



Feb. 24, 2010

Board At Work



News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

Engaging the community in the future

Team of parents, staff and community members leading work on new facilities plan

Pattonville is embarking on an effort to involve its community in the planning of facility improvements. In November and December, the district spent time gathering information needed to assemble a preliminary list of needs. District officials reviewed projects that had been identified in the 2006 facilities plan that were not part of the 2006 bond issue due to higher priority needs at the time.

District facilities leaders also gathered input from school principals and each building's School Improvement Team, which are leadership teams made up of half parents and half staff members. They combined this information with suggestions made through a district committee focused on athletic and activity needs in order to come up with a preliminary facilities plan.

Now, the district is working with a facilitating team of parents, staff and community members to enable more members of the community to become informed about and provide input on Pattonville's facility needs. This input will be received and analyzed by this community group for a report to the Board of Education.

Two community co-chairs will be leading the process - Pat Bryant, a former Board of Education president and Pattonville alumnus, and Lewis Lee, a parent with students at Briar Crest Elementary and Holman Middle School. The team will have its initial meeting on Monday, March 1.

This summer, the Pattonville Board of Education is expected to review and vote on a draft facilities plan and determine a funding mechanism after the community has had the opportunity for input.

Fulton chosen for "New Superintendent Award"

Dr. Michael Fulton, superintendent of the Pattonville School District, has been chosen to receive the Missouri Association of School Administrators (MASA) New Superintendent Award for the greater St. Louis area. Although he will accept his award during the upcoming MASA spring conference, he earned a surprise recognition by the Pattonville Board of Education and staff members during the Feb. 23 board meeting. The board invited his family to the meeting and presented him with bookends that marked his achievement.

Each year, MASA presents an award to an outstanding new Missouri superintendent from each MASA district in recognition of outstanding performances in the demonstration of those skills that reflect the best in educational leadership. Nominees are practicing superintendents in their second or third year of employment as a superintendent; have never served as a superintendent of schools in another state; made a measurable contribution to the school district they serve as a new superintendent as verified by one or more practicing superintendents from their MASA district and be a member of MASA at the time of nomination.

Fulton is in his second year as superintendent in Pattonville. He previously served Pattonville as assistant superintendent from 1997 to 2007.



Board President Ruth Petrov hands a gift of appreciation to Dr. Mike Fulton, who has been chosen for the "New Superintendent Award."

ELL serves students needing English language assistance

Pattonville's English Language Learner (ELL) program provides instruction for students whose first language is something other than English. In Pattonville, more than 25 different languages are spoken by Pattonville students and families. On Feb. 23, the Pattonville Board of Education reviewed an evaluation of the ELL program. Highlights of the evaluation included the following information:

- Elementary and middle school teachers have been trained on instructional strategies for English Language Learners;
- Staffing for the program is based on the number of students and the extent of each student's needs for language support and instruction;
- Program objectives will be revised to maintain federal program compliance; and
- Additional training will be provided for regular education teachers in the 2010-2011 school year on working with ELL students.

Pattonville has had an ELL program since 1990. Currently, 10 teachers and six paraprofessionals serve 283 students in the following schools: Briar Crest Elementary, Bridgeway Elementary, Drummond Elementary, Parkwood Elementary, Willow Brook Elementary, Holman Middle School, Pattonville Heights Middle School, and Pattonville High School. When the school year begins, teachers refer students in need of ELL services. Each referred student is individually assessed for need for services and instructional placement. Students in kindergarten through eighth grade average 200 minutes of instruction per week. Students at the high school receive daily ELL instruction and additional support in content area classes as needed. Among the various first languages represented are Amharic, Arabic, Bosnian, Cantonese, Chinese, Croatian, Fulan, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Mandarin, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese, and Urdu.

Staff training designed to support district goals

Pattonville's professional development program provides learning opportunities that enable teachers, administrators, and counselors to improve student achievement and provide a positive learning environment. Support staff members receive training designed to improve their ability to perform their job responsibilities. On Feb. 23, the Pattonville Board of Education reviewed an evaluation of Pattonville's training program for staff members. The evaluation showed the following results:

- The district's Professional Development Committee trained a group of teachers to provide training in Pattonville's Literacy Project to new teachers. The Literacy Project trains teachers to infuse reading, writing and critical thinking into all subject areas. A Literacy Project refresher was presented to middle and high school principals and teachers.
- Two administrators were trained to be in-district presenters/trainers for social justice, which provides long-term cost savings over bringing in outside presenters. Social justice provides training that helps staff members cultivate and foster positive relationships through open communication that promotes understanding of the diverse abilities, cultures, families, races and socioeconomic backgrounds in Pattonville while providing meaningful and relevant educational opportunities for ALL Pattonville students.
- In 2008-2009, the high school staff received training on standards-based grading. The staff chose three changes in grading practices to adopt for 2009-2010. This year, Holman, Heights and Remington Traditional School Improvement Teams and staff will receive training in standards-based grading.
- In the fall of 2009, staff members received training in using a new assessment tool for student learning, AIMSweb. They also received training in strategic monitoring, which involves monthly assessments to determine the success of academic interventions for struggling students.

Areas identified for improvement include:

- Analyze teachers' professional development survey results and develop administrator support plans based on feedback from teachers;
- Retrain teachers in using the graphic organizers from the Literacy Project; graphic organizers such as charts or graphs provide students a way to visually organize their thoughts before starting to write;
- Provide professional development to successfully implement Response to Intervention (RtI); RtI is a process that uses data to provide research-based instruction and interventions matched to a student's needs;
- Train additional social justice presenters to allow for more building-based training; and
- Develop a long-term professional development plan that best meets needs of Pattonville students.

Superintendent's Update

Michael A. Fulton, Ed.D., Superintendent

Spring Musical/55+ Club

Kudos to Pattonville High School on its production of "Once Upon a Mattress." The musical was popular among audience-goers of all ages, and the students did an outstanding job in the play, whether on stage, in the orchestra pit or behind the scenes. Thanks to all the staff members who directed our students in the show. More than 500 older adult residents in our 55+ Club enjoyed the musical and a dinner during the Thursday and Friday night performances, and as always, our guests had high praise for the students in the play and those who volunteered to help with the dinner. Thanks to students and staff with the high school's International Club, National Honor Society and English Language Learner program for volunteering at the dinners prior to the play.



New Web links on Pattonville's site

As Pattonville continues to improve its Web site, we have now added a section for realtors and new residents. The new site includes everything from how to find your neighborhood school to residency requirements to curriculum guides. Look on the right side of the Web page under "Web Tools" to find the new Web link. Also new to the Web site is a link to information on programs for older adults in our community, including the 55+ Club and OASIS tutoring program. This link can be found under the "Community" tab in the Web tools menu.



Above, PHS students in "Once Upon A Mattress" included (above) Evan Fornachon as the minstrel, Aaron Landgraf as the king, Megan Jones as the jester, and (at left) Luke Morin as Prince Dauntless and Madison Sportsman as Princess Fred.

Kindergarten Registration

March 9 is an important date for parents who have children entering kindergarten in Pattonville in August 2010. On this date, Pattonville will enroll students for 2010-2011 kindergarten classes. Elementary school offices will be open from 9 to 11:30 a.m., 12:30 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. on this day. Children should be registered in the school office at the elementary school currently serving the area where their home is located. To find the school in your attendance area, visit www.psd3.org/map and type in your address in the search field. Children who are currently in a Pattonville preschool program or Parents As Teachers will also need to enroll for kindergarten. In order to attend kindergarten next school year, children must be 5 years old on or before July 31, 2010. Pattonville's Parents As Teachers program offers free kindergarten screening. Parents interested in an evaluation that includes health and developmental progress for children ages 3 1/2 and older should contact the Parents As Teachers office at (314) 213-8105 prior to April 30.

Veteran Honorary Diploma Program

For the ninth year in a row, Pattonville will award honorary high school diplomas to veterans who left high school before graduation to serve in the United States military during foreign conflicts. The ceremony will take place during Pattonville High School commencement ceremonies, slated for 7 p.m., Thursday, June 3 at the Family Arena in St. Charles. Since 2002, Pattonville has awarded more than 100 honorary diplomas to veterans of World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm. The program is open to any resident or former resident of Missouri. Family members may apply on behalf of a deceased veteran. Applications to receive a diploma may be obtained by calling (314) 213-8025 or by downloading the forms at www.psd3.org/services/community_relations/. Deadline to return applications to Pattonville in order to participate in this year's graduation ceremony is Friday, March 12. Diplomas may also be sent directly to the veteran if the person chooses not to participate in the graduation ceremonies.

Business Bits

Board Actions

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 23:

- Reviewed upcoming out-of-town trips by the DECA Marketing group and Student Council members at Pattonville High School;
- Approved the Vocational-Technical Education Enhancement Grant application for the Business and Technology departments, with a district match in funds, if awarded, of \$23,122; and
- Approved the Professional Studies economic agreement for the 2010-2011 school year.

Bid Awards

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 23 awarded the following bids:

- \$44,376 to Interface Security Systems for alarm system monitoring;
- \$31,216 to Spectrum Lawn and Tree Care for the renewal of the turf maintenance agreement for the period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011;
- \$59,754 to Haddock Educational Technologies for 46 Promethean Boards;
- \$37,950 to CDWG for video projection systems; and
- \$84,401 to Wyman for facility use, lodging and meals for 5th grade camps for all Pattonville elementary schools.

New Hire

- **Joan Mooney**, bus driver, transportation

Pattonville Online
www.psdr3.org

Calendars

Pattonville maintains up-to-date calendars online. Click on the calendar tab in the left navigation column to view :

- An activities calendar of all school and district-level events; and
- An athletic calendar of Pattonville High School sporting events.

BoardDocs

Details of items discussed at board meetings can be found online. Click on any tab in the Web Tools menu on the right to find a link to Pattonville's BoardDocs page.

Your Board of Education

Ruth Petrov, President
Bob Dillon, Secretary
Ralph Stahlhut, Treasurer
Ron Kuschel, Director
Patty Polster, Director
Jeanne Schottmueller, Director

Making News

Special recognition of Pattonville students, staff and volunteers

District-Wide

3rd and 6th in State Quiz Bowl

Pattonville fifth-graders who participate in Pattonville's ALPHA elementary gifted education program recently took third- and sixth-place honors at the state Quiz Bowl, an academic contest consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions. Areas covered included math, geography, government, sports, spelling, science, literature, English, history and general information. Two ALPHA teams participated in this contest. Students on the team that scored 3rd place in the state rankings are Henry Bodde, Aaron Clark, Hannah Decker, Julie Ensor, Harry Godwin, Joshua Holtgrieve, Seth Martin, Katie McNeary, Ross Reynolds, Bailey Schaefermeier, Nathan Skelton, Micah Thompkins and Joshua Zahner. Students on the team that scored 6th place are Philip Cibulka, Aman Khurana, Cameron Kraeger, Jacob Leonard, Jordin McGehee, Ben Moser, Nick Pruett, Nathan Russell, Griffin Stoeckel, Olivia Wedig, Joshua White and Karlie Wright. These students are coached by Elizabeth Brisch and Nancy Brennan.



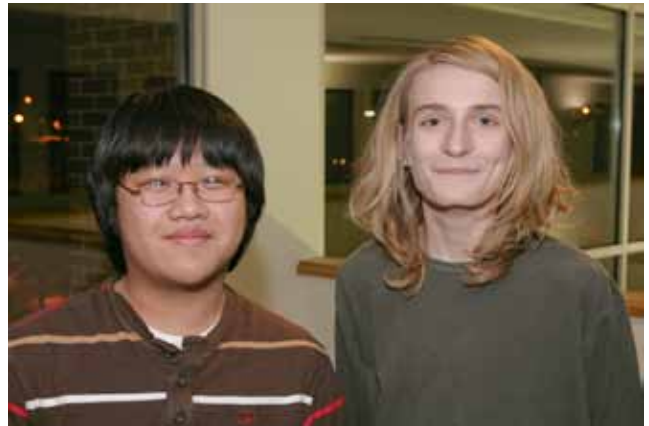
Students in Pattonville's ALPHA elementary gifted program who placed in the state Quiz Bowl competition are shown above. They are, front row, from left, Philip Cibulka, Katie McNeary and Bailey Schaefermeier; second row, Jordin McGehee, Griffin Stoeckel, Hannah Decker and Olivia Wedig; third row, Harry Godwin, Ross Reynolds and Jacob Leonard; and fourth row, Ben Moser and Nick Pruett.

Regional Science Olympiad

Five Pattonville students recently participated in the Regional Science Olympiad competition. Pattonville's team placed in nine out of 12 events, and all of the participating students received awards. The students and the awards they took are:

- Ming Chan from Pattonville High School, second place in "Ornithology," third place in "Ecology," fourth place in "Bio-Process Lab" and fourth in "Road Scholar";
- Kyle Dunsford from Pattonville Heights Middle School, fourth place in "Road Scholar" and in "Solar System";
- Nick Huber from the high school, first place in "Compute This," second place in "Ornithology," third place in "Ecology" and fourth place in "Fossils";
- James Perrin from Pattonville Heights, second place in "Write it Do it," fourth place in "Junkyard Challenge" and fourth place in "Solar System"; and
- Bryce Prichard from Pattonville Heights, first place in "Compute This," second place in "Write it Do it" and fourth place in "Junkyard Challenge."

These students are coached by Peter Schmoeker.



Pattonville High School students who placed in the Regional Science Olympiad included, Ming Chan, left, and Nick Huber.

District-Wide

DAR Good Citizen Program

Several Pattonville students were recently recognized in the Good Citizen Program sponsored by the O'Fallon chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR).

Shannon Flanakin, a senior at Pattonville High School, was named the DAR "Good Citizen." The Good Citizen program and Scholarship Contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The student selected as the school's DAR Good Citizen must demonstrate the qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism to an outstanding degree. An essay written by Flanakin for the program has been submitted to the state level for scholarship consideration.

Several other students were recognized with the DAR Good Citizenship Medal-National Defense Award. Recipients who were recommended by their principals for the award were: Ian Barclay, an eighth-grader from Remington Traditional School; Holly Laws, a seventh-grader from Remington; Katie McNeary, a fifth-grader from Parkwood Elementary; Darnell Payne, a sixth-grader from Remington; and Abigail Schrupf, a fifth-grader from Remington. The Good Citizenship Medal is for a boy or girl (grades 5-11), one medal per grade per school, who fulfills the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership, and patriotism, such as Scouts, police cadets, and other community service organizations.



Pattonville students honored as "Good Citizens" were, from left, Holly Laws, Katie McNeary and Darnell Payne.

Pattonville High School

Thespians at State Conference

Members of Pattonville's Thespian Troupe 1934 were recognized as an Honor Troupe at the Missouri State Thespian Conference. The students receiving the honor were Annsley Cullop, Madison Emerick, Evan Fornachon, Brittney Freeman, Jessi Hackbarth, Lora Hakanson, Megan Jones, Luke Morin, Erica Ream, Madison Sportsman and Danielle Schaeffer. Schaeffer also won a Missouri State Thespian Technical Theatre Scholarship for a \$1,000 at the conference.



Pattonville High School thespians were named as an Honor Troupe at the Missouri State Thespian Conference. Shown are, from left, Evan Fornachon, Annsley Cullop, Lora Hakanson and Megan Jones.

Perfect Bowling Score

Sophomore Dylan Dorey recently bowled a perfect 300 at the Youth Scholarship City Tournament held at Kingpin Lanes.

Student Art Exhibit at Florissant Valley

Three high school seniors had artwork displayed at the High School Art Exhibition at Florissant Valley Community College. They are Christen Baker, Nallely Mejia and Melanie Pailer. Each student had two pieces of artwork shown at the exhibition. Baker and Pailer both received honorable mention awards.



Dylan Dorey



Nallely Mejia

SSD Building Block Award

Libbyanne Nguyen will receive the Special School District (SSD) Building Block award on March 4. The award honors SSD's outstanding paraprofessionals based on their skills and dedication to students.