



News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

October 9, 2002

Bond issue projects progressing

About \$113,000 worth of projects remain to be completed as part of Phase I of the 2000 bond issue, Jim Siervo, director of facilities, told Board of Education members on Oct. 8. Siervo and Gary Willi of S.M. Wilson Construction Management provided board members with an update on the progress of bond issue projects at the board's regular meeting.

Siervo said most of the work in Phase I schools has been finished. The largest project left to be completed is window replacements. Phase I locations are Bridgeway, Parkwood, Rose Acres, Pattonville High School, the print shop and maintenance facility. Work to replace the roof at Pattonville Heights was also moved up to Phase I and is currently taking place. Roof replacement work is also still underway at Pattonville High School.

A new library at Pattonville High School has been constructed and is now being used by students, and the school's new science wing is due to be completed Oct. 18, Siervo said. A dedication ceremony for the new library and science wing, which includes the adolescent parenting room, will be held at 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 8, beginning in the new library.

Work has already begun on renovating the old high school library into special education classrooms, and once teachers are moved into the new science wing, the old science wing will be renovated into classrooms to eliminate the need for traveling teachers.

Many Phase II projects are in the preliminary stages. The district is still waiting on permits from St. Louis County to proceed with plans for expanded parking lots at Briar Crest and Willow Brook. Many of the projects in Phase II will be bid in late October or November with the board awarding bids in early 2003.

Bond issue refinancing will save \$1.3 million

Pattonville board members on Oct. 8 reviewed a plan to refinance debt owed on a 1993 bond issue approved by voters that would save the district \$1.3 million in debt payments over the next 8 years.

"Interest rates are at 40-year lows," said Amelia Bond, a representative from A.G. Edwards, which will handle the refinancing. "It's win-win for you (the board) and for the taxpayers."

The board is expected to adopt a bond resolution at its Nov. 12 meeting and sign a bond purchase agreement to enable the refinancing to take place. Bond said it wouldn't be cost-effective yet to refinance the 2000 bond issue because the closing costs and cost of re-issuing the bonds would exceed any potential cost savings. Refinancing the 1993 bond issue will not prolong the period of time it takes to pay off the debt, Bond said.

Board meeting targets parents/non-parents

The Board of Education will host a meeting for randomly selected residents of the district – both parents and non-parents – on Oct. 14. The board heard a brief overview of the evening during its Oct. 8 regular meeting.

The Board Focus Groups began three 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/guardian 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 share a light dinner with the board, hear an overview about the district and break into small groups with individual board members to discuss topics such as student achievement, safety, communication and facilities. More than 100 have responded that they plan to attend the Oct. 14 event.

Input from the sessions will be shared with administrators to use as part of program evaluations on different Pattonville programs throughout the year.

Bus routes get annual approval

Each year, the Board of Education must approve the transportation mile routes that bus drivers travel as they transport children to and from school. The board approved the routes for the 2002-2003 school year on Oct. 8.

Board recognizes largest teacher group

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

The Pattonville National Education Association (PNEA) has fulfilled the requirements of the district procedures by submitting a list showing a total membership of 473 for the 2002-2003 school year. Membership numbers were the same last year.

The Board of Education on Oct. 8 certified the PNEA as the organization in the district with the largest teacher membership for the 2002-2003 school year.

Business education trip approved

The Board of Education on Oct. 8 approved a request by the business education department at Pattonville High School to sponsor a field trip to Chicago, Ill., on Feb. 27 and 28, necessitating students to miss one day of school.

Students will visit the stock exchanges, Museum of Science and Industry, Sears Tower and other sites.

Red Ribbon Week set in Pattonville

The Board of Education on Oct. 8 approved a proclamation declaring Oct. 21 through 25 as Red Ribbon Week in the Pattonville School District. Red Ribbon Week is a national observance supporting healthy, drug-free choices and lives.

Kinney's Corner

Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

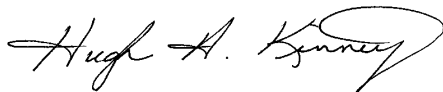
Dear Pattonville family,

Here's a look at what's happening:

- Coming up on Oct. 19, we'll celebrate our annual Homecoming, beginning with a parade at 10 a.m. The parade will start at the Gateway Central Church of the Nazarene, 11073 Old St. Charles Rock Road in Bridgeton. The parade will proceed west on Old St. Charles Rock Road, turn left on McKelvey Boulevard and proceed to Pattonville High School. A barbecue sponsored by the Pattonville Alumni Association will take place after the parade at the high school. A football game pitting our Pattonville Pirates against the Hazelwood West High School Wildcats will begin at 1 p.m. at the Pattonville High School football stadium. A dance will take place later that evening.
- Also mark your calendar for the Nov. 8 dedication ceremony for the new additions at Pattonville High School. The ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. (before the last home varsity football game) in the new library. We'll be celebrating a new 13,500-square foot library and a new 27,000-square-foot science wing addition, which includes the adolescent parenting room. The additions were made possible thanks to voter approval of a \$37 million bond issue in April 2000.

We've had a great first few months of school, and I want to thank everyone for continuing the focus on students and student achievement. You're doing a great job, and our children are reaping the benefits!

Sincerely,



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

Business Bits

Approval of bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on Oct. 8 approved the following bills and change orders:

- \$3,229,560.60 for regular bills;
- \$75,238.54 for cafeteria bills; and
- \$457,733.90 for bond issue change orders.

Policy/Procedures

The Pattonville school board approved the following policies and procedures on Oct. 8:

- **Policy IF (Curriculum Development)** – Approved revisions add three words and replace the word “textbook” with “instructional materials.”
- **Procedure IFA-R (Deletion of Courses/Programs)** – The approved revision removes three words, “are initiated by.”
- **Policy IGBA (Program for Students with Disabilities)** – Revisions replace the adjective “handicapped” before the word “students” to “with disabilities” after the word “student.”
- **Policy IGBB (Program for Gifted Students)** – Approved revisions add the following text: “The Board of Education, realizing the need for programs dealing with gifted and talented students, shall endeavor to provide the level of monetary support it deems proper to enhance programs for the gifted and talented. Procedures for the selection of programs and students will be developed by the professional staff and approved by the board.”
- **Policy IGBCB (Migrant Education Program)**- The approved change corrects a typographical error.
- **Policy IGC (Extended Instructional Program)** – This new policy outlines preschool and post-school programs the district will attempt to provide on a consistent basis, programs such as adult education, early childhood, reading improvement instruction and extended learning time.
- **Policy IGD (Co-curricular and extracurricular programs)** – The word “sex” is replaced with “gender” and “handicap” with “disability.” A typographical error is also corrected.
- **Procedure GCBB-R-2 (Extra Assignment Compensation for Vocal and Instrumental Music Teachers)** – The word “certificated” is replaced with “certified.”

The board also lodged for action the following policies and procedures. The board is expected to vote on these items during its regular Oct. 22 board meeting:

- **Procedure GDPE-R-2 (Support Staff Retirement Bonus Buy-Out)** – Proposed changes state “Effective July 1, 2002, membership service will be frozen for staff who qualify for retirement under the rule of 80 or 30 years of service,” and “Effective July 1, 2002, the state retirement factor will be frozen at .0161 for staff who do not qualify for retirement under the rule of 80 or 30 years of service and .0241 for staff who do qualify for retirement under the rule of 80 or 30 years of service. Staff who have obtained the .0241 factor by June 30, 2002 will maintain this factor after the age of 62.”
- **Policy GCBD (Short Leaves to Serve on Juries and as Consultants, Judges or Sports Officials)** – The lodged policy proposes to change the words “he/she” to “employee,” and “teacher’s fund” to “Special fund.”
- **Policy GCBF (Itinerant Teachers)** – Proposed edits reflect a minor word change.
- **Policy GCBG (Professional Dues Deduction)** – Proposed edits change the prefix “bi” to “semi.”
- **Policy GCF (Professional Staff Orientation)** – Proposed edits remove the words “his/her.”

- **Policy GCG (Professional Staff Probation and Tenure)** – The proposed revision adds a year for the legal references, the year 1999.
- **Procedure GCBD-R-3 (Professional Staff Leaves of Absence – Military Leave)** – Proposed edits change the words, “he/she” to “returnee,” “personnel” to “human resources,” and “he/she” to “teacher.”
- **Procedure GCBD-R-4 (Professional Staff Leaves of Absence – Exchange Teaching)** – Proposed revisions change the words “he/she” to “they” or “their.”
- **Procedure GCBD-R-5 (Professional Staff Leaves of Absence – Sabbatical Leave)** – Proposed revisions change the words “his/her” to “their.”
- **Procedure GCBD-R-5-E-1 (Sabbatical Leave Contract)** – Proposed revisions change the words “his/her” to “their” and “him/her” to “employee.”
- **Procedure GDBF-R (Support Staff Health Appraisals)** – The proposed revision changes the word “within” to “no later than.”

New Hires

- **Antione Amos**, custodian, Bridgeway
- **Pervis McAllister**, custodian, Bridgeway
- **Andrew Scherer**, graphic production artist, Print Shop
- **Laura Wheeler**, paraprofessional, High School

Your Board of Education

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