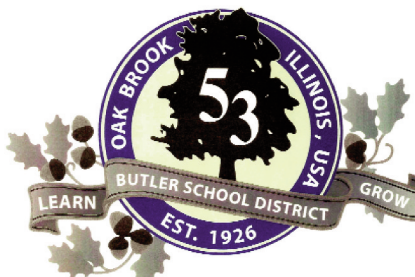


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Butler School District 53

# Board Report

## A news report of the Nov. 12, 2018 Board of Education meeting

### Achievement and Performance Report

The Board heard the annual Student Achievement and Performance Report for 2017-18. It details the results of three assessments. Two are student administered academic tests – The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, or PARCC, is a state test for grades 3-8 and the NWEA MAP is a nationally normed test. The MAP test is adaptive, adjusting to each student's performance, and precisely measures achievement and growth. The third is a state survey of teachers, students in grades 5-8 and parents, called the 5Essentials.

In summary, on the PARCC test, Butler 53 has been one of the highest performing districts in the state and both schools have been designated as "Distinguished" by the Illinois State Board of Education.

- Butler 53 has outperformed almost all of the District's historically designated comparable schools in reading and math, as measured by PARCC.

- The 2017-18 PARCC results for students with Individual Education Plans (IEP) who met or exceeded state standards was 40 percent in reading and 47 percent in math. This was much higher than the state average of 9 percent and 8 percent, respectively for reading and math, as measured by PARCC.

- Butler students, on average, perform at 2-3 grade levels above the national norm, as measured by the MAP assessment.

- End of year attainment scores for NWEA MAP were more than 95th percentile in reading and math across all grade levels, which evidences distinguished academic achievement.

- In 2017-18, overall 69 percent students in reading and 60 percent students in math met their typical growth target as prescribed by MAP.

- Based on their average RIT score in fall and spring for the academic year 2017-18, overall students are in the top 1-5 percent nationally for reading and in the top 1-2 percent nationally for math.

Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom said that great efforts were made to improve ELA instruction and the results reflect that. She said the focus is now on fine tuning math instruction as well as to focus across the board on each student's growth. "We need to ensure stretch instructional strategies are implemented across all content areas. That's how we have been able to create the attainment our students have achieved to date," she said. "The District will continue to ensure lower performing students receive intensive and targeted support as well as attending to the needs of the higher performing students to assist them with meaningful and effective enrichment."

The 5Essentials survey was given to teachers, parents and students in grades 5-8. It looks at five areas of the schools related to organization and climate – ambitious instruction, effective leaders, collaborative teachers, involved families and supportive environment.

At Brook Forest, the highest performing indicator was "involved families," "collaborative teachers" and "effective leaders." On specific questions, Brook Forest showed high performance on "few classroom disruptions" (99), "parent influence on decision making in schools" (99), "quality of student discussion" (99), "socialization of new teachers" (99) and "teacher-parent trust" (99). Areas of increase were in "teacher-principal trust" (+22), "quality professional development" (+14), "instructional leadership" (+10), "teacher-teacher trust" (+9) "and collective use of assessment data." (+7).

## Achievement and Performance Report (continued)

At Butler Junior High, the highest performing indicator was “involved families,” followed by “ambitious instruction,” “supportive environment,” “collaborative teachers” and “effective leaders.”

On specific questions, Butler Junior High showed high performance on “few classroom disruptions” (99), “collective responsibility” (99), “math instruction” (99), “parent influence on decision making in schools” (99) and “quality of student discussion” (99). Areas of increase were in “student reflective dialogue” (+41), “student-teacher trust” (+16), “collaborative practices” (+6), “quality professional development” (+6) and “student responsibility” (+6).

The results of all three assessments are extensively analyzed to improve instruction and school culture, said Wennstrom. Teachers also conduct a “deep dive” into the data on individual students to ensure that they are meeting standards and growing in each instructional area.

## Superintendent search update

The Board heard an update on the superintendent search. Board Vice President Dr. Sally Beatty said town hall meetings were held seeking input from community members on the qualities they would like in a new superintendent. She also shared a brochure that will be used for the search.

## Committee updates

In committee reports, the Board reviewed minutes and summaries of meetings related to each area. Reports included:

■ **Buildings and Grounds** – The committee discussed the sound equipment purchase, snow removal contract and repairs to the Brook Forest roof that was damaged last summer during construction. The Master Facility Plan, approved last year, was reviewed and discussed as well as security upgrades planned for 2019.

■ **Technology** – The committee discussed the exploration into new presentation equipment in the classrooms since the SmartBoards are near the end of their life cycle. They also impact teachers’ laptops and classroom design. The committee also reviewed the implementation of the new online registration system, new business and HR system. The committee is also exploring replacing new tech infrastructure in coming years.

## Board committees restructured

In related news, Board President Christopher Edmonds announced the Board committee structure will be reorganized. The reorganization will better help the committees work more cohesively and provide greater transparency to the District’s constituents, he said.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Technology Committee will be merged into one committee to be called the Infrastructure Committee. The District Leadership Team (DLT) will be renamed the Education Committee and continue to focus on curriculum, program, instruction and other education-related items. The committee will be expanded to involve more community members. A new Community Outreach Committee will be formed to oversee messaging, branding and community partnerships. The Policy and Finance Committees will remain as separate committees.

Board members will serve on the committees as follows:

■ **Infrastructure Committee** – Mr. James Chow, chair; Ms. Laura Bieselin, member,

■ **Community Outreach Committee** – Dr. Sanjay Rao, chair; Mr. Kevin Carlson, member,

■ **Education Committee** – Ms. Laura Bieselin, chair; Dr. Sally Beatty, member,

■ **Finance Committee** – Mr. Keith Carlson chair; Mr. Christopher Edmonds, member,

■ **Policy Committee** – Mr. Ahmad Sulaiman, chair; Dr. Sanjay Rao, member.

## Administrative goal statement

The Board approved an annual statement as required under Illinois School Code that administrators with multi-year contracts have met student performance and academic improvement goals. The statement outlined goals for full-time administrators in 2017-18 and listed goals for 2018-19: Butler Junior High Principal Amy Read, Brook Forest Principal Dr. Chad Prosen, Buildings and Grounds Director Bob Jakupi, Business Services Director Dr. Sandra Martin, Director of Technology Farheen Beg, Director Student Services Andrea Prola and Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom. The statement notes that the administrators met the academic performance goals as based on the Annual Student Achievement and Performance Report as well as other documents of evaluation. The law, implemented last year, requires that administrators' performance goals be linked to student achievement and academic improvement.

## Community invited to endowment event

Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom reported on the Butler Endowment event, the performance of Beauty and the Beast at Drury Lane Theatre. Oak Brook residents may receive up to four complimentary tickets per household for the performance. Only 200 tickets are available. The complimentary tickets can be picked up on Dec. 12 from 9 a.m. – noon at the Butler School District 53 administrative offices, 2801 York Rd., Oak Brook. The tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis with documentation of an Oak Brook address. The complimentary tickets are made possible through the generous community endowment fund created by the Paul Butler family. The theatre event will be held 2 p.m. on Dec. 16.

## Board recognizes American Education Week

The Board recognized American Education Week (Nov. 12-16), which recognizes and celebrates public schools. "We want to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of everyone who collectively works hard every day to help our children," said Superintendent Dr. Heidi Wennstrom. Related to that is School Board Members Day, Nov. 15, when members are recognized for the countless hours and volunteer service they provide to the community, and Educational Professionals Day, Nov. 14, which celebrates the work of teachers' aides.

## BoardDocs, sound systems, snow removal and more

In other news, the Board:

- Explored using new software, called BoardDocs, to manage Board of Education agendas, minutes and meetings. The software is used widely by governmental bodies and increases efficiencies in managing public and private documents related to Board meetings. It also enhances transparency of public bodies as documents are more easily searchable and retrievable. The Board will consider the matter at its December meeting.

- Approved new sound systems for both schools. The current systems were antiquated and the frequency interfered with the Oak Brook Police Department system. The systems include speakers, transformers, wiring and mixers and will be used in gym classes, theater events, assemblies and more. The cost for the equipment and labor is about \$27,000 for both schools.

- Approved a snow removal contract with Classic Landscape, LTD. for snow removal at Butler Junior High from Dec. 1, 2018 through March 30, 2019, for \$310 per winter event. Snow removal at Brook Forest is conducted by in-house staff.

- Approved a resolution estimating the tax levy amounts. The estimated amount of tax levy for 2018 is \$10.5 million. The amount is less than 5 percent above last year's 2017 levy extension and thus will not require a public hearing.

- Approved health, dental, LTD, vision and life insurance benefits for 2019 as recommended by the business manager.

- Approved personnel changes including the resignation of Brook Forest Custodian Alfredo Torres and the employment of Kim Wilburn as instructional aide at Brook Forest. In addition, Lisa Brennan was appointed as a permanent substitute in the District.

## Principals' report

In the principals' report:

■ Brook Forest Principal Dr. Chad Prosen noted that consultants have been working on aligning standards among all grade levels in ELA and math and ensuring that there are quality instructional strategies that promote rigor. He also noted STEM family night Feb. 5, a creative reading incentive by staff on Twitter, and an assembly for all grades to learn about mindfulness and focus.

■ Butler Junior High Principal Amy Read congratulated the Butler Math Team, which took home two First Place honors at Montini's Math Competition Saturday. Both the 6th grade team and the 8th grade team finished first. In the Individual Round, Butler students took First Place at each grade level. She also said 8th grade Spanish classes welcomed a guest teacher from the Hinsdale Central Spanish department. Finally, she relayed that the Student Service Board is holding a contest to encourage donations of canned food drive for the Elmhurst Yorkfield Food Pantry.

### Board Calendar

**Dec. 4** Education Committee - 4 p.m.  
**Dec. 10** Board of Education Meeting- 6:30 pm.  
Administrative Center  
**Jan. 11** B&G/Technology - 7 a.m.



Want to learn more? Listen to the Board Meeting audio at [www.butler53.com](http://www.butler53.com) Click on the tab "Board of Education"

### School Calendar

**Nov. 14** Parent Teacher Conferences  
**Nov. 20-23** Thanksgiving break, no school

