

Honeywell Update- February 1, 2017

Good evening Highland Park, this is Dr. Taylor with a message about the school district's budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

Starting two days ago, January 30, each member of the Leadership Team responsible for managing a section of the school budget has been sitting down with the Board of Education Finance and Facilities Committee to review, line by line, proposed expenditures for the next school year. This will give the four-member committee of elected representatives an opportunity to ask detailed questions about the rationale for spending. These meetings will culminate in a committee presentation to the full board in early March. The board of education and the Leadership Team put this process in place last year and continues its commitment to very carefully vet the budget through a slow and steady protocol of review. A draft of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget will have been given a thorough inspection by the time the public has the opportunity to see this first iteration of proposed expenses.

As we did last year, the Board Finance and Facilities Committee and members of the Leadership Team will set up a series of public forums in various locations so the Highland Park community can ask questions and provide input. The forums will include a brief explanation of how the district's Pathway to Excellence, the strategic plan, is framing development of the budget, and how the district continues to develop ways to generate revenue that can help offset the burden on local taxpayers while fulfilling the mandate that our community's schools provide a world class education for its children.

I'll provide dates and locations of the forums in my next Honeywell message on February 15. Good night.