



DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA

Regular Meeting
Keil Administration Building
101 W. Cerro Gordo Street
Decatur, IL 62523

November 02, 2021
4:30 PM Open Session
Closed Session Immediately Following
6:30 PM Open Session Continuing

Legend: AI = Action Item DI = Discussion Item IO = Information Only

Strategic Plan Mission:

The mission of Decatur Public Schools, the destination district of our community, is to unlock students' unique and limitless potential to achieve their personal aspirations as fully prepared, contributing citizens in a global society through learning experiences distinguished by:

- *commitment to the whole person resulting in student growth and confidence*
- *relevant, innovative, personalized academic pathways that promote passion and pride*
- *a learning environment that fosters curiosity and the thirst for achievement and discovery*
- *a culture of diversity, adaptability, and resilience*
- *meaningful and lasting relationships*
- *extraordinary school and community connections*

The Board of Education Parameters that Guide Our Work:

- We will make decisions in the best interest of all students.
- We will treat all people with dignity and respect.
- We will seek input and collaboration throughout our diverse community.
- We will practice responsible stewardship of all our resources.

AI 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, and discussion of collective negotiating matters between the Board and representatives of its employees.

Roll Call

IO 2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AI 3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA, NOVEMBER 02, 2021

IO 4.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION AND DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT

Celebration of School Board Member Day, November 15, 2021!

Thank you, School Board Members, for volunteering your service and commitment to the students, staff, families and the Decatur community!

The Decatur Public School District 61 Board of Education:

Dan Oakes, President

Andrew Taylor, Vice President

Alana Banks, Kevin Collins-Brown, Jason Dion, Regan Lewis, Al Scheider

IO 5.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Identify oneself and be brief.
- Any public comments received will be read during this time.
- Comments should be limited to 3 minutes.

DI 6.0 STUDENT AMBASSADORS' REPORT

BOARD DISCUSSION

AI 7.0 ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS

- A. Personnel Action Items
- B. Award Bids for Playground Equipment

AI 8.0 CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Minutes: Special Open Work Session Meeting October 19, 2021
- B. Freedom of Information Report
- C. Treasurer's Report

IO 9.0 IMPORTANT DATES

- November**
- 10 Second Quarter Distribution of One Book, One Quarter District-wide Half Day of School for ALL Students
 - **NO** Half Day Afternoon PreK Programs
 - 11 Veteran's Day Holiday
 - **School is in Session: Full Day of School for ALL Students**
 - 12 Interim Progress Reports
 - 23-24 and 26-27 Annual Turkey Tournament at Stephen Decatur Middle School
 - 24 Veteran's Day Holiday Observed in DPS 61
 - **No School and District Offices are Closed**
 - 25 – 26 Thanksgiving Holidays
 - **No School and District Offices are Closed**

NEXT MEETING

The public portion of the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at the Keil Administration Building.

AI 10.0 ADJOURNMENT



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: November 02, 2021	Subject: Personnel Action
Initiated By: Jason M. Hood, Director of Human Resources, and the Human Resources Department	Attachments: 4 Pages of Personnel Action
Reviewed By: Bobbi Williams, Interim Superintendent	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Per Board Policy 5:30: Hiring Process and Criteria – The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with School board policy on equal employment opportunities and minority recruitment.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

All offers of employment are contingent upon the approval of the Board of Education. Accordingly, anyone who is offered and begins employment prior to the approval of the Board of Education understands that they will do so as a substitute. If the approval of the Board of Education is obtained, these substitutes will then be made whole retroactive to their first day of employment.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

These positions are in the budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests the Board of Education approve all Personnel Action Items as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION:_____

To: Board of Education
From: Jason M. Hood
Director of Human Resources
Date: October 28, 2021
Board Date: November 2, 2021
Re: Personnel Action

EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Sherrill Goodwin	K/1 Instructional Assistant, Franklin Grove, 6 hours per day	November 1, 2021
April Kiest	Care(Calm)/Recovery Room Assistant, Dennis Kaleidoscope, 6.5 hours per day	November 1, 2021

OUTREACH PERSONNEL:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Camiya Brown	District Contact Tracer, Student Services	November 15, 2021
Jennifer York	District Contact Tracer, Student Services	November 8, 2021

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM (ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS)

NON CERTIFIED STAFF:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Lonnell Lowery	Non Certified Staff, Johns Hill	October 22, 2021
Michael McQuality	Non Certified Staff, Parsons PM	October 21, 2021
Ummhowa Malik	Non Certified Staff, Parsons PM	October 26, 2021
GiAnna Muex	Non Certified Staff, Franklin Grove	October 27, 2021
Robert Whistler	Non Certified Staff, Hope Academy	October 25, 2021

TRANSFERS

TEACHERS:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Michelle Brown	From Grade 4, Hope Academy to Middle School English Language Arts, Hope Academy	August 11, 2021

Tara Lueras	From Grade 5, Hope Academy to Grade 4, Hope Academy	August 11, 2021
Nicole Wilcoxon	From Elementary Physical Education, Hope Academy to Elementary Physical Education, South Shores	November 1, 2021

SECURITY PERSONNEL:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Adam Banner	From School Security Officer, Eisenhower to Lead Security Officer, Eisenhower	October 25, 2021

RESIGNATIONS:

SCHEDULE B:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Gavin King	Cheerleading Coach, American Dreamer	October 24, 2021
Edward Walton	First Technical Challenge/Robotics Coach, MacArthur	October 20, 2021

RETIREMENT

CUSTODIAN:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Marymartha Sterling	1st Shift Custodian, PDI	January 5, 2022

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Name	Leave	Effective Date
Arianna Guerrero	General Leave	January 21, 2022

COMPENSATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The following staff member should be compensated **\$66.00** for participating in Orientation on August 5, 2021 at Stephen Decatur:
April Parks
- The following staff members should be compensated for participating in LEAD 180 from October 5-October 13, 2021 at PDI:

Tucker Mathieson	\$33.00	Albulena Emroski	\$33.00
Carrie Haley	\$33.00	Kim Taylor	\$33.00
Cassandra Mann	\$33.00	Hye-Seung Byler	\$33.00

Kim Vy Williams	\$33.00	Ashley Robinson	\$33.00
Olivia Mannlein	\$82.50	Rick Koetje	\$33.00
Patricia Paulson	\$33.00	Amanda Reeve	\$99.00
Carrie Sager	\$82.50	Shawn Todd	\$33.00
Josh Thornton	\$33.00	Brenna Tripp	\$16.50
Bridgett Ertl	\$33.00	Kelli Murray	\$33.00
Rhonda Thomas-Cox	\$33.00	Jewel Grady	\$189.75
Aryn Dobrinick	\$33.00	Ashley Major	\$140.25
Yolanda Minor	\$33.00	Brianna Fink	\$206.25
Hannah Lybarger	\$99.00	Carolynn Keizer	\$57.75
Anika Steger	\$33.00	Hannah Blacketer	\$66.00
Jennifer Young	\$33.00	Paula Gruen	\$33.00

- The following staff members should be compensated **\$25.00** for participating in New Educator Academy #2 on October 5, 2021 at PDI:

Destiny Musick	Jaci Cecil
Rosemary Dickson	Kimberly Brummett
Ashley Tyler	Rebecca Merrill
Alicia Rosier	Susan Hicks
April Flint	Tracy Cook
Iris Leahy	Kawaiola Wong
Craig Flowers	Robin Hodge
Daniel Provis	Anthony Rosetto
Raymond Hoffman	Jackalyn Creason
Andrew Novak	Angelica Lothert
Colleen Veitengruber	Jennifer Abell
Jocelyn Taylor	Christian Jackson
Benny Phillips	Frank Tomaskovic
Tracy Kent	Annell Gibson
D'Asia Williams	Hannah Gruen

- The following staff member should be compensated **\$2,000.00** for the X-Step for her years of service to Decatur Public Schools:
Marymartha Sterling



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: November 02, 2021	Subject: Approve Playground Equipment Bids
Initiated By: Mary Ann Schloz, Assistant Director of Finance, Grants, and Special Projects	Attachments: Bid Recap for Playground Equipment
Reviewed By: Dr. Todd Covault, Treasurer and Bobbi Williams, Interim Superintendent	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Many of our elementary schools have old playground systems that are outdated and needing updates. Historically our schools have utilized parent led organizations to fundraise and upgrade playgrounds causing discrepancies between schools.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

With substantial funding from the pandemic through the CARES Act, a District goal is to support increasing time outside. Enhancing playgrounds provides a means for safer, outdoor, student interactions. The District is able to utilize CARES Act funds to support these play spaces. Simultaneously new playgrounds will be equitable for all elementary buildings and accessible to all students by including sensory equipment such as a sensory wave seats, jazz combo sets, and ADA accessible swings.

The District received two competitive bids for this first phase for the respective play equipment. The District has structured three phases of playground updates. The first phase includes Muffley, South Shores, American Dreamer, and Hope. After careful consideration of the respective bids, and associated play equipment offerings, one option (#3) was chosen from the three bid options. Upon Board approval, the four playgrounds will be purchased from option #3 from GameTime, the lowest bidder. GameTime's bid included an understanding that payment would be made in advance in order that the equipment can be manufactured over the winter months.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Playground option #3 is \$106,315.51, including shipping. The total for all four playgrounds would be \$425,262.04 and would be paid from the CARES Act grant funds. The price of the equipment does not include the Poured-in-Place surfacing. The surfacing will be competitively bid at a later date.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve the bid to purchase the playground equipment for the four playgrounds as presented from GameTime in the amount of \$425,262.04 and authorize the business office to make the advanced payment as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION: _____

BID REQUEST #2022-5 RESULTS FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Bid# 2022-5

Date: 10/28/21

Copies to: Todd Covault, Mary Ann Schloz, and Joanie Watson

Authorized person to open bid: Joanie Watson - Coordinator of Purchasing

VENDOR NAME:

1) Imagine Nation

2) Cunningham Recreation

SPECIAL GRANT PRICING

IF PURCHASED BY 11/2/21

<u>Modular Unit (Option #1)</u>	<u>\$80,830.00</u>		<u>\$141,132.24</u>		<u>\$104,173.79</u>
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<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$1,625.00</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$6,101.99</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$6,101.99</u>
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<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$82,455.00</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$147,234.23</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$110,275.78</u>
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<u>Modular Unit (Option #2)</u>	<u>\$99,990.00</u>		<u>\$131,526.61</u>		<u>\$98,030.70</u>
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<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$1,700.00</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$5,704.41</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$5,704.41</u>
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<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$101,690.00</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$137,231.02</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$103,735.11</u>
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<u>Modular Unit (Option #3)</u>	<u>\$108,085.00</u>		<u>\$134,274.02</u>		<u>\$100,444.10</u>
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<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$1,700.00</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$5,871.41</u>	<u>Shipping:</u>	<u>\$5,871.41</u>
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<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$109,785.00</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$140,145.43</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$106,315.51</u>
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Payment Terms:

Net 30 Days

Net 30 Days

Net 30 Days

Approximate Delivery:

84-98 Days

12-14 Weeks

12-14 Weeks

Please note:

Cash Discount 10%

Vendors who did not bid:

BYO Recreation

Nu Toys

Grounds For Play

BID REQUEST #2022-5 RESULTS FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

BCI Burke Company

**DECATUR DISTRICT 61 BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL OPEN WORK SESSION MINUTES**

DATE/TIME: October 19, 2021

3:30 PM

LOCATION: Keil Administration Building
101 W. Cerro Gordo Street
Decatur, IL 62523

PRESENT: Dan Oakes, President
Alana Banks
Jason Dion
Al Scheider
Andrew Taylor, Vice President
Kevin Collins-Brown
Regan Lewis (arrived at 3:40 PM)

STAFF: Interim Superintendent Bobbi Williams, Board Secretary Melissa Bradford and others

President Oakes called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Open Session	<p>President Oakes noted to the listening audience, “Because of the COVID 19 crisis and the Governor’s disaster declarations, this meeting is not fully open. A fully in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of COVID 19.”</p> <p>Please note: The Board of Education has returned to “in-person” Board meetings while following the CDC guidelines regarding mask requirements, social distancing etc.</p> <p>President Oakes called the meeting to order and asked for a motion. Motioned by Vice President Taylor, seconded by Mr. Dion.</p> <p>Aye: Dion, Taylor, Scheider, Banks, Oakes, Collins-Brown Nay: None Absent: Lewis (arrived at 3:40 PM) Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent</p>	<p>Meeting called to order at 3:30 PM</p>
Pledge of Allegiance	President Oakes led the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Approval of Agenda, October 19, 2021	<p>Interim Superintendent Williams recommended the Board approve the October 19, 2021 Special Open Work Session Board Meeting agenda as presented.</p> <p>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Dion. All were in favor.</p>	Agenda was approved as presented.
Public Participation	<p>President Oakes noted that during Public Participation, the Board of Education asked for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify oneself and be brief.• Any public comments received will be read during this time.• Comments should be limited to 3 minutes.	Information only.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
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For our listening audience, please note that during any Board of Education meeting and public participation, Board Members do NOT respond and/or comment to public comments. ALL COMMENTS ARE REFERRED TO ADMINISTRATION.

Furthermore, the Board refrains from referring to specific students or staff members by name, and requests that public commenters refrain from doing so as well. The request that you omit names was made to protect you from allegations of libel or slander or from violations of the Illinois School Student Records Act. It was not intended to shield an employee from criticism.

No one signed in to speak.

Please see the attached letter that was read during public participation.

Board Work Session

Overview of DPS 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan

President Oakes turned the Open Work Session meeting over to Ashley Grayned, Executive Director of Innovative Programs and Strategic Planning, and Dr. Lindsey Gunn, Facilitator of the Strategic Plan, to discuss and present an Overview of District 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan (see attached).

Information only.

Mrs. Grayned noted that the District would be entering year four (4) of the Strategic Plan. This work session would be focused on the history of the Strategic Plan and the collaborative efforts thus far.

Dr. Gunn presented and shared information regarding the five (5) year Strategic Plan (see attached). The Board discussed, as needed, with Dr. Gunn.

The Strategic Plan parameters (rules and boundaries) were as follows:

- 1) Make decisions in the best interest of all students.
- 2) Treat all people with dignity and respect.
- 3) Seek input and collaboration throughout our diverse community.
- 4) Communicate clearly and honestly.
- 5) Practice responsible stewardship of all our resources.

Dr. Connie Collins, HYA, noted that during their meetings with various focus groups (in the District and the community) for the Superintendent search, they want District 61 to be “student focused.” They want to be treated with dignity and respect as well as to be involved. There must be clear and honest communication which produces transparency.

Mrs. Grayned shared information regarding the past three (3) years of the annual priorities from the Strategic Plan (see attached). The priorities would align with the upcoming school year. Previously, reports were given once a quarter. Mrs. Grayned also shared some of the successes and accomplishments.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Board Work Session Overview of DPS 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan Continued	<p>Dr. Gunn noted that the next Superintendent needs to also be a part of any decision making. He or she needs to be engaged in the conversations, especially during any adjustments and/or additions and/or re-creation of the Strategic Plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review the Plan 2) Build Capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Where does the Board need to grow? ○ What is the role as a Board? ○ Seek guidance as it relates to governance as a Board. 3) Shape Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who are you as a Board? ○ How do you be leaders as a Board and shape the culture of the District? 	Information only.

The Board of Education continued discussions with Dr. Gunn.

Dr. Collins-Brown noted the following:

- Shape Culture – sports for just special needs students.
- Shape Culture – continue to recognize the productions by the Life-skills students.

Vice President Taylor noted the following:

- Shape Culture – the new Superintendent may not know the culture of District 61 and may not be ready. How long should the District wait to continue the process? Hopefully, he or she would be up for the challenge. Dr. Gunn replied that the timeline should be right away and/or up to one (1) year. After one (1) year, you have lost it.

Mr. Scheider noted the following:

- Concerns with academic assistance. He had ideas and ideas from others as follows:
 - Remedial sessions in the classrooms at all levels.
 - Teachers focus on RtI.
 - Small groups for students who need the most help.
 - Title I Reading Recovery – individual help for students.
 - Teaching Assistants in all classrooms, especially K through 2nd grades.

These were his highest priorities.

For the record, Mr. Scheider left the work session at 5:39 PM.

Mrs. Lewis noted the following:

- The monitoring of the buildings and facilities – consolidations, enrollment,
- COVID fallout – Is the Board doing enough for our students and staff?
- What additional resources were needed?

Mr. Dion noted the following:

- How do you incorporate the need for mental health assistance?

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Board Work Session Overview of DPS 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan Continued	<p>Dr. Collins-Brown noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He felt like Harris Alternative Education program was not being utilized like it should be utilized. There were opportunities, but we may not know how. • Art education teachers were telling him that due to the merges, they do not have classrooms. • Should we ask the entire District for ideas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Gunn replied that it would be a request from the Superintendent and it would not be managed by the Board of Education. 	Information only.

Interim Superintendent Williams noted that once the new Superintendent was hired, the mission would be reviewed. The District Leadership Team would review the priorities and ask for the priorities of the Board of Education. Once received, they could update and report to the Board during another work session.

The Board of Education continued discussions.

Interim Superintendent Williams noted that dealing with COVID has played a huge part and administration continues to meet weekly.

President Oakes noted that one of the challenges would be to enhance the District in the marketing field, due to the number of vacancies in certain positions.

Dr. Gunn noted that his short-term suggestions were as follows:

- 1) What should the Board and administration currently continue in the Strategic Plan that could be brought to completion? What action plans were currently activated?
- 2) What are the crisis needs that could not be ignored?
 - a. Examples: Staffing, recruitment and retention
- 3) How could the Board build capacity for next year? Additional training regarding Board relationships? Strategic thinking?

The District does not have to finish all items in the document; however, do not stop due to work that was already in progress.

President Oakes asked the Board of Education to review the Strategic Plan and if there were action items that were not priorities, they would discuss it or them as a Board. If not a priority, the Board was asked to justify.

Ms. Banks noted that the “one high school” was on hold and where was the District with that concept. President Oakes replied that the “one high school” concept did not move forward due to safety and as of now, the District would continue with the separation of the two (2).

Mrs. Grayned noted that the Strategic Plan and the **BOLD** Plan were two (2) different plans and administration tried to educate the community.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Board Work Session Overview of DPS 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan Continued	<p>They were not simultaneously developed. Dr. Todd Covault, Chief Operational Officer, explained the difference of the plans.</p> <p>The Board of Education continued discussions.</p> <p>Dr. Gunn noted that the current Board's legacy would be what they left behind for the next Board of Education.</p> <p>The Board of Education would inform the Board Secretary if he or she was interested in two by two meetings to further discuss the Strategic Plan.</p>	Information only.
Board Discussion	There was no additional Board discussion.	Information only.
Important Dates	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The public portion of the next <u>regular</u> meeting of the Board of Education will be at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, October 26, 2021, in the 1st floor Board Room at the Keil Administration Building.</p>	
Adjournment	<p>President Oakes asked for a motioned to adjourn the Open Work Session. Dr. Collins-Brown motioned, seconded by Vice President Taylor. All were in favor.</p>	Board adjourned at 6:17 PM.

 Dan Oakes, President

 Melissa Bradford, Board Secretary

From: We Listen
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 9:01 PM
To: Melissa Bradford <MBradford@dps61.org>
Cc: Denise Swarthout <DSwarthout@dps61.org>; Bobbi Williams <BJWilliams@dps61.org>
Subject: Fwd: Public Participation Comments

From: Melanie Ishmael <melanieishmael@gmail.com>
Date: October 18, 2021 at 4:12:52 PM CDT
To: We Listen <WeListen@dps61.org>
Subject: Public Participation Comments

Dear Decatur Public School Board Members:

It is my understanding that tonight you will discuss the District 61 Five-Year Strategic Plan.

I would like to address a few key areas that I think the board should consider prioritizing as part of this strategic discussion.

As indicated at the last board meeting, the district is not meeting the students' needs, despite it being one of last year's priorities, STRATEGY #3 WHOLE STUDENT. During last week's meeting, all three student ambassadors described the average school day as "unsafe" and "chaotic." Another priority, STRATEGY #5 COMMUNITY, is also falling short. I was recently informed that meetings to address the violence in DPS schools have been administration only. Why are we not involving the security staff, including school resource officers and juvenile detectives, as well as community leaders in these meetings? It is clear the district is unable to handle this situation alone.

The biggest issue facing DPS is that ALL of the schools are managing more intense behaviors. How can educators be successful in teaching when they must address excessive student behaviors? But how did we get here? Yes, students have experienced significant classroom disruption the past three years, but it is more than just COVID. It is unrealistic to expect them to adjust to displacement and be successful in overcrowded buildings.

The BOLD plan consolidated schools that did not need to be consolidated. When you look at the numbers of students who are enrolled in the grade schools, it is clear there are too many kids in each class.

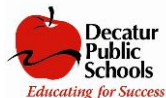
We even had to reallocate students to buildings that were to be closed due to the overcrowding; Garfield had to reopen with window units for the Pre-K students. The real concern is we don't even have all our students in attendance due to bus shortages and exclusions. What happens when all our buildings are at capacity?

Lastly, one of the action items listed in the 2020-21 priorities is "Convene a group of educators and employers to identify the skills, gaps, and current and future skill needs." Has this happened? If so, when and what is the outcome? We need to not only engage but empower our staff. They know what the real issues are and may have realistic goals and ideas on how to best address them. I challenge each of the board members to spend a day at an elementary, middle, and high school and experience firsthand what the students and staff encounter daily.

The BOLD plan thus far has not been successful, and it needs to be acknowledged. Our focus needs to be on making school safe for our children and prioritizing their educational success. We know better, now we need to do better.

Melanie Ishmael
Special Needs Parent

Sent from my iPhone



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: November 02, 2021	Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Report
Initiated By: Melissa Bradford, Board Secretary and District's FOIA Officer	Attachment: None
Reviewed By: Bobbi Williams, Interim Superintendent	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Full access to the District's public records is available to any person as provided in the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The Superintendent or designee shall: (1) provide the Board with sufficient information and data to permit the Board to monitor the District's compliance with FOIA and this policy, and (2) report any FOIA requests during the Board's regular meetings along with the status of the District's response. The Board Secretary serves as the District's FOIA Officer and will inform the Board of Education of any FOIA Reports from the previous month every first Board meeting of the month.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

Please see the below FOIA Report from the District's FOIA Officer for Decatur Public Schools:

Freedom of Information Act Report

Date Received	Due Date	Extension Due Date	Requestor/ Company	Topic/ Summary	Date Responded
10/14/21	10/21/21	None.	Jeff Mannlein, Community	For the kindergarten through junior high, how many regular, non-special education buses are supposed to be running at each of the schools and how many are actually running and how many busses are actually running for each of the schools. I am looking for that for the k-8 schools, traditional k-6 schools, and the junior high school. I am just looking for the count of each, not the bus numbers or any more details.	10/21/21
10/15/21	10/22/21	None.	Renee Cooper, WCIA	Number of hires, resignations, terminations and retirements (including the date) from 08/26/21 – 10/15/21, letters of resignation/termination from 08/26/21 – 10/15/21 and 2019 & 2020 number of hires, resignations, terminations and retirements.	10/22/21
10/18/21	10/25/21	11/01/21	Leara Evans, Retired DPS Employee	Explanations of comments "Just let it Die" made by the Board President, Mr. Dan Oakes and Ms. Swarthout response "I totally agree," copy of the District organizational chart, copy of District's	10/29/21

				complaint form and copy of the DPS 61 Code of Ethics booklet.	
10/21/21	10/28/21	None.	Jacqueline Sessa, Deltek Public Records	Copy of the specifications or any other documents associated with this project: Playground Equipment, Bid Number: Unknown, Posting Date: 10/19/2021.	10/26/21
10/22/21	10/29/21	None.	Michele Dickinson, Construction Journal	Playground equipment project bidding on 10/28/21 plans/specs and the cost estimate/range for this project and the bidders/plan holders list.	10/26/21

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None.

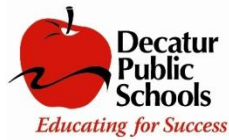
STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve this FOIA Report as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION: _____



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: November 02, 2021	Subject: Treasurer's Report
Initiated By: Todd Covault, Chief Operational Officer	Attachments: Treasurer's Report
Reviewed By: Bobbi Williams, Interim Superintendent	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The attached report details the District's investments and the status of the District's cash as of September 30, 2021.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

☒ Approval
☐ Information
☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION: _____

DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61
TREASURER'S REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2021

	Cash/Investments as of 08/31/21	Receipts	Disbursements	Change/Interest	Cash/Investments as of 09/30/21
Education	27,812,517.87	24,425,650.25	19,573,351.92	329.41	32,665,145.61
Operations & Maintenance	2,042,875.69	864,542.99	564,734.07	20.83	2,342,705.44
Debt Service	11,652,709.51	1,941,776.52	0.00	75.63	13,594,561.66
Transportation	5,082,991.20	343,155.13	204,721.67	61.16	5,221,485.82
IMRF	1,927,544.14	516,602.74	213,414.65	10.99	2,230,743.22
Social Security	2,264,609.98	490,781.50	163,688.21	18.32	2,591,721.59
Capital Projects	11,671,937.46	175,000.00	2,241,313.37	213.97	9,605,838.06
Working Cash	5,760,835.29	85,789.43	0.00	283.83	5,846,908.55
Tort/Judgment Immunity	5,300,522.91	770,348.91	312,185.22	33.08	5,758,719.68
Fire Prevention & Safety	9,874,217.73	85,789.43	1,658,095.69	186.87	8,302,098.34
Macon-Piatt Special Education	5,056,960.93	1,843,778.29	2,910,978.74	51.22	3,989,811.70
Activities	512,277.64	26,397.49	8,290.48	5.49	530,390.14
	88,960,000.35	31,569,612.68	27,850,774.02	1,290.80	92,680,129.81

Dr. Todd Covault

09/30/21