

# Board of Education Highlights

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October 28, 2009 - Hubble Middle School

## **Recognitions and Achievements:**

Dr. Baker acknowledged the following:

District 200 has once again received the SchoolSearch 2009 Bright A+ Award for academic excellence in education. We are one of only 60 Illinois school districts out of 871 to receive this award. The award criteria are based on those districts whose students' academic performance ranks in the upper 5% of Illinois school districts based on the 2008 IL School Report Card Data Source. SchoolSearch is an educational research & consulting firm that publishes rankings of school systems. SchoolSearch works with major companies by providing school information to relocating families.

On Saturday, October 17, 56 parents participated in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Parent University entitled "Parenting: Smooth Sailing in Rough Waters". The parent response was excellent and their comments included statements like – "thank you for offering strategies we need - every parent should attend - we need this more than once a year."

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, over 100 Jefferson Preschool families turned out on a rainy afternoon to participate in a PTA fund raiser.

The Special Olympics Basketball team is undefeated.

On October 29 and 30, WWSHS is teaming up with Midwest Heart Community Foundation's Young Hearts for Life™ to test 1500 students for a possible hidden heart defect that can lead to sudden cardiac death. The Young Hearts for Life™ initiative is a collaborative effort of community cardiologists, serving Central DuPage Hospital and Edward's Hospital, which provides free electrocardiogram (EKG) screenings for students to help diagnose and prevent sudden cardiac death. With support of WW South principal, Dr. Dawn Snyder, Ron Muhitch, physical education department chair, was instrumental in bringing this program to WWSHS. Colleen Conley, WWSHS's school nurse, Mrs. Debra Discher, a parent volunteer, and Muhitch, have organized this voluntary screening for students. "Even if only one student is detected with this heart condition, anything we can do to prevent a sudden cardiac death is well worth the effort. This collaborative project with our parents, building staff, administration, and Young Hearts for Life™ is exactly what our physical education program promotes. It demonstrates a sincere concern for the well being of our students," said Muhitch.

**The Board took the following action:**

Approved gifts to Lowell Elementary School. Lowell Elementary School received an Educational Alliance Grant from Exxon Mobil in the amount \$750.00. This money will be used to provide materials and/or opportunities for students in the areas of math and science.

Approved gifts to Wheaton Warrenville South High School Athletic Program. The WWSHS Athletic Program has received a donation of \$250.00 to be used for equipment. This monetary gift is from the Martec Group of Chicago, Illinois in the name of Mr. Doug Welker.

**Oral Reports:**

Colin Wilkie, the District's Energy Education Manager, presented the Board of Education its first report on the Energy Education Program that was adopted last year. Energy Education is an initiative to help District 200 save money and conserve precious natural resources. Mr. Wilkie described the program and the savings that have been realized during the first eight months. Three goals serve as the foundation for this program: maintain safety and comfort in occupied areas, eliminate energy waste, and save dollars. Because of this program, not only are taxpayers' dollars spent more effectively, but these savings go back into the classroom not to the utility companies. In addition, students and staff benefit from more comfortable classrooms.

From January to August of this year, the District has saved \$494,696 in electricity, gas, and water costs. Not only is this a wonderful financial benefit, it also has reduced the District's consumption of natural resources. Environmentally, the District has prevented 3,192 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions or the equivalent of annually removing 573 automobiles from the highways.

Energy Education enlists the help of students and staff in finding ways to conserve energy and save money. Turning off computers and lights when they are not in use can make a big difference. Cycling down heating and air conditioning systems on evenings and weekends helps each of the schools meet their goals of reducing consumption. In addition, this program provides learning opportunities for students on how to be responsible users of energy and engages their efforts in helping to protect our environment.

**Next Meeting:**

November 11, 2009 – Johnson Elementary School