



Board at Work

News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

July 10, 2002

Pattonville board awarded Missouri's top honor

The Pattonville Board of Education has been named Missouri's Outstanding Board of Education by the Missouri School Boards Association. The surprise announcement was made during an MSBA banquet at the MSBA Leadership Summit on June 28.

"I am so proud of our board for achieving the highest award a board can achieve in Missouri," said Superintendent Dr. Hugh Kinney. "I can't think of anyone more deserving to be honored for their efforts than the men and women who volunteer their time on our board. The service they provide for our children and families is invaluable. I attribute our district's recent recognition for distinction in performance to their focus on children and their belief in doing what's best for kids."

MSBA honors one board each year in the state with the Outstanding Board of Education Award. The award is designed to honor boards that demonstrate the highest standards of leadership and service. Boards were judged for having met the following criteria:

- Made a significant contribution to the advancement of education as evidenced by their leadership at and beyond the local level through improved student achievement, local board initiatives, community engagement, district accreditation and achievement of Comprehensive School Improvement Program (CSIP) objectives; and
- Made board development a priority by regularly attending leadership development workshops and conferences.

Pattonville received a \$500 check and a crystal recognition trophy.

Current and former board members were recognized as part of the award, as the judging was based on the 2001-2002 school year. Honored at the banquet were current board members Ralph Stahlhut, board



Current and former board members from the 2001-2002 school year were recently honored during an MSBA Banquet as Missouri's Outstanding Board of Education. Shown, from left, are Bob Drummond, Ralph Stahlhut, Keith Gillming, Ron Kuschel, Pat Bryant, Kathy Fitzgerald, Randy McArthur and Superintendent Hugh Kinney.

president; Ron Kuschel, vice president; Pat Bryant, secretary; Keith Gillming, treasurer; Jeff Fitterling, Kathy Fitzgerald and Michael Stewart, as well as former board members Robert Drummond and Randy McArthur.

The board was also recognized with an Education Leadership Team Program of Excellence Award for meeting criteria related to board member certification, policy review, board self-evaluation and attendance at training sessions and conferences.

Community relations program meeting goals

Pattonville's community relations and communications program is getting high marks from staff, parents and the community, according to an evaluation conducted recently. A report based on the evaluation was presented to the Board of Education on July 9.

"We surveyed more than 1,200 randomly selected residents, staff, parents and senior citizens and reviewed statistical data we've tracked over the years along with other surveys to measure our effectiveness," said Mickey Schoonover, Director of School-Community Relations. "We were pleased to find that the majority of residents and staff were aware of the district's goals and feel informed about district issues and events."

The goals of the Pattonville School-Community Relations Program are:

- To support the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Program efforts and the district's mission, "That All Will Learn"; and
- To build relationships and maintain Pattonville's high level of community support.

Survey results indicate the majority of respondents felt the district does a good or excellent job of involving citizens in the decision-making process and gave "good" or "excellent" ratings on the district's efforts to inform its citizens.

In addition, the survey showed the majority of respondents agreed with the statement, "It is clear Pattonville is dedicated to academic achievement for all."

"Our survey data also indicated we are effectively targeting our communication efforts to the most effective media outlets for our community, specifically, our own district newsletter and local newspapers," Schoonover said.

Eighty percent of survey respondents said they get their information about Pattonville from the district newsletter, the "Pattonville Highlights." Other top sources of information were: Newspapers locally (49 percent), publications mailed directly to residents' homes (45 percent), and the principal's newsletter (41 percent). The results were nearly the same when asked how residents and staff would prefer to keep informed about Pattonville.

Five recommendations were made for the future:

- Increase the number of participants in the Board Focus Groups and the Board Forum;
- Continue to improve and expand use of online/electronic communications;
- Conduct an attitude survey in 2003 to gauge attitudes of the Pattonville community, including non-parents. Data gathered can help formulate the district's new Comprehensive School Improvement Plan, following the district's Missouri School Improvement Program re-accreditation review in April 2003;
- Publicize progress on bond issue projects to demonstrate that Pattonville is accomplishing the projects that were promised (to the voters, staff and students) to be completed; and
- Continue successful programs already in place (i.e., 55+ Club, OASIS, board public engagement, media relations, "Pattonville Highlights" newsletter).

Board elects secretary, treasurer

The Pattonville Board of Education on July 9 elected new officers. Pat Bryant was named secretary, and Keith Gillming was named treasurer during the meeting. Other officers were elected last April. Ralph Stahlhut is president of the board, and Ron Kuschel is vice president. Directors are Kathy Fitzgerald, Jeff Fitterling and Michael Stewart.

High school textbook adoption OK'd

The Board of Education on July 9 approved adopting materials for oral communications classes at Pattonville High School. The materials adoption was approved for \$19,515. The high school selected the textbook, "Speech Communication Matters."

Updates to evaluation forms approved

The Pattonville Board of Education on July 9 approved modifications to the evaluation forms for counselors, library media specialists, home-school liaisons and teacher assistants. According to Mike Fulton, assistant superintendent for planning and assessment, the changes reflect slight wording revisions and bring the forms more in line with updates made recently to teacher evaluation forms.

Board gives temporary authorization to administration

Because the Board of Education does not meet again until Aug. 13, new teacher orientation begins on Aug. 6 and the district is in the midst of a number of large construction projects throughout the district, the administration requested the board's authorization to fill vacant positions and make decisions relative to construction issues that may require action prior to the Aug. 13 board meeting. The board approved the administration's request, a decision consistent with the board's action over the last four years.

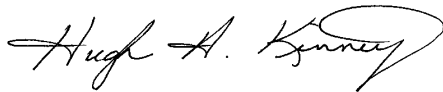
Kinney's Corner

Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

Dear Pattonville family,

It's my privilege and pleasure to congratulate the men and women who volunteer their time, efforts, heart and soul to serve on our Board of Education. It is most appropriate that they have been named Missouri's Outstanding Board of Education, for they truly demonstrate the highest standards of service and leadership. They take their responsibility to lead this district very seriously, and they always put the needs of our children first in everything they do. We are fortunate to have them guiding our district. Thanks to each and every one of our board members –past and current – who make Pattonville such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Sincerely,



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

Business Bits

Policy/Procedures

The board lodged for action the following policy and procedure on July 9:

- **Policy JHCCA (Student Exemption from Participating in Physical Activities)** – This proposed new policy states: “No child will be excused from P.E. for more than three consecutive days without a doctor’s note. The doctor’s note should specify if the limitation of physical activity should apply to other portions of the school day, i.e. recess, intramurals, etc. If the doctor’s note does not contain such information, the school nurse will use her/his professional judgment regarding participation in other activities to ensure the child’s health and safety. The child’s parents will be notified. If recess is restricted for an elementary child, alternative activities will be offered the child consistent with the physical needs displayed. The restrictions will continue throughout the period designated by the doctor, or if the doctor does not indicate an end date in the initial request, the restriction will continue until the school receives a written release from the doctor. The nurse will fill out and distribute an activity restriction form to help ensure that important information regarding the child’s limitations are communicated to the appropriate staff members.” The board is expected to vote on the policy on Aug. 13.
- **Procedure JHCC-R-3 (Pediculosis)** – The proposed change adds the following statement: “All students returning to class must be checked by the nurse or health care professional.” The board is expected to vote on the procedure on Aug. 13.

Bills Paid and Change Orders Approved

The Board of Education approved the following on July 9:

- \$6,155,163.20 for regular bills;
- \$23,822.21 for cafeteria bills;
- \$54,058.10 for change orders at Drummond Elementary; and
- \$246,968.58 for bond issue change orders at Pattonville High School, Bridgeway, Parkwood, Rose Acres and the print shop/maintenance facility.

Contracts Awarded

The board awarded the following during its July 9 meeting:

- \$4,643.70 to Southwest Strings, \$223 to Mozingo Music, \$3,398.75 to Steve Weiss, \$2,667 to Woodwind Brasswind, \$10.50 to Explorers Percussion, \$5,590 to Brook Mays, and \$3,542.90 to NEMC for musical instruments for the 2002-2003 school year;
- \$7,099 to Cohen Appliances for appliances;
- \$36,524.16 to Broadway Truck Centers for two commercial cargo vans;
- \$29,755.28 to Sargent Welch, \$26,828.19 to Fisher Scientific, \$12,441.60 to Associated Microscope, \$3,146.18 to Frey Scientific and \$122.04 to Benz Microscope for science supplies; and
- \$5,283 to Top Shop & Cabinet Company for computer tables.

The board also declared numerous items as surplus property that will be sold during the district's annual surplus sale on July 29 and 30.

New Hires

- **Michelle Dirks**, cook, Drummond
- **Emily Morris**, paraprofessional
- **Eddie Jones**, custodian, Pattonville Heights
- **Shelly Munn**, early childhood special education teacher, Parkwood
- **Molly Kim**, kindergarten, Willow Brook
- **Scott Hutson**, social studies/language arts, Pattonville Heights
- **Marc Manning**, language arts, Pattonville Heights
- **Kiesha Thompson**, computer technology, Holman
- **Joelle Donde'Ville**, science, Holman

Your Board of Education

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