

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President



"A shared vision is not an idea...it is rather, a force in people's hearts... at its simplest level, a shared vision is the answer to the question, What do we want to create?" - Peter M. Senge

During this Thanksgiving season, I am so thankful for the parents, teachers, staff, and community who give unselfishly to our children.

I am thankful to you for sharing your concerns for the education of our students. Recently, I had the opportunity to work with teachers and parents, revamping our Explore Program. The Explore Program identifies students who are advanced and can benefit from challenging instruction. After several hours of discussion, the committee began rebuilding the program. We will meet again in January to complete the criteria.

During the November Parent Advisory Committee meeting, the Curriculum Director provided parents with information on using Study Island Reading and Math Programs. The Technology Director provided information on the technology available to students. Parents expressed great concern about the curriculum and dismay that the district doesn't have a curriculum to compete with surrounding districts. In order to showcase the progress that our district is making, we must focus on developing a curriculum and providing challenging instruction as well as introducing Common Core Standards.

All over the world, the quality of education is breaking down and our children are not receiving the adequate preparation needed to compete in our new world economy. We must work collaboratively preparing our students to become lifelong learners.

I challenge you to ask what is it that you can do to ensure that your child and every other child receive and benefit from the most quality education and life possible, to secure a viable future which would benefit them, their communities and society as a whole.

"We cannot continue to accept that doing more with less is OK. We cannot provide a world-class education with third world funding." - Martha Fluor

The goals set by the board and community will serve as a strategic planning road map. Yes, the school board is at the forefront and most visible, but it is the stakeholders who are empowered to give direction. The school board analyzes data in order to secure and appropriate funding.

Contributions from stakeholders who possess diverse views will generally lead to a more collaborative decision-making process; this is very important. Anything of substance usually has several ingredients that perform their own individual task to bring about a unified result. Having stakeholders involved brings about an experience and exposure base of mass proportions, which when unified and on one accord will yield a dynamic and phenomenal result.

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November 2011

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Important Dates

- Dec. 7 Town Hall Meeting at Longwood School at 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 8 Gingerbread Workshop at BMS at 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 12 Regular meeting of the Board of Education at 7:30 p.m. at the Administrative Center
- Dec. 13 Winter Concert at BMS at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 15 Winter Concert at Longwood and Hickory Bend at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 21 End of Second Quarter
- Dec. 22 Winter Recess begins
- Jan. 4 School resumes
- Jan. 13 Report Cards issued



(Continued on page 2)

The Board of Education

Brookwood School District 167

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Board of Education meeting on
December 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the
Administrative Center.

Education Town Hall Meeting on Wed., Dec. 7, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. at Longwood School.

Goals:

- Improve student achievement
- Expand positive communication within the community
- Build mutual understanding between the school district and its community of stakeholders
- Improve instruction through technology
- Clearly communicate a financial plan to meet all of the district's current and future resource requirements

Come, share, and collaborate on *what is good, what is great, and what needs immediate attention* in our district. In order for the Board to be the voice of the community and create policy to improve student achievement, your voice is solicited and greatly appreciated. We are all pieces of the puzzle for creating a great district. When all the pieces come together, a great picture emerges- successful students!

"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.

Town Hall Meeting

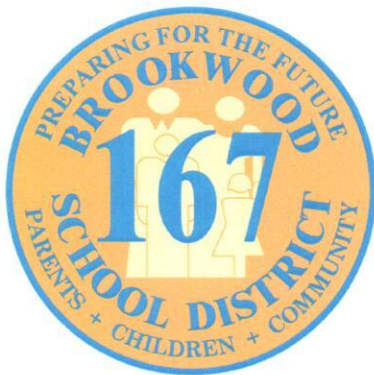
**December 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Longwood
School**

Please RSVP to

Dr. Hollich at phollich@brookwood167.org

OR

Jan at 708-758-5190



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.

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