



**Evanston/Skokie CC School District 65**  
*Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes*  
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*Notice of Meeting posted May 1, 2017*  
**CITY SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING Agenda**  
**Wednesday, May 3, 2017**  
Joseph E. Hill Education Center - Board Room  
1500 McDaniel - Evanston, IL 60201

5:30 PM Meeting called to order

1. Call to Order / Introductions
2. Approval of February 15, 2017 Minutes
3. Transportation and Mobility Update
4. Refugee Task Force Update
5. Equity Update
6. Legislative Update
7. Other
8. Adjournment
9. Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2017-18:  
September 28, 2017 COE  
January 25th, 2018 ETHS  
April 26, 2018 D65

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# **CITY/SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**

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## **MINUTES OF MEETING FEBRUARY 17, 2017**

**EVANSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL  
1600 DODGE AVE, EVANSTON**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Committee Members Present:**

##### **District 202**

Eric Witherspoon, Superintendent  
Pete Bavis, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Mary Rodino, Chief Financial Officer  
Pat Savage-Williams, School Board President  
Gretchen Livingston, School Board Member  
Anne Sills, School Board Member

##### **District 65**

Paul Goren, Superintendent  
Claudia Garrison, School Board Member

##### **City of Evanston**

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager  
Lawrence Hemingway, Parks and Recreation  
Kevin Brown, Youth and Young Adult Program Manager  
Mark Muenzer, Director of Community Development  
Savannah Clement, Housing Policy and Planning Analyst

##### **Others Present**

Sheila Merry, Cradle to Career Director

#### **Call to Order/Introductions**

Dr. Witherspoon called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made.

#### **Approval of the October 19, 2016 Minutes**

The October 19, 2016 minutes were approved.

#### **Refugee Task Force – presentation by Mark and Savannah**

Mr. Bobkiewicz introduced Mark Muenzer and Savannah Clement who provided a presentation on Evanston's Welcoming City Refugee Work Group. The City Council passed a

Welcoming City Ordinance on December 12, 2016. Refugee countries represented in Evanston are Syria, Iraq, Congo, Rwanda, Chad, Sudan and Nepal and approximately 100 legal refugee students are enrolled in Evanston schools. The Refugee Work Group seeks to address the rise in refugees by assisting with resettlement agencies, school districts 65 and 202, City departments and other area groups such as Howard Area Community Center and Evanston Interfaith Refugee Roundtable. Ms. Clement explained some of the needs they have identified such as consumables, durable goods, clothing, medical and social services, housing and other needs such as parent engagement, integration in schools and access to social/recreational activities among others. Mr. Muenzer explained the various resources to address the needs of refugees. The next steps of the Refugee Work Group are for the City to convene meetings and act as liaison between the resettlement agencies, school districts and community. Their next meeting will be held on February 28. They are also planning a Welcoming City resource page on the City of Evanston website as well as Welcoming signs. In addition, they would like to set up and promote a Volunteer Evanston refugee opportunities to community residents and outreach to neighboring communities such as the Village of Skokie and Niles Parent Center. Finally, the Refugee Work Group is planning staff cultural and sensitivity trainings.

Dr. Witherspoon said that when he was Superintendent in Des Moines, Iowa they started a refugee center in one of the schools and then realized that entire immigrant families were coming to the school, even without kids, for services which allowed the school to connect them to needed community services. Dr. Goren added that they are converting a conference room space in District 65 into a welcome space for refugee families and have also arranged for bus transportation to pick up families up for school events that otherwise have no transportation. Mr. Bobkiewicz said that maybe at the next committee meeting they can discuss "Transit for Everyone" which is a grant opportunity that may be able to assist in this area.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

### **Evanston Cradle to Career**

Ms. Merry presented and update on Evanston Cradle to Career and distributed information on key areas of progress which included ensuring a strong start to kindergarten; addressing summer learning loss and promoting equitable institutions. She explained the progress to date in each of these areas and added that Cradle to Career has secured an additional \$50,000 in support from the United Way to expand literacy program slots. Ms. Merry added that Cradle to Career is making a major push to create equitable institutions. They are asking Partners to complete an equity self-assessment and will conduct SEED and Beyond Diversity training for smaller organizations that cannot afford it on their own.

Dr. Witherspoon said that Cradle to Career has accomplished so much within the two years of its inception. Attendance at meetings is high and member teams are dynamic.

A copy of the Cradle to Career key areas of progress is attached.

### **District 65 Referendum Update**

Dr. Goren distributed a quick overview/financial snapshot flyer on understanding the 2017

District 65 referendum. He stated that after seeing four years of downward trends, they are starting an upswing after a focused set of programming changes on literacy and social/emotional learning was implemented. District 65 will also be engaged in equity training with their leadership and administrators through Beyond Diversity. Dr. Goren explained some of the reasons for seeking a public referendum and the repercussions the District will face if it fails.

A copy of the informational flyer is attached.

### **City of Evanston Youth and Young Adult Division**

Mr. Brown and Mr. Hemingway provided an update for the City on Youth and Young Adult programming. Mr. Brown said that the City is getting ready for the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program Job Fair on March 11, 2017. He thanked ETHS for the use of space and their cooperation and support of the Job Fair. This year, they are trying to secure 1,000 jobs for students. They are also cognizant of the fact that they have students in undocumented situations. The Mayor has met with Dreamers Club to encourage them to them to participate. Mr. Hemingway reported that there are many activities occurring to support the youth of Evanston including a fully staffed outreach group to reach out to disengaged young people at D65 and D202. Mr. Bobkiewicz said there is a full slate of summer programs this year; an improved registration process and a new City website.

The Summer Youth Employment Program flyer is attached.

### **Addressing Equity**

Mr. Bobkiewicz said he met with the District superintendents to discuss issues of Equity and for strategies that maybe implemented by the City and said that Evanston is ahead of the curve. Dr. Goren said they are doing comprehensive training with board members and administrators and are doing deep reflection and are rapidly scaling up equity training.

### **Legislative Update**

Dr. Witherspoon said that the Governor's proposed state budget offers a permanent tax freeze and other details of the budget were just released.

Mr. Bobkiewicz said there was no budget this year for Evanston Lobby Day in Springfield but that they will keep it on the docket for next year.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

***Next meeting: May 3, 2017 at District 65***

Respectfully submitted by Lisa De La Fuente  
Administrative Assistant, Evanston Township High School

# EVANSTON

## Welcoming City Refugee Work Group



**Mark Muenzer, Director of Community Development**  
**Savannah Clement, Housing Policy & Planning Analyst**

February 13, 2017



Community Development

# WELCOMING CITY REFUGEE WORK GROUP

- Welcoming City Ordinance passed by City Council on December 12, 2016
- Approximately 100 legal refugee students in Evanston schools
  - Not all households have school-age children
  - Not all refugees have legal refugee status; therefore, not counted in number above
- Sampling of countries represented: Syria, Iraq, Congo, Rwanda, Chad, Sudan, and Nepal

# WELCOMING CITY REFUGEE WORK GROUP

## **Work group to address the rise in refugees:**

- Evanston Refugee Work Group includes:
  - Resettlement agencies: Catholic Charities, Heartland Alliance, RefugeeOne, and World Relief
  - School Districts 65 and 202
  - City departments: CD, EPD, HHS, and PRCS
  - Other area groups: Howard Area Community Center, Evanston Interfaith Refugee Roundtable

# WELCOMING CITY REFUGEE WORK GROUP

## Needs Identified:

- **Consumables:** Cleaning supplies, diapers, toiletries, etc.
- **Durable goods:** Bikes (with helmets & locks), strollers, rugs, etc.
- **Clothing:** Particularly winter coats and boots for high school students
- **Services:** Medical & social services, transportation, job training and employment services, English tutoring for adults and children, child care
- **Housing:** Affordable housing, larger units for larger families
- **Other:** Parent engagement/integration in schools, access to social/recreational activities, peer-to-peer mentorships, and family sponsorships

# WELCOMING CITY REFUGEE WORK GROUP

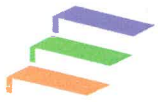
## Resources to address needs:

- **Consumables:** Volunteer Evanston
- **Durable goods:** Volunteer Evanston
- **Clothing:** Volunteer Evanston, Evanston School Children’s Clothing Association (ESCCA)
- **Services:** HHS home-based early intervention, Erie Health Center (medical), Northwestern University (social work students), Y.O.U. after-school programs, Howard Area Community Center, Family Focus, Illinois workNet, Youth Job Center
- **Housing:** Connections for the Homeless – ESG Rapid Re-Housing, YMCA, EPD
- **Other:** School PTAs, Evanston Interfaith Refugee Roundtable, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Evanston

# WELCOMING CITY REFUGEE WORK GROUP

## Next Steps:

- City will convene meetings and act as liaison between the resettlement agencies, school districts, and community. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
- Welcoming City resource page on COE website
- Set up and promote Volunteer Evanston refugee opportunities to community residents
- Outreach to neighboring communities (e.g. Village of Skokie, Niles Parent Center)
- Welcoming signs
- Staff cultural and sensitivity trainings



**EC2C Key Areas of Progress  
February 2017**

➤ **Ensuring a Strong Start to Kindergarten**

- ✓ **Talk, Read, Sing Campaign.** Partnering with Too Small to Fail, local health care providers, nonprofits, and schools on a city-wide *Talk, Read, Sing Initiative* to be launched in March 2017.
- ✓ **Parenting Texting Program.** Texting program sending parenting tips to parents of children 0-3 through City texting service, currently in English, Spanish in 2017.
- ✓ **Increased Coordination.** Extensive co-ordination across early childhood education providers to identify available slots in programs, to share appropriate training, and smooth information sharing for children transferring among centers.
- ✓ **Reached Consensus on Definition of ‘Kindergarten Ready.’** Building on this accomplishment by hosting an Early Childhood Summit to share guidelines with early childhood centers, home-based providers, and family home visitors.
- ✓ **Increased Information About Early Childhood Experiences.** Revised kindergarten intake form to clarify prior early childhood experience. Now analyzing that information to guide further strategies for intervention.
- ✓ **Smooth Transition to Kindergarten.** Developing strategy to share information across early childhood and kindergarten teachers to ensure smooth transition as well as promoting early kindergarten registration to avoid unnecessary disruption for children and teachers.

➤ **Addressing Summer Learning Loss**

- ✓ **Expanded by 130% Summer Literacy Program Slots.** Through increased investments by both school districts, the Evanston Community Foundation, and adding literacy programming to traditional camp programs expanded children being reached by literacy-specific programming.
- ✓ **Added Reading Time to Traditional Camp Programming.** Reached over 4,700 children with daily reading through Park District and other traditional camp programs.
- ✓ **Diverse Book Drive and Little Free Libraries.** Expanded availability of diverse books through drive bringing books to camps and 5 “little libraries” in City parks.
- ✓ **Assessing 2016 Impact to Inform Summer 2017 Planning.** Follow up conducted with all providers to assess success of new strategies and building foundation to more effectively measure impact.
- ✓ **Securing Additional Funds to Support Summer Programming.** Secured \$50,000 in additional support from the United Way to ideally be leveraged with others to expand literacy program slots.

➤ **Promoting Equitable Institutions**

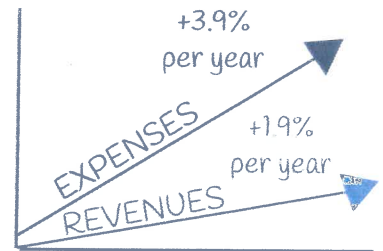
- ✓ **Reached Consensus on Equity Commitment and Provided Initial Training to EC2C Partners.** Set the foundation for expanded organizational commitment to equity.
- ✓ **Secured Commitment from EC2C Partners to Conduct Equity Self-Assessment.** Providing support through the YWCA for organizations to conduct equity self-assessments and identify key areas for improvement.
- ✓ **Providing SEED and Beyond Diversity Training for EC2C Partner Organizations.** Hosting diversity trainings that smaller organizations could not access on their own.



EVANSTON/SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

# EVANSTON/SKOKIE DISTRICT 65 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT: Understanding the 2017 Referendum

For 15 years, District 65 has passed a balanced budget by keeping reductions as far from the classroom as possible. However, expenses continue to increase at a faster rate than revenues. We remain committed to educating all children and supporting the needs of our diverse learning community. Yet, the financial challenges we face are very real and urgent.



In 10 years, student enrollment has increased by more than 20%...



...and yet, district revenues have not increased at the same pace.

**INSTRUCTION IS TOP PRIORITY**  
Since 2010, instructional spending has increased from 43% to 52% of the overall budget, while administrative spending has decreased from 5% to 4%.



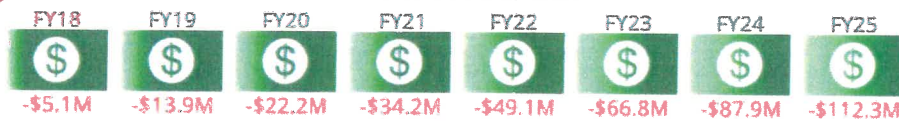
Per student spending\*

\$14,515	∴	\$14,150	∴	\$21,939
Peer Average		District 65		ETHS District 202

\*Based on 2015-16 Illinois Report Card

## D65 FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Cumulative Deficits:



Last operating referendum passed in 1986.

Over the past 7 years, D65 has made \$10.8M in reductions.

## 2 OPTIONS

### REDUCTIONS (decrease spending)

#### Year 1

Class size increases

Reduction of building level and classroom supports

Reductions to curriculum and enrichment programming

Deeper cuts to central services and operations

Reduction of 50-60 employees across all position categories

#### Year 2+

Further increases to elementary school class size maximums

District-wide home school reassignment

Closing a school/schools

Combining buildings to serve fewer grade levels

Multi-grade classrooms

**D65 WILL NEED TO MAKE \$8.8M IN REDUCTIONS IN THE NEXT 2 YEARS ALONE**

For more information, please visit [www.District65.net](http://www.District65.net)

### REFERENDUM

(increase revenues by \$14.5M per year)

Elimination of projected deficits through 2025

Reading specialist at every elementary school

Funds for capital projects across district

Fund technology with operating budget

\$1M/year contribution to fund balance

Maintain & expand middle school 1:1 instructional technology

**COST TO AVERAGE EVANSTON HOMEOWNER**

**\$470 annually or \$39 per month**

### Bottom Line

On April 4, 2017, the Evanston/Skokie community has the opportunity to vote on these options before significant cuts would have to be made.

YES = Voting FOR the Referendum

NO = Voting AGAINST the Referendum



# MAYOR'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM JOB FAIR

**FOR YOUTH  
14-18 YRS.  
WHO LIVE  
ONLY IN  
ZIP CODES  
60201/60202**

**SATURDAY  
MARCH 11**  
**8am–1:30pm**  
**Evanston Township  
High School  
1600 Dodge Ave.  
Evanston**

## Doors close at noon

**Job fair students**  
must enter Door 18 on Dodge Ave. and exit at Door 50.

**Handicap accessible**  
enter Door 50 in rear of the school.

**Transportation**  
**Bike racks:** located by Door 50/Rear of ETHS  
**Bus:** #93 California/Dodge & #206

## Information

email: [youth@cityofevanston.org](mailto:youth@cityofevanston.org)  
call/text: 847-448-4311

## Program Requirements

To attend the job fair, youth must be enrolled in school and be at least 14 years of age when the employment program begins on June 12, 2017.

Youth may be required to take a pre-hire drug test.

## Workshops & Application Assistance

**Increase your chances of being hired and get an opportunity to jump the line at the job fair!**

Visit [cityofevanston.org/workshop](http://cityofevanston.org/workshop) and register to attend a Pre-Fair Resume & Interview Skills Workshop at ETHS HUB (W220):

**Wednesday, February 22, 4-6:30pm**

**Saturday, February 25, 9am-Noon (Wildkit Academy)**

**Wednesday, March 1, 4-6:30pm**

Youth are highly encouraged to fill out a Summer Youth Employment Program application in advance at [cityofevanston.org/youthemployment](http://cityofevanston.org/youthemployment), or get assistance and ask questions from 5-7pm at one of these outreach sessions:

<b>CAMS Branch Library</b>	<b>900 Chicago Ave.</b>	<b>Feb. 13</b>
<b>EPL Teen Loft</b>	<b>1703 Orrington Ave.</b>	<b>Feb. 13</b>
<b>Ecology Center</b>	<b>2024 McCormick Blvd.</b>	<b>Feb. 14</b>
<b>Fleetwood-Jourdain Center</b>	<b>1655 Foster St.</b>	<b>Feb. 15</b>
<b>Gibbs-Morrison Center</b>	<b>1823 Church St.</b>	<b>Feb. 15</b>
<b>Levy Senior Center</b>	<b>300 Dodge Ave.</b>	<b>Feb. 16</b>
<b>Chandler-Newberger Center</b>	<b>1028 Central St.</b>	<b>Feb. 17</b>
<b>Robert Crown Center</b>	<b>1701 Main St.</b>	<b>Feb. 17</b>
<b>All ETHS Cafeterias</b>	<b>Lunch periods 4–6</b>	<b>Feb. 13-17</b>



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