

BOARD BRIEF

ACTION

- Personnel
- Change in April Board Meeting Dates
- Repair to Chillers
- Amended 2008-09/ Preliminary 2009-10 Budgets
- Display Proposed 2009-10 Textbooks

Personnel —

At its meetings on February 3rd and 17th, the Board of Education ...

- Approved the employment of **Erin O’Keefe** (Program Assistant – Special Education) effective January 28, 2009.
- Accepted the resignation of **Jane M. Cannata** (Director of Special Education), and **Daniel Dock** (Math & Science Division) effective at the conclusion of the 2008-09 school year.
- Approved requests for exemption from Board Policy ¶6105P requiring pre-approval of graduate coursework for: **Blair Brown, Jennifer Culbertson, Nicholas Kempinski, and Patricia Santella**, all from the English Division.

Change in Board Meeting Date —

Following discussion, the Board of Education decided to cancel the Regular Semi-Monthly Board Meetings scheduled on April 7th (the date of the Consolidated Election) and April 21st and reschedule them to April 14th and 28th, respectively. By moving the meeting to the 28th, the Board will be able to reorganize, including the seating of newly-elected Board members, the electing of officers, setting meeting dates, etc.

Summer 2009 Capital Projects —

The Board approved an agreement with Trane to overhaul the two chillers and conduct an Eddy current testing not to exceed \$104,000. The budgeted amount includes \$15,000 as a contingency for any repairs that may be needed as a result of the Eddy current test.

Proposed Textbook Adoptions —

The Board approved placing on display textbooks recommended for adoption for the 2009-10 school year. They will be displayed for 21 days, as required by law and include:

The Practice of Creative Writing and *UnSpun: Finding Facts in a World of Disinformation* (English); *Fashion Marketing & Merchandising*

(Information & Technology [FACS]); *Geography Alive Middle School* and *High School Editions* (Humanities); *College Algebra and Trigonometry; The Practice of Statistics; Trigonometry (9th Ed.); and Chemistry* (Math and Science); and *Bon Voyage 1* (World Languages).

Formal adoption is slated for March 17th.

Preliminary Budget —

On February 17th, a preliminary 2009-10 budget was presented by Candace Drury, Director of Business Services – Elect, based on work done to date by her and Dan McCarthy.

Assumptions built into the Budget included the following:

- An allowable CPI increase of 4.1% for 2008 and .1% for 2009
- Property tax growth of 0%
- A reduction in local revenue of \$118,000
- Investment income based on a 1% interest rate
- A 3% decline in State categorical aid
- Health and liability insurance increases of 10%
- Transportation cost increases of 3%

After transfer and adjustments based on available data, the following balances were presented:

Fund	Balance
Education	(\$179,534)
Tort	\$3,000
Operations & Maintenance	\$2,527
Transportation	\$8
Working Cash	\$0
Debt Service	\$21,942
IMRF	(\$14,130)
Capital Improvement	(\$37,706)
Total – All Funds	(\$203,893)

Further adjustments will be made as information becomes available on insurance premiums, the stimulus, package, State aid, staffing levels, etc.

“The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn.”

— John Lubbock, British Archeologist

Other Action —

The Board ...

- Heard a proposal on Joint Boards meetings with the feeder districts.
- Received a timeline for staffing and sectioning.
- Authorized the Administration and Finance Committee to lock in a natural gas rate for a one- or two-year period of time. Rates are now at their lowest in five (5) years.

“The teacher is like the candle which lights others in consuming itself.”

— Giovanni Ruffini,
Italian Poet

Compliance Review – Areas of Concern —

A Compliance Review was conducted in the District on January 13th and 14th by the Regional Office of Education. It issued a Report to the District dated January 26, 2009, which extended FULL RECOGNITION and which stated, “There were no Areas of Non-Compliance noted during the review.”

However, the Report did identify six areas of concern. It is the District’s responsibility to address each of these areas expeditiously. In fact, four were addressed at the February 17th meeting, as shown below:

1. Minor tweaks were made in policies on:
 - Support services for truant students;
 - Withdrawals; and
 - Collection, maintenance, inspection and dissemination of school student records.
2. One simple change was made in the job description for the Principal position.

The three remaining areas to be addressed include policies on medications and bullying along with a needs assessment on counseling, psychological, social worker and health services.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE			
Jan 2009			
	Avg. Daily	Avg. Daily	%
<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Enroll</u>	<u>Attend</u>	<u>Attend</u>
04	2137	1986	92.9
05	2110	1959	92.9
06	2122	1959	92.3
07	2122	1946	91.7
08	2087	1945	93.2
09	2072	1947	94.0
Previous Months:			
		Oct 2008	94.9
		Nov 2008	94.3
		Dec 2008	92.6

SUSPENSION REPORT						
(By Reason):	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Disobedience/Truancy	0	28	13	21	9	8
Disobedience/Tardy	1	10	55	25	32	4
Disobedience/Disrespect	0	16	21	14	3	6
Smoking	0	0	0	1	0	0
Fighting	8	7	10	4	4	9
Gang Representation	0	3	8	5	2	6
Theft	0	6	4	1	1	2
Illegal Act: UI Alcohol	0	0	0	1	0	0
Illegal Act: UI Marijuana	0	0	4	0	0	2
*Other	0	2	6	4	0	0
(By Gender):	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Female	0	30	39	29	22	17
Male	9	58	114	55	38	23
(By Ethnic Group):	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
American Indian	0	0	0	0	1	0
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	0	1	0	0	0
Black, Non-Hispanic	0	3	3	1	1	4
Hispanic	4	59	111	58	39	18
White, Non-Hispanic	4	21	31	20	15	15
Multi-Racial	0	6	7	5	6	3

* Aggravated Battery, Possession of a Weapon, Willful Act/Sale and Distribution of Drugs to Another Student.