

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

“How are you going to tackle some of the challenges in education? For me, it’s about telling the stories that show the impossible, that show the strength of the human spirit.” – Soledad O’Brien

I share the sentiments of Soledad O’Brien, CNN journalist and National School Board Association keynote speaker. Though we must tackle education challenges, it’s great to know the strength of the human spirit is willing and able to help children achieve their possibilities!

Male Parent Advisory Committee – **Kudos** for a great first year! Students had a terrific time engaging in self discipline through martial arts, financial discipline through money management, and self-esteem building through mentoring. The program culminated with a pizza party, award recognition, and a news article in the NWI Times!

Cynthia Pettis, Chair
Adekunle Adegbemi
Pam and Rainn Darring
Glenda Rowe

James Wheeler, Co-Chair
Robert Lord
Jim Summers



Glenwood Hawks – This terrific community program recognized the Board’s support of increasing its goal of reaching over 100 students in this year’s basketball program. **Hurray** to the coaches and referees! Although they do not have children in school, they understand the importance of school-community partnership. Parent and community support provided a great opportunity for families to enjoy and encourage students to succeed. This success and discipline can enhance the district’s mission of student excellence.

Fine Arts Festival – **Bravo, Bravo!!!** This year’s festival was absolutely fabulous!!! Our children’s talents were showcased to more than **600** people in attendance!!!! The largest attendance ever! I thank the principals, teachers, music and art department, staff, parents and community for supporting our children. Although these are difficult economic times, the Board of Education values and supports the fine arts. We understand the connection fine arts have to academic achievement. I encourage you to attend the May 8th production of The Wizard of Oz at Brookwood Middle School at 1:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. and May 17th production of Cinderella at Brookwood Junior High School at 6:00 p.m.

Reclaim-A-Youth of Illinois (RAY) – **Marvelous!** The Mind Your Manners Program culminated its yearly etiquette program with a dinner and award recognition for students at Glenwoodie Golf Course. The program is designed for 5th & 6th graders at Brookwood Middle School. Mrs. Eunice Geron, Program Director, had students reflect on skills learned and how the experience elevated them to become better students.

72nd Annual National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference — The Board continues increasing their knowledge and enhancing skills. Board members attended the 72nd Annual Conference of the National School Board Association (NSBA). The conference provided outstanding presenters and valuable information.

As NSBA Executive Director, Anne L. Bryant noted, “a school board member is a transformational leader, a change agent, an advocate for children, and a financial steward.” This year the Board has served in each role as we actively engaged stakeholders in the creation of new ideas, opportunities, implementation of developed initiatives, and helping to champion the objectives of the school district’s mission.

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April 2012

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Important Dates

- May 4 Early Release at 11:30 a.m. for School Improvement
- May 8 Wizard of Oz Production at Brookwood Middle School at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- May 10 Hickory Bend Sensational Singers Concert at 1:30 p.m.
- May 14 Board of Education Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- May 16 Early Release Day at 2:00 p.m.
- May 17 Cinderella Production at Brookwood Junior High School at 6:00 p.m.
- May 23 Awards Assembly at Brookwood Junior High School at 6:00 p.m.
- May 24 Early Release Day at 2:00 p.m. & Graduation at Brookwood Junior High School 6:30 p.m.
- May 25 Last Day of School - Report Cards Issued

(Continued on page 2)

The Board of Education

Brookwood School District 167

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Melinda Plott, Vice President

Cynthia Pettis, Secretary

Shirley Brunson

John Dixon

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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.

Financial Stewardship – The Board has maintained a healthy fund balance. As we move forward, you will have the final word whether we should build a new school, an addition, or provide emergency repairs. *Your voice is valued.* Please participate in the mail and phone survey. I encourage you to attend the May 14th meeting at 7:30 p.m. to acquire information.

As Board President, I have served with honor, dignity, passion, and humility. I thank you for a productive year sharing your time and talent. You understand school-community engagement equals student success. I envision our school district as a model for others. We are all pieces of the puzzle. When all pieces come together, a bright future 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

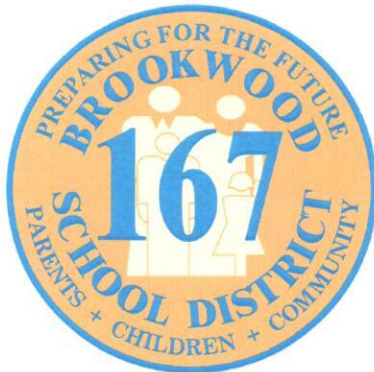
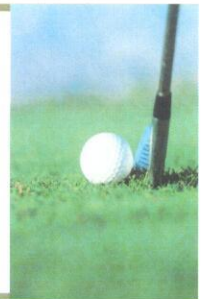
Educationally yours,


Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.

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.
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.

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