

Spotlight on the Board

Notes from the District 15 School Board Meeting

September 12th, 2007

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 12th Regular meeting.

Transportation Update

The District acknowledged several transportation challenges with the new two-tier starting times. A survey is available on the District's Web site and paper copies will be sent home for parents to provide input on individual bus routes. A recommendation was made to bring in an outside consultant to provide an independent view of the current bus routes and to assist in finding solutions.

Citizens Address the Board

Several Conyers Learning Academy and Thomas Jefferson parents addressed the Board on transportation issues ranging from lengthy and inefficient bus routes to lost instructional time for special needs preschool children.

Selection of Superintendent Search Firm

Board members discussed the qualifications of search firms that interviewed with the Board last month. Selection criteria debated included the firms' experience in nationwide searches and Board member rapport with the consultants. Concern was expressed at the possible appearance of impropriety if one firm was selected to conduct the superintendent search.

Motion to hire Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates (HYA) was approved: 3:2 (Millar, Carlson, Ekeberg voting yes; Quinn, Rowden voting no; Chapman abstaining; Keenan was absent)

Authorization to retain a transportation consultant on an emergency basis

Approval was given to the business department to retain a transportation consultant with a contract not to exceed \$25K – Unanimously approved

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The next scheduled Regular Board of Education meeting will be held Wednesday, October 10th, 2007, 7 p.m. at Sundling Jr. High in Palatine.