

BOARD BRIEFS



Highlights of action taken by the District 200 Board of Education

December 2018

Board selects new member to fill unexpired term

The District 200 Board of Education held a special meeting on Dec. 5 to select its newest member to replace David Shinherr who resigned from the board in October.



The Board interviewed two candidates during a closed session meeting and selected Dr. Michelle Bidwell who was sworn in at the Board's regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 11.

Bidwell is a Woodstock licensed clinical psychologist, and the mother of two young children including a pre-Kindergarten student who attends Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center. Bidwell said she and her husband moved to Woodstock from Florida about 12 years ago.

Dr. Michelle Bidwell

"As a parent, I am incredibly invested in this school district and working to provide the healthiest environment for our children's learning and success. I look forward to being a part of the board and collaborating to meet the needs of our district's families and children," Bidwell said.

District 200 Superintendent Mike Moan said he appreciates Bidwell's willingness to serve and looks forward to the perspective she will bring to the board as a professional, as a community member, and as a parent.

Board, administration discuss two-hour late start option

Superintendent Mike Moan said administrators have been discussing the possibility of using late starts as an option to closing schools on days when severe weather makes the morning commute hazardous.

Late start days would be particularly appropriate on severely cold days when the temperature is expected to climb above dangerous wind chills later in the morning or on days when the extra two hours would allow roads to be cleared.

Moan said some area districts including Harvard District 50 and District 300 in Algonquin have already adopted the policy and while the move doesn't require Board action, he wanted the Board's opinion as elected members of the community. The benefit is that delayed days would not have to be made up at the end of the school year.

"In our opinion, we'd love to have that instructional time in January or February as opposed to after Memorial Day," Moan said.

Some Board members had reservations and questioned whether it was better for parents if school was closed for the entire day or started two hours late. Moan said he would conduct a survey among District 200 parents and seek their opinion before making any determination.

Two standout athletes recognized by Board

Woodstock North High School volleyball player Brooke Amann was honored for being named Kishwaukee River Conference Player of the Year. Brooke was a leader on the Thunder team all season including in her outstanding performance in the Regional Championship.



WNHS Junior Brooke Amann

The junior athlete holds several school records including 29 single match kills, 484 single season kills, 899 career kills, 9 single match aces, 83 single season aces and 138 career aces. Brooke was also named to the second team of ILPrepVB.com's All-State team.

Tennis player Aly Cullotta, was named All-Conference for the third straight season and advanced to State with a record of 31-4 overall. The junior homeschooled student who plays for the Woodstock North Girls Tennis Team is regarded as one of the top players in the area.