

Board at Work

News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

May 14, 2003

Board seeks candidates for upcoming vacancy

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 accepted the resignation of Michael Stewart, a member of the Pattonville school board, effective June 1, 2003. Stewart, who was entering his second year on the board, is withdrawing in anticipation of a family move to a new home in St. Charles County.

The Board of Education will accept applicants and appoint an interim replacement to serve until the April 6, 2004 board election, at which time one one-year term and two three-year terms will be up for election.

Stewart is pastor of Brookside Baptist Church in Maryland Heights. He and his wife, Malissa, are the parents of four daughters, two of whom currently attend Parkwood Elementary.

"Our best wishes go out to Mr. Stewart and his family," said Board President Ralph Stahlhut. "Mr. Stewart has been very active both on the school and district level. During his time on the board, he worked collaboratively with his fellow board members and the Pattonville community to make improvements that have benefited all of our children."

"Serving the Pattonville community has been a wonderful experience," said Stewart. "It has indeed been a pleasure to work for the children of this district. I want to thank the voters for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I know that this district will continue to move forward because it is in very capable hands with the other six members of the board. It has been a joy working with such a fine group of people as the other board members. I also would like to thank (Superintendent Hugh Kinney) for the direction that he gives to the board. This district has made much progression under Dr. Kinney's leadership. Thanks Pattonville for allowing me and my family to be a part of you for a little while."

Those interested in filling the vacancy are asked to make their desire known by sending a letter to the secretary of the board on or before June 4, 2003, stating their qualifications and their reasons for wishing to be on the board. Letters may be sent to Pat Bryant, c/o Pattonville Learning Center, 11097 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Ann, MO 63074.

The board will interview candidates during a special board meeting on June 12, and will install a new board member during the June 24 board meeting. Both meetings will be open to the public. For more information, call the superintendent's office at (314) 213-8001.

More administrative appointments announced

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 approved the appointments of three new administrators, effective July 1, 2003.

Nathan Hoven has been selected as interim assistant principal/administrative intern at Pattonville

High School for the 2003-2004 school year. Hoven has been a mathematics teacher at the high school for four years and holds a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics from the University of Missouri-Rolla. He anticipates completing a graduate degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in secondary administration in December. Hoven replaces Neil Berry, who was selected for a principalship in the Fort Zumwalt School District.

Jason Van Beers has been named assistant principal at Drummond Elementary School. Van Beers has served as administrative liaison between the Special School District and the Lindbergh School District for three years. Prior to that, he worked as a special education teacher at Francis Howell Central Elementary. He holds a bachelor's degree in elementary and secondary education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a master's degree in educational administration from Lindenwood University. He replaces Karen Hall, who was recently named principal of Willow Brook Elementary in the Pattonville School District.

Terry Funderburk has been appointed as interim activities director at Pattonville High School for the 2003-2004 school year. Funderburk has served as the school's activities coordinator for the past three years, along with his duties as social studies teacher. He has taught social studies for 15 years in Pattonville. Funderburk holds a bachelor's degree in education/physical education and a master's degree in education/social studies from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. He replaces Rick Glidewell, who requested a transfer to a position in the social studies department.

Drummond gives report on improvement plan

Parents and staff members on Drummond Elementary's School Improvement Team unveiled a plan on May 13 for improving the achievement of Drummond students. This marks the first improvement plan for the school, which opened its doors last August for the first time. A survey of parents and staff showed that 99 percent of parents and 100 percent of staff supported the plan.

Five targets were established for improvement:

1. All students will be proficient readers and writers;
2. All students will be proficient mathematical problem solvers;
3. Students are responsible citizens;
4. All staff will have professional development opportunities available; and
5. Parents are involved as active members of the Drummond community of learners.

To ensure that Drummond students are proficient readers and writers, Drummond will use the following strategies: Title I-funded tutoring; the Waterford Reading program; reading buddies across grade levels; one-on-one tutoring for students by parent and high school tutors; and the implementation of a book club. To address the goal of having proficient mathematical problem solvers, Drummond will institute a Fifth-Grade Math Club to focus on problem-solving; use a Number Crunchers club meeting twice a week to focus on the Everyday Math curriculum; implement Title I-funded tutoring; enable students to participate in the Accelerated Math program on a daily basis; and use parent and high school volunteers to provide one-on-one tutoring.

Student Achievement committee gives report

For the past year, the Pattonville Student Achievement Action Committee has been studying performance results of students in middle school challenge and high school honors, advanced placement (AP) and college credit courses, as well as other strategies for ensuring a challenging curriculum for every student. The committee has also been keeping abreast of developments from the high school Freshman Task Force. Members of the committee gave an update on their work to the Board of Education on May 13.

The committee concluded that the newly revised elementary communication arts and mathematics curricula are more rigorous and challenging as evidenced by grade-level expectations that require higher levels of complex reasoning on the part of students.

In studying challenge at the secondary level, the committee learned that enrollment in middle school challenge courses was 200 students at Pattonville Heights and 286 at Holman in the first year of offering the classes. Eighty-six percent of students in these courses received a grade of A or B. The high school has also seen a great influx of courses and enrollment in more challenging courses. The number of high school AP, college credit and honors courses has increased from 18 in 1997 to 33 in 2002, and enrollment has increased from 432 to 1,102 in the same time period. Seventy-two percent of students in these courses received an A or B in the first semester.

The achievement of freshmen at the high school is being addressed by the work of a Freshman Task Force through the Pattonville High School's School Improvement Team.

The committee made several recommendations for the future. For secondary grades:

- Place on hold the expansion of challenge courses to the seventh and sixth grades until the Middle School Structure Committees complete their work, which includes providing challenge in the middle school curriculum;
- Track advanced placement (AP) course score data over time to identify trends;
- Correlate AP scores and AP course grades to see how course grades are related to exam scores;
- Track Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) data for students who are taking challenge, honors, college credit and AP classes to see if the percentage of students scoring in the top two levels increases, especially the advanced level, over time;
- Track enrollment trends in challenge, honors, AP and college credit courses; and
- Continue to study the achievement of freshmen as evidenced by overall grade point average and percentage of students earning one or more failing grades, enrollment and performance in honors courses, and impact of the ninth-grade academic labs.

For elementary grades, analyze communication arts and mathematics achievement data to draw conclusions on the successful implementation of the new curriculum.

Board approves two-year agreement

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 approved a two-year economic agreement with the Pattonville National Education Association (PNEA) for certified staff salaries.

The agreement includes a 4.09 percent increase in salary and benefits for the first year (2003-2004) and a 3.41 percent increase the following year. In addition, the agreement includes a five-year retirement incentive plan that begins in 2003-2004 and ends in 2007-2008. The agreement was also approved by the PNEA membership.

"Trimming back expenses and careful budgeting have enabled us to provide these increases for our staff, despite a drop in assessed valuation last year and loss of state funding," said Superintendent Hugh Kinney. "We will continue our conservative planning and budgeting to ensure we can retain programs for children in the classroom and continue to hire and keep outstanding staff."

Kinney's Corner

Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

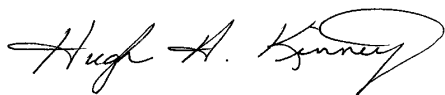
Dear Pattonville family,

Here's a look at what's happening:

- Congratulations to **Dennis McFarland**, who was named Pattonville Teacher of the Year, and **Kay Sullivan**, who was named Pattonville Support Staff Employee of the Year during the annual District Appreciation Night on May 5. Both of these outstanding employees serve the high school, Dennis as director of bands, and Kay as executive secretary to the principal. Congratulations also to our finalists for both awards. Finalist **Debra McCormack**, early childhood special education teacher at Drummond, was named Elementary Teacher of the Year; and Finalist **Pat Johnson**, math and social studies teacher at Pattonville Heights, was named Middle School Teacher of the Year. Finalists for the support staff honors were **Jan LaZear**, Learning Center receptionist, and **Colleen Mullins**, executive secretary in the pupil services office. All of these fine individuals are prime examples of what makes Pattonville great. Congratulations to all of them, as well as all those who were honored with the Pride of Pattonville award, volunteer recognition, service pin awards, retirement school bells and awards for earning National Board Certification.
- **Nicole Daniel**, a first-grade teacher at Rose Acres Elementary, was recently surprised when the drum line from the Pattonville High School band marched into her classroom followed by an entourage of her family, colleagues and radio personalities the Steve and D.C. radio show on 104.1 the Mall radio station. She was being honored by the radio show as part of Teacher Appreciation Week after Pattonville Parent and Rose Acres Cook **Julie Purviance** nominated her for the honor. Nicole was interviewed live on the nationally syndicated radio show and showered with gifts, such as a free dinner, a limousine ride and concert tickets. Congratulations on showing the nation what great teachers we have in Pattonville.
- I hope everyone will join me in visiting one of the newest homes built in the Pattonville School District – one built by our very own students. The Home Construction Class will have an open house at its newest class project from noon to 5 p.m., Friday, May 16. This two-story home is located on Jessica Adele Court, on the hill behind Pattonville High School and Grace Church and School. If you have a chance to stop by, you'll be amazed and inspired by this truly innovative program that gives our students real-world experience and skills.

As we enter the home stretch for the end of the school year, I want to thank everyone for a great year. I am privileged to work in such a great school district, with great parents, students, staff and community members. This is a place that truly believes and achieves student success...one child at a time. Have a great end of the year.

Sincerely,



Hugh A. Kinney, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Business Bits

Approval of bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 approved the following:

- \$1,142,692.09 for regular bills;
- \$78,417.58 for cafeteria bills; and
- \$75,114.87 for bond issue change orders for Phase I and II projects.

Bid Awards

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 approved the following bid awards and contracts:

- \$99,319 to Glen Alspaugh and \$71,714 to Ravensberg for millwork and casework for Phase II bond issue projects;
- \$222,466 to Midwest Asbestos Abatement Corporation for asbestos and lead abatement for Phase II bond issue projects;
- \$183,771 to Affton Fabricating and Welding Company for structural and miscellaneous steel work for Phase II bond issue projects;
- \$1,539,300 to Interface Construction for site work, concrete foundations and general works;
- \$18,350 to Southeastern Performance Apparel for concert band uniforms;
- \$14,086 to A.B. Dick Multigraphics for the renewal of a contract for printing supplies;
- \$11,400 to Dorman Video for the TV room equipment maintenance agreement;
- \$14,000 to Schowalter and Jabouri for auditing services for the 2003-2004 school year; and
- The renewal of an exclusive soda vending agreement with Pepsi Americas for a placement fee by Pepsi of \$65,000 plus other incentives.

Other Business Items

The Pattonville Board of Education on May 13 took the following actions:

- Approved additional pay rates for summer school positions;
- Approved a contract with Learning 24/7 for the Algebra for All project in the amount of \$31,500; and
- Certified the school board election results from the April 8 election, in which Ralph Stahlhut and Pat Bryant were re-elected to office.

Policy/Procedures

The Pattonville Board of Education approved the following policies and procedures on May 13:

- **Policy GDPB (Resignations)** – The policy was changed to read, “Any support staff member who desires to give proper notice of an intent to resign his/her position with the school district must submit his or her written resignation at least two (2) weeks prior to the effective date of resignation.”
- **Policy GDPC (Retirement of Support Staff Members)** – A sentence in this policy was changed to read, “All support employees participating in the Non-Teacher Retirement System are required to participate in social security (FICA) and Medicare.”
- **Policy GDPD (Progressive Discipline and Termination)** – Minor wording changes were approved.
- **Procedure GDPD-R (Suspension of Support Staff)** – The first paragraph of this procedure was changed to read, “Support staff may be suspended without pay by the employee’s supervisory officer subject to the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. The

supervisor/manager shall file reasons for suspension of the employee with the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. The suspended employee may file a written request for a hearing with the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources within ten (10) days of his/her approval of suspension. If no such request is filed, the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources will review the circumstances surrounding the employee's suspension and make a recommendation to the Superintendent of the employee's future job status with the district based on the information available. Any employee dismissed for cause shall be ineligible to apply for re-employment."

- **Policy GDQB (PSNEA Rights)** – The words “computers” and “copy machines” were added, and the words, “mimeographing machines other duplicating equipment” were deleted.

The Pattonville Board of Education lodged for action the following policies and procedures on May 13:

- **Procedure GDLB-R (Grievance Procedure)** – Minor wording changes are recommended.
- **Policy GDLC (Employee Contribution to the Decision-Making Process)** – A minor wording change is recommended.

The board is expected to vote on these policies and procedures during its May 27 meeting. The board also approved the review of the following policies and procedures on May 13:

- **Procedure GDBC-R-6 (Insurance Coverage);**
- **Policy GDLB (Grievance Procedure Policy);**
- **Procedure GDLC-R (BOE/ADM and PSNEA Committee Procedures);**
- **Policy GDN (Evaluation of Support Staff);**
- **Procedure GDN-R (Performance-Based Developmental Support Staff Procedures);**
- **Policy GDNA (Attendance and Punctuality); and**
- **Procedure GDNA-R-1 (Attendance and Punctuality).**

New Hires

- **Lisa Shelton**, custodian, Drummond
- **Gerald Geisel**, bus driver, transportation
- **Gary McIntyre**, bus driver, transportation
- **Rachel Beard Curran**, first-grade teacher, Drummond
- **Kelly Chestnut**, kindergarten teacher, Parkwood
- **Yue Buss**, counselor, Remington Traditional
- **Katie Aquino**, communication arts teacher, High School
- **Kristian Nelson**, industrial technology teacher, Holman
- **Judith Chabot**, French/Spanish teacher, High School

The board also approved the hiring of additional staff for the kindergarten- through 12th-grade summer school program.

Your Board of Education

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