



News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

October 10, 2001

## Redistricting group prepared to take plan to public

Parents on Pattonville's Parent Redistricting Committee gave board members on Oct. 9 another look at a preliminary plan for new attendance boundaries before taking the plan to the public for input and comments.

Pattonville will be redrawing its elementary and middle school attendance boundaries this year due to the opening of a new elementary school next fall.

The new elementary school will open in St. Ann (near the Shop 'n Save grocery store) as a replacement for Carrollton and Carrollton Oaks elementary schools, both of which have been bought as part of Lambert Airport's Federal Aviation Administration-approved expansion plan. The airport is providing the funds to build the new school.

The committee has been meeting throughout the summer and fall to develop new attendance boundaries. Throughout the course of their work, the committee members developed nine different boundary scenarios before unanimously voting to take the most recent plan to the community, said Committee Member Tammy Yeaton.

In charging the committee with the task of redrawing attendance boundaries, the board required the plan to be put together by a committee of parents and that there be community input into the process. The board also outlined three "wants" that it asked the committee to consider, but that were not required:

- For the new boundaries to result in the minimum number of students moving from an existing school to an existing school;
- For the new boundaries to result in students attending the school closest to their residence; and
- For the new boundaries to insure a balanced enrollment based on the building capacity.

Committee members said after hearing input from parents throughout the process, they felt moving the least amount of students was a high priority. In addition, the group tried to keep neighborhoods intact so children living near each other could attend school together.

Specifics of the plan now being considered are as follows:

1. The plan moves the least amount of pupils – 80 at the elementary level (not counting Carrollton and Carrollton Oaks children) and 15 middle school students. This represents less than 1.5 percent of Pattonville's student population.
2. All of Carrollton and Carrollton Oaks will attend the new school, along with small sections of the current Bridgeway and Briar Crest attendance areas. All other elementary attendance areas will remain the same.
3. The current elementary-to-middle school feeder system will remain unchanged. Briar Crest, the new elementary school and Rose Acres will attend Holman, and Bridgeway, Parkwood and Willow Brook will continue to attend Pattonville Heights.
4. Additional rooms are available in all schools in the 2002-2003 school year, assuming enrollment projections hold true and modular classrooms are still used. During the first year,

most elementary schools will be filled between 92 and 98 percent of their target capacity for student enrollment. Briar Crest would be filled to 86 percent of its target capacity with its modular classrooms removed.

5. The plan is considered “good” for 5 to 7 years because there are too many “unknowns” in Pattonville’s future (i.e., possible home buy-outs on Cypress Road to commercial investors and possible reappearance of younger families in Pattonville’s residential areas.)

The committee will host Redistricting Community Meetings from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 29, at Pattonville Heights Middle School and from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 2, at Holman Middle School. During these events, parents and staff can review the committee’s proposed plan and provide written or verbal feedback and suggestions. A final recommendation will be brought to the board in December, and the board is expected to vote on the final recommendation in January.

## Partnership Plan with SSD approved

The Pattonville Board of Education adopted the Partnership Plan of the Special School District (SSD) and agreed to become a partner district under the new plan.

The board directed district administrators to create a committee of parents and educators from both the Pattonville and Special school districts to study the Partnership Plan and bring forward recommendations for improvements in the delivery of services for children with disabilities in the Pattonville School District.

Senate Bill 687 required the appointment of a Governing Council in St. Louis County with certain responsibilities relating to the governance of SSD. One of the responsibilities given to the Governing Council was to “conduct a study to determine whether a plan should be developed whereby the local school districts assume a greater responsibility and authority in the education of children with disabilities.” The Governing Council appointed a special task force to review the delivery of services for children with disabilities and to make recommendations to improve services. The Partnership Plan is a result of that work. The Governing Council and the SSD Board of Education have accepted the plan and are now seeking adoption of the plan by local school districts in St. Louis County.

## K-12 Gifted Curriculum approved by board

A revised curriculum for Pattonville’s gifted programs in grades kindergarten through 12 has been approved by the Pattonville Board of Education. Under the leadership of Grace Weber, coordinator for social studies and gifted education, the teachers in the gifted program completely rewrote the curriculum for all gifted programs. The new curriculum is based upon the state’s Show-Me Standards, uses performance-based assessments and is designed to meet the unique needs of gifted students. The district’s Curriculum Coordinating Council reviewed the rewritten curriculum and recommended it for adoption.

## Board recognizes teachers’ organization

The Pattonville Board of Education recently recognized the Pattonville National Education Association (PNEA) as the organization with the largest teacher membership in the district. The PNEA counts 473 certified staff among its membership for the 2000-2001 school year.

On the first day in October each school year, teacher organizations have the opportunity to submit to the district administration certified lists of members among Pattonville staff. The organization with the largest membership is recognized by the Board of Education as the representative during the Professional Studies discussions for the year.

## Oct. 22-26 declared Red Ribbon Week by board

The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 9 approved a proclamation declaring the week of Oct. 22 through 26 as Red Ribbon Week in the Pattonville School District. Red Ribbon Week is recognized nationally as a drug and substance abuse prevention week.

## Board accepts committee recommendations

The Pattonville Board of Education concurred with the district's Job Description Review Committee and approved its recommendations to deny several requests. The board denied the reclassification of four support staff positions, as well as a proposed title change for a fifth position.

## **Kinney's Corner**

*Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney*

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Dear Pattonville family,

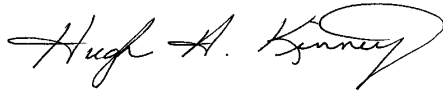
I would like to share with you a few of the great things happening in Pattonville.

- Pattonville High School's annual **Homecoming** will be celebrated on Saturday, Oct. 20, with a new parade route in addition to its annual football game and dance. The theme for the day is "The Best of the Best." The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at the Gateway Central Church of the Nazarene, 11073 Old St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton, and will proceed west on Old St. Charles Rock Road. The parade will turn left on McKelvey Boulevard and proceed to Pattonville High School. A football game pitting the Pattonville Pirates against McCluer High School will begin at 1 p.m. at the Pattonville High School football stadium. A dance will take place later that evening.
- The Pattonville Education Foundation's second annual **Golf Tournament** will be held at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 21 at Country Lakes Golf Course in Warrenton. Cost is \$75 per player, and all proceeds go directly to the foundation, which provides grants of up to \$500 for innovative programs in Pattonville classrooms. Contact Mickey Schoonover at 1021 for more information.
- Many of our elementary schools will be welcoming the 11 new tutors we trained recently as part of **our OASIS tutoring program**. Four new coordinators also took part in the training. This is a great program that brings our community into the schools and supports our literacy efforts with one-on-one interaction between an adult and child.
- Groundwork is being laid to start an **Alumni Association** for the district. An organizational meeting is scheduled from 7 to 8 p.m., Nov. 1, in the commons at Pattonville High School. Any alumni are welcome to attend and help develop the mission of the organization and elect officers. Board Member and 1975 Graduate Pat Bryant is spearheading the effort.

- Our new **web site** ([www.psd3.org](http://www.psd3.org)) has been up since Sept. 5 and we've already had nearly 4,700 visitors (outside the district) to the site. Congratulations to District Webmaster Greg Southard and all the Instructional Technology Specialists at the buildings who have worked hard to develop a world-class communications tool for our community.

My sincere thanks go to every staff member and volunteer in our district for doing great things for our kids. I know this has been a very busy year as we have all placed a significant focus on improving our scores on the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) and raising achievement for all children. I appreciate everyone's sincere efforts to make this a reality for our kids. I realize it's hard work, but in the end, our students will reap the rewards. Again, thanks to each of you for your personal efforts to do what's best for kids. Have a great week.

Sincerely,



Hugh A. Kinney, Ed.D.

## Business Bits

### Policy/Procedure Updates

- **Policy DLC-R (Expense Reimbursement)** – The board approved a change that increases reimbursable meal costs to an average of \$32 per day.
- **Policy DJF-R (Purchasing Procedures)** – Changes approved on Oct. 9 are intended to provide clarification on a paragraph referring to reimbursements. The updated paragraph reads as follows: “Employees may be reimbursed for out of pocket district purchases, less sales tax, in an amount not to exceed a daily amount of \$100, if the purchase has been pre-approved by the principal. Out of pocket expenditures that exceed \$100 will only be reimbursed if a prepared purchase order has been signed by the principal. The preferred method of purchase is to issue a purchase order to a vendor for these expenses.”
- **Policy EHD (Electronic Communication Policy)** - The board lodged for action a proposed policy that governs electronic communications (Internet usage, e-mail and web publishing) in the district. District administrators, the Pattonville National Education Association (PNEA) and the Technology Advisory Committee have reviewed the policy.
- **Procedure GDBC-R-7 (Family Leave for Support Staff)** – The board lodged for action a change to the family leave policy that would include son-in-law and daughter-in-law in the definition of immediate family.
- **Procedure GDBC-R-4 (Support Staff Leave)** - The board lodged for action a change that would include son-in-law and daughter-in-law in the definition of immediate family and replaces one phrase with “...whom you have been primary caregiver for,” under the critical illness and bereavement leave sections.
- **Procedure GDE-R (Support Staff Extra Help/Substitute Staff)** - The board lodged for action language updates to this policy, including the deletion of a sentence regarding age of applicants.

## Paying the Bills

The board approved paying the following bills during its Oct. 9 meeting:

- Regular bills in the amount of \$989,774.38
- Cafeteria bills in the amount of \$56,800.25
- Legal services from Mickes, Tueth, Keeney, Cooper, Mohan & Jackstadt, P.C., in the amount of \$14,943.20

## Bid Awards

The board approved the following bid awards during its Oct. 9 meeting:

- \$10,000 for surveying services at Pattonville High School to Sherrill Associates
- \$39,443.47 for Microsoft Site Licenses to Educational Resources (a bond issue purchase)
- \$8,972 for Infocus Projectors to Action Presentations (a grant line item)
- \$26,000 for I-Tview DVs to AcquireX (a bond issue purchase)
- \$28,156.98 for an APC uninterrupted power supply to RJI

## New Hires

- **Sharon Usher-McVicker**, social studies, high school
- **Al Kirchhofer**, Director of Business Services