

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

Volume 4, Issue 13

August, 2013

"It takes a special person to light that fire to raise our children's expectations for themselves and never give up on them, no matter how challenging it might be. All of us are here because at some point somebody did that for us." – President Barack Obama

Welcome teachers, parents, children, and community. I believe this will be a remarkable school year.

As the Board and district raise the bar for academic expectations with a more challenging and rigorous curriculum, students will excel at becoming lifelong learners and decision makers. The new Common Core curriculum will prepare our students to be college and career ready.

This summer, Board committees committed their time and talent to helping champion the districts' mission by exploring various avenues and implementing measures to enhance the quality of education rendered.

The New Brookwood Middle School Committee Chair, Leon Fields, led extensive tours of neighboring schools to gather ideas and information for the Board as we plan and design the new school. The committee's input is greatly appreciated and will be valuable in helping the Board plan for a school that will support academic excellence.

The Finance Committee Chair, John Dixon, reviewed the components of the school district's budget and the necessity of a five year budget plan. I believe it's paramount for stakeholders to have a clear understanding of District 167 revenues and expenditures. The 2013-2014 budget hearing is September 16th at 7PM. As the district embarks upon future endeavors, the committee's input will be extremely helpful.

The Male Parent Advisory Committee Chair, Roslon Seals has begun planning exciting activities and partnerships. Committee members are thrilled to assist in preparing male students in grades 4-8 for academic success by creating a partnership with community stakeholders to develop and implement strategies for parent participation. It is essential that we empower our young men with mentorship, a vision and vehicle towards knowledge and higher learning.

The Curriculum and Instruction Committee Chair, Janice Barry, reviewed district data with members. Data provided a snapshot of where we are and where we need to be academically. The committee will make recommendations that will strengthen our district's goals and prepare students for the newly implemented Common Core assessment of student academic achievement.

Though funding for education continues to decrease, while mandates continue to increase, the Board is committed to providing a safe learning environment for academic excellence. I encourage you to contact your state and federal lawmakers and express the need for adequately investing in our children's education. The education of our children is vital to our country and future!

"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

Educationally yours,

Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.

**The Board of Education
Brookwood School District 167**

Deborah Birmingham, President
John Dixon, Vice President
Lorrie Wheeler, Secretary
Janice Barry
Melinda Plott
Roslon Seals
Carl Smith

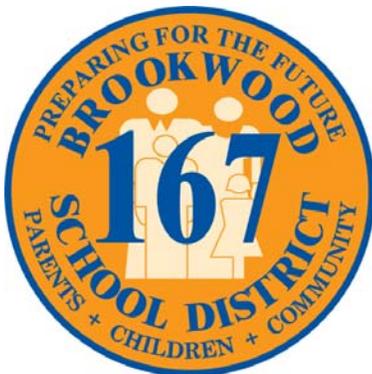
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We're on the Web!
www.brookwood167.org

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 2, Labor Day	—	No School
Friday, September 6, 2013	—	Middle School Grandparent's Day Celebration 9:00-11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 10, 2013	—	Junior High Open House, 6:00-8:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. District Dismissal
Monday, September 16, 2013	—	Budget Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 17, 2013	—	Middle School Open House, 6:00-8:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. District Dismissal
Wednesday, September 18, 2013	—	PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Brookwood Middle School
Tuesday, September 24, 2013	—	Hickory Bend/Longwood School Open House, 6:00-8:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. District Dismissal
Friday, September 27, 2013	—	Hickory Bend Grandparents Day, 9:00-11:00 a.m.



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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