

## BOARD-O-GRAM

Educational Focus Meeting of November 19, 2007



### *Board Honors "88's Best" for November*

The Board of Education recognizes students who excel at Addison Trail and Willowbrook High Schools through **88's Best**. They were pleased to honor the following students for their academic accomplishments:



**Donna Yeung** has demonstrated success in academics and has consistently enrolled in a rigorous curriculum at **Addison Trail**. Donna ranks third in her senior class with a G.P.A. of 4.65. Her strong commitment to challenging herself has led her to take many Advanced Placement courses. Donna is currently taking seven Advanced Placement courses.

During her high school career, Donna has participated in the music program and currently serves as Orchestra president. She has devoted herself to humanitarian efforts through Key Club, F.A.S.T., National Honor Society and Pay It Forward. In addition, she has been a participant in the Science Olympiad, International Dance show and Student Council.

Donna has applied to the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois. She would like to pursue a degree in business or civil engineering.

**Lauren Onderisin** has excelled in academics at **Willowbrook** High School. Currently, Lauren is in the 98% in the senior class, has completed two Advanced Placement courses, and is enrolled in four Advanced Placement courses. Lauren is an inductee of Mu Alpha Theta, Civitas, National Honor Society, the Foreign Language honor society and the Science honor society.

Beyond the classroom, Lauren is an active and dedicated member in the band, wind ensemble and drum line. She also was selected to participate in the Allerton Wind Chamber Symposium and the IMEA competition. Lauren has been a member of the badminton, tennis and volleyball teams. In her free time, Lauren volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and the Helen Plum Library.

Lauren plans to attend the University of Illinois next fall. She would like to pursue a degree in actuarial science.



### **BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP SIGNING CEREMONY:**

**Mr. Mark Johnson**, President of the Board of Education, and **Dr. Steve Humphrey**, Superintendent of Schools, honored two local businesses for their contributions to District 88. The signing ceremony was held in recognition of existing partnerships for their **leadership, commitment, and dedication to the schools and district**. Each month business partners are invited to the ceremony. November honorees included **Jeanne Stupec, Jamba Juice of Oakbrook Terrace**, represented by **Family and Consumer Science teachers Carrie Bonine and Stephanie Meissner (below left)** and **Aydin Leylani, Adam Hudelson and Carolyn Boni, National Bank of Commerce in Addison (below right)**.



## EDUCATIONAL FOCUS ITEMS:

- **Mrs. Maria Salvatore**, Addison Trail Interdisciplinary Teams Coordinator, presented an update of the implementation of **Smaller Learning Communities** now in the fourth year. The **Freshman House** system includes four core and one honors section that combine students in English, science and social studies classes. The **Sophomore House** system is being piloted and schedules students in common English, science and math classes. At the **junior level**, the research project has been extended year long to provide more support for students.

**Thursday School Intervention** has been introduced to provide academic support for all freshmen, sophomore and ESL students who are referred by teachers. This program has achieved a high attendance rate and focuses content bi-weekly on math and science as well as English, ESL, social studies and reading. Two additional visits are planned to Portland and San Antonio for staff to **observe best practices and determine implementation strategies for thematic academies** in the 2009-2010 school year.

**Mr. Dan Krause**, Willowbrook Principal, reported that the core team has been reviewing how to implement SLC next year with the incoming freshman class to ensure a successful transition to the high school. An **advisory component** will be added to the schedule in the freshman year. The long-term focus is to build the curriculum for the next three years and provide a **post-secondary experience in a student's senior year**.

- **Mrs. Beth Yacobi**, Director of Curriculum & Learning, presented seven years of **student enrollment data for Advanced Placement courses that demonstrates a growth trend**. The numbers have increased significantly by communicating expectations and encouraging students to enrich themselves through the AP curriculum. She also noted the official course ledger at each school as authorized by the recent **AP College Board Course audit**.

**THE CONSENT AGENDA**, which included the following items, was approved by the Board:

The **list of bills** from October 2007; the **purchase of athletic equipment and supplies; fundraiser contracts** with anticipated revenue of \$1,000 or more; the fiscal year **2007 financial audit**; and the **personnel report as presented on November 12, 2007**.

## SCHOOL RECOGNITION:

**Addison Trail Principal Dr. Scott Helton** highlighted recent events and recognition:

- Alumnus Gary Ofenloch was honored with the Tradition of Excellence Award. Mr. Ofenloch returned to Addison Trail for a day of speaking presentations with students and staff.
- Approximately 150 senior citizens attended the Kiwanis Senior Thanksgiving luncheon.
- More than 1,600 cans of food were collected and donated during the annual food drive.
- Upcoming events include: Student of the Quarter breakfast, Senior Art Exhibit and the holiday benefit concerts.

**Willowbrook Principal Mr. Dan Krause** highlighted recent events and recognition:

- Over 700 parents pre-registered and attended Parent/Teacher conferences.
- The fall production of "*The Importance of Being Earnest*" earned rave reviews and was well attended.
- The Speech team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 27 teams at the Lake Forest tournament.
- Upcoming events include: Student Council annual blood drive and holiday concerts.

**SEPARATE ACTION ITEMS**, which included the following, were approved by the Board:

- **Treasurer's Report** and **Budget Status Report** for October 2007.
- **Revised and amended Board Policies 5:10, 5:20, 5:30, 5:35, 5:40, 5:50, 5:60, 5:70, 5:80 and 5:90**
- **Meeting minutes** from the October 22, 2007, **Regular Business meeting**.
- **Meeting minutes** from the October 27, 2007, **Board Leadership Workshop**.
- **Meeting minutes** from the October 29, 2007, **Educational Focus meeting**.
- **Hiring one additional Social Worker** per building beginning with second semester of the 2007-2008 school year.

## BUILDING THE FUTURE IN DISTRICT 88:

- **Dr. Steve Humphrey**, Superintendent of Schools, reported that building and district office administrators have been meeting with the architects and construction managers to finalize the project concepts and cost estimates.

**IN PERSONNEL ACTION:** the following items were approved by the Board:

- Buildings & Grounds Retirement for **John Parker**, AT Custodian effective July 4, 2008.
- Classified Staff Retirement for **Carol Wezeman**, District Office Executive Secretary effective June 30, 2008.
- Classified Staff Appointments for **Maureen Swanson**, WB Special Education Teacher Aide and **Vanessa Dobey**, WB Special Education Teacher Aide.

---

### Mark Your Calendars:

December 17, 2007 6:30 p.m.

Board of Education, Business/Educational Focus Mtg. District Boardroom