

D211 POST: DISTRICT 211 CREATES EQUITY TEAM



The Township High School District 211 Board of Education approved a motion to establish the creation of the District 211 Equity Team during their July 16, 2020 meeting. The team, which will be led by a core committee of staff members, students, parents, Board of Education liaisons and community members, will be responsible for a variety of tasks which will work to promote equity across the District.

In her statement to the Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Lisa Small said, "District 211 has a strong history as a school community where concepts of equity are valued and integrated into the mindset, actions and daily interactions of every student, staff member and parent. We have been, and continue to be, aware of the necessity that we understand and respond to the ever-changing needs within both our school community and our broader world."

Among its responsibilities, the team will be tasked with including and affirming the voices of students, staff and families from our District community, defining the organizational priorities and practices that contribute to equity across District 211, analyzing qualitative and quantitative data to identify goals, metrics and accountability measures to ensure high levels of equity across District 211, and Creating a strategic equity plan that will drive short- and long-term systematic changes and improvements for our entire community.

The core committee will work through a 4-phase structure to create the

District's Equity Plan. The phases, which begin August 2020 and run through June 2021 are:

- Phase 1: Stakeholder Engagement – Beginning August 2020
- Phase 2: Research and Community Input (equity audits, focus groups, opportunities for community feedback) – Beginning October 2020
- Phase 3: Data Analysis and Application – Following Phase 2
- Phase 4: Development of Strategic Equity Plan – Drafted in Spring 2021

The core committee will present the District 211 Strategic Equity Plan to the Board of Education during the June 2021 meeting.

D211 BOARD OF EDUCATION WAIVES STUDENT FEES FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR



The Township High School District 211 Board of Education voted to waive

the \$170 instructional fee and \$75 per semester student parking fee for the 2020-2021 school year at its July 16, 2020 meeting. The move was directed to help families which have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In June, the Board of Education requested information on the possibility of waiving fees for the upcoming school year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a report presented to the Board, District Superintendent Dr. Lisa Small noted that approximately one-third of the students within the District currently have fees waived due to qualifying for the free and reduced lunch program. The report added that a portion of those waived fees are recovered through federal Title I funding.

The report estimated that waiving the 2020-2021 school year fees would total approximately \$1.6 million. It further noted that the District would offset the financial impact as it ended the 2019-2020 school year with a \$4.5 million budget surplus that was largely a result of school closures and expenditure reductions during the last quarter of the 2019-2020 school year due to the pandemic. The complete report is available on the [District's website](#).

D211 POST: NEW PRINCIPALS NAMED AT HOFFMAN ESTATES AND SCHAUMBURG HIGH SCHOOLS

Palatine, Ill. – At its January 16, 2020 meeting, the Board of Education approved the appointment of Michael Alther as principal at Hoffman Estates High School, and the appointment of Brian Harlan at Schaumburg High School. Both appointments will be effective July 1, 2020. Mr. Alther, currently an assistant principal at Palatine High School, assumes the principalship from Josh Schumacher, who was recently named District 211 assistant superintendent for instruction. Mr. Harlan, currently an assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School, will take over the principalship from Tim Little, who will retire after serving District 211 for 33 years, including the past 13 as principal at Schaumburg High School.



*Mr. Michael Alther
has been selected*

*as the new
principal for
Hoffman Estates
High School.*

Mr. Alther has been an assistant principal at Palatine High School since 2004, serving first as 10-month assistant principal for two years and then in 2006 as 12-month assistant principal lead disciplinarian, before being promoted in 2008 to the position he currently holds as 12-month assistant principal for staff development, building and grounds, and student activities. Mr. Alther came to District 211 in 2002 as a business education teacher at Palatine High School. He began his teaching career as a high school business education teacher in Community Unit School District 303 in St. Charles where he taught for seven years before coming to District 211. Mr. Alther earned his bachelor's degree in business education from Illinois State University in 1995, and in 2000, he received his cooperative education certification from Southern Illinois University. Mr. Alther earned his master's degree in educational leadership from Aurora University in 2002 and has since taken coursework towards a doctorate in curriculum and instruction through Aurora University.

"Mike Alther is a dedicated and reflective leader," said Superintendent-Elect Lisa Small. *"During his 16 years as an administrator in District 211, I have watched him partner with students, staff, and parents to positively impact students – enhancing their experiences in the classroom, increasing career exploration opportunities, creating diverse afterschool connections, and preparing them for success. Mike is the perfect fit as principal at Hoffman Estates High School, and I know that his enthusiasm will add to the unwavering Hawk pride found throughout the school community."*



*Mr. Brian Harlan
has been selected
as the new
principal for
Schaumburg High
School.*

Mr. Harlan began his career in education as a science teacher at Hoffman Estates High School in 2007. He served as the school's dean of students during the 2012-2013 school year, before being named a 10-month assistant principal at Fremd High School in 2013. In 2015, Mr. Harlan returned to Hoffman Estates High School, accepting a 12-month assistant principal position at the school, responsible for student intervention and discipline. The following year, he was appointed to his current position as 12-month assistant principal, overseeing staff development, building and grounds, and student activities. Mr. Harlan earned his bachelor's

degree in geology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2004, and his master's degree in geology from Northern Illinois University in 2007. He earned a second master's degree in school leadership from Concordia University in Chicago in 2012. In 2015, he earned a master's degree in school business from Northern Illinois University and a chief school business official endorsement.

“For many years, Tim Little has been an important member of our administrative team, not only at Schaumburg High School, but throughout District 211, and he will be missed,” said Dr. Small. *“I am excited about Brian Harlan taking over the principalship at Schaumburg High School. He is leader who embraces a culture of continual improvement and will provide dynamic support to help all students succeed. He believes in high expectations for every student and will work diligently to implement successful approaches to help guide students toward their post-high school choices. He truly values direct connections with all school community stakeholders, and this will make his student-centered focus rewarding for all within the Schaumburg High School community.”*

D211 POST: NEW HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211 SUPERINTENDENT NAMED



At a special board meeting on October 24, 2019, the Township High School District 211 Board of Education confirmed Lisa A. Small as its next superintendent of schools, effective July 1, 2020. Dr. Small, currently District 211 associate superintendent for instruction, will replace retiring District 211 Superintendent Daniel E. Cates, after 27 years in the District, the past six as superintendent. With her appointment, Dr. Small becomes the eighth District 211 superintendent.

“One of our most important responsibilities as a Board of Education is to hire a superintendent of schools, and we are very excited about our choice of Dr. Small to

fill this position,” commented Board President Robert LeFevre. “Dr. Small has been well-respected as a leader in District 211, and her experience in the District will make for a smooth transition into her new role. We are extremely pleased with the positive feedback the Board received about Dr. Small and her leadership during our search, and we know that staff, students, parents, and the community will find her an outstanding person to lead our District.”

Dr. Small has held her current position as the associate superintendent for instruction since 2014. In this role, she has led the District’s Instructional Team, and has been instrumental in increasing advanced placement, dual credit, and career pathways course offerings, as well as implementing the District’s new wellness program. Prior to her position as associate superintendent, she served as principal at William Fremd High School for six years, from 2008-2014. She began her teaching career at Adlai E. Stevenson High School in January 1992, before coming to Hoffman Estates High School as a science and mathematics teacher in August 1992. Dr. Small moved into administration in 2000 when she was named a 10-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School, serving in that role for two years. She also coached volleyball while at Hoffman Estates High School for 10 seasons. In 2002, she was promoted to 12-month assistant principal at Fremd High School, and then was appointed as the District’s director of instructional improvement in 2004 before being named principal in 2008.

Dr. Small received her bachelor’s degree in biology education from Ohio State University and her master’s degree in curriculum and instruction from Northern Illinois University. Dr. Small earned a certificate of advanced studies from National Louis in educational leadership, administration and supervision; and her doctorate of education in curriculum and instruction from Loyola University Chicago.

The appointment of Dr. Small as District 211 superintendent culminates an internal and external search process by the Board of Education, conducted by School Exec Connect. The process included use of feedback from stakeholder surveys, as well as focus groups comprised of a cross-section of District constituents, including community members, parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators. Following interview sessions, feedback was gathered by the Board before making its final decision.

**D211 POST: HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
211 TO BE REPRESENTED AMONG
I.S.B.E. 2018 THOSE WHO EXCEL**

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Township High School District 211 is poised to be well-represented among recipients in the Illinois State Board of Education's *2018 Those Who Excel* education awards program. Additionally, Fremd High School Social Studies Teacher Dr. LoriAnne Frieri has been named among the 10 finalists for Illinois Teacher of the Year. The State Board annually sponsors the *Those Who Excel* awards to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the state's public and non-public schools.

High School District 211 *Those Who Excel* award candidates include (listed alphabetically):



- Board of Education President Mucia Burke (school board member category)



- Schaumburg High School Student Services Director Yassila Delgado (administrator category)



- William Fremd High School Social Studies Teacher LoriAnne Frieri (classroom teacher category)



- Palatine High School Homeroom Team (team category): Jessica Aulisio, Brittany Berleman, Jeanne Hedgepeth, Erin Lu-zadder, Erin Mahoney, Thomas Mocon, James Nowak, Fred Rasmussen, Joyce Richardson, Leslie Schock, and Claudia Sierra-Sokop



- Palatine High School Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Emily Pilguy (early career educator category)



- James B. Conant High School Nurse Dawna Smeltzer (student support personnel category)



- Hoffman Estates High School Counselor Andrew Wulbecker (educational service personnel category)

The Illinois Teacher of the Year will be named and *Those Who Excel* award recipients will be honored by the Illinois State Board of Education at the 44th-annual *Those Who Excel* awards banquet on Saturday, October 20, in Normal, Ill.

D211 POST: D211 BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS NEW MEMBER TO FILL VACANT SEAT



Steven Rosenblum

The High School District 211 Board of Education has selected Schaumburg resident Steven Rosenblum to fill the vacant seat on the seven-member Board. Mr. Rosenblum's appointment became effective immediately at the August 3 special Board of Education meeting, and runs through the completion of former elected High School District 211 Board Member Lauanna Recker's term in April, 2019. Ms. Recker resigned her position on the Board on June 28, 2017.

Mr. Rosenblum has been a District 211 resident since 1998 and is the parent of two Schaumburg High School graduates. He has been active in the community through his involvement serving on the leadership board and planning committee of the American Diabetes Association Northern Illinois Affiliate since 1985, as assistant scoutmaster in the Boy Scouts of America (2005-2006), and serving as company chair for the Toys for Tots Drive (2016-2017). He also has been a member of the Schaumburg High School

VIPs (booster club), Schaumburg Elementary School District 54's Advisory Council for District Initiatives (ACDI), Beth Tikvah Congregation (Hoffman Estates) Board of Directors and choir member, and St. Hubert's Jobs Ministry. In 2012, Mr. Rosenblum was nominated for the Schaumburg Community Volunteer of the Year award. Mr. Rosenblum is employed in human resources management, and has been a member of the Human Resources Management Association of Chicago.



Illinois State Board of Education Secretary Cesilie Price administers the Oath of Office to new High School District 211 Board Member Steven Rosenblum at the August 3, 2017 special meeting.

The District 211 Board of Education received 16 applications for the vacant seat, considering all 16 applicants and interviewing finalists through a series of interviews on July 31 and August 1, before making its decision. In order to serve on the High School District 211 Board of Education, one must be a registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of District 211 for at least one year. Major responsibilities of the Board of Education are to express and represent the view of the community in matters affecting education, determine education standards and goals, adopt policies for the administration of the school system, employ a Superintendent of Schools, authorize the appointment of teachers and other staff members, approve curriculum, secure money for school operational needs and building programs, and authorize expenditures.

Mr. Rosenblum took the oath of office as a High School District 211 Board of Education member at the beginning of the August 3, 2017 special Board of Education meeting.

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211 BOARD OF EDUCATION SEEKS CANDIDATES TO FILL OPEN SEAT



On Wednesday, June 28, 2017, Lauanna Recker

resigned from the Township High School District 211 Board of Education, effective immediately. Ms. Recker's resignation creates an open seat on the seven-member Board, which needs to be filled for the remainder of her term.

The remaining six Board of Education members are responsible for appointing a resident of the Township High School District 211 community to complete the remainder of Ms. Recker's term, which runs through April 2019. According to Illinois School Code, members of the Board must appoint someone to this position on or before August 14, 2017.

In order to serve on the High School District 211 Board of Education, one must be a registered voter, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of District 211 for at least one year. Major responsibilities of the Board of Education are to express and represent the view of the community in matters affecting education, determine education standards and goals, adopt policies for the administration of the school system, employ a Superintendent of Schools, authorize the appointment of teachers and other staff members, approve curriculum, secure money for school operational needs and building programs, and authorize expenditures.

Interested individuals should complete an application, and must submit it, along with a cover letter, on or before 4:00 p.m. on July 12, 2017, to:

Anna Klimkowicz, Board of Education Secretary

Township High School District 211

G.A. McElroy Administration Center

1750 South Roselle Road

Palatine, IL 60067-7336

Applications are available at the District's five high schools and the G.A. McElroy Administration Center, and an online application is available on the District 211 website (<https://adc.d211.org/board-of-education-vacancy/>). Applications also can be submitted via email (webmaster@d211.org, use subject line "Board Vacancy Application") or fax (847-755-6810). The Board of Education will consider all applicants, but will not be limited to applicants in making its decision.

For questions or additional information about this position, please contact the Superintendent's office at 847-755-6610.