BOARD NOTES:

December 11, 2018, Regular Board Meeting:

Spotlight on Students: Members from Middlefork School’s Dedicated Dolphins came to tell the Board all about the good work they do in support of their school, local community, and wider world. Middlefork’s version of student council, the Dedicated Dolphins program has existed for over 15 years as a way to engage students in social service and leadership opportunities. Over 70 students meet every other Wednesday to investigate different service methods, such as school safety patrol, non-profit fundraisers, and local and global acts of kindness. Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange expressed how proud he was of our Dedicated Dolphins for taking on leadership roles, and admired their eagerness to make their world a better place.

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included minutes from the November 13th Regular Board Meeting and the monthly bills and salaries.

Communications: Dr. Stange shared a notification from the IL Public Health Institute that Sunset Ridge School PE teachers Mrs. Lisa Mattera and Mr. David Sislow have been nominated as Illinois PE Champions. This recognition acknowledges PE teachers that provide high-quality, enhanced PE policies and programs across the state.

Capital Improvement Update:

Middlefork School: Dr. Stange reported that the Middlefork Capital Improvement Team is finalizing finish selections, construction timeline, and logistics for the project. A pre-bid meeting was held for subcontractors that want to find out more information before they submit a bid for work. The official bid-opening is scheduled for December 19, 2018. Approval for those bids will occur in January.

Sunset Ridge School: A few plumbing vent stacks will be rerouted over winter break. Dr. Stange expressed his pride over the 7 awards that the new building has received, which are as follows:
1. Learning By Design: 2018 Grand Prize Award for Educational Environments
2. Association for Learning Environments: Exceptional Planning Recognition
3. IL Association of School Boards: Award of Distinction for School Construction
4. Engineering New Record: Best Green Project
5. American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers: Excellence in Engineering
7. Environmental Protection Agency: Top 30 Green Power Partner

Old Business: After a second reading of Board Policy 523 regarding Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) procedures, the policy was approved.

Finance and Facilities: The Board opened a public hearing to discuss the FY18 Tax Levy. After no public comments, the hearing was closed and the Levy was approved. The next meeting is January 22, 2019, at 6pm.

Education Committee: Board member Mrs. Jill Mirkovic reported that administration gave a thorough update on the Teaching and Learning Strategic Plan elements, which included K-3rd social-emotional learning, the Museum of Science and Industry partnership, D29 Connect, 4th-8th computer science programs, and Student Services. The next meeting is February 12, 2019, at 6pm.

IASB: Dr. Stange reported that he gave a presentation at the IASB conference and received many positive compliments on the new Sunset Ridge School.

PTO: Mrs. Mirkovic reported that Police Chief Lustig warned of increased car burglaries in town. The PTO benefit chairs are seeking auction items.
NSSED: Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported that they are engaging in a rebranding exercise, seeking a new Chief Business Officer, and adapting to changes in how IDEA federal grants are distributed.

Northfield Park District: No report.

Village of Northfield: Board member Mr. Scott Subeck reported that they continue to work on their strategic plan.

Foundation Fund: Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson reported that they made a $35,000 distribution to the school as a result of remaining donations collected in support of the new building. The Foundation is taking time to reexamine their purpose as related to district needs and wishes to explore new fundraising opportunities.

Administrative Reports: Dr. Stange reported that enrollment remains steady and there were no FOIA requests this month. He reminded the Board that because of the need to take a snow day in November, an extra day has been added to the end of the year. The date of 8th grade graduation, however, does not change. After a discussion of possible 2019-2020 school calendar configurations, it was agreed that the first day of school would be 8/28/19, winter break would be 12/23/19-1/3/20, spring break would be 3/23/20-3/27/20, and the last day of school (pending no snow days) would be 6/10/20. An official calendar approval is forthcoming.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session minutes from November 13th, 2018.

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the website following their approval at the January 22, 2020 Regular Board meeting.