

# Board of Education Highlights

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September 23, 2009 - Franklin Middle School

## **Recognitions & Achievements:**

School Board Vice President Rosemary Swanson reported that she attended the awards ceremony for Wheaton North High School, one of three high schools in the state of Illinois to be named a 2009 Democracy School by the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition. WNHS received the honor, along with Maine West High School and Glenbard South High School on September 18, 2009 at the Illinois Supreme Court, in downtown Chicago. The school received a plaque signed by Chief Justice Thomas Fitzgerald and State Board of Education Chair, Jesse Ruiz.

Hayley Lotspeich, social studies teacher at Wheaton North, lead the application process that included collaboration with English department chair, Alexia Ellett and the social studies department chair, Phyllis Kidd.

Illinois Democracy Schools are accredited secondary schools that provide students with authentic experiences in the rights, responsibilities, and tensions inherent in living in a constitutional democracy. These schools consciously promote civic engagement by all students, have an intentional focus on fostering participatory citizenship and place an emphasis on helping students understand how the fundamental ideals and principles of our democratic society relate to important current problems, opportunities and controversies.

Illinois Democracy Schools collaborate with parents, students and their communities in developing a civic mission and in providing curricular and extra-curricular civic learning experiences for all students. They engage their students in a continual process of improving and increasing civic learning. Evidence of these characteristics can be found in students' classrooms and formal learning opportunities, in their interactions with school governance structures, and in the opportunities for civic growth provided through service learning and extra-curricular activities.

## **Public Hearing:**

A public hearing on the proposed 2009-10 budget was convened.

## **The Board took the following action:**

Approved the 2009-10 District budget as presented.

## **Next Meeting:**

October 14, 2009 – Hubble Middle School