

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

In 2007, my friend and mentor, the late School Board President, John H. Blakey encouraged me to interview for an appointment to the school board. I would often call him and say, Mr. Blakey; I'm constantly reading, studying, researching, and asking questions. What else am I supposed to do as a member? He replied, "Debbie, you're doing the right thing. Over the years, my passion for education, vision of an academically successful school district, and words of Mr. John H. Blakey have encouraged me to stay the course.

It is with honor, integrity, passion, and humility that I take the seat of School

Board President, to assist in carrying out duties and responsibilities of a board member under the Illinois State Statute.

In accordance with the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), the Board connects with the community.

The School Board engages in an ongoing two-way conversation with the entire community. The conversation enables the Board to hear and understand the community's educational aspirations and desires, to serve effectively as an advocate for district improvement and to inform the community of the district's performance. Effective communication is essential to

create trust and support among community, Board, Superintendent and staff.

Research shows a successful school district is comprised of stakeholders taking ownership. I firmly believe School District 167 can serve as a model for success by actively engaging stakeholders in the creation of new ideas, opportunities, implementation of developed initiatives, and helping to champion the objectives of the school district's mission.

Educationally yours,



Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.

Model Communities Grant

In January 2011, Brookwood School District 167 received notice that we were one of only 11 school districts awarded the Model Communities Grant. This competitive \$85,000 grant is supported by funding from a federal initiative. The contract term for the grant is February 1, 2011 to February 28, 2012.

The purpose of the grant is to fight obesity and help

communities and school districts foster habits that will contribute to more physical activity and healthy eating habits.

Students, parents, community members and staff have the opportunity to participate in activities that help everyone to get fit and have fun. There are aerobics classes hosted by a trained aerobics instructor for adults. Students can participate in Fun

and Fitness activities that are hosted by each school from 3:15 to 4:15 twice a week. There will also be nutrition advice for students provided by nutrition experts from the University of Illinois. Our school district is working with the Village of Glenwood to assist in starting a Farmer's Market for the community.

Other activities include swimming lessons for stu-

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Points of Interest:

- Lorrie Wheeler and John Dixon join the Board of Education as new members. Thank you to Michelle Snoddy and Angelique Jennings for your service to the school district.
- Deborah Birmingham is named as the President of the Board; Melinda Plott is the Vice President and Cynthia Pettis is the Secretary.
- The District receives a Model Communities Grant for \$85,000. Students, parents, community members and staff have the opportunity to participate in fitness activities.
- Bond Hearing scheduled for Monday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Administrative and Diagnostic Center. All community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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

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

Graduation is on June 3 at the Junior High School. The ceremony will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Bond Hearing

Purpose: Issuance of Life Safety Bonds in the amount of \$2.4 million

Date: May 23, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Administrative and Diagnostic Center

All community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

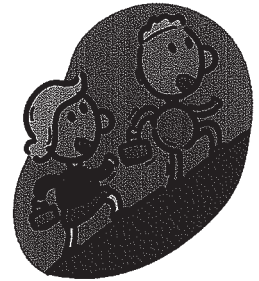
Model Communities Grant (continued)

dents at the Chicago Heights Park District, aerobic equipment available at our schools for staff, summer fitness activities are planned as well as incentives for students and parents to get fit. Incentives include movie and skating passes, a membership to Chicago Southland Gymnastics, karate classes, healthy eating gift card

incentive and a Navy Pier Bike Tour. Our Grand Prize is an overnight stay for a family of 4 at Key Lime Cove.

Children must be registered to participate in Fun and Fitness activities. Contact Sharon Price at the District Office, Brenda Porter, School District Nurse or Joyce Johnson-

James, Social Worker at Hickory Bend and Longwood School for more details.



Mission Statement:
Brookwood School District 167, in partnership with parents and community, will create a caring environment in which all students learn. This partnership shall empower all students to become responsible learners and decision makers as they prepare for the future.

**RESIDENT
GLENWOOD, IL 60425**

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