

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings

March 12th, 2008

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 March 12th Regular meeting.

2008-2009 Transportation Plan Approval – 2-Tier Modified

A two-tier modified plan was developed after the administration concluded the revised three-tier plan that was presented in February would not provide enough buses for the afternoon routes. The new proposal addresses the parochial schools' concerns over early start times, high school traffic at various schools, Winston Campus safety and sufficient time for Conyers Learning Academy pickups. After hearing from the public and focus groups, there seemed to be more support for the two-tier vs. the three-tier plan. The Board debated an amendment to the modified plan that would move Marion Jordan's start/end times by 10 minutes and whether it would resolve parents' safety concerns at the school. The amended two-tier modified plan was approved 6:1.

10-Year Vehicle Replacement Plan

The vote to establish a bus replacement plan was tabled until November when a determination can be made as to how the two-tier modified system is going to work for the district.

2008-2009 Student Fees: Book, Material, Technology and Lunch Fees

Pay Rider Transportation Fee

Board members were provided with background information as to the reasoning behind the increases. The fees were approved 5:2. Objections ranged from the pay rider increase being too high to the need to raise both the pay rider and lunch fees to the district's actual costs.

Full detailed notes for this meeting and all past meetings can be found at www.fcwpta.org/board_notes.htm

The next scheduled Regular Board of Education meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 9th, 7 p.m.** at Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine.