



Board Briefs

April 2012

Next Meetings:

There will be a work session at 6 p.m., May 21, followed by the regular meeting at 7 p.m., both in the North High School Library, 707 Vernier. Board meetings will stay at North through June 2012, then move to Brownell for July and August.

A Policy meeting will be held at 6 p.m., May 17 in the Administration Building's Board Room.

You can watch board meetings at www.gppsstv.phanfare.com, on Comcast channel 20/902 or AT&T channel 99, or listen to the podcast on the district site.

Mark Your Calendar:

- South *Phantom*, 4/25-5/2 in North's PAC
- Lights Out! 4/27
- Kerby Electronics Recycling, 4/28, 10-2
- *Race to Nowhere* screening and panel South auditorium, 5/8, 6:30 p.m.
- North-South Golf Challenge, 5/14
- North Distinguished Alumni event, 5/14, 7 p.m., PAC
- Partnership for Different Learners, 5/16, 7 p.m., Barnes Gym

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Community Involvement is the theme for the Superintendent's Report

Parent and community involvement throughout GPPSS is enviable. At the April Board meeting, 11 Distinguished Volunteers were honored for extraordinary support of our schools. The program was organized this year by Trustees Mrs. Pangborn and Mr. Roeske. Distinguished Volunteers are: Michele Bauer, Margaret Biglin, Steve and Paula Burguron, Lisa Cooper, Dr. Dona Johnson Beach, Catherine Kinnaird, Anne Nyboer, John Pomaville, Gretchen Schock, and Karen Zoia. Please help thank them and all our volunteers for their partnership. After the Distinguished Volunteers, South Finance Clerk Bea Birdsong presented scholarships she personally funds to three students chosen for their community involvement through the district's SERVE program. Those students are: Nicole Keller, Ryan Poirier, and Margaret Stafford.

Board approved smallest teacher layoff list in three years

In a 7-0 vote, the board approved layoffs for 13 teachers. For the previous two years, 30 teachers had been on the layoff list, that by union contract must be provided this month. Layoffs are based on seniority and certification and will be effective June 15. Please note that staffing is based on student course selection at the secondary level, as well as actual enrollment figures. If you know someone who has a child that will be attending GPPSS next year, encourage them to call 313-432-3083 today to begin the enrollment and residency process.

Policy work continues

With Trustees Mr. Jakubiec and Mrs. Pangborn dissenting, Policy 0166 on the Agenda process passed 5-2. Policy 8470 regarding students on the sex offender registry and Policy 5517.01 on bullying and other aggressive behavior towards students passed 7-0. Minutes from the Policy committee meeting also passed 7-0; going forward those will be included in the regular approval of monthly minutes. Previewed for approval next month were a set of policies recommended by NEOLA largely dealing with the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination ACT, updates to State law, and recall procedures. The second set were locally developed and deal with annual surveys and student discipline reporting. As you review the NEOLA policies, please note that the Board Policy Manual is organized into sections. The 1000 section addresses Administration, Professional Staff (3000), Support Staff (4000), and Students (5000), and there are redundancies if policies fall within more than one category.

April action items include cellphone and ceramics bids

Low bidder Denny's Heating and Cooling was awarded the bid for \$58,000 from the sinking fund for the South Ceramics Room dust collection system. However, the cell phone bid was again tabled until the board is provided information on the district protocol for determining which employees get which form of device (cellphone or Blackberry).

Info and Discussion covers elementary program of studies, monthly reports

The Elementary Program of Studies underwent significant revisions to comply with the State's Common Core for Language Arts and Math. It is posted online and available in elementary and administration buildings. Budget development continues. Dr. Dean reported we are on target overall with the Health Care Report. Mr. Fenton noted under Monthly Financials that the budget will be tight to the finish and we are closely watching delinquent taxes.

May action items include layoffs, policy revisions, and greenhouse bid

Layoffs for non-teaching personnel will be on the May agenda, as will the resolution honoring district retirees. Bids for the South greenhouse renovation were previewed and that will be placed under action items for May. Recent significant wind damage to the South greenhouse, as well as changes in room usage, brought that project forward in the remaining sinking fund project list. Partnership opportunities for it and the greenhouses at Defer and Trombly will be further developed before next month's vote.