

## Board Meeting Highlights

### **Regular Meeting September 17, 2008**

At its regular meeting on September 17, 2008, the Board of Education of Pleasantdale School District 107...

- Budget Hearing

Conducted a Budget Hearing to approve amendments to the tentative budget and to approve the 2008-09 school district budget.

- Open Forum

Heard from a parent who shared with the Board her disappointment that the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade will not be taking Art classes this year. She feels that the program brings out the hidden talents in our students.

Heard from a parent who provided the background on the Middle school moving from quarters to trimesters. She also expressed her opinion about how instruction for K-4 technology has been changed. She did not feel that changing the sequence of Middle school specials this year in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade was a good course of action.

Heard from a parent who questioned why the Elementary Math Series was from 1999. She also asked whether there was a timeline for completion for the website. She also shared that her brother who is a graphic artist and how the Pleasantdale art program contributed to his success.

Heard from a parent regarding the specials at the Middle school and how he feels art should replace music for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

- Consent Agenda

Unanimously approved the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of August 20, 2008; payment of August payroll/September warrants; 2008-09 ISBE Application for Recognition; and September 2008 personnel report.

### Reports and Discussions:

- SEL Status Report and Evaluation Data Proposal

Heard from Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf who presented a PowerPoint presentation on the expectation of staff and the evaluation process for social and emotional learning (SEL). All staff will be required to fill out the staff survey this year. Superintendent Fredisdorf reviewed the different ways to evaluate the SEL program. The Board expressed concerns about the sociometric peer nomination evaluation, and recommended pursuing the Social Skills Rating System. Superintendent Fredisdorf will provide the Board with more information about the Social Skills Rating System when the revised program becomes available.

- Staff Recognition

Heard from Board member Patti Essig regarding a staff recognition plan proposal created by she and Superintendent Fredisdorf. The plan would provide opportunities for the Board to recognize staff members for accomplishments at Board meetings or Wednesday staff meetings. The next step will be to create a nomination process and related details.

- Strategic Planning Core Team Composition  
Heard from Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf regarding the upcoming Core Planning meetings on October 20 and 21. The update will be much more in depth than past years. Discussion at the meeting will focus on the critical issues and strategies. The Board would like to see a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and sophomore added to the Core Planning Team.
- Record Retention Policy  
Heard from Board member Mark Mirabile regarding the issue of record retention which was identified as a parking lot item. Board member Mirabile would like to see the district do more that is above and beyond what is required by the State of Illinois. It is his hope more items can be stored electronically for easy retrieval. Board member Mirabile and Superintendent Fredisdorf will work together to create policy for record retention.
- Next Agenda  
Technology Plan Overview; Elementary/Middle School Improvement Plans; Adopt Proposed Tax Levy; Record Retention Policy; Town Hall Meeting Planning; Staff Recognition; Review of Extra-Curricular Student Activities (written).
- Open Forum  
Heard from a parent who wanted to know the Board procedure for a responding to the information about the 6<sup>th</sup> grade art program presented at the beginning of the meeting. The parent was informed that the procedure is provided in the Board of Education brochure regarding requests to the Board.  
  
Heard from a parent who is concerned that the Board focuses too much on assessing social emotional learning. She feels that the skills and knowledge they gain from the program will help them later in life.  
  
Heard from a parent who would like extra copies of the display copy available at the meetings.
- Board Self-Evaluation  
Heard from Board President Leandra Sedlack regarding the Board Self-Evaluation. It was decided that the Board would not be conducting an evaluation at this time.
- Adjournment  
Adjourned the regular meeting at 9:14 p.m.

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be  
Wednesday, October 15, 2008  
7:00 p.m. in the  
District 107 Administration Building**