

BOARD-O-GRAM

Educational Focus Meeting of September 24, 2007



Board Honors "88's Best" for September

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:



Anna Mikulski has demonstrated success in academics and extracurricular activities at **Addison Trail**. Ranking in the top 1% of her senior class, Anna has taken a rigorous curriculum having enrolled in eight Advanced Placement classes. Anna's strong commitment to challenging herself has also been demonstrated by her dedication to the Sikorski Polish School.

In addition to excelling in academics, Anna has participated in several extracurricular organizations. Anna has been involved in Orchestra and is active in Key Club and currently the vice-president. She has also been inducted into the National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Best Buddies, Science Olympiad and Student Council. Anna even finds time in her busy schedule to volunteer at Glen Oaks Hospital and travels for mission work with her church.

Anna has applied to University of Chicago and Northwestern University and would like to pursue a degree in pre-law.

Olga Bryazka has excelled in academics at **Willowbrook** High School. Currently, Olga is in the top 1% in the senior class, has completed five Advanced Placement courses during her sophomore and junior years, and is enrolled in six Advanced Placement courses during her senior year. Her commitment and work ethic is evident in every class Olga takes from AP Calculus BC to Dance. Olga is also an inductee of the National Honor Society and a member of the soccer team.

While at Willowbrook, Olga has also sought challenges beyond the academic classroom while creating her architecture portfolio. She has spent countless hours perfecting her portfolio and shown the same determination she demonstrates towards her academics.

Olga has applied to the University of Notre Dame and would like to pursue a degree in architecture.



INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF & RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT:

The Board of Education **welcomed 60 new staff members** to District 88 at the September 24 Board meeting. Additionally, **Board President Mark Johnson** acknowledged Addison Trail Principal Scott Helton for defending his dissertation and earning his doctoral degree from the University of Illinois. **Congratulations to Dr. Helton!**

BUILDING THE FUTURE IN DISTRICT 88:

Jim Murphy of Wight & Company Architects provided a monthly update about "Building The Future." He reported their staff is working thoroughly on the planning and permitting in order to create dynamic designs for Addison Trail and Willowbrook. Wight has completed feedback meetings with each department and the input is **helping shape the final proposals** in the schematic design phase.

Next steps include moving beyond the floor plans into design development, which is a more specific level of determining what will be in each space, and eventually into 3-D architectural designs. **Construction is scheduled to begin in earnest in late spring and early summer 2008.**

EDUCATIONAL FOCUS ITEMS:

- The **Illinois State Board of Education** has released the **2007 school report cards** to the district. The information in the report cards is based on information filed to the state on student demographics, financial expenditures, state testing results and AYP status. **The report cards will be posted on the district web site by October 31** in accordance with state directives.
- **Ms. Beth Prindiville**, Director of Curriculum and Learning, summarized the results from the 2007 Summer Interventions programs. **DeVry University President Dr. Susan Friedberg, John Petrik and Susan Wallace** were recognized for their partnership efforts to host District 88 students on-campus for a specialized online instructional math program. Almost 50 incoming freshman students experienced a college campus while improving their math skills to be ready for high school algebra.

Additional interventions included Sophomore and Junior Seminar credit recovery in math and English. **Willowbrook teacher Kevin Baldus** reported on the self-paced computer based program, which allows students to earn credits toward graduation. He indicated that students took real ownership in learning and noted that attendance directly correlated to academic success. Such academic interventions, as well as ESL reading programs or Speech and Geometry that are offered to provide schedule flexibility, are **designed to meet the specific needs of learners.**

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

The **list of bills and treasurer's report** from August 2007 with the exception of check #437595 to Sharon and Tom Kucik; **fundraiser contracts** with anticipated revenue of \$1,000 or more; **personnel items as presented** at the September 17, 2007 meeting; **appointment of Debbie Delawder, Dan McAleese and Nancy McAleese** to the Addison Trail Citizen's Advisory Council and a **donation of a Service Bay Diagnostic System to the Willowbrook High School Automotive Program** from Mr. Daniel Kaiser of Fair Oaks Ford.

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

- **Check #437595** to Sharon and Tom Kucik.
- **Meeting minutes** from the August 20, 2007, Regular Business meeting, Closed Session minutes of the August 20, 2007 Board meeting, August 27, 2007, Educational Focus meeting and Closed Session minutes of the August 27, 2007 Board meeting.

IN PERSONNEL ACTIONS: the following items were approved by the Board:

- Certified Staff Appointments for **Matt Bauers**, AT Behavior Intervention Center Teacher and **Liana Bracker**, WB English Teacher.
- Classified Staff Appointments for **Laura Peterson**, WB Special Education Teacher Aide and **Roberta Williams**, AT Part-time GOAL Program Teacher Aide.
- Buildings & Grounds Unpaid Leave of Absence for **Grace DiVenere**, WB Custodian.

SCHOOL RECOGNITION:

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

- Senior Katarzyna Wroblewska has been recognized as a Commended Student in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- The freshman houses visited the University of Wisconsin at Madison as part of their "future focus" initiative.
- Homecoming week was festive with alums returning for the pep rally and football game. Over 850 students attended the homecoming dance.
- Upcoming events: Honor Roll assembly, Fine Arts Showcase and AT's Best Breakfast.

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

- The Guidance Department hosted Senior Parent Night, which included the College Choices program and financial aid information.
- The Guidance Department hosted the first Hispanic Parent Night with 15 families in attendance.
- The New Beginnings program assisted freshmen students transition to high school and the "Warrior Code."
- Upcoming events: District football game and cookout, practice PLAN/ACT exams and Band Day.

Mark Your Calendars:

October 22, 2007	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education, Regular Business Meeting	District Boardroom
October 29, 2007	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education, Educational Focus Meeting	District Boardroom