

# Oak Park River Forest League of Women Voters Eyewitness Report

Observed by: Diana Shea

Date: Nov 13, 2018      Meeting Length: 3 hr 33 minutes

Meeting Name: District 97 Board of Education

## **D97 Board Discusses Underlying Data for Recent ISBE Designations**

What did the Board decide?

- The D97 Board approved John Ellwanger's retirement as Principal of Beye Elementary effective June 2020.

What else did the Board discuss or refer to committee?

- The D97 Board heard a [report](#) on the Benchmark Assessment Systems and Student Performance. The administration shared MAP and PARRC data to explain the recent ISBE designations (2 schools "Underperforming", 6 schools "Commendable" and 2 schools "Exemplary"). There is a hypothesis that the Commendable and Underperforming designations are due to [declining] PARRC participation rates. They noted that a large percentage of the kids that decline to take the test are in the higher performing groups. A lengthy discussion ensued.
- The D97 Board discussed the upcoming levy decision. This line item will recur on the next two meetings until the decision is made final.

Unexpected Votes, Events, Testimony or Items to Watch for in the Future

- The D97 Board heard several public comments regarding a climate of sexual harassment at the middle schools.

Any other comments or observations

- Transportation update – a mid-report will be available to the Board Members next week.
- Board President Spurlock said that the next time that the Board has a discussion about the Equity Policy, it will be further up in the agenda [so as to be easier for the public to attend].