

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings

June 24th, 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 June 24th Committee of the Whole Meeting.

TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Update

Palatine's Village Manager reported that it has reconsidered early retirement of the Dundee/Rand Road TIF district due to the current state of the economy. Keeping the TIF in place allows the Village to remain competitive in keeping and attracting new business development. Instead, a surplus may be declared in 2011 and monies distributed to the taxing bodies at that time.

5-Year Financial Plan

The plan was updated with the CTC contract percentages agreed to for the next three years and extended for another two years using a base salary increase of 2.13%. An alternate section was added to the plan that would allow for a reduced base increase of 1.45% and its affect on the district's reserves. Long-term projections now show reserves declining to 14.85% in 2012, 7.66% in 2013 and 3.8% in 2014.

Expenditure Reduction Discussion

In order for the district to maintain 25% of its income in reserves, \$2M needs to be reduced from the budget each year beginning with the 2010/2011 school year. Discussions will be taking place this summer and into the fall. Specific recommendations will be made as early as October.

Preliminary Student Achievement Results

Initial results from the 2009 ISAT tests show that 17 of the district's 19 schools made AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) in both Reading and Math. Subgroups of students in two schools did not meet the 70% benchmark of meeting state standards. Several Board members complimented the Department of Instruction for the turnaround from 2008 when eight schools did not make AYP.

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, August 12th at 7 p.m. Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine.