

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

"Investing in education today is the substance of future wealth." - Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.

People often agree on the value of education but few are willing to give of their time, talent or treasure. Sacrifice provides an education within itself.

Kudos to new board members John Dixon and Lorrie Wheeler! They have invested time into researching and studying concerns of stakeholders and opportunities for improvement. Member Dixon is Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee. Member Wheeler is Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee. They exemplify leadership and learning being indispensable to each other.

Reclaim A Youth (RAY) of Illinois has done it again! This time larger than ever. RAY, recipient of The Illinois Governor's Hometown Award for volunteering and mentoring has been a valuable asset to students in the district. On March 19th, the Annual Career Day allowed our students to learn of great career options. Several of the presenters were graduates of the district. They understood the importance of investing back into the community. What an inspiration to see former students share the unlimited possibilities with students sitting in seats they once occupied. This is a direct testament as to what can be accomplished when everyone contributes to the welfare of children and their education as well as our future. I thank the presenters, teachers, and staff who invested their time and talent helping our children appreciate the value of education and the enormous return on investing time into studying today for future wealth.

The data from our Education Town Hall Meeting showed curriculum as the number one priority of the stakeholders. The Board is committed to focusing on curriculum. On Feb. 29th, Mrs. S. Bragg, Curriculum and Instruction Director, shared test taking skills and test preparation with parents. In August, the new curriculum will be aligned with the Common Core Standards and shared with parents. I hope to establish and receive Board approval for a Curriculum and Instruction Committee. The committee will consist of parents, educators, and community stakeholders. An effective Board values inclusion of stakeholders who will assist parents and advocate for investing in education.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela

The Board of Education has been working diligently implementing new initiatives:

- ◆ Spanish program to include 5-8th grade
- ◆ Paperless board meetings
- ◆ Explore (Gifted) Program
- ◆ Pre-Algebra at 6th grade
- ◆ New Social Studies Curriculum
- ◆ Summer School intervention and enrichment curriculum
- ◆ E-rate program to enhance technology capabilities
- ◆ New district technology
- ◆ Public Policy (New Building) Survey

The Board approved the 2012-2013 staffing plan. While many districts are cutting staff, increasing class sizes, and eliminating extracurricular activities during these tough economic times, we believe the value of investing in smaller class sizes, retaining staff, and extracurricular activities will yield a greater return.

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2012

Inside this issue:

A Word from the President	1
A Word from the President continued	2
Save the Date	2

Important Dates

- Apr. 5 Early Release at 11:30 a.m. for School Improvement
- Apr. 6 thru 13 Spring Recess - No School
- Apr. 9 Board of Education Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 26 District Fine Arts Festival 6:00 p.m. at BJHS
- May 4 Early Release at 11:30 a.m. for School Improvement
- May 14 Board of Education Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- May 16 Early Release Day - 2:00 p.m.
- May 24 Early Release Day - 2:00 p.m. & Graduation at Brookwood Junior High School 6:30 p.m.
- May 25 Last Day of School -



(Continued on page 2)

The Board of Education

Brookwood School District 167

Deborah Birmingham, President

Melinda Plott, Vice President

Cynthia Pettis, Secretary

Shirley Brunson

John Dixon

Arthur Taylor

Lorrie Wheeler

Brookwood School District 167
201 E. Glenwood Dyer Road
Glenwood, IL 60425

Phone: 708-758-5190

Fax: 708-757-2104

Email:

boardofed@brookwood167.org

We're on the Web!
www.brookwood167.org

The Board Policy Handbook is now
available on line at
www.brookwood167.org.

Soon, you will receive a letter from the Board of Education regarding building options. I envision Brookwood School District 167 as a model for others as we continue moving forward:

- ◆ Creating a 21st century learning environment
- ◆ Providing the capability to improve technology and enhance computer labs
- ◆ Raising the standards and offering greater access to educational opportunities

Your opinion matters. Please take time to respond to the mail and phone survey. As stakeholders in our children's future, you have the final word.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

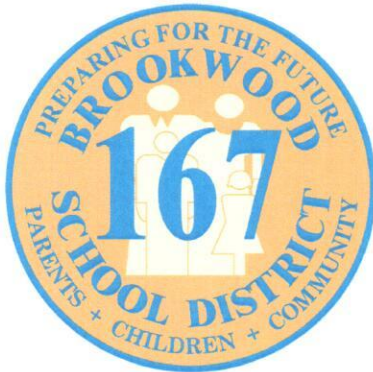
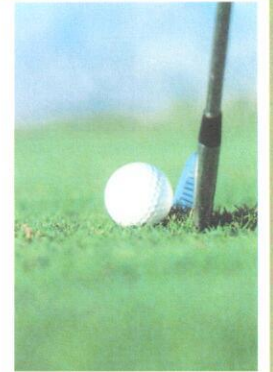
Educationally yours,

Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.
Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.

Save the Date

**Thursday, May 31, 2012
Birdies for Brookwood Golf Outing
Glenwoodie Golf Course**

**\$125 for a round of golf, lunch, and dinner.
Raffles, exciting games, and prizes.
The registration form will be mailed in mid-March.
Contact Jan at 708-758-5190 for more information.**



Mission Statement:

Brookwood School District 167, in partnership with parents and community, will create a learning environment in which all students excel at becoming lifelong learners and decision makers.

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 23
Glenwood, IL 60425

**RESIDENT
GLENWOOD, IL 60425**