



Board at Work

News from the **Pattonville School District Board of Education**
April 28, 2004

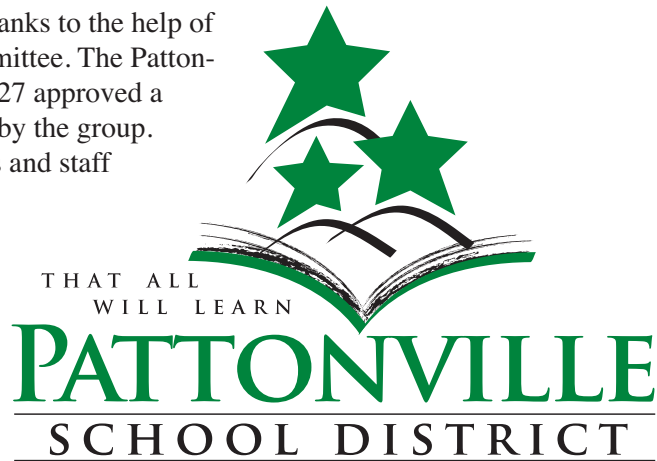
Board adopts new Pattonville logo

Pattonville is getting a new look, thanks to the help of the district's Logo Redesign Committee. The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved a new logo and usage guidelines recommended by the group. The committee is made up of parents, students and staff members.

Andrew Scherer, a graphic artist in the Pattonville Printing Department (and a Pattonville graduate), created the design, which incorporates three stars and an open book.

"The new design provides a much simpler image, something that's easy to identify at a quick glance," said Mickey Schoonover, director of school-community relations. "The book represents learning and the stars represent not only the different age levels of children we serve, but also the fact that Pattonville is an excellent school district with star-quality students, staff and parents."

The committee was responsible for making a recommendation to update the district's logo, as well as developing usage guidelines to provide a consistent look across the district. The previous logo was designed in the 1980s and had become dated. The new logo will be incorporated in all official school and district documents and publications. The design will be available in horizontal and vertical formats, as well as in black and white and two colors, to meet the needs of those who design school and district publications.



Gifted program is high in parent, student satisfaction



The first goal of Pattonville's program for gifted students is to provide challenging learning opportunities for students beyond the regular classroom. Nearly 6 percent of Pattonville students in grades kindergarten through 12 are being served in the program.

A evaluation of the gifted program presented to the Board of Education on April 27 showed that educators are meeting the goals of the program. Other goals are:

- The Pattonville gifted program provides learning opportunities which include oral and written communications, research using multiple resources and incorporates a variety of technology;
- The program provides helpful communications about students in the

gifted program; and

- The program provides learning opportunities to a diverse population reflective of the district.

The report showed that the program meets all state guidelines and standards for serving gifted students. In addition, a survey showed that 94 percent of parents and students indicated that the gifted program provides learning activities which challenge students. Ninety percent of parents and students agreed that critical thinking skills, logical reasoning and decision-making have improved through student participation in the program.

Educators in the program will continue to focus on the goals of the program by implementing the following recommendations:

- Continue to monitor and review data to assure program congruence, curriculum alignment with state standards and high levels of performance in all content areas by program students;
- Continue to review and partner at both school and district levels appropriate in-service opportunities, which target high-level learning and differentiation of instruction in the regular classroom;
- Continue to advance communication links with parents and educators regarding program goals, curriculum and student performance;
- Review kindergarten services and appropriate ways to evaluate young students;
- Explore approaches to better identify under-represented populations, especially among young students; and
- Review program criteria, testing instruments and procedures to appropriately identify an increasingly diverse population.

Elementary music program revised

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved a change to the district's elementary instrumental music program that is aimed at improving the district's entire instrumental music program. Under the change, fifth-graders will be offered the opportunity to take orchestra classes. Fifth-grade band classes will no longer be offered. The change, recommended by the Elementary Instrumental Music Committee, will take effect in the 2005-06 school year and will allow band classes to be offered daily at the middle school level.

The program will be modified as follows:

- Orchestra will continue to be offered to fifth-graders to introduce students to the instrumental music program;
- A wider variety of band instruments will be offered in the first year of instruction at middle school level;
- A goal is to reduce the number of fifth-grade classes that overlap with lunch and recess and for orchestra students not to miss new content in their regular classes while attending orchestra;
- Beginning band classes will be offered in sixth grade;
- All band and orchestra classes at Holman and Pattonville Heights will meet daily and not alternate with physical education classes;
- Students who begin instruction on a string instrument in fifth grade may switch to a band instrument in sixth grade and will be able to utilize many of the skills developed in orchestra; and
- Students will not experience a decrease in instructional minutes.

The committee which recommended the change was made up of classroom teachers, music teachers and parents. The group made their recommendation after holding a public forum for families with children in kindergarten through third-grade, since they were the ones that would be impacted by the change.



Winning students headed to world competition



On April 17, two teams of fourth-grade gifted students took first place in the state Odyssey of the Mind competition, making them eligible to compete at the World Finals. Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving competition. The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved sending these students to the World Finals competition at the end of May at the University of Maryland. The district will use funds from its "championship" account to cover most of the cost of the trip. Students would miss two days of school for the trip.

Meeting date changed for next year

The Pattonville Board of Education will hold only one board meeting in March 2005 instead of its usual two meetings, due to the days set aside for spring break. The board approved making the change from two meetings to one during its April 27 board meeting.

Spring break for the 2004-05 school year is the week of March 21 through 25, 2005, and under normal circumstances the regular board meeting would be scheduled that week. The new date for the one, combined meeting is March 15, 2005.

Kinney's Corner

An Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

Here's a look at what's going on in Pattonville:

- Pattonville High School was visited last week by Deputy Assistant Secretary Hans Meeder from the U.S. Department of Education in preparation for a series of regional summits around the nation on improving high schools in America. He toured the school and held a roundtable discussion with Pattonville students, staff and parents. He was very complimentary of all the programs and initiatives at the high school that are designed to ensure that all children achieve.
- Congratulations to Teresa Jercinovic, Briar Crest; Kristin Powell, Drummond; and Phyllis Whitten, Willow Brook. These three ladies are the finalists for Support Staff Employee of the Year. The District Support Staff Employee of the Year will be announced during District Appreciation Night on Monday, May 3, along with Teacher of the Year.
- Pattonville's transportation office will receive a "Certificate of Excellence" at this summer's meeting of the Missouri Association for Pupil Transportation organization. The department earned this honor by having a 90 percent on its annual safety inspection. All problems were corrected and by the end of the day a second inspection was conducted and all buses passed with a 100 percent.
- Kudos to the Pattonville school-community relations office for earning three awards in the Missouri School Public Relations Association's annual publications contest. Bob Burns won an award of excellence for a photo and the department won an award of merit for a video (shown to our Missouri School Improvement Program review team) and an award of commendation for the annual report.

On Monday, we will hold our yearly celebration to honor employees and volunteers in the district. If you get a chance, drop by the ceremony, which takes place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium, and help us cheer our everyday heroes in and outside the classroom. The awards portion of the event is free and open to the public. Hope to see you there!



Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 29

Pattonville Heights Drama Play, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 30

Holman Eighth-Grade Track and Field Day, 12:30 p.m.

Rose Acres PTA Skating Party, 5:30 p.m., Coachlight

Public Astronomy Night, 8 p.m., planetarium/observatory at Pattonville Heights

Monday, May 3

District Appreciation Night, banquet at 6 p.m., program at 7 p.m., Pattonville High School

Tuesday, May 4

National Teacher Day

Parents As Teachers, "Rhythm and Rhyme," 9:30 a.m.

Pattonville Heights "Spring Fling," noon

High School Band Concert, 7 p.m.

Willow Brook PTO meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 5

Pattonville Staff Appreciation Day

Thursday, May 6

Briar Crest Kindergarten Parent Tea, 11:30 a.m.

Pattonville Heights Board Coffee, 3 p.m.

Parkwood PTA meeting, 6 p.m.

Rose Acres First-Grade Concert, 6:30 p.m.

Parkwood Spring Music Concert, 7 p.m.

Pattonville Alumni Association, 7 p.m., Pattonville Learning Center

Friday, May 7

Drummond MOMS for Muffins, 8:30 a.m.

Early dismissal at 11:55 a.m. for Briar Crest, Rose Acres, Willow Brook, Parkwood and Bridgeway

Bridgeway Skate Night, 6 p.m., Saints

High School Junior/Senior Prom, 6:30 p.m.

Pattonville Heights Spring Dance, 7 p.m.

Public Astronomy Night, 8:30 p.m., planetarium/observatory at Pattonville Heights

Monday, May 10

Willow Brook Volunteer Assembly, 2:45 p.m.

High School Vocal and Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11

Board of Education, 7 p.m., Pattonville Learning Center



Business Bits

Paying the Bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved paying:

- \$1,154 to Tueth, Keeney, Cooper, Mohan and Jackstadt, P.C., for legal services; and
- \$4,282.27 to Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis and Giljum for legal services.

Bid Awards

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved the following bid:

- \$18,400 to Fry and Associates for playground equipment at Parkwood Elementary.

Other Business

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 approved the following:

- Certification of results from the April 6 school board election;
- Updates to the teacher evaluation forms;
- A wage schedule for the 2004-05 school year for employees classified as Paraprofessional II;
- The adoption of the high school physical science instructional materials at a cost of \$31,500;
- The adoption of the elementary health instructional materials at a cost of \$44,875; and
- A donation by the board of \$2,000 for the Pattonville High School All-Night Graduation Party.

Policy/Procedures

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 27 lodged for action the following procedure/policy updates:

- **Policy IKFF (Graduation Requirements)** - The proposed changes reflect modifications approved earlier this year in high school courses, as well as the requirement that all ninth- and 10th-grade students take mathematics.
- **Procedure IKF-R (Minimum Course Load and Grade Classification for High School Students)** - Proposed revisions update the procedure to reflect current practice at Pattonville High School.
- **Procedure GCR-R-1 (Employment and Reemployment of Paraprofessional with Teaching Certificates)** - Proposed revisions address updates in titles and language.
- **Procedure GCBA-R-1 (Advancement of Professional Staff Salary Schedule)**-Proposed revisions address updates in titles and clarify language in the procedure.
- **Policy GBPC (Post-Resignation/Retirement Benefits)** - This is a new policy that describes post-resignation retirement benefits.
- **Procedure IGCA-R (Summer School Procedures)** - A change is recommended to move from three payroll periods during summer school to two periods, since the program is condensed this year.

The board is expect to vote on these proposed changes during its May 11 board meeting.

Your Board of Education

- Pat Bryant, President
- Ron Kuschel, Vice President
- Jeff Fitterling, Secretary
- Keith Gillming, Treasurer
- Randy McArthur, Director
- Ruth Petrov, Director
- Ralph Stahlhut, Director