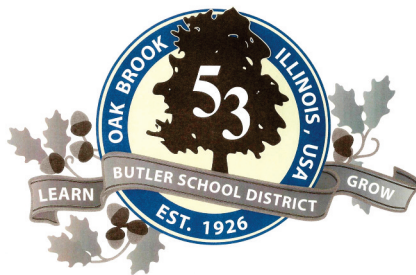


BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Elizabeth Chun, President
Dr. Sally Beatty, Vice-President
Mr. Ahmad Sulaiman, Secretary
Mr. James Chow
Mr. Christopher Edmonds
Mr. Cabin Kim
Mr. Lou Paskalides
Dr. Heidi Wennstrom, Superintendent

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Butler School District 53

Board Report

A news report of the April 27 and May 8, 2017 Board of Education meetings

Brook Forest principal appointed

The Butler School District 53 Board of Education appointed the new principal of Brook Forest - Dr. Chad Prosen, known as a passionate, collaborative and strong instructional leader. He is a seasoned administrator, serving as principal of Western Avenue School in Flossmoor, and earlier Medinah Intermediate School and elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago. "Dr. Prosen has provided strong leadership in his roles as principal to ensure every child is successful," said Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom. "He is a caring instructional leader and is a very child-centered administrator." At the center of his work are strong relationships with parents, students, staff and faculty, as well as a goal toward team building and excellence," she said.

Dr. Prosen said he was drawn to Butler School District 53 because of its high expectations for learning, the community's support of education and the value that everyone places on excellence.

Dr. Prosen began his career teaching grades 4-8 in Texas, then history at Brother Rice High School in Chicago. He completed his Bachelor's of Art and Teacher Certificate program from Baylor University in Waco, Texas, a Master's of Arts in Education Administration from St. Xavier University and his Doctorate in Educational Organization and Leadership from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

The search process involved parents, Brook Forest faculty, administrators, superintendent, and representatives of the Board of Education.

New board members seated, officers appointed

At a special meeting April 27, new board members were sworn in and officers installed. The four new members elected to the Board are: Dr. Sally Beatty, Mr. James Chow, Mr. Christopher Edmonds, Mr. Cabin Kim. In addition, Mr. Ahmad Sulaiman was re-elected to the Board after his appointment last October to fill an unexpired term. After the five were sworn in, officers were elected. They are: Dr. Elizabeth Chun as President, Dr. Sally Beatty as Vice President and Mr. Ahmad Sulaiman as Secretary.

In related news, the Board on May 8 approved members' appointments to committees. In addition to president duties, Dr. Elizabeth Chun will serve as Board liaison to the District Leadership Team (DLT) and the PTO. Dr. Beatty will serve as liaison to the Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND), Illinois Association of School Boards and the PTO. Mr. Sulaiman will serve as Policy Chair, representative to the DLT and will review legal issues. Mr. Chow will serve as a member of the Finance Committee and Technology Committee. Mr. Edmonds will chair the Finance Committee and serve on the Policy Committee. Mr. Kim will review monthly bills and serve as a representative to the PTO. Mr. Paskalides will chair the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Technology Committee.

The Board also established meeting dates for the next year. They will generally be held on the second Monday of the month as had been past practice, but attendees are asked to check the website for changes and updates. The next Board meeting will be held June 19.

Teachers “give 100 percent”

The Board thanked Brook Forest and Butler Junior High teachers as part of Teacher Appreciation Week. “The educators in this District are extraordinary,” said Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom. “As you get to know them, you will see that they give 100 percent every single day.”

Tentative budget on display

The Board approved an amended budget for 2016-17 for display purposes and set 6:30 p.m. June 19 as the public hearing on the budget. In a related move, the Board approved a resolution to set a hearing on an inter fund transfer of \$1 million from the Educational Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund in order to pay for some building repairs and improvements this summer. A public hearing on the transfer will also be held at 6:30 p.m. on June 19.

Reorganization of roles

The Board approved the position of Student Services Director, a new position that will serve families from both schools. Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom said the position is needed due to an increase in enrollment and in the number of students with more complex needs. The position will assume some of the duties of the Assistant Principal at Butler Junior High and also serve as the special education administrator to both schools. As a result, the position of Assistant Principal at Butler will become a part-time position. This reorganization will allow the District to better serve each child’s needs. Among the duties would be to provide leadership for key programs, including special education, English Language Learners, the early childhood program and assessment. The new administrator would monitor the cooperative preschool program, facilitate IEP meetings, evaluate programs and protocols, work with teachers and principals when students with special education are mainstreamed into classrooms, direct budgeting and personnel evaluations for the affected programs, among others. The District will advertise the open position this spring. The assistant principal position will likely be hired from current faculty.

Summer work, stipends, committee update

In other news, the Board:

- Approved stipends for extra duty positions as outlined in the negotiated agreement with the Oak Brook Education Association. The stipends are for such things as directing plays, supervising events, sponsoring clubs and coaching sports. The goal was to keep the overall stipend cost the same as last year while continuing to offer broader co-curricular options.
- Heard an update from the Building and Grounds Committee. Chair Lou Paskalides detailed the work to provide soil, seed and water on the Butler Junior fields, which is being paid for by the contractor that did the original work in 2015.
- Heard plans to replace the roof at Brook Forest this summer, rebuild the courtyard at Butler Junior High and replace furniture in the STEM lab.

School, PTO reports

In reports from the schools and the PTO,

- Heard a recap on the science expo at Brook Forest, a report on Jump Rope for Heart, which raised \$8,300 from the Brook Forest community and other parts of Health and Fitness Week. Assistant Principal Lisa Owen also reported on the recognition event for students involved in clubs, activities and sports, and upcoming plans for 5th grade farewell, DARE graduation, Exploremore Day and student council’s trip to Feed My Starving Children,
- Heard an update from BJH Principal Amy Read on students who were recognized for their scores on the ACT/SAT as part of the Northwestern Center for Talent Development, the recent Alice in Wonderland Musical and the Science Olympiad Team, which placed 8th in the state, the highest in Butler history.
- Heard an update from PTO President Rahma Hasan on the successful mother/daughter tea and plans for the bike rodeo on May 26. She also introduced her successor as PTO President, Kelly Grecko.

Board Calendar

- June 19** Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
Administrative Center
- June 19** Policy Committee Meeting - 5 p.m.
Administrative Center



School Calendar

- May 26 School Improvement Day,
Student dismissal - 11:50 a.m.
- May 29 Memorial Day: No School
- May 31 8th Grade Graduation, 5 p.m.
- June 5 Last day of school



Want to learn more? Listen to the Board Meeting audio at www.butler53.com Click on the tab "Board of Education"