

This is a summary of the actions of the Oak Park and River Forest High School Board of Education at its Regular Board meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2005:

Board Recognition Board of Education members recognized and commended the following students: Joshua Clark who took the Bronze Medal at the National ACT-SO competition in Milwaukee for oratory; Zachary Snorden who won the Berklee College of Music Special Scholarship for his saxophone performance at the National ACT-SO competition, and their coaches Daphne LeCesne and Patt Cheney; as well as Kathryn Gevitz who brought home the silver medal in the triple jump from the State Track and Field meet and her coach, Sarah McCabe.

- Board Actions**
- approved the Consent Items: open minutes of May 19, 23, 26, June 2, 14, 16, and 20, 2005, personnel recommendations, financial reports, Policy 4112, Controversial Issues, as amended, and Policy 5134, Student Dress and Grooming, as amended;
 - accepted with gratitude from Tom Bassett-Dilley of Florian Architects, a donation of a full size plotter, model 350C;
 - awarded District 200's Towel Service contract to Ajax Uniform Rental;
 - awarded the signage contract for the Student Activity Center, the Auditorium, the Welcome Center, the Box Office, and the Little Theatre to Herricane Graphics;
 - awarded District 200's office supply contract to Office Max;
 - approved the stipend positions and assignments for the 2005-06 school year, as presented;
 - approved the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the Regional Safe School Programs, as presented;
 - ratified the 2005-06 Board of Education goals, as presented; and
 - approved the closed session minutes of May 23, 26, June 2, 14, 16 and 20, 2005.

Reports Ms. Fernandez commended Dr. Bridge on the remarks she created in such a short amount of time for the Legislative Hearing held August 4, 2005. Ms. Ranney reported that on August 24, Gov. Blagojevich signed the new law, Higher Standards, Better Schools, which will increase the number of credits required for high school graduation. It will necessitate students to take more math, science and English courses. This is an unfunded mandate.

Dr. Bridge reported that 1) O.P.R.F.H.S. greatly appreciates the villages of Oak Park and River Forest for their support of the School Resource Officers for the 2005-06 school year;

2) at Representative Deborah Graham's invitation, on August 18 Dr. Bridge and Donna Stevens provided her with another perspective and answered further questions regarding the Legislative Hearing held by the House Elementary & Secondary Education Committee; 3) both Philip M. Prale and Amy Hill had done a superb job of putting together a most effective orientation program for new faculty members; 4) Dr. Carol Lee of Northwestern University provided a powerful keynote address titled "Every Shut Eye Ain't Sleep" on Institute Day; and 5) Dr. Bridge presented Cheryl Witham, Chief Financial Officer, with a plaque awarding O.P.R.F.H.S. with a Program Certificate of Excellence given by the Association of School Business Officials—International in honor of O.P.R.F.H.S.'s financial report completed in 2004.

Mr. Lanenga gave a brief update on Triton's Evening School Program and noted that it would commence next week.

Ms. Stevens provided a report on the newly implemented automated phone system. She also provided the College Transcripts Report, noting that 666 transcripts were sent out to colleges and universities for 2005 graduates. The majority of students intend to attend college in Illinois, with the bulk of the interest in Triton College and the University of Illinois—Champaign. Ms. Stevens also presented the Discipline Report for the 2004-05 school year.

Mr. Prale presented the report on the 2005 AP Examinations.

The Board Members reported on their various Board committee and liaison representative responsibilities.

Personnel

Certified

Requests for Change in Retirement **Barbara Liles**, retirement date will be June 2009, instead of June 2008

Resignation **Susan Spesard**, Speech-Language Pathologist, effective June 17, 2005

Non-Certified

Appointments **Rebecca Jacobsen**, Fine and Performing Arts/Music TA, effective 08/23/05
Justin Onayemi, Special Education TA, effective 08/23/05

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be Thursday, September 22, 2005 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room.