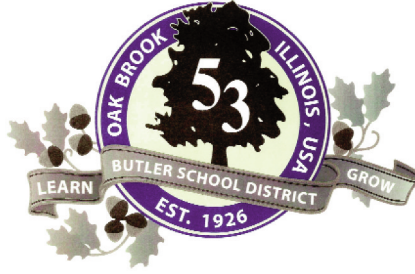


BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dr. Sally Beatty, Vice-President
Mr. Ahmad Sulaiman, Secretary
Mrs. Laura Bieselin
Mr. James Chow
Mr. Lou Paskalides

Dr. Heidi Wennstrom, Superintendent

2801 York Rd., Oak Brook
District Office: 630-573-2887
Fax: 630-573-5374
www.Butler53.com



Butler School District 53

Board Report

A news report of the Oct. 15, 2018 Board of Education meeting

Board appoints new member; selects new president

The Board of Education approved the appointment of Keith Carlson as the newest member of the Board, replacing Dr. Elizabeth Chun. Mr. Carlson is a commercial manager for plastic distributor M. Holland and a 16-year-resident of Oak Brook. He and his wife Dr. Andrea Carlson are the father of three children, one at Hinsdale Center, a second at Butler Junior High and a third at Brook Forest.

Dr. Chun, who served as board president, resigned earlier this month after eight years on the board. She said since her children were grown and living in different parts of the country, she and her husband planned to do more traveling.

Mr. Carlson said he sought the appointment because it's a critical time for the District as it faces a nationwide superintendent search. "It's an honor to be selected and to serve," he said. "We are blessed to live in a school district and community that values each child and maximizes their talents."

Board President Chris Edmonds said Mr. Carlson has been an avid supporter of the community and the District over the years. "We look forward to leveraging his deep knowledge of the community and his keen business experience for the benefit of all families in the District," said Edmonds.

In related news, board member Lou Paskalides announced that he was resigning from the board, effective immediately. The Board will seek a replacement and announce a process and timeline in the coming days. By law, the Board has 45 days to fill the open spot.

In addition, the Board chose to elect new officers. Chris Edmonds was selected as president and Sally Beatty as vice-president. Ahmad Sulaiman will remain as secretary to the Board. "I appreciate the vote of confidence and am thrilled to work with the Board," said Mr. Edmonds. Appointments to board committees will be made in the coming weeks, he said. Board members also noted that committee meetings are open to the public and encouraged community members to attend.

Residents are encouraged to educate themselves on referenda

In response to questions from members of the audience, the Board and administration said they cannot take an official stance on an election referendum issued by another governmental body. The Oak Brook Park District referendum is asking voters whether to acquire 34-acres of land known as the McDonald's soccer fields. Board members, however, encouraged residents to educate themselves and noted that the Butler PTO invited speakers to provide factual information on the park district referendum and the Hinsdale District 86 referendum at the PTO meeting on Oct. 16. Additional information is online and through community meetings.

Board hires search firm

The Board approved a contract with Ray & Associates to conduct a national search for a new superintendent. Of four firms that responded to requests for information, board members narrowed the pool to two. Ray & Associates were chosen because of their national reach, their 24-month replacement guarantee and that they were not under contract with many other school districts in the region. This allows greater competition for quality candidates. The contract is \$15,000 plus expenses.

Principals honored

The Superintendent and Board honored Principals Amy Read and Dr. Chad Prosen and Assistant Principals Lisa Owen and Alison Prochaska as part of National Appreciation Month. “Being a principal is truly hard work,” remarked Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom. “Student success relies heavily upon principal and assistant principal leadership.” She said the leadership team embraces innovation while being steadfast in their commitment to a rigorous core instructional program that is research-based.

Parent group topics, thanks to OBEA

During the superintendent’s report:

- Student Services Director Andrea Prola gave a report on Butler Bridge, the new parent support and advisory group in the District. She said all parents are welcome. The next meeting will be held Nov. 2 in the District board room following the 9 a.m. PTO meeting. Parents choose the topics, which will include the Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS), accelerated placement procedures, how to foster independence in children, and supporting school transitions from preschool all the way through high school, among others.

- The superintendent and board reiterated its thanks to the Oak Brook Education Association (OBEA) for the new five-year teacher contract, and to board members Dr. Sally Beatty and Mr. Chris Edmonds and Business Manager Dr. Sandra Martin for their role in representing the Board. The agreement, approved by the board in September, represents unity and and collective commitment to children,” said Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom.

Principals’ reports

In the principals’ reports:

- Dr. Chad Prosen outlined recent and upcoming events centered around helping children be emotionally and socially ready, including this month’s 8 Keys of Excellence focus on ownership. An all-school assembly will be held on how to achieve the benefits of mindfulness. He also noted expanding partnerships, including participation in International Walk to School Day and Student Council’s partnership with Butler Junior High and the PTO to create fleece blankets for Lurie’s Children’s Hospital.

- Butler Junior High Principal Amy Read reported on the 7th grade field trip to Philadelphia, the recent 8th grade Iron Oaks field trip centered on teamwork and the varsity volleyball team, which advanced to the final four conference. She also noted a new electronic sign-out process for students, which increases efficiency, security and communications.

Contracts, personnel

In other news the Board:

- Approved a contract with Stephens Plumbing and Heating to replace the water heater at Butler Junior High for \$6,995. The water heater was seven-years-old and had cracked and was no longer under warranty.

- Approved a contract with Inspec. Inc. to supervise corrective roof repairs at Brook Forest. The company will observe and document a series of short-term repairs related to the reroofing project conducted during the summer of 2017.

- Decided to delay a contract and purchase of 550 folding chairs and asked the administration to review less expensive options.

- Approved the employment of Estefany Rozo Olaya as a permanent substitute.

- Accepted the resignation of Deanne Dees as a paraprofessional at Brook Forest School.

Committee reports

In the committee reports,

■ Business Manager Dr. Sandra Martin gave an update on the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Among the items discussed was a proposal for a new sound system at both schools, the gate repair at the gym entrance, which will be paid for by the insurance company, and the need to remove two trees near the Brook Forest creek. The area, once maintained by the Tollway Authority, has been turned over for the District to maintain.

■ Technology Director Farheen Beg gave a report on the Technology Committee and detailed accomplishments from the summer including improving technology infrastructure, installing more security cameras and migrating servers. This year, the committee will look at STEM space at Brook Forest, enhancements to the website and providing more robust functionality and information for parents in Powerschool.

Board Calendar

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|----------------|---|
| Oct. 29 | Technology Committee Meeting – 7 a.m. Administrative Center |
| Oct. 30 | Buildings and Grounds Committee – 7 a.m. Administrative Center |
| Nov. 6 | District Leadership Team – 4 p.m. Administrative Center |
| Nov. 12 | Regular Board of Education Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Administrative Center |

School Calendar

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|----------------|--|
| Oct. 19 | End of 1st quarter, BJH |
| Oct. 26 | End of 1st trimester, BF |
| Nov. 2 | PTO Meeting, 9 a.m. |
| Nov. 8 | Parent Teacher Conferences, 4-8 p.m. |
| Nov. 9 | School Improvement Day (half day dismissal) |
| Nov. 9 | BJH Parent Visitation Day |



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