

# **Spotlight on the Board**

## **Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings**

### **October 14th, 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 October 14<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting.

#### **Transportation Update**

In mid-September, the district made the decision to shorten the distance children have to walk to their bus stop in areas that do not have sidewalks. This change addressed the largest category of parent concerns received by the transportation department. In addition, a review process has now been established so that bus drivers can suggest changes to their route to make them safer and more efficient.

#### **Proposed 2009 Tax Levy**

Working with a CPI (consumer price index) of 0.1%, business officials anticipate receiving less than a 1% increase in revenues next year and therefore are proposing filing no more than a 5% levy with Cook County. It was noted that property in Palatine Township is currently being reassessed and is expected to decrease. However that will have no affect on the amount of money the district is entitled to receive from taxpayers. Rates will be increased to offset the decreases in property values. That can be done because District 15 has not reached its tax cap in any of its funds.

#### **Citizens Address the Board**

Two Boy Scouts of America representatives asked the Board to reconsider their electronic flyer policy and one citizen detailed her conversation with a transportation employee when requesting a bus stop change.

#### **Adoption of District Goals**

Eight predetermined and ranked goals for the district were briefly discussed but not clearly stated to those in attendance. Later in the agenda, a motion was made to approve the four goals that were supported by the Board majority. An amendment to the motion to replace the goal of "Build a Strong Administrative Team" with "Strengthening the Curriculum" failed 4:3. The original motion passed 5:2.

Full detailed notes for this meeting can be found at [www.spotlightontheboard.org/d15\\_spotlight.htm](http://www.spotlightontheboard.org/d15_spotlight.htm)  
An archive of notes dating back to May 2005 can be found at [www.spotlightontheboard.org/archives.htm](http://www.spotlightontheboard.org/archives.htm)

Subscribe to the *Spotlight on the Board* notes at [www.spotlightontheboard.org/subscribe.htm](http://www.spotlightontheboard.org/subscribe.htm) and receive notification when Board meeting notes are posted online. The next Regular Board meeting will be held **Wednesday, November 11th at 7 p.m.** Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine.