

Oak Park River Forest League of Women Voters Eyewitness Report

Observed by: Diana Shea

Date: Jan 7, 2020

Meeting Length: 2 hours 20 minutes

Meeting Name: District 97 Board of Education

D97 Board Approves Parameters for Bond Issuance

What did the Board decide?

- The Board heard a [report](#) from Raymond James regarding the issuance of bonds related to the Referendum. Because of the timing of the board meetings, the board also voted to approve [the parameters](#) of the bond issuance. Board Member Spurlock asked if the Administration had put out a call for bids for the opportunity to service the District with the bond issuance. The Administration had not, though Raymond James had previously provided documentation with rate comparisons showing their competitiveness in the marketplace.
- The Board heard a presentation from facilities team (Staff, Architect and Bulley & Andrews) on the SY20 renovation plan. The presentation was not included in the board packet, but will be distributed to the public for a special 2/3 Board Meeting that will be held in conjunction with the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC). Capital Improvement projects for 2020 and 2021 include updates for Julian, Brooks, Hatch, Beye and Irving. Bulley & Andrews will ask for bids for the 2020 projects with deadline of 1/28, to be presented at the 2/3 Board Meeting. The budget for the SY20 plans was approved.

What else did the Board discuss or refer to committee?

- The Board brainstormed a list of special report topics that they would like to hear from the Administration over the course of the coming year: Culture and climate, Racial equity analysis tool, Work Force Equity, IB re-authorization, and Tech
- The Board discussed offering a listening session of sorts for the community to express themselves to the Board on a specific topic. The Board will pass on the request to CCE to seek their opinion on format.
- There is a new law in Illinois that states that schools must store, administer, and monitor use or assist in administration of medical marijuana for students with prescriptions. Due to licensing requirements of school nursing staff (limiting their ability to comply with this law), the district is working on a policy to provide alternative staffing for assistance in these cases where necessary.

- Board Member Moore asked Dr Kelley if there were any special programming planned for Black History Month. Dr Kelley was not aware of any in particular and suggested that most buildings are participating with Heritage Months.