

## PHS to begin new technology academy for students

**S**tudents at Pattonville High School will have the opportunity to go in-depth in their study of innovative technology when their school begins a new Information Technology Academy next year. The Pattonville Board of Education heard an update on the program during its Feb. 22 meeting.

“The academy provides a series of courses students can take that will lead them into entry-level employment or prepare them for post-secondary education,” said Assistant Principal Nathan Hoven. “The goal of the program is to provide students with a strong academic foundation, strong coursework and for them to end up with an industry-recognized certification.”

Business Education Teacher Holly Martinez said the high school surveyed current ninth-graders to determine their interest in technology courses and found that nearly 63 percent showed an interest.

“The greatest areas of interest were in multimedia, graphics and software applications,” she said.

The academy would have three different tracks of study: programming and software; multimedia and graphic design; and information, support and service. Courses would range from multimedia and graphic design and database management to beginning and advanced courses for programming and publishing on the Web.



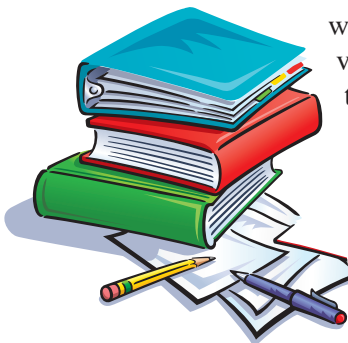
### Areas of Study

- Programming and software
- Multimedia and graphic design
- Information, support and service

## Reading program expands for elementary students

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 22 voted to continue supporting an intensive reading program at Drummond Elementary School and to expand it to Briar Crest Elementary School. The program will be paid for with federal Title I grant funds.

The Waterford Early Reading program is an intensive reading intervention for children in kindergarten through second grades, with applications for below grade-level readers and children with special needs in kindergarten through fifth grade. The program enables individualized computer-assisted instruction; provides books and tapes for each student to reinforce concepts; and encourages parent involvement.



The board approved a proposal that would use federal funds to pay for start-up costs and three years worth of materials and support for Briar Crest and two years of materials for Drummond, which already has the program in place. The board approved costs of \$167,929.60 to support this proposal.

## Staff selection process continues to be successful

A review of Pattonville's staff selection program shows that the district continues to recruit and hire outstanding staff members. Dr. Tom Morgan, assistant superintendent for human resources, presented a report on the staffing program to board members on Feb. 22. Over the past year, Pattonville conducted more than 273 interviews to fill 59 certified staff positions, including new hires, re-hires and transfers. For 62 support staff positions, the district conducted 312 interviews to find the best employees. Pattonville actively recruits outstanding candidates by posting announcements at 300 colleges nationwide and networking through involvement in national, state and local education initiatives. Advertising open positions on R.E.A.P. (Regional Education and Applicant Placement Program) has increased Pattonville's visibility worldwide due to Internet accessibility. R.E.A.P. is an online database that gives districts like Pattonville access to nearly 16,000 candidates for certified staff positions. Previous recommendations, which have guided the selection process in the past, were renewed for the coming year. They are:

- Continue to hire outstanding certified staff;
- Refine strategies to pursue outstanding candidates (including minorities) and hire early so candidates are not lost to competing districts; and
- Continue to refine the selection process, especially as it relates to R.E.A.P.

## Surplus items to be sold via Web site

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 22 approved its first list of furniture, equipment and other obsolete items to be sold as surplus through a new process in which surplus items are sold online.

This winter, Pattonville decided to begin listing surplus property such as equipment, furniture and other items for auction on the GovDeals Web site. This auction will replace the district's annual surplus sale, which was traditionally held in the summer months at one location. By using the online Web site, Pattonville will be able to post new items once a month as needed. The items declared as surplus by the board will be the first items to be posted by Pattonville at this Web site.

Look for a link from Pattonville's Web site ([www.psd3.org](http://www.psd3.org)) to the GovDeals site beginning in March. For more information, contact Mary Ann Brann, purchasing agent, at (314) 213-8036.

## *Kinney's Corner*

### An Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

- Best wishes go out to a team of students from Pattonville High School that will be competing March 10 through 12 in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) St. Louis Regional Robotics Competition at the St. Charles Family Arena. They are submitting a robot they designed and will compete against dozens of other teams from throughout the St. Louis area in this regional competition.
- For the sixth year in a row, Remington Traditional School has been named to Missouri's Top 10 list of highest performing schools in the state. The recognition was based on the Remington's performance on the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP). Remington was recognized for being among the highest performing schools in Missouri based on its elementary (4th grade) and middle school (8th grade) math scores for schools with populations between 250 and 500 students.
- Congratulations to our Pattonville High School DECA students who recently participated in a district competition. Seven first-place awards were earned in both individual and team events during this marketing and business competition. In addition, Pattonville's team took two second places and one third in individual events. The 10 students who earned these awards will go on to compete in the state competition over spring break at the Lodge of the Four Seasons. Way to go!





# Calendar

## Of Events

### **Thursday, February 24**

Parkwood Science Fair/Book Fair/Chili Supper, 5:30 p.m.  
Board of Education/VICC Coffee, 6:30 p.m., Salad Bowl  
Rose Acres Physical Education Demonstration Night, 6:30 p.m.

### **Friday, February 25**

High School Minority Achievement Club Black History Presentation, 2:30 p.m.  
Briar Crest Chili Supper and Science Fair, 5:30 p.m.  
Public astronomy night, 7 p.m., planetarium/observatory at Pattonville Heights

### **Monday, February 28**

Board Coffee, 4 p.m., Willow Brook  
Drummond Book Fair/Chili Supper, 6:15 p.m.  
Pattonville Council of PTAs, 6:30 p.m., Rose Acres

### **Tuesday, March 1**

Holman PTA Family Reading/Student Display, 6 p.m.  
Willow Brook PTO, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, March 2**

Parents As Teachers Dr. Seuss Birthday Party, 9:30 a.m., Learning Center  
Remington dismisses early at 11:10 a.m., elementary schools at 11:55 a.m.  
High School Parent-Teacher Conferences

### **Thursday, March 3**

High School Parent-Teacher Conferences  
Parkwood PTA, 6 p.m.  
Rose Acres PTA Science Fair, 6:30 p.m.  
Pattonville Alumni Association, 7 p.m., Learning Center

### **Friday, March 4**

No school for high school  
Bridgeway Skate Night, 5:45 p.m., Coachlite  
Parkwood Movie Night, 6 p.m.  
Public astronomy night, 7:30 p.m., planetarium/observatory at Pattonville Heights

### **Saturday, March 5**

Bridgeway Family Fun Fair, 10 a.m.  
Pattonville Education Foundation Dinner/Dance/Auction, 5:30 p.m., Maryland Heights Centre

### **Sunday, March 6**

Empty Bowls Meal, 1 p.m., High School cafeteria

### **Monday, March 7**

Board Coffee, 3:45 p.m., Rose Acres  
High School PTO, 6:30 p.m.  
Pattonville Heights PTA, 6:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 8**

Holman, Pattonville Heights dismiss early at 12:50 p.m. for parent-teacher conferences  
Rose Acres PTA Skating Party, 5:30 p.m., Coachlite  
High School Band Boosters, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, March 9**

Kindergarten registration for the 2005-06 school year, 9 to 11:30 a.m., 12:30 to 3 p.m., 6 to 7 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 10**

Parents As Teachers Infant Massage, 11:50 a.m., Learning Center  
Holman, Pattonville Heights dismiss early at 12:50 p.m. for parent-teacher conferences  
Parkwood Skate Party, 6:30 p.m.  
Bridgeway PTA, 6:30 p.m.  
Drummond meeting on proposed calendar modifications, 6:30 p.m.  
High School Variety Show, 7 p.m.

### **Friday, March 11**

No school for Holman, Pattonville Heights  
Rose Acres PTA Skating Party, 5:30 p.m., Coachlite  
High School Variety Show, 7 p.m.

### **Saturday, March 12**

High School Variety Show, 7 p.m.

### **Monday, March 13**

Drummond meeting on proposed calendar modifications, 6:30 p.m.  
PAGE (elementary gifted) PTA, 6:30 p.m., Holman  
High School Festival of Strings, 7 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 14**

Board of Education, 7 p.m., Learning Center  
High School Parade of Bands, 7 p.m.

## Business Bits

### Paying the Bills

The Board of Education on Feb. 22 approved the following:

- \$4,697.25 to Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis, Giljum for legal services.

### Bid Awards

The Board of Education on Feb. 22 approved the following bid awards:

- \$35,376 to Interface for alarm system monitoring;
- \$13,634 to Pearl Computer and \$1,272.60 to CDWG for PC computers;
- \$14,536.20 to Industrial Soap Company for paper goods;
- \$4,165 to Bi-State Fire Protection for the inspection of fire protection devices and \$620 to Accurate Backflow for irrigation devices;
- \$12,292.98 to RamAir for the renewal of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning filter bid;
- \$14,500 to Schowalter and Jabouri for the renewal of the auditing services contract;
- \$20,000 to Cunningham and Associates for a playground at Bridgeway and \$20,000 to Fry & Associates for a playground at Briar Crest; and
- \$51,459.60 to SBC for phone service, Plexar and T-1 lines for a five-year contract.

### Other

The Board of Education on Feb. 22:

- Reviewed a report on booster clubs at Pattonville High School;
- Approved the addition of a middle school course titled, “High Tech Careers” for the 2005-06 school year;
- Approved updates to the social studies curriculum for grades kindergarten through eight; and
- Approved revisions to the Curriculum Development and Revision Process Handbook.

### Policy/Procedures

The Board of Education on Feb. 22 approved the following updates:

- **Procedure GCL-R-1 (Leave of Absence for Attendance at District-Supported Conferences of State, Regional/National Professional Organizations)** – Approved revisions included moving the instructional technology specialists to the annual conference rotation list. In addition, language was added to clarify the criteria for groups being on the annual or biannual lists.
- **Procedure GDBB-R (Overtime/Extra Time Compensation for Non-Exempt Support Staff)** – The term “hourly” was changed to “non-exempt.” The following statements were added: “Additionally, time when an employee is not working and uses vacation days, sick days, critical illness leave days, family leave days, bereavement leave days, emergency leave days, religious leave days or legal leave days will not be considered as hours worked for purposes of calculating overtime. Nor will any hours for holiday pay be considered as hours worked for the purposes of calculating overtime. Overtime pay earned as a result of working additional hours outside a regular classification will be paid based on the higher rate of the employee’s regular classification or the classification they are working beyond their regular job assignment.” Other minor changes were approved.
- **Procedure GDBC-R-7 (Family Leave for Support Staff)** – The following statement was added, “In addition, family leave may be used for the death of aunts and uncles of employee or spouse. Up to three days are allowed for each occurrence, and not to exceed five days of family leave annually.”
- **Procedure GDCBB-R (Employee Uniform Regulation)** – The following statement was added, “If the district does not provide uniforms, an allowance will be established for employees to individually purchase approved uniforms. The allowance will be the maximum the district provides over a two-year period and will be calculated during May of each odd-numbered year.” In addition, one sentence was revised to read, “Employees are required to wear the uniform daily (on the job).”

### Your Board of Education

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