



April 14, 2010

Board At Work



News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

Planning for Facility Needs at Our Schools... Aging schools, ongoing needs

During the month of April, the Pattonville School District is gathering feedback on a draft of a new facilities plan that addresses priorities for repairs and updates to all Pattonville schools.

A Facilitating Team of parents, staff and community members is guiding Pattonville Legacy, a community engagement program designed to gather feedback from the Pattonville community on the draft plan before it goes to the Board of Education for approval. Two community co-chairs are 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.

A Legacy Open House is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday, April 20, in the cafeteria at Pattonville High School. This event will enable residents to find out more about the draft plan and provide feedback. Information will be available on possible improvements at all Pattonville schools.

Nearly all of Pattonville's schools are between 40 to 50 years old and require ongoing repairs, updates and improvements. For this reason, Pattonville updates its facilities master plan every four to five years. The district has a long tradition of involving parents, staff and community members in developing these plans. The new plan being developed has identified three key areas to be addressed:

- **Ongoing maintenance and repair needs of aging schools**, including heating and cooling equipment replacements, new windows and doors, roof repairs, lighting replacements, new ceiling tiles and asphalt repairs;
- **Enhancing school safety and security**, which includes replacing fire and intrusion alarm systems at all schools, installing additional security cameras, fencing some playgrounds and renovating nurses' offices; and
- **Providing facilities to support lifetime fitness and student involvement**; this includes tracks at the middle schools and a new stadium, field and pool at Pattonville High School.

Pattonville's long history of stable leadership and consistent goals has allowed the district to carefully plan for the future. Pattonville is in a unique situation in that it can issue up to \$40 million in bonds to pay for items in a new facilities plan without increasing the debt service tax rate residents pay. In June, the Pattonville Board of Education is expected to review and vote on the draft facilities plan and determine a funding mechanism after the community has had an opportunity to provide feedback.

Residents can provide feedback by completing the online feedback form at the Legacy Web site (legacy.psd3.org). All feedback is due by April 30. More information on the draft plan, along with a video and Frequently Asked Questions, can be found at this Web site.

PATTONVILLE Legacy Planning for Success Now and in the Future

Join Us at the Legacy Open House



A Legacy Open House is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m., Tuesday, April 20, in the cafeteria at Pattonville High School. This event will enable residents to find out more about the draft plan and provide feedback. Participants are welcome to come and go at their convenience. Information will be shared on making improvements at all Pattonville schools.

We want your feedback

Through the Pattonville Legacy Program, Pattonville residents can provide feedback on the draft of this new facilities plan before it is approved by the Board of Education. Just visit the Legacy Web site (legacy.psd3.org) and fill out the online feedback form. More information on the draft plan, along with a video and Frequently Asked Questions, can be found at this Web site. All feedback is due April 30.

Find Out More: legacy.psd3.org

Newly elected school board members sworn into office

Three board members were sworn into office during the April 13 meeting of the Pattonville Board of Education. Sworn into office were returning board members Ruth Petrov and Bob Dillon, who were elected to three-year terms, and new board member Tami Hohenstein, who was elected to a one-year term.

The board also voted on officers and annual appointments to various organizations. The officers are as follows: Bob Dillon, president; Jeanne Schottmueller, vice president; Ron Kuschel, secretary; and Ralph Stahlhut, treasurer. Tami Hohenstein was appointed to the Pattonville Education Foundation. Ruth Petrov was appointed as a delegate to the Missouri School Boards Association, with Patty Polster appointed as alternate. Ron Kuschel was re-appointed as the board member to represent Pattonville on the Governing Council of the Special School District, with Patty Polster as alternate.



Board Treasurer Ralph Stahlhut, left, administers the oath of office to newly elected board members. They are, from left, Ruth Petrov, Tami Hohenstein and Bob Dillon.

School board finalizes end of year calendar dates

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 13 approved updated end of school dates for the current school year, following the use of weather emergency days earlier this winter.

Per state law, six emergency days were built into this year's calendar for use during inclement weather or other emergencies. Pattonville only used three days due to inclement weather. Because of this, the district is rolling back its end of the year calendar to reflect the three days that were not used. The last day for students in kindergarten through 11th grade is May 27. The last day for high school seniors is May 24. The last day for staff members is May 28. Other end of year dates are as follows:

- **Graduation** – June 3 (at 7 p.m. at the Family Arena in St. Charles)
- **High School summer school** – June 7 through July 1
- **K-8 summer school** – June 7 through 25

If any emergency days are used before the end of the school year, the calendar will be revised accordingly.

Board selects assistant principal for high school

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 13 approved the selection of Luke Lammers as assistant principal of Pattonville High School. He will begin his new role on July 1. He will replace Jeff Walker, who was chosen as the new principal of St. Charles High School.

Lammers is currently dean of students and the ninth-grade principal at Francis Howell Central High School. He also has previous experience as principal of high school and middle school summer school programs in Francis Howell School District. Prior to his administrative experiences, Lammers was a high school social studies teacher.

Lammers holds a bachelor's degree in history from Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids, IA, and a master's degree in educational administration from Lindenwood University.

Board approves updated technology plan for 2010-2013

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requires local school districts to update their technology plan every three years. A board-approved plan is also required to receive federal funding through the E-Rate Program. On April 13, the Pattonville Board of Education approved an updated technology plan that will serve the district from 2010 to 2013. The district technology committee, which is comprised of parents, students, staff, board members and business community members, presented the plan to the board during its first meeting of the month.

The plan defines how technology will support the mission, goals and objectives of the district and provides objectives in five areas: Student Performance, Highly Qualified Staff, Governance, Parent and Community Involvement, and Facilities, Support and Instructional Resources. Objectives were developed by the technology committee to define what Pattonville should do with technology to support these five themes. Each objective then has one or more strategies that define how that objective may be achieved. Below is a look at the objectives outlined in the new plan:

- **Student Performance** - Assess students' technology skills; enhance student learning by using proven educational technology; and make learning resources available to students 24/7;
- **High Quality Staff** - Provide high quality technology professional development; provide equitable technology professional development to all staff; and support teachers as they integrate technology into their instruction;
- **Governance** - Use technology to help manage the district efficiently; and review and communicate all technology-related policies and changes;
- **Parent and community involvement** - Use technology to improve communications with district stakeholders; and
- **Facilities, support and instruction resources** - Provide students and teachers with 24/7 access to educational technology; provide sufficient network resources; provide centralized selection and purchasing for educational technology resources; maintain operation of critical technology systems in the event of a disaster; provide high quality technical support; and use technology to help improve operations within district departments.

The district technology committee met four times, but also used a Wiki during and between meetings to facilitate, record and discuss the technology plan. A Wiki is a collaborative Web site that allows multiple users who have access to the site to contribute and collaborate on a project.

Accomplishments from the 2007-2010 plan

- Provided 2,575 laptops on carts for student use
- Revised the advanced teacher technology training program (Integrator) to provide more teacher support
- Implemented a new financial management system
- Included "Technology Integration" as a component of School Improvement Plans
- Increased Internet access speeds

Registration open for Pattonville Wellness Run/Walk

Pattonville will hold its 22nd annual Wellness Run/Walk on Saturday, May 15, beginning at Pattonville High School, 2497 Creve Coeur Mill Road in Maryland Heights. The 5K run/walk (3.1 miles) will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by a one-mile medal run/walk for children at 9:30 a.m.

Awards will be given to the 5K overall finishers and the first three finishers in each age division. Refreshments will be available after the races, and attendance prizes will be awarded during the awards ceremony. The cost of the event is \$10 per individual. Family members at same residence are \$20 for two participants, \$25 for three, \$30 for four and \$40 for five or more if you register prior to the race date. Registration forms can be found at the district Web site (www.psd3.org) under "Seasonal Events" or you may pick up a form at the front office of any Pattonville school. For more information, contact Claire Steiner, Pattonville wellness coordinator, at (314) 213-8010.

Pattonville's gifted program serves nearly 400 students

Nearly 400 students (or 7 percent) of Pattonville's students are served in the district's gifted education program. The program is designed to address the special needs of gifted students and to further student potential. Selection for the program is consistent with Missouri state guidelines and is based on a combination of achievement and aptitude scores and nominations from parents and staff. An evaluation report on the program presented to the school board on April 13 showed:

- As a result of the gifted study group for the high school, a new course, Gifted Research, will be offered beginning in 2010-2011. This will allow gifted students the opportunity to develop and complete an advanced research project.
- An ALPHA teacher attended each of the elementary grade-level meetings this fall, which focused on best instructional practices and working with students at all instructional levels.
- All of the gifted teachers were able to attend the National Gifted Conference last fall in St. Louis. The learning gained from this professional development opportunity will add to the gifted study group, which continues to meet.

The gifted program study team (composed of gifted and regular teachers, counselors, administrators, and parents) will continue its work in 2010-2011 and make recommendations for identification procedures, develop an acceleration policy, make recommendations for the middle school PEGS program, and make recommendations for the high school gifted program. The district will also review how staffing is handled at the elementary level and provide regular education teachers support to differentiate their instruction for gifted students in the regular education classroom.

About Pattonville's Gifted Program

Elementary - Students in grades 1 through 5 attend the ALPHA Center one day per week. Kindergarten students identified through KONNECT lessons attend one-half day during the second semester.

Middle school - Students meet daily for one class period; Remington Traditional students in grades 6-8 follow the middle school curriculum with services provided by a gifted teacher at their site.

High school - Students attend the Gifted Honors English class for grades 9 through 12 and receive English credit. Senior class activities include seminar discussions, scholarly writing, independent study and preparation for the Advanced Placement (AP) Literature and Language Arts tests.

Exceptionally Gifted - Pattonville hosts the north campus of the Program for Exceptionally Gifted Students (PEGS), which provides a full-time, multi-age, enriched and extended academic program for those exceptionally gifted students who need an alternative to the regular classroom.

Teacher/Support Staff of the Year

Pattonville recently named finalists and semifinalists in its employee recognition program for certified and support staff. All these individuals will be recognized at District Appreciation Night on Monday, May 3 at Pattonville High School.

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been named finalists for Pattonville Teacher of the Year:

- **Elementary** - Debbie Bicket, library media specialist, Rose Acres Elementary, Jennifer Zurweller-Ballmann, kindergarten teacher, Bridgeway Elementary, and Christina Curtis, fourth-grade teacher, Briar Crest Elementary
- **Middle** - Janet Baldwin, SIGMA middle school gifted teacher, Remington Traditional School, Claudia Benbow, English Language Learner teacher, Holman Middle School, and Lauren Niewald, sixth-grade teacher, Remington Traditional School
- **Pattonville High School** - Holly Martinez, business education teacher, Erin Mulanax, science teacher, and Julie Kampschroeder, college/career counselor

One individual at each level will be selected as a finalist for Pattonville Teacher of the Year. Also, congratulations to the following individuals who have been named semifinalists for Pattonville Support Staff Employee of the Year: Judy Zahner, executive secretary at Pattonville Heights Middle School, Janet Blake, paraprofessional at Pattonville Heights Middle School, Eva Whitfield, custodian at Bridgeway Elementary, Phaeng (Mike) Ratanasitee, custodian at Pattonville Heights Middle School, Vernita Enloe, executive secretary at Bridgeway Elementary, and Margaret Albrecht, parent educator at the Pattonville Learning Center.

Three finalists will be chosen from this group to be considered for the honor of Pattonville's Support Staff Employee of the Year.

Pride of Pattonville

Congratulations to the 2010 recipients of the Pride of Pattonville Award. This year's honorees are: Cindy Hale - Parent volunteer at Bridgeway Elementary, Drummond Elementary, Holman Middle School and Pattonville High School; Dana Lindsey - Graphic designer at the Pattonville print shop; Dr. David Miller - Pattonville's Library Media Coordinator; Dr. Scot Mosher - Principal of Pattonville Heights Middle School; Sandy Recor - Business education teacher at Pattonville High School; Donna Reynolds - Lead cook at Bridgeway Elementary; Tracey Robinson - PEGS (Program for Exceptionally Gifted Students) teacher at Drummond Elementary; Marilyn Sadler - Custodial supervisor at Holman Middle School; Greg Stoltz - Third-grade teacher at Parkwood Elementary; and Becky Vik - Parent volunteer at Rose Acres, Holman and the High School.

These awards are given to recognize excellence in performance, service, character and contributions demonstrated by those who serve the Pattonville School District.

Superintendent's Update

Michael A. Fulton, Ed.D., Superintendent

Pattonville High School student getting “MADE” MTV-style

Pattonville High School sophomore Mikala McGhee may be known for her prowess on the soccer field, but soon, the nation will see her footwork as a ballroom dancer. Mikala's dream of becoming a ballroom dancer is receiving a nudge closer to reality with the help of the MTV reality show, “MADE.” This show is about helping teens make their dreams come true. According to the show Web site, “We're here to prove that with dedication, hard work and a little help from MTV, kids just like you can accomplish anything they set their minds to.” A camera crew from MTV will be filming Mikala for six weeks as she moves toward her goal. The training will culminate when Mikala performs at a school-wide talent contest at 7 p.m., May 15 sponsored by SPEAK (Students Promoting Equality and Acceptance through Knowledge), the student social justice group at Pattonville High School.



Mikala McGhee

A first in Missouri

Dr. Lisa Luna-Schwarz, principal of Remington Traditional school, recently became the first school administrator from Missouri to be selected to the National Staff Development Leadership Academy. Selection to the academy involves a rigorous application and interview process. As part of the academy, she will work with professional development leaders from around the nation and learn best leadership practices. She will also conduct research based on her learning and will present her research and findings during the 2012 National Staff Development Conference. Her work will be published in the National Staff Development Council Education Journal.



Lisa Luna-Schwarz

Emerald Reflections “Going Green”

Pattonville students of all ages will read poems, short stories and other pieces they wrote for Pattonville's 20th annual “Emerald Reflections” anthology during a reading and reception from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Monday April 19 in the Holman Middle School cafeteria. Students throughout the district were invited to write on the topic, “Going Green.” The event is open to the public.

Taste of Pattonville a tasty success

Pattonville showed up in a big way to sample some good food and support a good cause. More than 450 people attended Pattonville High School's fourth annual “Taste of Pattonville” Sampler Night, a fun event featuring samples from restaurants and businesses in the Pattonville area. Proceeds benefit the school's Renaissance and Character Education Committee. Nearly 30 restaurants from around the area participated.

The Legacy Team

Thanks to the team of individuals who have been giving their time over the last month or more to guide the Pattonville Legacy Program (see front page for details). The team is chaired by Pat Bryant, a former school board member and Pattonville alumnus, and Lewis Lee, a parent with children at Briar Crest Elementary and Holman Middle School. The team is made up of a wonderful mix of parents, staff and community members, and they have been doing a great job bringing our draft facilities plan to the community for feedback. Thanks to our other team members: Ron Abernathy, community member; Gary Brown, parent; Supriya Deshpande, staff; Patty Gould, staff/parent; Bob Jercinovic, staff; Janet Johnson, parent; Miriam Kerns, community member; Mike LeBlanc, community member; Randy McArthur, community member; Ron Orr, staff; Ruth Petrov, Board of Education; Patty Polster, Board of Education; Mickey Schoonover, staff/parent; Linda Shead, grandparent; Andrea Snowden, parent; Santiago Solorio, parent; Julia Weingart, teacher; and Ronnie Wright, parent.

Business Bits

Paying the Bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 13 approved paying:

- \$1,237,248.93 in regular bills;
- \$81,713.82 in cafeteria bills;
- \$448,253.51 in purchases made on Pattonville's purchasing cards; and
- \$5,949.50 to Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis, and Giljum for legal services.

Board Actions

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 13:

- Reviewed upcoming out-of-town trips by the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) and DECA (marketing education group) from Pattonville High School;
- Lodged for action (reviewed) updates to the elementary and middle school Student Behavior Guides for the 2010-2011 school year; the board is expected to vote on the changes during its April 27th board meeting;
- Approved the second year of an economic agreement with the Pattonville Educational Support Professionals (PESP) for the 2010-2011 school year;
- Approved the salary schedule for "Salaried Support Staff" for the 2010-2011 school year; and
- Approved the letter of intent between Pattonville and Youth In Need, supporting Youth in Need's, together with Camp Wyman's, application for securing funding resources from the St. Louis County Children's Service Fund.

Bid Awards

The Pattonville Board of Education on April 13 awarded the following bids:

- \$7,747.27 to French Gerleman Electric for electrical supplies;
- \$14,540 to Roland Machinery Company for a tow-behind, gas-powered air compressor;
- \$7,700 to United Infrastructure Corporation for design specification and third-party air monitoring for the abatement of asbestos floor tile and mastic;
- \$55,283.07 to Division 9 Interiors for flooring projects;
- \$17,474 to the Missouri State Contract Awarded vendor Joe Machines Ford for a pick-up truck; and
- The elementary school picture bid and the middle school picture bid to Wagner Portrait Group.

New Hire

- **Elizabeth Bogert**, fifth-grade teacher, Parkwood
- **Jon Fitzgerald**, social studies teacher, High School

Retirements

- **Dr. Paul Markovits**, instructional math and science coordinator, effective June 30, after serving 11 years in Pattonville
- **Joan Udziela**, speech-language pathologist, effective June 15, after serving six years in Pattonville
- **James Cornell**, custodian, Drummond, effective March 5, after serving Pattonville for 12 years
- **Kevin Fischer**, custodian, Holman, effective June 30, after serving Pattonville 29 years

Pattonville Online
www.psd3.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

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