



News from the Pattonville School District Board of Education

February 26, 2003

Pattonville meeting goals of safety program

Pattonville's program for keeping its facilities safe is meeting its goals, according to an evaluation conducted on the district safety program recently. Jim Siervo, director of facilities, presented separate reports on the district's safety program and the facilities program to the Board of Education on Feb. 25.

The following measures have been established for keeping Pattonville schools safe:

- Safety and emergency devices are in place and operational;
- Staff members and students are trained in the safe and proper use of all safety and emergency devices where applicable; and
- The district has developed, implemented and documented safety procedures, which include: safety inspections for buildings and playgrounds, appropriate safety/emergency drills, a reporting system for accidents, and security and crises management plans for each building.

Five recommendations were made for the coming year for the district's safety program:

- Continue district safety committee meetings;
- Continue safety inspections and drills in all buildings;
- Continue to update crises plans for all buildings;
- Provide security cameras at the middle schools in 2003-2004 as the budget permits; and
- Provide security cameras at elementary school entryways in 2004-2005 as the budget permits.

For the past two years, Pattonville's facilities program has been guided by the following recommendations from its previous evaluation report:

- Implement bond issue projects in accordance with the established design and construction schedule;
- When conducting facility surveys, separate survey results so they are specific to each building;
- Increase in-service opportunities for staff;
- Improve custodial supervision, quality of inspections, products and training; and
- Continue safety and housekeeping inspections.

Siervo's evaluation showed that the above recommendations are being met or are ongoing. Most of the work in Phase I of the bond issue has been completed, and work on Phase II projects should be completed by the end of the year. Voters approved a \$37 million bond issue in 2000 to update, repair and improve Pattonville schools, including replacing roofs, windows, doors, heating and air conditioning units and electrical systems.

The majority of survey results on district facilities showed improvement over survey results in 2001 in how parents, staff and students perceive the upkeep of district facilities; however, Siervo said work needs to be done to improve student and staff perceptions of the comfort of their environment and the upkeep of facilities at a few schools. Many of the bond issue projects should help address these issues.

“Customers” satisfied with bus service

A “customer satisfaction” survey of parents whose children ride Pattonville buses showed significant improvement in parents’ approval rating of the district’s transportation services. Director of Transportation Steve Gerke presented an evaluation of Pattonville’s transportation program to the Board of Education on Feb. 25.

The survey showed the majority of parents who responded to the survey felt transportation on Pattonville buses is timely and safe for their children. Eighty-seven percent agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, “The school provides safe bus service for my child,” while 12 percent gave a neutral response to the question, and one percent disagreed.

Pattonville’s goal for its transportation service is to provide safe, efficient transportation for all students. The district has a fleet of 64 buses that serve 128 routes. Transportation is provided free of charge to all elementary-aged students and to secondary students who live one mile or more from school. Transportation is also provided for middle and high school students who live in areas that have been designated by the Board of Education as hazardous for walking.

Recommendations that will be implemented over the next two years are:

- Conduct an annual “customer satisfaction” survey in January of each year;
- Continue to adhere to bus replacement schedule as the budget permits;
- Continue to explore new avenues for hiring permanent and substitute bus drivers;
- Review hazardous routes and road construction projects, both commercial and residential, and make routing adjustments;
- Review programs to improve the image, identity and service of transportation staff through the department’s goals and mission statement; and
- Research the replacement of the routing software package.

Board Forum open to staff, students, residents

The Pattonville Board of Education will host a public forum for residents, students and staff in the Pattonville School District at 7 p.m., Monday, March 3 at Drummond Elementary School, 3721 St. Bridget Lane in St. Ann. Mickey Schoonover, director of school-community relations, reviewed the format for the evening with board members on Feb. 25.

The purpose of the forum is to enable residents and staff to hold a conversation with board members about issues of importance to the Pattonville School District, its students, parents, employees and residents. The district will also offer updates on major initiatives and issues facing Pattonville schools.

Refreshments will be served. Babysitting for participants’ children under the age of 11 will be available. Parents who need babysitting services must call 213-8025 to reserve a space for their child(ren).

Board opposes proposed legislation

The Pattonville Board of Education voted unanimously on Feb. 25 to oppose legislation proposed in the Missouri House of Representatives to limit a board member’s terms on the Governing Council of Special School District (SSD) to no more than four years. Governing Council members are selected by local school boards in St. Louis County who are served by SSD and are charged with selecting and overseeing the SSD Board of Education. Ron Kuschel, Pattonville’s board vice president, is Pattonville’s representative on the Governing Council.

“In the cases of many of the long-term members of the Governing Council, no other members of their boards of education wished to serve on the council,” Kuschel said, citing the extensive time commitment outside of local Board of Education duties. “In many cases, Governing Council members have developed a true passion for special education.”

Pattonville board members agreed and voted to oppose the proposal and to send a letter to legislators voicing their opposition.

April board meeting date changed back

The first regular meeting of the Pattonville Board of Education in April has been changed back to Tuesday, April 8. Earlier, the board had decided to move the date to April 10 to accommodate laws regarding board reorganization after the April municipal election day, which is April 8. Under Missouri law, the board must reorganize with new or re-elected board members within seven days after the election.

Because two incumbent board members are running unopposed in the April 8 election, board members decided to keep the April 8 date for their board meeting and conduct the reorganization at the end of the meeting, after election polls are closed for the day. This will also enable board members to attend a recognition program on April 10 to accept Pattonville’s second “Distinction in Performance Award” from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The first board meeting in April will take place at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 8, in the Pattonville Learning Center.

Summer school pay rates OK'd

The Board of Education on Feb. 25 approved the rate of pay for certified and support staff working during summer school. Administrators will be paid \$35 per hour, and teachers, counselors and librarians will be paid \$24 per hour. Secretaries and bus drivers will earn \$14 per hour. Clerical assistants and cafeteria personnel will earn \$11.50 per hour, and school nurses will earn \$16 per hour.

Curriculum, materials adopted

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb.25 approved revisions to the music curriculum for grades kindergarten through eight, as well as the adoption of instructional materials for elementary handwriting and high school mathematics.

The materials adoption for the handwriting curriculum includes teachers’ editions, black-line masters, transparencies, alphabet wall strips and software. The cost of the materials will be \$35,033.82

Materials for the high school math curriculum include textbooks, teachers’ editions and teacher resource packages. Also included are online editions for each student for Algebra I and II and Geometry. There are also student CD ROMs for the advanced courses such as Calculus, Pre-Calculus, Probability and Statistics and AP Statistics. The cost of the instructional materials is \$132,356.37.

Board approves proclamations

Music, art and school principals earned recognition during the Feb. 25 Board of Education meeting. The board approved three proclamations during the recent meeting.

The board declared March 5 as “Principal Day” in Pattonville. The month of March was also declared as both “Music in Our Schools Month” and “Youth Art Month” in the Pattonville School District.

Kinney's Corner

Update from Superintendent Hugh Kinney

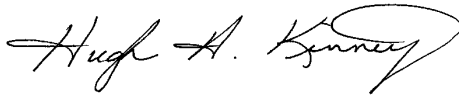
Dear Pattonville family,

Here's a look at what's happening:

- Many thanks to Pattonville High School's Student Council, who spearheaded Sam Rosen Day at PHS. Sam, who is a custodian at the high school, is recovering from surgery for a brain tumor, and Student Council members raised more than \$5,600 to support his family. Sam is a well-loved member of the Pattonville family, both by students and staff, and our thoughts are with him at this difficult time. Thanks to all those who were generous in giving to this deserving person.
- Pattonville elementary schools will be visited this week and next by the friendly Cat in the Hat, thanks to the leadership of the Pattonville National Education Association and Pattonville High School Student Council. The Student Council helped raise funds to purchase a Cat in the Hat suit for the district, and a high school student is volunteering his time to portray the Cat at various elementary schools as part of "Read Across America," a nationwide celebration of reading. What a great way to make reading fun and enjoyable for our youngest learners.

I'd like to extend a personal invitation to all residents, students and staff to attend the annual Board-Patron Open Forum on Monday, March 3. This is an invaluable time for members of our community to get involved in conversations with our board to help us all continue on the road to improvement. I hope you'll join us Monday at Drummond Elementary.

Sincerely,



Hugh A. Kinney, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Business Bits

Approval of bills

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 25 approved the following:

- \$2,711.10 to Kohn, Shands, Elbert, Gianoulakis and Giljum for legal services.

Bid Awards

The Pattonville Board of Education on Feb. 25 approved the following bid awards and contracts:

- \$7,500 for a license agreement with Contemporary Group Acquisition Corp. for the rental of UMB Bank Pavilion for high school graduation ceremonies on May 22; and
- \$8,370 to Gregory Poole Equipment for a riding automatic scrubber.

Policy/Procedures

The Pattonville school board approved the following policies and procedures on Feb. 25:

- **GCR (Employment and Re-employment of Paraprofessionals with Teacher Certification)** – The title of “teacher assistant” was changed to “paraprofessional,” and other minor wording changes were made.
- **GCM-R-1 (Relationship Between Professional Studies and Grievances)** – The revision recodes the procedure from the letters, GBM-R-1, to GCM-R-1.
- **GCPA (Reduction in Force)** – The word “certificated” is changed to “certified.”
- **GCPC (Retirement Benefits for Professional Staff Members)** – The change deletes the words, “full-time,” before the word, “employee,” and adds the phrase, “employed 20 hours or more per week.”
- **GCBD-R-1 (Professional Staff Leaves and Absences)** – References are added to local and international associations and organizations. The word “certificated” is changed to “certified,” and the following sentence is added: “Any travel outside the continental United States must be pre-approved by the Superintendent of Schools.”
- **GCE-R-1 (Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment and Call Center Procedure)** – The revisions are as follows:
 - The following sentence was removed: “A substitute teacher shall receive additional pay following 10 consecutive days in one specific teacher’s assignment and also on the 31st consecutive day.”
 - The word, “certificated,” was changed to “certified.”
 - A paragraph was revised to read, “The substituting teacher will be paid at the district BS-Step 1 salary daily rate: days 1-10 at 50 percent; days 11 –20 at 67 percent; and days 31+ at 100 percent. Days need to be consecutive in the same assignment to move to the next level of pay.”
 - Part of a paragraph was revised to read, “The substituting teacher will be paid at the rate of an additional \$17 per hour for the period taught. Reimbursement will be included automatically in the next special payroll check.”
 - Other minor changes were approved.
- **GCJ (Professional Staff Work Schedules)** – The following changes were approved:
 - The following sentences were deleted, “The report time for elementary and high school staff shall be 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled instructional period of the school day and continue for 15 minutes beyond the end of the last scheduled instructional period of the school day. The report time for middle school staff shall be 20 minutes before and 10 minutes after the instructional periods indicated above.”
 - A paragraph was revised to read, “Each professional staff member shall be provided with at least 250 minutes of plan time a week with plan time provided in increments of at least 40 minutes.”
- **AA (School District Legal Status)** – The revision refers to the legal name of the school district as the “Pattonville R-3 School District.”
- **GDNB-R (Lunch and Rest Breaks)** – The following paragraph was added, “Employees may not leave District premises during such breaks. If, with the supervisor’s prior approval, such breaks are combined with the employee’s 30-minute lunch period, and if the employee leaves the

premises during said combined lunch and break periods, then the employees shall not be in the course of his/her employment while on such lunch and break period and the District shall have no liability for any act or omission by, or injury to, the employee under such circumstances.”

- **CDO-R (Administrative Work Year)** – This is a new procedure that replaces an older version dealing with the work calendar for administrators in the district.
- **IGBHA (English to Speakers of Other Languages)** – The following sentence was added, “The district English to Speakers of Other Languages Coordinator is responsible for implementation of the program and procedures.”

The board also approved the review of the following policies and procedures:

- **GD (Support Staff Policies and Goals);**
- **GDB (Support Staff Contracts, Compensation Plan and Salary Schedules);** and
- **IGDB-R (School Yearbooks).**

The board voted to rescind the following policies and procedures:

- **BCFA (Advisory Committees to the Board);**
- **IICB (Vacation-Period Field Trips Organized by Individual Staff Members, Organizations or Companies);**
- **IICB-R (Vacation-Period Field Trips Organized by Individual Staff Members, Organizations or Companies);**
- **IICB-R-E-1 (Acknowledgement of Receipt of Policies and Procedures Relating to Field Trips Taken by Pattonville Students During Vacation Periods);** and
- **IICB-R-E-2 (Agreement to Release, Hold Harmless and Indemnify).**

The board lodged for action the following policies and procedures:

- **IB (Academic Freedom)** – The following is proposed to be removed: “Such academic freedom will be extended teachers in our schools because it is necessary to the effective exercise of the basic responsibility of the school: to guide students toward the knowledge and understanding befitting free, reasoning and responsible adults.” The following sentences are proposed to be added: “It is the intention of this school district to preserve and clarify the academic rights and responsibilities of the district’s teachers, within the scope of the curriculum, and to strive toward the free exchange of ideas in the classroom. To further the exchange of ideas, the teacher may employ subject matter appropriate to the level of the learner, in keeping with the mores of the community, and may use teaching methods and teaching aids deemed appropriate in conduct of the class. Educators and students are allowed access to library materials without unnecessary or artificial barriers.”
- **IC/ICA (School Year/School Calendar)** - The policy is being revised to read, “The school calendar shall provide for a minimum of 174 days and 1,044 hours of actual pupil attendance. Additional days for pupil attendance, various meetings, holidays and other days may be scheduled as part of the school term at the discretion of the Board of Education. The district is required by state law to make up all days canceled due to inclement weather unless it has scheduled at least two-thirds as many make-up days as were lost during the previous school year. If the district uses these make-up days and still does not meet the requirement for a 174-day term, it shall be required to make up no more than eight additional days and half the number of days canceled in excess of eight days. Days that the district’s schools are closed for emergency reasons, which cause a violation of the necessary 174 days of pupil attendance, will be made up in accordance with state statutes and as approved by the Board upon the superintendent’s recommendation. Upon approval of the calendar by the Board, the superintendent or designee will distribute copies to the staff and news media.”
- **IGBC (Parent/Family Involvement in Instructional and Other Programs)** – The following sentence is proposed to be added: “The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction serves as the coordinator for the Parent Involvement Policy.” Sections are also proposed to be added which address school policy, migrant education program parent involvement and limited English proficiency parent involvement.

- **IGBG (Homebound Instruction)** – This is a new policy, which outlines conditions under which a student is eligible for homebound instruction.
- **IGBG-R (Homebound Instruction Procedures)** – This is a new procedure, which outlines the process for providing homebound instruction to eligible students.
- **IGDA (Student Organizations)** – The following phrase is proposed to be deleted, “and the approval by the superintendent and/or budgeted funds, or that may engage in activities controversial in nature.” The following sentence is proposed to be added, “Any organization requiring budgeted funds and/or that may engage in activities of a controversial nature must be approved by the superintendent.”
- **IGDJ (Interscholastic Athletics/Activities)** – A sentence is revised to read, “Students eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who do not meet the above criteria may have their eligibility restored by the high school principal following a review with the athletic/activities director.”
- **IGDJ-R (High School Activities and Student Eligibility)** – Proposed revisions update the list of activities governed by policy IGDJ and add the phrase, “sanctioned by Missouri State High School Activities Association.”
- **IIADA (Computer Software Copyright)** – The following sentence is proposed to be deleted, “The principal of each school site is responsible for establishing practices and procedures which will enforce this policy at the school level.”
- **IICA (School-Sponsored Field Trips)** – A paragraph is revised to read, “All parents of students who are eligible to participate in the field trip shall be notified in advance of the activity. Each child who goes on a field trip must have written parental consent, including walking excursion off school grounds.”
- **IICAB (Non-District Field Trips and Excursions)** – This is a new policy outlining the district’s expectations when staff is involved in non-district sponsored field trips and excursions.
- **IJ (Guidance Programs)** – This is a new policy that replaces an older version and outlines the goals, activities and components of the district’s guidance programs.
- **IKAB (Student Progress Reports to Parents)** – Minor wording changes are recommended.
- **IGBCA (Programs for Homeless Students)** – Numerous changes and updates are being recommended for updating this policy dealing with programs for homeless students.

The board is expected to vote on these policies during its March 18 meeting.

New Hires

- **Chris Layman**, paraprofessional, Drummond
- **Bonnie McCool**, library facilitator, High School



Recognition of Special Achievements and Contributions



Missouri Volleyball Coaches Association - Coaching Excellence Award

Terry Funderburk

St. Louis Rams' Community First Award

Laura Lancaster, Lisa Nance and Karen Lammert

Elementary Teacher of the Year Nominees

Jennifer Albano, Cheryl Apel, Melva Arps, Stefanie Ayotte, Elizabeth Brisch, Trisha Buenemann, Virginia Butkiewicz, Marvin Cartwright, Christina Curtis, Nicole Daniel, Stacy Davis, Sylvie Delanny, Denita Edwards, Vernita Ellison, Geri Evans, Debbie Foster, Amy Frost, Sarah Funderburk, Kristen Gartland, Melanie Gibson, Alex Granda, Eileen Hannon, Holly Hildreth, Donna Hughes, Johnetta Jones, Brendan Kearney, Lisa Kickbusch, Jeannie King, Mary Kurth, Michele Lewis, Jarrett McBride, Debra McCormack, Leah Meyer, Vivian Moriarty, Judy Neely, Tom Noble, Julie Osvath, Karrie Peters, Nisa Peters, Harriet Polleschultz, Lynda Polys, Amy Robinson, Jennifer Rogers, Judy Ruffus, Jamie Scheer, Betsy Simpkins, Darlene Sokol, Katie Springer, Paula Stolle, Candace Tarman, Karen Taylor, Sajutha Timmons, Jennifer Werthmuller, Willie Wessels, Jane Windish, Lori Yudovich and Kim Zuccarello

Middle School Teacher of the Year Nominees

Gregory Anderson, Marisa Baner, Sammi Bezzole, Patty Bohn, Pamela Bradley, Mindy Campbell, Julie Cantwell, Susan Carr, Linda Cooper, Alicia Deitz, Joelle Donde'ville, Lori Fisk, Kimberly Fries, Angela Frye, Stacey Gaal, Montie Gage, Stacey Gottman, Barbara Graham, Jeff Grass, Debra Green, Kay Gunning, Katie Guyton, Tom Iffrig, Pat Johnson, Curtis Jones, Gregg Klinginsmith, David Knapp, Lori Mann, Marc Manning, Tim McKinley, Bridget Nitsch, Gloria Oglesby, Jenny Prost, Pam Rasmussen, Jessica Rau, Ginger Roberts, Rita Rutledge, Carol Scherer, Ralph Seibert, Paul Simpkins, Robert Simpson, Marcie Slawin, Joan Sowers, Kevin Spawr, Edward Stevens, Kelly Strobel, Lara Sweda, Stephanie Walton, Theresa Weiersmueller, Kelly Williams, Travis Williams, Tim Wilson and Erin Zoltanski

High School Teacher of the Year Nominees

Leslie Anderson, Pete Barrett, Kevin Beckner, Stephanie Black, Linda Bowers, Barbara Brooks, Aida Greenberg, Scott Hauser, Tim Hudson, Karen Lammert, Dennis McFarland, Louise McGuire, Jeremy Moore, Erin Mulanax, Lisa Peckam, Leslie Scoopmire, Barb Stavelly and Andrew Stewart

Support Staff Employee of the Year Nominees

Debbie Adams, John Bereza, Tom Betts, Joanne Boock, Linda Boyer, Rita Brengle, Linda Burke, Angie Chica-Palma, Beverly Conner, George Crownover, Ron Crump, Stacey Daleo, Susan Deering, Jackie Dittmeyer, Tiffany Edwards, Vernita Enloe, Ken Farrell, Kevin Fisher, Terry Fox, Jan Grumke, Joe Gutierrez, Donna Hamilton, Roger Harlan, Craig Heller, Jaime Hoff, Teresa Jercinovic, Robert Jercinovic, Steve Jones, Sharon Kendall, Mary Beth Kretschmer, Heidi Lanham, Jan LaZear, Tu Lee, Kelly Lerch, Charlene Mair, Tammy Mathes, James Miller, Emily Morris, Colleen Mullins, Alicia O'

Neal, Patty Patrick, Pat Pierson, Tami Quinn, Trish Richardson, Sam Rosen, Rose Rushing, Susan Russ, Dave Schulte, Rebecca Siems, Alice Spier, Kay Sullivan, Susan Tindell, Jim Walsh, Bob Wehmer, Phyllis Whitten and Michael Williams

Your Board of Education

- **Ralph Stahlhut**, President
- **Ron Kuschel**, Vice President
- **Pat Bryant**, Secretary
- **Keith Gillming**, Treasurer
- **Jeff Fitterling**, Director
- **Kathy Fitzgerald**, Director
- **Michael Stewart**, Director