

# Board Briefs

*The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167*

November/December 2012 ~ Volume 2, Issue 8



Seasons  
Greetings

## **A Word from the Board President**

The referendum question placed on the November ballot passed with a mandate of 68% approval to sell bonds in the amount of \$15.8 million dollars to fund the building of a new Brookwood Middle School and for the demolition of the current building. The overwhelming support of this project encouraged the board to seek the most economical funding available to support this project. A special meeting was called to review and approve the sale of \$10 million in bank bonds by the end of December 2012 and the remaining balance in January 2013. Structuring the sale of the bonds in this way will potentially save the district \$718,000 over the life of the loan.

We are so appreciative of the community support of this project, and will look for your input in the planning stages. Please plan to attend school board meetings held on the second Monday of each month for an update of the progress. Community members will be invited to participate in focus group sessions to plan the new school. Together, we will provide the environment to promote a more productive educational experience for our children.

In other matters, a review of curriculum improvements and student academic achievement was presented by the Curriculum Director. All students will be assessed in January 2013 to determine progress towards academic goals. Mrs. Bragg, Curriculum Director, will provide another updated progress report in February to the Board.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Melinda Plott.

Melinda Plott

**The Board of Education**

**Brookwood School District 167**

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**Cynthia Pettis, Vice President**  
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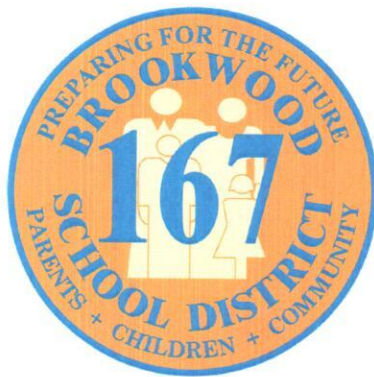
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We're on the Web!

[www.brookwood167.org](http://www.brookwood167.org)

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**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.*

**Points of Interest**

- ◆ At the November meeting, the Board of Education approved the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) as the executive search firm for the new superintendent. The IASB will facilitate focus groups with community members and conduct the search and initial interviews for potential candidates.
- ◆ The Board approved the proposed Aggregate 2012 Tax Levy.
- ◆ The Board approved the Band and Choir trip to Chicago.
- ◆ The Curriculum Director, Shirley Bragg provided a presentation on student achievements and AIMSweb—an assessment tool being used to monitor progress of student improvement.
- ◆ At the December meeting, the Board approved the Resolution Authorizing Reduction of Certain Fund Levies for the 2012 Levy Year.
- ◆ The Board approved the Lost Cost Factor Resolution for 2012.
- ◆ On Friday, December 21, 2012, teachers and students will participate in technology workshops conducted by trainers from Apple Computer. The workshops will include students in the morning and teachers in the afternoon. The sessions will focus on enhancing students' writing skills:
  1. Using writing activities for skill development
  2. Developing figurative writing skills
  3. Using photographs to inspire students
  4. Creating digital books

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