

Board Briefs

The Board of Education Brookwood School District 167

A Word from the Board President

"The strongest democracies flourish from frequent and lively debate, but they endure when people of every background and belief find a way to set aside smaller differences in service of a greater purpose."

President Barack Obama

A few months ago, I read an article that shares my sentiment. Gone are the days where decisions are made solely by Board members isolated from the community interactions and collaboration. We are living in an education driven society thrusting forth by technology over a society that was at one time industrial and some may have felt that an average education would do.

The Board is actively collaborating with parents and community as we develop our vision and revise our mission statement. On Saturday, October 8th, after several hours of reviewing and revising, the Board took ownership of a new mission statement and beliefs.

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.
- 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 state of the art technology.
- In responsible stewardship of financial and physical resources.

In order to move forward, we must build a strong foundation. I believe ongoing collaboration and transparency are necessary if we want citizens to support our endeavors. In the months ahead, I will welcome your input and support.

Education Town Hall Meeting on December 7, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Longwood School.

Goals:

- Improve student achievement
- Expand positive communication within the community
- Build mutual understanding between the school district and its community of stakeholders
- Improve instruction through technology
- Clearly communicate a financial plan to meet all of the district's current and future resource requirements

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Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Message continued	2

Important Dates

- Nov. 1- Building & Grounds Committee Junior High 6 p.m.
- Nov. 17- Parent Advisory Council Junior High 7 p.m.
- Dec. 6 - Junior High Concert 6 p.m.
- Dec. 7-Town Hall Meeting Longwood 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 8-Gingerbread Workshop Middle School 6:30-8 p.m.
- Dec. 12-Board of Education Meeting 7:30 p.m. A & D Center
- Dec. 13-Middle School Concert 1:30 & 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 15-Hickory Bend & Longwood Winter Concert 1:30 & 7 p.m.
- Dec. 19-Special Board of Education Meeting 6:30 p.m. A & D Center
- Dec. 21-End of Quarter Two 2:00 p.m. Dismissal

(Continued on page 2)

The Board of Education
Brookwood School District 167

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Town Hall Meeting on December 7
at 6:30 p.m. at Longwood School.
All are welcome to attend.

Referendum Discussion-

- A) Brookwood Jr. High School Addition
- B) New Brookwood Middle School
- C) Neither

The purpose of the Board is to provide education of the best obtainable quality for the elementary student population of the district within the limitations imposed by the taxpayer's willingness to support the educational program. The Board has a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers. This is our reality especially today as we see all around the world and even in our own backyard where everyday people are holding their governing bodies accountable.

Though we are in the midst of a challenging economy, I believe great opportunities can be realized when all stakeholders -the Board, parents, and community collaborate and take ownership of our children's education.

"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." G.K. Chesterson

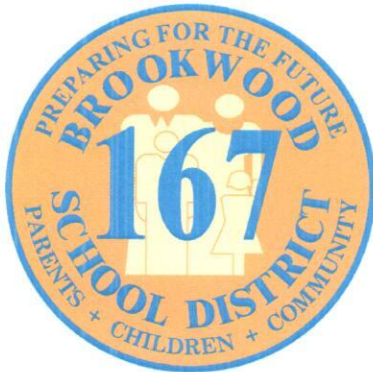
The Board will continue working diligently on several new initiatives through actively engaging stakeholders in the creation of new ideas, opportunities, implementation of developed initiatives, and helping to champion the objectives of the school district's mission.

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." B.B. King

Educationally yours,



Deborah Birmingham, M.Ed.



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