

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings

November 18th, 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 November 18th Special Board of Education Meeting.

Demographics Report and Audit Findings Follow Up

An adjustment was made to the demographer's initial report after concerns were raised over a 15% spread between the low and high projections of student enrollment over the next ten years. A Board member developed charts comparing the revised numbers to current district data and the resulting impact on a school's capacity to house students. Further discussion of the audit findings generated questions on the architects' calculation of Core space, setting a standard for lunch periods and how special education and preschool programs affect a building's capacity.

Status of 2005 Life/Safety Study

It was determined that the district has the necessary funds to complete \$4M worth of priority A items this year. The projects will be reprioritized and brought to the Board in December for approval. Funding the remaining Life Safety items through the selling of bonds was discussed and a plan for the remaining work (\$20M) will be presented at the January meeting.

Cluster Study of Future School District Initiatives

The district's leadership team developed a list of potential new programs and alternatives to existing programs. Those include all day kindergarten, middle school, Magnet schools, summer school, 2nd language instruction for elementary students, lower class sizes and an examination of the current school schedule. Action teams will be put in place to research and develop each idea. Presentations are expected to begin at the January 28th Committee of the Whole Board meeting.

Full detailed notes for this meeting and all past meetings can be found at www.fcwpta.org/board_notes.htm
Subscribe to the *Spotlight on the Board* notes and have the highlights emailed to you whenever a Board meeting occurs. The next scheduled Regular Board of Education meeting will be held **Wednesday, January 14th, 7 p.m.** at Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine. A Committee of the Whole meeting will be held **Wednesday, January 28th, 7 p.m.** at the same location.

Board Meeting DVDs Available to the Public

A DVD of the Regular and some Special meetings will be available for checkout typically the Monday following the meetings. To request a copy of the meeting DVD, please contact June Becker, Board of Education Secretary at beckerj@ccsd15.net or 847-963-3208.