

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings

August 12th, 2009

Spotlight on the Board is a synopsis of notes and recordings taken at the District 15 School Board meetings by Frank C. Whiteley PTA's school board liaison, Jennifer Mondy. They are meant to help parents and staff who are unable to attend the Board meetings on a regular basis to keep informed about the issues and plans affecting the district. These Notes are not endorsed by District 15 or the Board of Education. Below are the highlights from the August 12th Regular meeting.

Student Achievement Results Update

2009 ISAT results show that two of the district's elementary schools, Jane Addams (JA) and Virginia Lake (VL), did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the second year in a row. The subgroups where at least 70% of the students did not meet standards were Hispanic, Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Free and Reduced Lunch.

Supplemental Education Services (SES) and Public School Choice Option

In accordance with No Child Left Behind (NCLB), schools operating a federally funded program are required to offer public school choice if they do not make AYP for two consecutive years. However, District 15 was approved to participate in a program to provide supplemental education services to low-income students in JA and VL this year instead of providing school choice. Services are expected to begin in October.

Curtain Wall Installation Schedule Update – Winston Campus and Lake Louise

Construction is expected to continue through October at Winston Campus. The Lake Louise project has been delayed and will not begin until late September. Work will cease in November and restart in the spring. While some Board members expressed dissatisfaction with the delay and the disruption it would cause for both students and teachers, other members felt that the construction should begin and not be postponed until next summer.

Transportation Updates

Two-way radios and GPS systems were installed in the district's 22 new school buses. There are 145 planned bus routes which continue to be fine-tuned to improve efficiencies. Although some changes have been made, the majority of children reside within 600 ft. of their bus stop.

Student Enrollment Update

Enrollment continues to decline in the district and there may be a few hundred less students than last year. A report on the number of students registered by the 6th day of school will be presented at the September Board meeting. Full-day Bilingual and Transitional Kindergarten classes are now offered in the district and are funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (federal stimulus) for the next two years.

Full detailed notes for this meeting can be found at www.spotlightontheboard.org/d15_spotlight.htm

An archive of notes dating back to May 2005 can be found at www.spotlightontheboard.org/archives.htm

Subscribe to the *Spotlight on the Board* notes at www.spotlightontheboard.org/subscribe.htm and receive notification when Board meeting notes are posted online. The next Regular Board meeting will be held **Wednesday, September 9th at 7 p.m.** Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine.

