

Reports –**Administrative –****National Blue Ribbon School Recognition –**

Dr. Hall announced that Lincoln Elementary School has been chosen as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Lincoln School is one of 21 schools in the state of Illinois and one of 3 schools outside of the Chicago region to receive this distinction. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program award recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements toward those standards. Since 1982, the U. S. Department of Education has sought out and celebrated great American schools. The National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in outstanding schools.

IESA State Golf Tournament –

Dr. Hall congratulated 8th grade students Tommy Kuhl and Isaac Ingold as top finishers in the recent IESA State Golf Tournament. Tommy is the state champion and Isaac finished in fourth place. Mr. Carter commented that both are leaders and role models at Morton Jr. High School.

Freedom of Information Requests –

Dr. Hall reported there have been no Freedom of Information requests.

Administrator and Teacher Compensation Report –

Dr. Hall reported that the administrator and teacher compensation report that is to be posted by law by October 1 is posted on the district website.

5Essentials Survey –

Dr. Hall reminded Board members that the 5Essentials Survey was taken last year by students, teachers and parents. The Illinois State Board of Education gave the survey and is currently analyzing the data. Participants were given the first statewide opportunity to weigh in on learning conditions and school climate, indicators that have been proven necessary for strong student outcomes, including better attendance and improved student performance. Results will be included in the state school report card due out soon.

Crisis Management Plan Review –

Dr. Teater reported that the crisis committee had their annual meetings last spring. Evacuation procedures were reviewed and the crisis manuals in each building have been updated. Dr. Teater noted that the recent evacuation drill for the Jr. High went well.

Challenge Program Update –

Mr. Saunders reported that the summer challenge program was very successful. The focus for the summer program is on science led by Mrs. Holmgren and Mrs. Zehr. A total of 48 3rd through 6th graders participated learning about Life Science (3rd), Earth Science (4th), Chemistry I (5th) and Chemistry II (6th). Mr. Saunders reported that the Fall Challenge Program is underway at each elementary building for 3rd and 4th grade participants in the reading program and 5th and 6th grade students in the math program. The students change programs at the beginning of the second semester. The Challenge Program is offered after school to students who have scored above the 90th percentile on at least two out of three MAP tests the previous school year.

Key Communicators Group –

Dr. Hall reported that the Key Communicators Groups will have its first meeting on October 29. The meetings will offer the opportunity to meet quarterly with Dr. Hall concerning school issues and board goals.

Those invited to participate were members of the 709Connect coordinating committee and anyone that attended the 709Connect meetings that indicated interest in participating. Board members Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Scarfe will attend as members of the Board of Education communication committee. Dr. Hall noted that anyone interested is invited to attend. At the meeting, she will give a brief overview of current events and then answer questions of those attending.

Facilities Update –

Dr. Hall reported that the new bus facility construction is on schedule. The plans for the new heating system at the high school are on track. Bids will be opened on December 10 and will be approved at a special meeting of the Board of Education on December 17. Dr. Hall reported that the Facility Advisory Committee had recently toured new and refurbished buildings in the Unit 5 School District. The next meeting of the Facility Advisory Committee is scheduled for October 24.

President's Report –

Mr. Heinold noted that former high school teacher and school board member, Howard Getz, passed away this week. He served four terms on the school board.

Mr. Heinold reported that he, Dr. Hall and several school board members had recently attended the Central Illinois Valley Division of the IASB fall dinner meeting at Eureka High School.

Discussion Items –**Board Compliance – Operational Policies -**

Dr. Hall and Mr. Heinold reported that they have reviewed the Operational Policies and have determined that the district is in compliance. They will sign the form and place it in the Master Compliance binder in the District Office.

Tax Levy – Preliminary Overview –

Dr. Hall provided an overview of the proposed 2013 tax levy to be approved in December. A public hearing will be held prior to the approval. She noted that board finance committee members, Mr. Neeley and Mrs. Bernier, met recently with her and Mrs. Getz for review of this information.

Board Goal Discussion: Finance –

Dr. Hall noted that as part of the ongoing monthly discussion of the Board of Education's five goals, this discussion would focus on the goal of finance. The goal reads: "Support student learning (which includes achievement, climate, facilities, communication) in an efficient and cost effective manner."

- The district will assume conservative projections in revenues and expenses in order to maintain current fund balances and provide contingencies for the future.
 - The district will maintain a balanced operating budget on a yearly basis.
 - The district will maintain and review financial projections for the next 3-5 and 5-10 years.
 - The district will maintain the highest ISBE financial rating.
- The board will support growth in district equalized assessed value by working with the EDC and other taxing bodies to increase revenues and decrease burden on local homeowners.
- The district will seek out opportunities for financial partnerships with local corporations.

Dr. Hall reviewed the district's most recent financial profile available on the Illinois State Board of Education website.

<ftp://ftpfinance.isbe.state.il.us/AFRProfile/2012/53090709026.pdf>

Board members discussed the importance of the financial goals and the appreciation of the historical philosophy of past boards.

Acquisition of Land –

Dr. Hall introduced Mr. Jim Benckendorf who facilitated the board over the past few years in exploring the possibility of purchasing land. Mr. Benckendorf reviewed the process including the search for approximately 100 acres and making contact with land

Motion carried.

Closed Session –

Motion by Mrs. Bernier, second by Mr. Applen, that the Board of Education enter into closed session for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of employees, student discipline, purchase of property, litigation and/or negotiations. (5 ILSC 120/2 115 ILCS 5/18)

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 8:35 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Applen, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that the Board of Education return to regular session.

Roll Call Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The board returned to regular session at 9:05 p.m.

Dr. Hall explained the classroom space availability sheet that was discussed at the recent Facility Advisory Committee meeting. The sheet can be viewed on the district website along with other information from the Facility Advisory Committee meetings.

Adjournment -

Motion by Mr. Neeley, second by Mrs. Scarfe, that the meeting be adjourned.

Voice Vote: Yea 7 Nay 0

Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Bernier, Secretary

Clint Heinold, President