

Board Briefs



Monday, March 19, 2007

Presentations/Recognitions

Plainfield Student Places 2nd in Oratorical Competition

Recently, Plainfield student Sean Angara placed 2nd in the Des Plaines Oratorical Competition sponsored by the Des Plaines Optimists. His winning presentation was entitled, “My Biggest Challenge Is...”

Gallery 62 Showcases Student Art

A kaleidoscope of art elements, moods, emotions, ideas, and values were displayed Monday evening, as twelve students and their art teachers presented original student works to the Board of Education as a part of the Gallery 62 Art Exhibit. Each student-teacher team focused on the lessons, the tools, the techniques, and the cultural heritage or aesthetic values that were represented in each piece.

Gallery 62 is housed in the Leon Smaage Administration Center, which is located at 777 Algonquin Road in Des Plaines. The exhibit is open to the public from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday–Friday, during regular business hours. The 2007 Gallery 62 is also posted on the District 62 website.

2007 Gallery 62 Student Art Exhibit

Student	Teacher	School	Grade
Bartek Szczepanski	Howard Kanter	Algonquin Middle	6
Anna Wilieko	Julie Brennan	Central Elementary	5
Aaron Cunanan	Julie Brennan	Terrace Elementary	5
Connie Stiller	Ellen King	Orchard Place Elementary	5
Michael Outlaw	Jessie Arnold	Iroquois Community	6
Rodney Cerrone	Jessie Arnold	Iroquois Community	5
Natalie Henrickson	Tom Meyers	Cumberland Elementary	5
Bhumi Patel	Ward Smith	Plainfield Elementary	4
Xavier Perez	Ward Smith	South Elementary	4
Marta Koman	Tomi Bowen	Forest Elementary	5
Radoslaw Mika	Abraham Lee	North Elementary	5
Pariyamon Thaprawat	Kathy McCarthy	Chippewa Middle	6

Student Learning and Support Services

2006-2007 Grant Program Reviewed

Dr. Diep Nguyen, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, reviewed the state and federal funds that are received from a variety of entitlement and competitive grants. These funds are used to address the needs of our students that are identified in School Improvement Plans and Board of Education goals. Please contact Dr. Nguyen at nguyend@d62.org or 847-824-1164 for additional information.

Staffing Plans Shared with Board

Susan Shepard, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, presented 2007-2008 staffing plans to the Board. After completing a comprehensive evaluation of the district's staffing needs, the administrative team requested an increase of 4.5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff for the school year. In addition, Susan Shepard and Paul Hertel, Director of Human Resources, requested that additional dollars be added to the budget should the district need to add positions because of increased class sizes or due to annual student reviews for English Language Learners (ELL) and special education.

Consent Agenda

Tentative 2007-2008 calendars, one for ten-month schools and the other one for Iroquois Community School, were approved by the Board of Education. Now, the State Board of Education must approve the calendars.

The first student day for ten-month schools is August 22, 2007. The last day of student attendance is tentatively scheduled for June 5, 2008, if no emergency days are used. Iroquois Community School students are scheduled to begin school on July 17, 2007, and finish on June 5, 2008, unless emergency days are used. Both calendars may be viewed by visiting the district website at www.d62.org.

Communications

Board of Education

Stephanie Duckmann announced that the Comedy Review hosted by the District 62 Foundation netted \$15,000. The mini-grant application process, which is how Foundation funds are distributed, will begin after Spring Break. The Foundation plans to fund \$10,000 in mini-grants during the 2007-2008 school year.

Brenda Murphy made the following announcements:

- The public is invited to a reception from 6:00-7:00 p.m., Monday, April 16, 2007. The Board of Education will honor Paul Piskiewicz, retiring board member, our 25-year employees, and the Lighthouse Award winners. The reception will be held outside the boardroom at Forest Elementary School, with the ceremonies taking place during the regular meeting.
- The school board election is Tuesday, April 17, 2007.
- Monday, May 7, 2007, a Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for new board member orientation. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Forest boardroom.
- The annual Board of Education reorganization meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Monday, May 14, 2007. The regular board meeting will convene after this required meeting. "Middle School Students You Should Know" will be honored that evening.

The following board assignments were decided for eighth grade promotion events:

Chippewa Middle School

Speaker -Brenda Murphy

Steve Adams

Iroquois Community School

Speaker – Ray Imig

Sharon Lynch

Algonquin Middle School

Speaker-Stephanie Duckmann

Bob Suriano

Brenda Murphy attended the meetings of the Hispanic Parent Advisory Council, the Parent Leader Council, and the LICA Board of Control.

Superintendent's Report

Susan Shepard reported that an RFP for natural gas services has been requested. A provider will be selected by April 11, 2007, and will be based on pricing and the quality of the service.

The Safe Routes to School Program, which promotes student safety when walking to school, will be piloted at Terrace and Central Elementary Schools in partnership with the Des Plaines Police Department. If this program proves successful, it will be offered to other District 62 schools.

Shepard attended the last EdRED meeting that focused on the governor's gross receipt tax proposal. She shared with the Board that the Illinois Association of School Board Officials (IASBO) cautioned

that the tax swap proposal could undermine school districts' finances. Shepard will keep the Board updated on the governor's proposal.

Dr. Nguyen announced that every school has completed ISAT testing. Iroquois Community School is finished and the other schools should be done by Thursday and Friday of this week.

Matt J. Fuller, Director of Information and Instructional Technology, presented a Dashboard Report documenting the district's website use and visitors. Google Analytics is a free online service that reports how website visitors find and interact with our site. The district site has attracted 22,267 out-of-district visitors since October 2, 2006. Visitors from 83 countries have logged onto our site. A majority of the visitors access the Home, Teacher Resource, and Employment pages. The majority of the visitors find us by using our URL, www.d62.org. Most users use the keywords, District 62, to find us. For more information, please contact Matt Fuller at fullerm@d62.org.

Dr. Westerhold announced the following:

- Matt Fuller received the Apple Distinguished Educator (ADE) Award. As an ADE, Matt is joining a select group of education professionals worldwide who are passionately committed to the promise of educational technology to improve learning and teaching. He will join Apple as an advocate, advisor, author and ambassador during his association with the ADE Program. The Class of 2007 represents a very talented cross-section from the education community. This will undoubtedly open up significant opportunities for our students and teachers.
- Next month, Mindy Ward, Director of Community Relations, will be sworn in as the Vice-President of Membership of the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (INSPRA).
- Dr. Westerhold accompanied State Senator Dan Kotowski on his visit to North Elementary School to view the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) behavior modification program. The PBIS network is seeking state funding and Senator Kotowski was seeking more information about the program.

Board of Education

Brenda Murphy	President
Stephanie Duckmann	Vice President
Steven Adams	
Ray Imig	
Sharon Lynch	
Paul Piskiewicz	
Robert Suriano	

District Administrators

Dr. Jane L. Westerhold	Superintendent
Dr. Diep Nguyen	Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services
Susan Shepard	Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
Paul Hertel	Director of Human Resources
Matt J. Fuller	Director of Information and Instructional Technology
Tavia Floyd	Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Milagros Bravo	Director of English Language Learners Programs
Mary Dudek	Director of Curriculum
Leo Cassidy	Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mindy Ward	Director of Community Relations

Board of Education Meeting Preview

Monday, April 16, 2007

Forest Elementary Board Room

1375 Fifth Avenue

6:00 p.m.

Reception Honoring

Paul Piskiewicz

25-Year Employees

Lighthouse Award Winners

7:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting

Paul Piskiewicz Salute

25-year Employee Recognition

Lighthouse Awards

Annual Monitoring of the District Technology Plan

Recommendations for Bid Awards

Working Together for our Children