

CSD Board Newsletter

November 2020

Purpose...

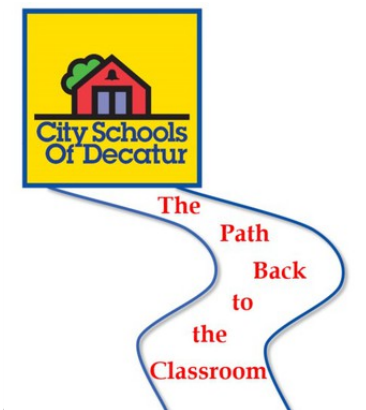
The purpose of the City Schools of Decatur Board Newsletter is to update elected officials and other stakeholders on items related to City Schools of Decatur (CSD) and the CSD Board of Education. The focus is on the community's most pressing topics of interest. Ideas for future issues can be sent to board@csdecatur.net.



City of Decatur Board Members

- Lewis Jones, Chair
- Tasha White, Board Vice-Chair
- Jana Johnson-Davis, Board Member
- James Herndon, Board Member
- Heather Tell, Board Member
- David Dude, Superintendent & Board Secretary

csdecatur.net/MeettheBoard



The Path Back to the Classroom

The COVID-19 Stakeholder Planning Committee was formed to capitalize on the enormous talent and expertise in the Decatur community. The committee will advise the school district on its response and plans related to COVID-19. Specific objectives will be completed through subcommittees in order to maximize and expedite the work of the committee. The committee and each subcommittee meet regularly.

Superintendent David Dude will host a series of town halls on the next several Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. The first was held on November 19. The next will be held on December 3 and December 10. These events provide students, families, and staff information on the District's plans to transition to face-to-face learning and other initiatives. CSD administrators will answer questions from the community.

CSD Senior Homestead Tax Exemption



The November Board meeting included recommendations from the CSD Senior Homestead Exemption Steering Committee. Presenting on behalf of the committee, Paula Collins and Hans Utz recommended a two-pronged exemption to help all seniors age in place while providing additional help to those most in need.

- An exemption for seniors 65-69 years of age, with an annual income below \$52,000 (80% of the average metro area Adjusted Growth Income (AGI)) that exempts not less than the first \$160,000 of tax assessed value of the home (equivalent to \$320,000 of appraised value) per the DeKalb County Tax Assessor.
- A second exemption would be available to all residents age 70 and older. It would exempt the first \$160,000 of "assessed value" (50% of the "appraised value") from school taxes. At the current millage of 22.25, this exemption would reduce taxes by \$3,200 on homes appraised at \$320,000 or more.

The final proposal may provide a slightly higher exemption amount (e.g., \$180,000 rather than \$160,000). GSU has been asked to estimate the maximum exemption that can be provided given the structure recommended by the committee and the limits established by the board. The final numbers will be presented for a vote at the December 8 board meeting.

For more information, visit the CSD Senior Homestead Exemption website here <https://www.csdecalur.net/seniorexemption>.



**Senior Homestead
Exemption Steering
Committee**

Ms. Paula Collins, Chair

Mr. Phil Cuffey

Mr. Bill Floyd

Ms. Gwin Hall

Ms. Shelia Payton

Ms. Maria Pinkleton

Ms. Meg Robinson

Mr. Hans Utz

Decatur Mayor Emerita Elizabeth Wilson

Dr. David Dude, CSD Superintendent, Committee Secretary



CSD/DCSS Annexation Negotiations

On Tuesday, November 17, Board Chair Lewis Jones and Vice-Chair Tasha White met with their counterparts from the DeKalb County School System and members of the DeKalb County legislative delegation to discuss a proposed resolution of the annexation issue. CSD has proposed to allocate 100% of any tax revenue collected from any territory annexed into the City of Decatur, except the amount needed to educate any kids actually attending City Schools from within the new area. This plan would keep the City of Decatur

and the City Schools of Decatur together while keeping DeKalb County whole. The proposal was well received. We are looking forward to working with DCSB to make it happen.

CSD Board of Education Meetings

Did you know all of the Board Meetings for this upcoming year are listed on the district's calendar, <https://www.csdecatur.net/calendar>? The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 8.



Board Meetings occur monthly and often on the second Tuesday of the month. More Board meeting information can be found on the CSD webpage <https://www.csdecatur.net/boardmeetings>. Also, the Board agenda can be found at www.csdecatur.net/board prior to each meeting. Previous Board Meetings can be viewed in our Board of Education Meeting Video Library at www.csdecatur.net/boardvideos.

The most recent Board Meeting held on November 10, can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/0QgX6QNYfXE>.

Quick Links:

CSD Resources:

City Schools of Decatur Homepage: <https://www.csdecatur.net>

CSD Virtual Learning Resources: <https://www.smore.com/xd598>

CSD Opening 2020 Information: <https://www.csdecatur.net/opening2020>



City Schools of Decatur

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