

Board of Education

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District #61 Board of Education

Board News

News from the **Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008** Regular Board Meeting

Board Heard First Reading on New and Updated Policies

Policy Committee Chairperson Cyndi Dahl took the Board through the First Reading of several policies slated for updating and/or additions. The policy on “Student Discipline – Bullying” was referred to the District’s Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) as part of its annual review.

Updates are received from the Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS), a service of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), and have been clarified by IASB attorneys. These periodic updates help keep our District current with its Policy Manual.

The Darien District #61 School Board Policy Manual provides direction for how the District handles everything from General School Administration to Instruction, and many areas in between. It can be accessed online at the District web site at www.darien61.org.

Generally, policy updates are generated in response to:

- changes in Illinois School Board Education (ISBE) rules regarding school governance,
- updates arising out of recent legislation and court case decisions, and/or
- minor wording and format updating suggested by PRESS.

Darien District #61 is bound to update or add policy mandated by law. Other changes may be adopted as they apply to our local District.

The Darien District #61 Policy Committee recommends policy changes or additions to the Board during a “First Reading.” After a “Second Reading” at the next Regular Board Meeting the entire Board votes on the policies. Board members may ask questions or suggest changes at any time during the First and Second Readings.

Upon adoption, policies are updated in the manual and the staff is notified of the changes.

Board Hears Construction Updates

Under the Building/Safety Committee report, Superintendent Chip Johnson informed the Board the parking lot south of Lace school has been replaced with a new surface. The lot sustained heavy use during construction and needed repair. In addition, eleven trees have been planted around the new Lace playground. Further, the Mark DeLay north playground installation is complete. The playgrounds were made possible by generous parent and community support, with help from a grant secured by Illinois House Representative Jim Durkin.

Among Other Business...

Among other business, the District #61 Board of Education...

- **heard** the Eisenhower Marching Band performed admirably at the Columbus Day Parade on October 13 in downtown Chicago. Their performance was televised on Channel 7.
- **approved** the monthly Employment Report. This report details positions held by employees, and any changes that occurred since the prior month.
- **heard** the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) will meet on November 12, 2008. Included on their agenda will be the Student Discipline Policy and the District Emergency Plans referred by the Policy Committee.
- **briefly** discussed Roundtable topic suggestions from Bob Rzeszutko, Education Committee Chairperson. Roundtables will be held in Spring, 2009 and will cover topics the Board would like to explore and discuss in a roundtable format. The community is encouraged to attend these roundtables as they represent an opportunity to hear from staff well versed on the topics and participate in the question and answer sessions. Topics and dates will be announced once final decisions have been made.

Scheduled Meetings

The following meetings have been scheduled. Please check with the Superintendent's Office at 630/968-7505 or visit the District #61 website at www.darien61.org for any possible changes.

Regular Board of Education Meeting Tuesday, October 28
(School Report Card/Assessment Report) 7 pm at Lace

Regular Board of Education Meeting Tuesday, November 11
7 pm at Lace

Citizens' Advisory Committee Wednesday, November 12
7 pm at Lace

Regular Board of Education Meeting Tuesday, November 25
7 pm at Lace

Minutes of all Board Meetings are available on the District website, upon Board approval.