

Board of Education Highlights

August 24, 2005 – School Service Center

Public Invited to Wheaton North Open House

Wheaton North High School is hosting an open house from 10 a.m. to Noon Saturday, August 27 to give community members the opportunity to see the additions and improvements that have occurred during the past two years. Attendees will see the new classroom addition, student commons, the Career and Counseling Center, guidance and administrative office, and the new field house. Visitors may enter the school from any door. The additions and renovations were authorized in a 2003 referendum that provided funding for the expansion of both high schools.

Budget Public Hearing:

A public hearing on the proposed 2005-06 budget was held with no members of the public presenting their views on the spending plan. The budget is nearly balanced, showing the lowest deficit (about \$700,000) in the last several years. The budget is the result of several years of program and service reductions as well as efforts to implement efficiencies in all areas of operation. These reductions help offset significantly higher costs for some services over which the District has no control, such as insurance, fuel for bus transportation, and tuition for special education students placed out of district. Overall, revenues for the fiscal year are projected to increase nearly 4 percent over last year, while expenditures are estimated to go up only 1.27 percent. State aid, while increased at the state level, will remain the same for District 200 at about \$9.1 million due to the way the distribution of funds is calculated. While the budget is close to being balanced, it does not provide the opportunity to rebuild balances in the main operating funds which have been appreciably reduced during the last few years. The budget will be on the Board's September 14 Board Meeting agenda as an action item and can be viewed on the District's web page at www.cusd200.org.

The Board took the following action:

- Approved the adoption and purchase of English and Spanish language textbooks for the high school English as a Second Language/bilingual American government course.
- Adopted a revision to policy 4.170, Safety, to conform to a state law that requires school districts to have procedures in place to respond to medical emergencies that occur at indoor physical fitness facilities.
- Approved the appointment of Allison Maggio Biermeister as the interim Director of Professional Development for the 2005-06 school year to replace Natalie Gibbs, who is on maternity leave.

Next Meeting:

September 14 at Emerson Elementary School

