



West Northfield School District 31

# Board Briefs

Board of Education Regular Meeting — July 17, 2012

*Board Briefs is a summary of developments at Board of Education Meetings for the community and staff.*

## 2011-2013

### Board of Education

David A. Handler, President  
Jeffrey M. Silver,  
Vice President  
Mary Crowe-Richards,  
Secretary  
Michael Berkowitz  
Shel Leshner  
Bonnie Schoenberg  
Robert Spector

Dr. Alexandra Nicholson  
Superintendent

*Board of Education meetings are held on the second and/or fourth Thursdays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Learning Center at Field School. The public is invited to attend.*

### **Board Meeting held at NSSED District Services Center, 760 Red Oak Lane, Highland Park**

**Tour of North Shore Academy:** Dr. Tim Thomas welcomed the District 31 Board Members and Administrators to NSSED and thanked them for their support for the special needs services provided to consortium school district members from the North Shore. Dr. Doug Boulton took the group to the adjacent building for a short tour of the new North Shore Academy. He explained the programs offered for the 140 middle school and high school students who are enrolled in this alternative school as the group visited various classrooms and school facilities. As a member district of the NSSED consortium, District 31 students use many of the services provided by NSSED including North Shore Academy.

**Consent Agenda:** The Board approved the Consent Agenda that included approving the employment of Katie Porter as a Field 6th grade teacher, Anthony Urgo as a full-time custodian, and Karen Schur as a part-time speech language pathologist. The Board accepted a donation from the PTC for Winkelman School literacy materials valued at \$1,523.18.

### **Action Items:**

- **Band Program Five-Year Plan:** The Board approved funding for a number of new band program initiatives including: 1) Purchasing band uniforms for the top Symphonic Band for use in competitions; 2) Auditioning for the University of Illinois Super State Band Festival; 3) Taking the band to the Illinois Music Education Association state convention; 4) Purchasing several new instruments over the next five years; and 5) Having one additional clinician work with the band each year.
- The Board granted tenure to a Winkelman teacher.
- The Board approved a leave of absence request.

**2012-2013 Strategic Plan Presentation:** Dr. Alexandra Nicholson reviewed the 2012-2013 Strategic Plan goals, objectives, and activities for Educational Programming, Finance, Communication, Community, Operations, Personnel and Extra and Co-Curricular Activities. This detailed report is available on the District website.

### **Information and Discussion Items**

- **Quest Food Services :** The Board approved a 10 cent increase in the cost of the daily lunch special for the new school year bringing the meal cost to \$3.65. Cathy Lauria reported that Quest will continue to build on the successes of last year and offer new and fun nutritionally sound food options with even more freshly made “scratch cooked items” and more fresh fruits and vegetables. Special options include Quest’s signature whole roasted beef and pork; char-broiled burgers and chicken breasts made at GBN and delivered fresh to Field School; homemade chili from scratch; homemade soups; real mashed potatoes as an option instead of fries; hand-breaded chicken tenders; authentic homemade Mexican salsas; Action Stations for special meals including Italian pasta toss, omelets made to order, fried rice station, oriental stir-fry station, wild wings station, sizzling salad station and baked potato/mashed potato bar; and increased use of organic produce.
- **Enrollment and Staffing:** Dr. Nicholson reported the July enrollment report for the coming school year currently stands at 809 students, however registration is still ongoing for the new school year and that number is expected to increase. Interviews for the remaining staffing vacancies are currently being conducted, including a Russian bilingual teacher, Spanish bilingual teacher, literacy coach, and special education assistants.

**Next Meeting:** The Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, in the Field School Learning Center, 2055 Landwehr Road, Northbrook.

Please note that Board Briefs are summaries of major items covered during the Board meeting. Detailed minutes are posted on the District’s web site following their formal approval by the Board during the next month’s Board of Education meeting.