

ON LINE WITH THE BOARD

Quote: "From the very beginning of his education, the child should experience the joy of discovery."

Alfred North Whitehead

The following actions, comments, or discussions took place at the January 16, 2008 meeting of the board of education.

1. Students from Stephanie Moore and Jenny Schmidt's classes recognized the board members as part of School Board Member Recognition Month.
2. The school board recognized some high school and middle school students for being selected to State Honor Choirs.
3. Tevyn Cole, a freshman, was also recognized for being selected for the 100 Dreamers Program. He will be attending the special activities at Walt Disney World as part of this program.
4. Jenny Schmidt and Stephanie Moore presented information on the Battle Creek Math and Science Center science kits they are using in their classrooms. They described the purpose, how the use of the kits meets the grade level content expectations, and showed examples from the student workbooks. They also had the board try a portion of one of the experiments to give them the feel for the hands-on activity the student's experience.
5. The board approved the participation resolution for the Michigan School Readiness Program. This is a half-day preschool program.
6. The board officially accepted the retirement of the superintendent.
7. The board voted to use the services of the Intermediate School District and a consultant to help with the superintendent search process.
8. Approval was given for a Community Education graduate.
9. The board approved using the services of Fanning Howey and Barton Malow to conduct a facilities study of the buildings.
10. Nancy Tetens shared information about her selection as one of ten finalists in the "Clean Start Challenge Program" sponsored by the Lifetime Network. The winner will receive \$10,000 and an all expense paid trip for four to Walt Disney World.
11. Dennis McComb reported on the following:
 - Personnel
 - The mother of Joanne Lund passed away recently.
 - The grandmother of Richard Zornow passed away recently.
 - The husband of Dianna Nangle passed away recently.
 - Nelda Pulver's brother is very ill and she is in Texas where he lives.
 - The mother of Tim Gibelyou, former employee, died recently.
 - The Intermediate School District met recently with union representatives and administrators and developed a common county calendar as required by law. It establishes parameters for the start of school, winter break, spring break, and some professional development days.
 - The Superintendent's Association recently adopted a resolution to work with local boards to consider an enhancement millage election no later than November, 2009.
 - The next Legislative Breakfast is on Monday, February 25, 2008, at the ISD.
 - Information from the Revenue Consensus Conference was distributed. Right now the School Aid Fund is projected to have an increase which could mean a foundation grant increase for 2008/2009.

- The district will be hosting an Atlas Rubicon Curriculum Mapping training on February 1st and 2nd.
 - The Governor's Education Summit is on Tuesday, March 4th.
 - All Star Driver Training donated a gift certificate for a segment one driver training session.
 - A resolution presented to the Superintendent's Association from the NAACP was distributed. This resolution is to have districts follow the federal weapons legislation instead of the broader state guidelines regarding expulsion. It also includes recommendations regarding suspension. At this time, our district already evaluates each circumstance before making expulsion and suspension decisions.
 - Petitions for Board of Education seats for the May 6, 2008 election are due in to the County Clerk's Office by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 12, 2008. Petitions are available in the Board Office. There are two seats up for election.
 - A new celebration was started at Paddock. It is called the Winter Bekra celebration. Thanks to Cara Payne, Lynn Dalton, Trudy Broadhurst, Clara Thiry, Karen Dickinson and others, Dennis was crowned the "King of Winter Bekra." Ask them about the details.
12. Jan Kiger mentioned how the students appreciated the activities for seminar that Nichole Kuenzel coordinated.
 13. A parent asked about the process the board used to determine how they were going to conduct the superintendent search.