



Board at Work

News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

October 29, 2003

Funds allocated to provide extra help to students

To help improve student achievement, Pattonville educators have devised a plan to provide extra support to students who are not making satisfactory progress toward proficiency in communication arts and mathematics at the grade levels tested on the Missouri Assessment Program in those content areas.

The extra support will be provided in the form of extra instruction after school through tutoring or “double dosing” of instruction during the school day in problem areas. Some instruction may take place during times that would have traditionally been used for art, music, physical education or elective courses. The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 28 approved the expenditure of local funds for the plan. Both local funds (in the amount of \$143,206) and federal funds will be used to pay for the extra support for the remainder of the 2003-2004 school year. The funds pay salaries for added teachers and paraprofessionals or for extra time by existing teachers to provide instruction after school.

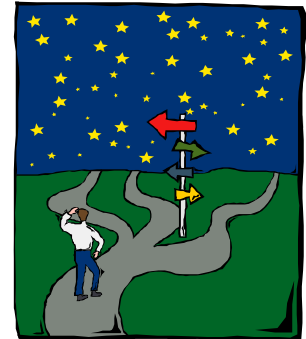
The extra support and interventions are a major part of the follow-up initiatives outlined in recommendations from the district’s curriculum and assessment report to the board on Oct. 14.

Board will meet with residents, students on Nov. 4

The Pattonville Board of Education will meet with a group of randomly selected residents of the district – parents, non-parents and students – on Nov. 4 as a way to help the district plan for the future. On Oct. 28, the board heard an overview the Board Focus Groups, an event which began four years ago as a way to involve residents who might not normally attend discussions with the board.

Participants are selected at random using the district’s parent database, high school student database, as well as voter registration records from the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners. Invitees are sent a personal letter of invitation from the board. Those who attend hear an overview about the district before breaking into small groups with individual board members to discuss topics related to student achievement, parent involvement and other issues important to Pattonville. More than 100 have responded that they plan to attend the Nov. 4 event.

Questions that will be posed to the participants were developed by the Pattonville Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) Steering Committee to help in formulating an updated strategic plan for the district. Input from this evening will be shared with CSIP subcommittees, made up of parents, students and staff, as they formulate suggested plans to address student achievement, school improvement planning and critical issues facing the district. Input will also be shared with principals and other administrators in the district to use as part of evaluations conducted on various Pattonville schools and programs throughout the year.



PNEA recognized as having largest membership

The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 28 formally recognized the Pattonville National Education Association (PNEA) as the organization with the largest teacher membership. Each year, the board certifies the organization with the largest membership as the group that will represent certified staff during Professional Studies discussions for the year. The PNEA submitted a list showing a total membership of 461 for the 2003-2004 school year.

Band trip OK'd for national competition

The Pattonville Board of Education approved a trip by the Pattonville High School band to Philadelphia to attend a national competition in April. Approximately 175 instrumental music students will attend the music festival this spring. Last year, Pattonville's music contingent earned the National Instrumental Sweepstakes Award given to schools with the highest average score of its top two performing ensembles. The scores were compared from the more than 30 festivals held around the country last year.

Kinney's Corner

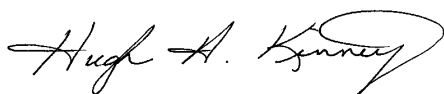
Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

Dear Pattonville family,

Here's a look at what's happening in Pattonville:

- Although I was out of town for this event, I've heard rave reviews of the high school performance of "Picnic" last week and the district's 55+ Club Dinner Theatre, which offered free dinner and play tickets to our older residents. Thanks to all involved. What a great way to showcase our talented students and staff to the community.
- Wellness Coordinator Claire Steiner has worked with the Pattonville Safe and Drug-Free Advisory Council to host a workshop for parents and staff titled, "Internet Abuse and Protecting Children Online" from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 5 in Room 201 of the Pattonville Learning Center. Sgt. Joe Laramie of the Glendale Police Department, who is also administrative supervisor of Missouri's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, will present the workshop. The program will cover an overview of the Internet, victim and offender behaviors, Internet safety information and resources for schools, parents, teens and pre-teens. Everyone is welcome.
- The Willow Brook Student Council is continuing its support of American troops in Iraq by collecting personal items and snacks to send abroad. The council will collect items through Nov. 5 to send to a battalion that is close to one of the Willow Brook staff members. I'm proud of these students for continuing to think of others.

Last night, our board approved a plan to help struggling students receive a "double dose" of instruction in the areas where they are experiencing trouble. Thanks to all who have helped devise and implement this plan that will assist students who need help the most. I appreciate your continued focus on doing what's best for all children.



Business Bits

Paying the bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 28 approved paying:

- \$3,817.75 to Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis and Giljum for legal services.

The board also approved the following bid award on Oct. 28:

- \$7,626.98 to Berkley Lumber for lumber stock for the high school storage building.

Policy/procedure updates

The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 28 lodged for action the following:

- **Policy EBBC (Accident Prevention and Safety Equipment)** – The first phrase in the policy is being changed to read: “All students, staff and visitors are required to wear industrial quality safety equipment (this equipment includes but is not limited to safety eyewear, ear plugs and gloves) when participating in or observing the following non-inclusive examples in any class...” The phrase “eye protective devices” is being changed to “safety equipment.”
- **Policy ECAA (Access to Buildings)** – A paragraph is being changed to read, “Upon leaving any building, room or office space unattended by an authorized person, staff members will ensure that all lights are out, equipment is turned off, or on, as appropriate, all windows closed, all doors locked and the building alarms are engaged as appropriate.”
- **Policy EDA (Receiving and Warehousing)** – The sentence, “The warehouse will be operated by the custodian and food service departments,” is being eliminated.
- **Policy EEA (Student Transportation Services)** – Minor wording changes are being recommended.
- **Policy EEAB (School Bus Scheduling and Routing)** – A paragraph is being reworded to read, “Students will ride their assigned bus and embark and depart at their regularly assigned stops unless a note from their parent or guardian authorizes students to disembark at stops other than their regular stops. Said notes will be retained by the drivers and turned in to their supervisor. Parents/guardians may designate a babysitter or child care address for the transportation of their child(ren).”
- **Policy EEAC (School Bus Safety Program)** – A minor wording change is recommended.
- **Policy EF (Food Services Management)** – The word “lunches” is being changed to “meals,” and a sentence is being changed to read, “Exceptions shall be made for those fund-raising sales by students, PTO/A groups, etc., which shall not be conducted during the regularly scheduled lunch period, exception being the Pattonville High’s STUCO store which functions as a learning activity for students who operate the store under the guidance of the sponsors. Special events which include the sale of food/beverages conducted during the regularly scheduled lunch period must be approved by the principal and the director of food services.”
- **Policy EFB (Free and Reduced-Price Food Services)** – The word “lunches” is being changed to “meals.”
- **Procedure EEAG-R (Student Transportation Accident Reporting)** – Minor changes in personnel titles are being recommended to reflect current practice.

The board is expected to approve proposed revisions to these items on Nov. 11. The board also approved the review of Policy EEAG (Student Transportation Reporting) on Oct. 28.

New Hires

- **Tracy Cook**, paraprofessional, Briar Crest
- **Heidi Lobb**, paraprofessional, Briar Crest
- **Katrina Cline**, music, Drummond
- **M. Kathleen Benning**, Title I teacher, Parkwood

Making News

Special recognition of Pattonville students and staff



Carenza

Inducted into the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame

Joe Carezza

Taking first place in the Autumn Classic Student Congress

Josh Fairbanks



McCollough

Earning recognition in the National Merit Achievement Program for Minority Students

Khoury Cooper

Named Commended Scholars in the National Merit Scholarship Program

Lisa Guntley, Ryan McCollough, Sharif Musaji and Mason Poelker

Your Board of Education

- **Ralph Stahlhut**, President
- **Pat Bryant**, Vice President
- **Jeff Fitterling**, Secretary
- **Keith Gillming**, Treasurer
- **Kathy Fitzgerald**, Director
- **Ron Kuschel**, Director
- **Randy McArthur**, Director