

APRIL  
2011

# BOARD BRIEFS - OAK GROVE SCHOOL

## THE BOARD AND COMMUNITY HONORED RETIRING MEMBERS

Beth Marhenke and Lynn Brundza served on the Oak Grove School Board for four years. Most recently, Lynn was President and Beth, Vice President. Beth was the Chair of the Facilities Committee and Lynn served on the Committee for Policy and Governance, as well as the District Curriculum Committee and the Teacher-Administrator-Board Committee. We extend our heartfelt thanks to these amazing women for their service to the Oak Grove School Community.



**NEW BOARD MEMBER TONY PIRIH  
TAKES HIS OATH OF OFFICE**

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS INSTALLED

Tony Pirih, Kim Opsahl and Lane Hasler were installed as recently elected members of the Board. April 25th was the first meeting for Tony and Kim. Lane was appointed in 2009 to serve an open position.

### **New Board Officers Selected**

Jennifer Manski, President  
Lane Hasler, Vice-President  
Kim Opsahl, Secretary  
Gordon Boulger  
Judy Egan  
Tony Pirih  
Paula Sterner

## 2011-2012 BOE MEETING DATES



<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Junior High Library</b>
May 23, 2011	December 19, 2011
June 27, 2011	January 23, 2012
July 25, 2011	February 27, 2012
August 22, 2011	March 19, 2012
September 26, 2011	April 23, 2012
October 24, 2011	May 21, 2012
November 28, 2011	June 25, 2012

Click [here](#) to see the Board approved school calendar dates for 2011-2012.



### ***New Board Briefs?***

How do you like our new pilot format for Board Briefs? This is our second trial month. Please click [here](#) to let us know you are reading this and to give us your feedback on the new format.

## TOWN HALL EVALUATION SUMMARY

There were approximately 60 community members present at the Town Hall Meeting. Of those, 25 completed and left the evaluation forms. All those completing the forms strongly agreed (18) or agreed (7) that overall the Town Hall Meeting was valuable.

The majority of those completing the survey found the most valuable aspect of the meeting was that we brought experts in to discuss consolidation (Erika Lindley, ED-RED). Many also favored the opportunity to have two-way communication with our principals and having the opportunity to hear ideas from them prior to decisions being made.

There seems to be less favorability regarding review of things covered in previous presentations (e.g., the 21st Century Rainbow). The comments also indicated that people like the question and answer format and do not want to engage in lengthy debates on particular issues.

All respondents are interested in the District holding future Town Hall Meetings in a similar format. Suggested topics include consolidation, district budgeting and finance, and future foreign language decisions.

The School Principals presented an idea to provide an "Intervention Period" for each grade and are considering recommending an additional ten minutes to the school day. A number of people were concerned about the early bus pickups and questioned if the ten minutes could be added at the end of the day.



**BOARD MEMBERS ANSWER QUESTIONS AT THE TOWN HALL MEETING**

## BOARD APPROVES CURRICULUM STIPENDS

Jean Hattendorf, part-time Curriculum Coordinator presented a report to the Board on the Curriculum progress for the 2010-11 school year. She related that Illinois has now adopted National Common Core standards. National English Language Arts and Math Standards have been adopted which will require time for our staff to realign our curriculum. The Board approved stipends for teachers who will serve as the Chairpersons for the Subject Area Committees, with a stipend of \$1000 offered to the subjects needing alignment in 2011-12 and \$250 for the other subject area chairs.

## PRINCIPALS DISCUSS POSSIBLE SCHOOL DAY CHANGE

The Principals again reviewed the idea of a "Intervention Period" with ten minutes added to the school day at the Board Meeting on April 25. The additional time would be used to help provide an "Intervention Period" for each grade level. During the "Intervention Period" as many students as possible would be scheduled for special services. By grouping most of the services to the same time period, teachers would have the rest of the day with most of their students for the continuity of instruction. No decision will be recommended until the May 23 Board Meeting. The staff is continuing to discuss the viability of this option. Community thoughts on the proposed changes should be sent to the principals.

## BOARD APPROVES TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

The Board approved a technology package that will enhance teaching in our classrooms. Teachers have requested that the projector they use for presentations be mounted on their ceilings to create more flexibility and enhanced visibility and use. The Board approved the hardware for the ceiling installation and white boards for the presentations. It is expected that the installations will take place over the summer.