

# BOARD BRIEF

## ACTION

- ✓ Naming of New Principal
- ✓ Personnel
- ✓ 2006 Tax Levy
- ✓ Ratification of Miscellaneous Contracts
- ✓ Approval of Policy ¶3602 — Retention of Records

### Appointment of Principal —

At its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, the Board of Education appointed **Dr. Moses Cheng** to the position of Principal, effective July 1, 2007.

A graduate of Downers Grove South High School, Dr. Cheng earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his Master's and Doctoral degrees from Aurora University. He began his career in education as a science teacher at West Aurora High School in District 129. After a role as a Dean of Students, Dr. Cheng moved to the Principalship at Schneider Elementary School, also in District 129. After seven years, he was appointed to his current position as Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning at Hinsdale South High School in Hinsdale Township District 86.

Dr. Cheng will spend five days at Community High School during the upcoming spring semester to better learn the role and its responsibilities before the retirement of outgoing Principal, John Highland. During that time he can begin to interact with future colleagues to build bonds of understanding and trust.

This spring, a Tea will be held at the high school to provide an opportunity for school staff and community members to meet and welcome Community High School's new Principal. Details will be forthcoming.

### Personnel – The Board of Education

- approved the employment of **Julia Tirado** (Program Assistant – Special Education Department).
- approved the amendment of the Leave of Absence for **Monica Piszczek** (Secretary) to 50% work from November 20-29; then a full-time leave of absence from November 30, 2006 through January 12, 2007
- approved a Leave of Absence for **David Hernandez** (Bilingual) from January 15, to May 10, 2007 (9 hours per week); **Corrie Stieglitz** (Science) from February 12, 2007 through the end of the 2006-07 school year; and **Myrna Woodson** (Deans' Assistant in the Student Support Center) from November 27 to December 11, 2006.
- accepted the resignation of **William Vega** (Bilingual Program Assistant) effective January 12, 2007.
- accepted the resignation of **Jeffery Manimbo**, Assistant Winter Play Director, effective December 12, 2006.

### Ratification of Miscellaneous Contracts —

For years the District has entered into a variety of miscellaneous contracts for specialized services. By past practice these have usually been negotiated and signed by the Principal and/or Business Administrator. Examples include services for yearbooks, caps and gowns, senior photographs, vending machines, etc. Historically, these contracts have rarely, if ever, been approved by the Board of Education.

Recently, a change in State law requires boards to formally approve any contract with the potential to generate more than \$1,000 in revenue. Since it is not always easy to estimate how much revenue will be generated and since the route most immune from legal challenge is that of Board approval, it is recommended that current and future miscellaneous contracts be approved by the Board.

The Board directed the Administration to seek additional information regarding the rationale for the contracts with existing vendors: Coca-Cola®, Profit Systems (vending), Jostens, and Photography by Feltes.

**STUDENT-OF-  
THE-MONTH**  
November 2006 —  
**Jim Foreman**

“Among the aimless you often hear talk about ‘killing time.’ People who are constantly killing time are really killing their own chances in life. Those who are destined to become successful are those who make time and use it wisely.”

— Arthur Brisbane,  
Newspaper Editor

“No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship.”

— James Comer, M.D.

### **2006 Tax Levy —**

Dan McCarthy presented the proposed tax levy for 2006 to the Board for its approval on Tuesday evening. Some of the more salient points are shown below:

- The overall operating levy request is \$18,967,000
- Including debt service, the total property tax levy request for 2006 is \$21,937,523.
- The District’s Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) increased from \$1,016,036,957 to \$1,089,828,370 over the last year.
- The EAV is estimated to grow to \$1,185,218,072 over the next year.
- The projected tax increase for the owner of a home valued at \$212,000 is \$34.22. It would be \$59.88 for a home valued at \$371,000.

### **Snow Day Make-up —**

School was cancelled on December 1<sup>st</sup> due to a snow storm. Because the State requires 176 days of student attendance each year, the lost day must be rescheduled. Otherwise the District would fall one day short of the requirement.

Therefore, rather than ending the school year on Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, students will conclude the year on Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Consequently, the last day for teachers will be moved from Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup> to Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>.

That change is significant because it could affect weekend travel plans. Further, it should be noted that any additional lost days will be added to the end of the school year in the same way described above.

### **DVC Letter —**

The Board Secretary read a letter signed by 15 Head Coaches requesting that CHS consider leaving the DVC and “actively seek competition that provides our students a more realistic chance to compete and succeed. Consistent lack of success has a profoundly negative effect on the students, the school and the community as a whole.”

The Board has already requested the Administration to explore other athletic conference options.

### **Holiday Greetings —**

I can sense it in the air. Many are eagerly anticipating the coming respite — and for a wide variety of reasons:

- Some need a break from a hectic routine ...
- Some long for reunion with loved ones who live at a distance ...
- Some covet a peaceful time of reflection to adjust to a changed circumstance in life ...
- Others appreciate the added opportunities for spiritual stimulation and worship ...
- Others draw energy and renewal from travel, food and festivities ...
- Still others relish the privilege of serving people who are less fortunate than they.

It is a delight to know that each of you can and will find the reason(s) that feel just right for you and can cherish the time and freedom to pursue them.

As you are using your vacation time, do so knowing we are grateful for your sacrificial service to students, for being a faithful colleague and for the privilege of fulfilling our mission together.

Best wishes for two weeks of restoration, reflection and relaxation..

Merry Christmas to one and all,  
Lee Rieck