amount of transmission. These are all conditional. In order to effectively transition, we may have to implement one of our remote planning days. We are pushing our staff. We have to respect that any shifts require planning time for educators.

During that timeframe, we will be looking at the 6 feet?

Superintendent Bridges noted the guidance says 6 feet to the greatest extent possible.

Want to convey that we are taking all the mental health and academics into account. We are all advocating for that on a state and national level.

Superintendent Bridges stated that The Daily Herald ran a story that superintendents have signed a petition to not have standardized testing and use our local assessments. The state has said they are not going to use the data so we would rather use those days to do our own local assessments.

Want to be sure that those who did not get a chance to speak know they have the opportunity to email. How do we make sure that the community hears these plans?

Superintendent Bridges remarked that all the information is on the website as are all the Board of Education recordings. Tomorrow we will be releasing 203 in 2:03 message. We have been criticized for lack of transparency but all plans are on the website.

Can you also give an update as to how we will utilize the MAP testing data and how we will use that data to create programs for close gaps?

Superintendent Bridges noted that as stated earlier, the window closes on March 12. Our team will be reviewing the data and identifying gaps and will communicate those to our Learning Services, Student Services and Assessment office. That information will guide us in identifying the appropriate additional programming that is needed. We expect to present a preliminary review at the first meeting in April and hope to ask for Board action at the second meeting in April.

The community has questions and concerns and the hurdles and what has been happening in Chicago. Staff has never been one of our hurdles. Can you elaborate on that a bit?

Superintendent Bridges remarked we have strong partnerships with our associations. Our staff has not been a barrier. They all know that they do best in the classroom. We have been working collaboratively with the associations.

Summer school will be in person since there are fewer students?

Dr. Igoe stated we are planning on full in person summer school.

We can do that because we have fewer students.

I know you are working hard to plan for the fall. Is there anything you can add to how we are planning for that?

Superintendent Bridges referred to the slide that lists the planning. We will be back in person five days a week unless we cannot. We should return to a schedule that looks like March 12, 2020.

It has been frustrating to see the inconsistent guidance as to playing on a playground versus playing basketball.

Superintendent Bridges commented that we have been advocating about planning for more students. CDC, IDPH, need to give us timely communication. They need to understand how their guidelines limit us.

IASB has been engaging in conversations with experts to make this happen.

When we say full time in person we mean a regular day with lunch?

Superintendent Bridges responded, correct.

President's Report

President Fitzgerald expressed the ongoing advocacy of the School Board members to advocate on behalf of our students on a local, state and federal level.

Board of Education reports:

None

Discussion without Action

Debt Service Levy

Superintendent Bridges noted that annually you have the option to abate all or a portion of the debt levy if it is determined that the district has adequate resources to make the required bond payments without the tax levy. In 2020 tax levy year required bond and interest payments of \$2,919,500.00. The district is estimated to receive \$199.325.00 from the Federal government for offset on the Build America Bonds, the abatement is for \$2,720,175.00. Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve the debt service levy at the March 15, 2021 meeting.

Mr. Frances added that this \$2.7 million abatement would bring the total abatement to \$23 million over the last five years.

Board Questions/Comments

Want the community to know that there is a surplus fund in reserve. We assure the community that we have the funds we will need to do anything necessary for COVID abatement.

I want to clarify, the surplus is enough. The limitation to opening is not a lack of funding.

Superintendent Bridges reiterated that the financial condition of the district is not a barrier to reopening. **It is an important consideration that we are hearing form our community. Resources are not preventing us from return to learn more quickly.**

I want to make sure that the number you quoted is in addition to the general levy reduction of \$2 million and the \$10 million dollars that were given as tax relief?

Mr. Frances stated that his comments were related to the debt service.

Will have action on March 15.

Resolution Transfer

Superintendent Bridges stated conditional to the approval of the abatement would require passage of this resolution on March 15.

Board Questions/Comments

None.

EC-12 Certified and District SPED Staffing Projection

Superintendent Bridges noted that annually many members of administration work collaboratively to provide a recommendation to the Board of Education on staffing projections. Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education Stephanie Posey will share the report and recommendation.

Mrs. Posey reported that this is similar to ones we have presented in the past.

It reflects the FTE need based on current and projected enrollment. These projections do not include additional FTE dependent on the state of the pandemic and any additional needs related to gap closing. We are recommending staffing that is the minimal to what we may need.

This will be presented for action on March 15.

Board Questions/Comments:

None.

Discussion with Action

Appointment of new Board of Education Member

Mrs. Fitzgerald invited Tony Casey to the podium. She described the exhaustive process to find a new board member. We had 32 applicants who were all interviewed and brought down to eight to three to one. Mr. Casey is a long time resident of Naperville and is a graduate of District 203. He has four

children at the elementary and secondary level. We are excited to welcome him as a member of the Board of Education. Tony's background includes his being an attorney, a professor of higher education as well as being the Dean responsible for Administration as well as your work and your research on board governance.

Mrs. Fitzgerald administered the oath of office.

Mr. Casey read the oath.

Board Questions/Comments

None.

Charles Cush made a motion to approve the Appointment of Tony Casey as a new Board of Education member as presented, seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: Fitzgerald, Wandke, Gericke, Kozminski and Cush. No: None. Absent: Leong

Tony Casey thanked the Board of Education for choosing him. He takes this responsibility seriously. Has four students in the district. Appreciates the opportunity to serve.

Old Business

None

New Business

There are a couple of students who have reached out regarding an app they have developed that will help with SEL.

Superintendent Bridges noted that we would meet with them

Upcoming Events

Superintendent Bridges noted the next Board of Education meeting would be held on Monday March 15 at 7:00pm.

Do we want to keep that date as the Board of Education meeting since there is no school on April 5 and 6?

Traditionally the Board has not met when the district is closed. The district is not closed, as it is an institute day.

We will keep it

Adjournment:

Kristine Gericke moved seconded by Donna Wandke to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Cush, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, Gericke and Casey. Absent: Leong.

Approved: March 15, 2021

Kristin Fitzgerald, President, Board of Education

Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of Education