

Board of Education meeting highlights: February 15, 2018

- Facilities for the Future – Superintendent John C. Hamstra shared a brief overview of the district’s history, demographics and scope of the “Facilities for the Future” project in which four new schools will be built (three elementary schools and a new junior school, projected to be ready for occupancy by the fall of 2021). Hamstra discussed the important considerations, including: form and function (energy efficiency, heavy tech integration, etc.); learning spaces that must meet the educational needs for the next 50 years; and the need for community engagement throughout the process. Project goals include: building on the strong traditions of the community yet maintaining 21st Century progressions; improved safety and traffic flow/parking.



Kim Magovac, project manager from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), shared the State’s insight into the process to build four new schools.

Kim Magovac from the OFCC (Ohio Facilities Construction Commission) and the district’s project manager assigned by the State, shared briefly about the project from the State’s perspective. She pointed out key aspects of the RFP (request for proposal) and stressed the desire for collaboration throughout the project.

Representatives from the three “short-listed” architect design firms each had 10 minutes to introduce their firm to the Board. The representatives from SHP Leading Design; Dayton Design Collaborative, LLC; and Emersion Design, LLC; shared insight into the strengths of their firm, overviews of similar projects their firm has completed and their history in working with the OFCC. Board president Jeff Biddle thanked the representatives for attending the meeting and shared that they look forward to making the decision soon.

- Safety at the Schools – Superintendent Hamstra shared that a group of veterans has approached him with an interest in helping at the schools. The informal group, which is led by community member Steve Jaeger, would help on a consistent basis at the schools on a volunteer basis. Details are still being finalized, but the goal would be to have a small team of veterans at each school, welcoming students in the morning, being a presence in the hallways and on the grounds to help with safety concerns.

- College Credit Plus - Assistant Superintendent Corinne Hays shared the changes from the State of Ohio regarding the College Credit Plus program. Proposed changes were shared with the Board at their January meeting; since then, the State has approved the changes and school districts are now charged with implementing them. Under the new state regulations, SLSD is able to offer four CCP courses (in addition to and separate from the Advanced Placement courses)



Crosby Elementary students honored at the Feb. 15 Board of Education meeting were (from left) Virginia Cain, Brooke Sebastian and Tori Williams.

- Crosby Elementary's Students of the Month – Congratulations to Tori Williams, Virginia Cain and Brooke Sebastian, Crosby Elementary students who were honored at the Feb. 15 meeting. Tori was recognized for her example of living out the four core values of the district - trust, ownership, leadership and respect - and for her deep understanding of how her efforts can benefit others. Virginia was selected based on her determination, positive outlook, tenacity, and her willingness to learn while Brooke was recognized for her leadership in the classroom and her work as a study buddy, as she helps other students with their learning.

- Board of Education Appreciation month – In observation of “National Board of Education Appreciation Month,” Assistant Superintendent Hayes shared with Board members cards written by students, showing gratitude for their effort and service.



Board members Mike King and Tricia Evanson look at the cards made by SLSD students as part of National Board of Education Appreciation Month.

- Gifted Policy – Assistant Superintendent Hayes shared the finalized policy, which had been updated to include recent State of Ohio changes. About 25% of the district's students are considered gifted. The Board voted to accept the revised policy as presented.

- District Wellness Policy – Food Service Director Bonnie Berkemeyer shared a proposed policy, that was updated to reflect recent changes by the State. Under the new State guidelines, a physical education section and new measurable goals were added.
- Board Finance Committee – The Board voted to establish a Finance Committee and voted unanimously to appoint Board member Mike King to serve as the Board’s representative on the committee.
- Facilities for the Future and community involvement – Tricia Evanson noted that the first community engagement meeting will be held Feb. 25. Others are being scheduled in March and throughout the spring; the goal is to have 40 meetings throughout the next 12 months.