

October 27, 2005

Board Meeting Summary

Regular Meeting . . .

October 26, 2005

The Unit 5 Board of Education, at its regular meeting on October 26, 2005, at Prairieland Elementary School took the following action and received the following reports:

Action

- The Board accepted the financial audit report as presented by Gorenz and Associates. Unit 5's financial designation with the State of Illinois has improved by one level. The designation has changed from "warning" to "review." The improvement is due to a decrease in the District's expenditures to revenue ratio.
- A resolution was adopted proclaiming November 13-19, 2005 as American Education Week and the month of November as Unit 5 Education Month—a time to salute learning, citizen participation, and education employees. This year's American Education Week theme is "A Strong America Starts with Great Public Schools."

Reports/Discussion

Candace Hoppood, a student at NCWHS, was recognized for receiving the NAACP 2005 Harry Hightower "Youth Community Service Award."

In addition to board representative reports, the new director of the Bloomington Area Vocational Center, Tom Frazier, was introduced. It was reported that 101 Unit 5 high school students are enrolled at the Center.

The executive director of the Consortium for Educational Change gave a presentation on the organization and its mission to improve student achievement by assisting member districts and schools to become collaborative, high performing organizations.

A report was presented regarding the District's School Report Cards from the Illinois State Board of Education. The report cards will be available beginning this week on the District's website. Overall, the percentage of Unit 5 students who meet or exceed standards has increased. No Unit 5 schools were identified as "in need of school improvement", but two schools did not make adequate yearly progress due to specific subgroup performance.

The Board's delegate for the Delegate Assembly that will meet during the Illinois Association of School Boards Conference in November requested board members provide her with direction for voting on the proposed resolutions.

The District's food service director reported on legislation that requires all schools to establish a local school wellness policy by August 2006. The law is an attempt to address childhood obesity and related health concerns through school meal programs. Information regarding Unit 5's student meal programs and beverage choices offered during lunch was also presented.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda item was approved:

- Minutes of the October 12 regular board meeting

Public Comments

Shantise Hall, Mitzi Woody, and Tony Ferrara addressed the Board regarding air-conditioning for six of the district's schools that do not have air conditioning.

Open Forum

Board members met informally with citizens during the hour preceding the regular board meeting.