

HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thank you to the engaged citizens of the community who participated in the Homewood-Flossmoor High School District 233 special board of education meeting on June 30. We know it took great courage to present your point of view and everyone's voice matters.

The Board of Education listened intently to all comments and, as discussed at the meeting, will involve all stakeholders moving forward in the search for a new principal. While that process has not begun, in the next several weeks we will provide you with a timeline for the search process and how members of the community can be involved in that process. Board member Gerald Pauling, head of the personnel committee, stated last night that the goal is to have a new principal in place by July 1, 2017. Some have asked why we do not look to hire a new principal immediately. To restate his answer: We want to conduct a thorough search of the best candidates throughout the local region, the state and the nation. Many of the best candidates already have principal jobs and we would not want to hire someone who would be willing to leave their job at this point of the year. The timeline we will propose will be based on standard best practices for hiring a principal.

We also want to remind you that we are accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education. This term will begin on or around August 20 and end with Board Elections in 2017. Any and all interested candidates are encouraged to submit a letter of interest by Friday, July 8, 2016, at 3:30 pm CST to: Mr. Richard T. Lites, President of the Board of Education, Superintendent's Office, Homewood-Flossmoor High School District 233, 999 Kedzie Avenue, Flossmoor, IL 60422.

Members of the Board of Education listened to concerns and tried to correct misconceptions, rumors and false statements that had been circulating in the community (that did not compromise confidentiality dealing with personnel issues). We would like to offer one additional clarification. While Homewood-Flossmoor High School serves the students, parents and community, it also is an employer to approximately 350 people and is, in fact, one of the largest employers in this community. As a large employer, we are faced with personnel issues and address them as needed. We encourage you to visit the [Agenda and Minutes](#) page of the website to review the many special and regular board meetings where employee personnel issues have been proactively brought up and discussed by the Board – over many months and many meetings.

The June 30 meeting was not a beginning and is not an end. We are on an ongoing journey to provide the best education possible to the students who walk through the doors of Homewood-Flossmoor High School each and every day. On August 17, when the doors open once again for the start of the new school year, students will be welcomed by teachers, administrators and Board members. The bell will ring. They will head to their classes and engage in the learning process that will one day lead to a high school diploma from Homewood-Flossmoor Community High School and lead to a world of opportunity and promise. We share this vision because we are all H-F.