

BOARD BRIEFS

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS: SONNI HERGET, LAURIE HOFFMAN, NEAL ORMOND III, ALLAN RHEA, ANGIE SMITH, JIM TOYNTON, JONATHAN WOOD AND DANIEL FLAHERTY, STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

At the February 19, 2008 Board of Education Meeting held at West High School, the Board:

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: *The Board recognized visitors from AEAW, West High, Greenman, Partnership School, West Park Neighbors, SCAC, Transportation, West High Stage Crew, West Aurora Sports Boosters.*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: *The Board of Education recognized Carl Franco, President of the West Aurora Sports Boosters, Tom Thill, Debbie Nardone and Vickie Nissen for their work in the auction of the gym floor. Through the efforts of these individuals, over \$15,000 has been raised. Future plans for the sale of pieces of the floor are being made, with details to follow. Thanks to Doug Johnson, local business/carpenter, all four were presented with a picture frame made from the gym floor.*

ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVED POLICIES SECTION 4 – OPERATIONAL SERVICES.

APPROVED SECURITY SYSTEM AT GREENMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – *the Board thanked the West Park Neighbors for their work in making sure that Greenman School and the neighborhood are safe and taken care of through their constant surveillance.*

APPROVED THE DISPOSAL AND SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, *namely the Vulcan Filtration System and a RanServe Fiberglass refrigeration unit.*

APPROVED DISPOSAL OF 50 teacher task chairs *from Jefferson Middle School.*

APPROVED RESIGNATIONS OF Emily Giraldo, McCleery and Donna Schmidt, *Transportation.*

APPROVED APPOINTMENTS OF: Paola Dominguez, Todd; Grover Moss, Technology; Laura Woods, Technology.

APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE *for Elizabeth Peterson, Washington.*

APPROVED PART-TIME STATUS FOR Hannah Schecher and Patti Renaud-Gallagher, *West High.*

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Cynthia Latimer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, provided additional information on the Gifted Program for the District. She indicated that the Dibbles assessment tool had been added under Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. She assured the Board that the Great Books program would be part of the program. The plans will begin to move forward, with the location of space for the program being the next step.

Rosemary Pinnick then shared information regarding AVID, a program to target non-traditional college-bound students, those that have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. The program will teach students critical thinking skills and encourage them to take the Advance Placement courses and exam. The Board was very supportive of this program, which would encourage working with different groups of students to help them do better academically.

REQUESTS TO DO RESEARCH

A proposal from Northern Illinois University was submitted to conduct a research study to understand the relationship between high school students' daily experiences in science courses and their achievement in these courses and general science interest. This study will be conducted at West High School.

A proposal from Waubensee Community College requesting the District's assistance in the evaluation and research plan for the Dunham Academy Program was also received. The research will be conducted by Learning Points Associates.

SAFE SECURE FACILITIES

Lynn Head, Mark Engen and Pete Kerl provided additional information and scenarios on possible changes in transportation times. Lynn provided additional information based on feedback received from the Board. Discussion on the changes followed. Lynn shared information on bus capacity, times needed to make the runs, and the number of buses needed.

Discussion then followed on extending the amount of time that students are in school and the way in which additional instructional time can be accomplished. Dr. Rydland and members of the staff provided background information on steps being taken to accomplish this goal. Dr. Rydland assured the Board that the staff is looking at what a day would look like for a student and how the additional time can be used to make sure that learning is being accomplished. Rosemary Pinnick indicated that the middle school department chairpersons have been working together and that the Teaching and Learning Team is beginning discussions this spring, with the goal to have a recommendation, with clear expectations, to the Board in the Spring of 2009.

Dr. Rydland then provided information on the Early Dismissal Day and the feedback received from staff and community. He indicated that a review of the way in which parents are notified is being reviewed.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Information was presented regarding actuarial services as part of the audit process.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Congratulations to District staff, students and community on a very successful First Annual Fine Arts Festival.

The Board was provided with a list of Board meeting dates for the 2008-09 school year.

CORRESPONDENCE

SPECIAL EVENTS

March 3, 2008	6:00	Board of Education Meeting
March 17, 2008	6:00	Board of Education Meeting
March 21-28, 2008		Spring Break
April 7, 2008	6:00	Board of Education Meeting