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June 28, 2022 Special Meeting

### **Discussion**

#### *Construction Project Update - Life Skills Labs and HPHS Library*

Chief Operating Officer Brian Ahmer and representatives from the District's construction management firm, Pepper Construction, provided to the Board an update on the current status, schedule and budget for the capital projects currently under construction. Both the life skills labs and the HPHS Library projects are in the early stages of construction and remain on schedule and on budget.

#### *Facilities and Infrastructure Planning and Financing Construction Projects*

Following the update provided at the June 14 meeting on the DHS Auditorium, Mr. Ahmer reported on bids that were opened and qualified by Pepper Construction that day. In the bids that had been reviewed and qualified, the cost of the DHS Auditorium rose from a projected \$37 million to over \$47 million as a result of inflation, supply chain issues and high demand for construction materials and services. Mr. Ahmer shared that in the case of the HPHS Library bids, the timing allowed the District to go to bid before inflation had increased so dramatically in the market. Mr. Ahmer also noted that the timing of the start of construction also impacts bids as contractors deal with uncertainty and higher prices. The HPHS Library renovation was scheduled to begin this summer while building a new DHS Auditorium was not slated to begin until late spring of 2023.

The Board reiterated its commitment to replace the auditorium, indicated that it would not accept the bids, and directed Administration to investigate options and gather input from the faculty at the school's Fine Arts Department to improve the

functionality of the auditorium. A Facilities Committee meeting will be scheduled to discuss the process for reviewing options for the DHS Auditorium.

The Board discussed using the proceeds from the bonds for the HPHS Library, the Life Skills labs, and infrastructure needs at both schools, covering the replacement of items such as roofing, mechanicals and parking lots. The Board asked Mr. Ahmer to bring back a plan for infrastructure projects to an upcoming Facilities Committee meeting.

### **Action**

#### *Approve Multi-Year Employment Contract for Superintendent*

The Board approved as presented a multi-year employment contract for Superintendent Dr. Bruce Law, which extends the expiration of his current contract from June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2024. The Board renewed contracts for other District and School administrators at previous meetings in May and June 2022, aligning the Superintendent's contract with the timeline the Board set for contract renewals in November and December 2021.

Before voting on the contract, Board President Ken Fishbain said that the Board had received communication on this agenda item and in relation to the District Educational Association (DEA) climate survey and had reviewed it. President Fishbain then shared that improving the work climate in District 113 is one of Dr. Law's goals, and that on June 16, President Fishbain and Dr. Law had met with representatives from the DEA to work on the workplace climate. President Fishbain added that he, Board Vice President Anne Neumann, and Dr. Law will meet with the same DEA representatives in July to discuss priorities and next steps for solutions. President Fishbain said updates and progress will be reported at Board meetings.

### **Consent Agenda**

The Board approved the consent agenda as amended. The consent agenda includes personnel, stipends, and board bills. Click on [this link](#) to access the meeting agenda and then scroll down to see consent agenda items beginning under number 7.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

### **Upcoming Meetings-**

July 5, 2022 – Policy Committee Meeting

4:00 p.m.

Administration Building