

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

"There are those who look at things the way they are, and ask why, I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?" – Robert Kennedy

Seasons Greetings,

As I reflect on the past year, I am overtaken with joy by the participation and consistency of the efforts of the community. I am very excited by our potential because we are constantly gaining common ground.

- ◆ Stakeholders exercised their right to petition the Board of Education to go to referendum for an addition to Brookwood Junior High. Your voices were heard.
- ◆ With your help, I established and the Board approved the following committees: Policy, Personnel, Finance, Building and Grounds, and Male Parent Advisory.
- ◆ Strategic Plan – The Board of Education collaborated with community stakeholders to seek input in establishing priorities for the next three to five years.
- ◆ The Board took ownership of a new 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".

We Believe:

- Families shape their children's motivation, confidence, and academic success by being interested and involved in their overall development.
- All students are unique and should be challenged to the highest level of academic and artistic excellence.
- In the importance of staff development opportunities based on best practices and educational research.
- In educating our children in a safe and nurturing environment with access to state of the art technology.
- The school system should teach students to think critically, enabling them to become contributing citizens in our global society.
- In continuous improvement in all aspects of the school system to foster a culture of excellence, accountability and integrity.
- In responsible stewardship of financial and physical resources.

"Dare to take on the difficult, dream a different dream, then get to work." - Seneca

I am so appreciative to those who have given their time and talent. As we embark upon the new year, I challenge you to ask what is it you can do to ensure children 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. I envision great things being accomplished when the Board, parents, and community further collaborate on the needs and desires of the stakeholders.

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Important Dates

- Dec. 21 End of Second Quarter
- Dec. 22 Winter Recess Begins
- Jan. 4 School Resumes
- Jan. 9 Board of Ed Meeting
- Jan. 13 Report Cards Issued
- Jan. 16 No School— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance
- Jan. 17 Bilingual PAC
- Jan. 24 PTA Meeting
- Feb. 13 Board of Ed Meeting
- Feb. 16 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 17 No School - Teacher Institute Day
- Feb. 20 No School - President's Day Observance



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

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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.



In the new year, the Board will continue working diligently on several new initiatives through actively engaging stakeholders in the creation of new ideas, opportunities, implementing developed initiatives, and helping to champion the objectives of the school district's mission.

It has been my pleasure to speak and work with the community. I encourage each one to reach one. It is my conceivable dream that in the new year we can have an entire community in one accord where our children can be assured of a quality and viable education.

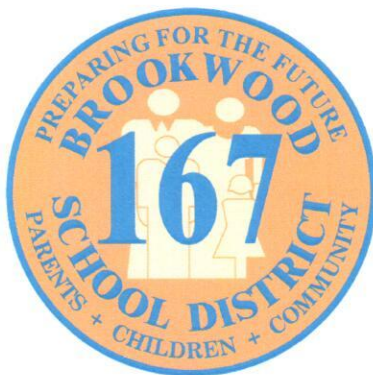
I wish you Happy Holidays and a Prosperous New Year!

"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.

Do you want to take an exercise/yoga class? Dance? Refine your computer skills? Or perhaps learn how to use your digital camera? This is just a sample of the free community workshops that will be offered this winter. Workshops and registration will be available on the website on January 3, 2012.



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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