

Board of Education President's Report

Matt Cellura

November 28, 2018

Good Evening and thank you for taking the time today to attend tonight's Board meeting. While I always tell myself that these crowds are here for us, I know that these amazing students and their accomplishments is what brings everyone here, so I will keep my comments this evening short.

Tonight this Board will consider, and I ultimately hope approve, a resolution supporting the extension of graduation options to the class of 2019, 2020, and 2021. If you have been following education the past few years, you are aware of the mess that the Ohio Department of Education and the State Legislature have made in regards to graduation requirements and their enactment. Last year House Bill 49 allowed for 2 additional pathways for the graduating class of 2018, however at this point, there is no extension of those pathways for the classes of 2019, 2020, and 2021. All of these classes are being held hostage to system that has been changes multiple times in their high school career. Unfortunately, this system has failed many students across the state, including dozens in our District, meaning that these students who have buckled down and done the work are at risk of not graduating. It is not fair to these students to be treated like guinea pigs while the ODE and the Legislature figure out a long term solution to the graduation standards.

To that end, I would ask that those parents in attendance tonight, especially those with children at Twinsburg High School, to contact our current legislators, Representative Kristina Roegner and Senator Frank LaRose, as well as our State Representative Elect Casey Weinstein, and urge them to enact legislation which will extend the pathways offered to the class of 2018.