

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings

September 10th, 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 September 10th Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Student Assignment Plan – 6th Day Enrollment Report

Enrollment declined by approximately 162 students this year due in part to the fact that incoming kindergarten numbers are at 1,165 while the outgoing 8th grade class was at 1,458 students. There are still some higher than average class sizes although the district as a whole is on target. Lake Louise's principal explained how resources were allocated at his school to meet the needs of larger sections.

Citizens Address the Board

Three parents expressed their concerns over high class sizes in Lake Louise's third grade and the process by which the district assigns teachers to schools. Over 300 petitions requesting a review of this process were presented to the Board. Two representatives for a group of Thomas Jefferson parents asked the Board to consider changing the junior high boundaries so its students can attend Plum Grove next year.

New Business – Discussion of Class Size Parameters

A Board member requested that it consider whether the class size parameters and procedures currently used are working to achieve the district's educational goals for its students. It was acknowledged that class size directly impacts facility needs planning and the district's budget. This topic will be discussed at the October meeting.

Proposed Series of Town Hall Meetings

Pursuant to a Board member's suggestion, town hall meetings will be planned so that the public has the opportunity to provide their input on the future of education in the district and the Facility Audit Study.

Dissemination of the Facility Audit Study

A special Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th at 8 a.m. at Sundling Junior High to discuss the process of distributing data from this study to the public.

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, October 15th, 7 p.m.** at Sundling Junior High on Smith Street in Palatine.

A Special Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th at 8 a.m. at Sundling Junior High to discuss releasing the information obtained from the Facility Audit Study to the public.