

**Oak Park and River Forest High School
District 200**

Thursday, November 15, 2007 Board Briefs

**Board
Recognition**

Board of Education members recognized the following students:

- **Jean-Luc Mosley** for participation in the People to People Ambassador Friendship Games–Amsterdam and taking second in Tennis Singles and Third in Tennis Doubles;
- **Katherine Rack** for finishing Fifth at the Illinois Girls' Cross Country State Meet;
- **Tiffany Smith** for being a Finalist in the American Co-ed Pageant and taking First Place in the Talent Division;
- **Patrick Geoghegan** for being a State Qualifier in the Illinois Boys' Cross Country State Meet;
- **Samantha Guzman** for achieving first place in Women's National Golden Gloves;
- the **Gospel Choir**; and
- the **Girls' Field Hockey Team** for placing 4th at State.

**Board
Actions**

- Approved the following Consent Items: Financial Reports · Ratification and Confirmation of the Execution of Certain Vouchers for November 2007 · Disbursement List of Vendors Dated November 15, 2007 · Renewal of the Medical and Dental Insurance Plans;
- Approved the Open and Closed Minutes of October 25 and November 6, 2007;
- Amended The Meaning of the Seal in the Policy Book;
- Amended Policy 12, American Flag;
- Amended Policy 103, Philosophy on Discipline;
- Amended Policy 104-1, Change of Grade;
- Accepted the procedures for Policy 5114, Student Discipline, as presented.
- Authorized Ms. Patchak-Layman to modify any of the Superintendent's recommendations on the IASB Resolutions and submit them to Dr. Weninger;
- Approved the following resolution: Be it resolved, that this Board of Education considers the continuous narrowing of the academic achievement gap between black and white students in this District to be its top priority including priority over new initiatives to raise the academic achievement levels of the student body as a whole, provided that such prioritization does not substantially lower the academic achievement levels of any other group of students;
- Approved the following resolution: Be it resolved that this Board of Education considers the improvement of the reading skills of those students whose levels of academic achievement are lowest, to be a primary and one of the more intense focuses of those approaches to be considered in raising student achievement;

- Approved the Board of Education Dates for the 2008 Calendar Year as follows: January 24, February 28, March 20, April 24, May 22, June 26, August 28, September 25, October 23, November 20, and December 18;
- Accepted the Preliminary Levy as presented for it to be placed on display in the Business Office, Room 270A;
- Approved the Resolution in Support of the Collaboration of Early Childhood Care and Education, as amended; and
- Approved the Settlement and Consent Agreement with Cicero Township Treasurer Office and Member Districts, as presented.

Reports

Principal Vogel reported that there were 8,623 Parent Teacher Conference registrations scheduled by 1,647 parents, in line with the 3-year average. He also complimented the students on their outstanding behavior at the Tradition of Excellence Assembly.

Superintendent Weninger recommended Board of Education members read an article that appeared in the *Chicago Magazine* which compared Chicago-area high schools. O.P.R.F.H.S. was rated favorably relative to ACT scores and cost of an education.

He announced that November 15 was School Board Member Day and gave a heartfelt thanks to the Board of Education members for the work they do on behalf of O.P.R.F.H.S.

He shared good news on discipline statistics year to date. While detentions given by teachers and deans were up by 55%, After-School Detentions were down by 45%; In-School Suspensions were down by 45%, Out-of-school Suspensions were down by 56%, and the expulsion rate was down by 84%. Kudos to the deans, counselors and teachers working with these students. He also noted that there were no incidents on or around Halloween.

He announced that the Lt. Governor had declared Tuesday, October 23, as Mole Day in Illinois because of the work of Cheryl Rulis, O.P.R.F.H.S. chemistry teacher, and her students.

He congratulated the 13 students in Momenta who performed overseas.

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

**The next Board of Education Meeting will be
Thursday, December 20, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room.**