



Board of School Directors

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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For the months of January and February, 2021, the Woodland Hills School Board has the following updates:

The 2020-2021 School year continues with virtual instruction for most students. Teachers and staff continue to receive training on the platforms and tools that will be used for virtual instruction during professional development days scheduled into the school calendar. Teachers and students seem to be adapting well to virtual instruction. Plans for reopening are available on the District website as follows:

- The District's Return to School Plan, available [here](#)
- The Athletics Return to Play Plan, available [here](#)

The District continues to monitor COVID conditions and data to determine when students might return to school in-person, and will likely present a plan to facilitate a return in a hybrid model at Committee meetings in March. Students with special needs and English language learners returned to in-person instruction beginning on February 16. When it is appropriate for more students to return, the District's return to school plan spells out the intention to bring students back on a hybrid schedule, with each student attending in-person on an alternating schedule 2 days per week, and continuing virtual instruction 3 days per week. The timeline remains undefined, but preparations for an in-person return are underway, including a survey of building conditions to ensure proper ventilation, and a survey of families, students, and staff to assess comfort levels with an in-person return. Results of the most recent surveys were presented at the Board's agenda setting meeting on January 13, and can be found [here](#).

Construction continues at the High School, with significant work on the second floor to renovate science classrooms and lab spaces. Classroom renovations are ongoing on a phased schedule, and the auditorium is undergoing a full renovation for the first time. Several phases of the project were granted occupancy permits in January, and the construction team remains prepared to ensure that students are able to return to the building when a return to in-person instruction is planned.

The Board approved a request from the Woodland Hills Youth Soccer Association to use District fields at the legislative meeting on February 17.

Weekly Food Distributions continue on Thursdays at sites throughout the District. All families with children under age 18 are eligible to receive a weekly meal kit.

The Woodland Hills Climate Action Team, which is tasked with implementing the District's Climate Action Resolution adopted in 2019, continues its work. Teachers and staff have been engaged in professional

development around Climate Change, and will work to build a Climate Change curriculum for the District. The Buildings and Grounds Department is seeking to implement a District-wide recycling program, and to ensure that our buildings operate as efficiently as possible, including improvements resulting from our ongoing construction projects. The Food Service Department is working to develop strategies to reduce food waste. Tree Pittsburgh has agreed to partner with the District to plant trees on all District properties and is in the process of surveying the sites to determine the best options for planting.

The Board will hold Committee Meetings for March on March 2 and 3. All meetings are being held via Zoom. If you or your residents wish to participate, sign-in and call-in information will be available on the website. Public comment on Agenda items is welcome by registration for the beginning and on any issue of concern at the end of the Agenda and Legislative meetings. Committee meetings are informal and conversational and do not have formal comment periods as a result, though the public is invited and welcome to participate.

At the January Agenda and Legislative meetings, the Board considered and approved the following:

- The resignation of member Candice Hodge from the Board.
- The salvage of the Telescope from the High School. While the telescope will no longer be in the District, it will be transferred ultimately to Carnegie Mellon University.
- The award of a bid to study District buildings for the purpose of recommendations on an Engineered Infections Disease program.
- The purchase of Scholastic Grab 'n' Go book packs for all students pre-K to grade 5.
- The implementation of the District's summer Extended School Year program for identified students

At the February Legislative Meeting, among the items the Board considered and approved were:

- The appointment of Jeff Hildebrand to fill the 9-month vacancy created by Ms. Hodge's resignation. Four applications from persons wishing to fill the vacant Board seat were considered. Videos of the Board's interviews with the four candidates can be found [here](#).
- A two-year extension of the contract with Mr. Harris, the District Superintendent
- The 2021-2022 curriculum guide, which includes significant changes to the grades 7 & 8 math and ELA curriculum
- The acceptance of a grant to fund infection protection measures in our Athletic Department. The District was one of only 23 nationwide to receive the grant.

The Agendas and Minutes for the Boards meetings can be found [here](#).

Committee Meetings will be held on March 2 & 3, with Curriculum, Special Education & Pupil Personnel, Policy, Technology and Community Relations on Tuesday and Finance, Athletics, Personnel, Safety, Transportation & Food Service, Facilities on Wednesday. Meetings begin at 5pm. Please watch the website for the latest information about accessing the meetings.