

AUGUST COMMUNITY PACKET
WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
August 27, 2008
6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ILLINOIS COMPILED STATUTES, 5 ILCS 120/2.02 (OPEN MEETINGS ACT) NOTICES OF THIS MEETING HAVE BEEN POSTED. LOCATION OF THE MEETING IS IN THE WOODLAND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT CENTER, 1105 N. HUNT CLUB ROAD, GURNEE, ILLINOIS, 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Move to enter Closed Session

The Board will enter into closed session to discuss:

- Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees;
- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Board of Education, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

IV. Return to Open Session at 7:30 P.M.

V. Call to Order

VI. Roll Call

VII. Pledge of Allegiance

VIII. Approval of Agenda

IX. Reading of Communications

X. Citizen Statements

Citizens are provided time to address the Board. The Board of Education respectfully requests that individuals limit comments or questions to two minutes and if requested, the Board will respond in writing.

XI. Consent Agenda According to the guide from the Illinois Association of School Boards, "Coming to Order," "a portion of the agenda may be designated for a consent agenda. The consent grouping on the agenda will be used for items that do not require Board discussion. It may also include items for which the law required Board action but which the Board rightfully delegates to staff."

A. Approval of Minutes

B. Financial Reports

C. Treasurer Reports

D. Approval of Employment

E. Acceptance of Resignations

F. Approval of Leaves of Absence

G. Approval of Substitutes

H. Approval of "Destruction of Closed Session Meeting Audio Recordings" for January 2007

I. Approval of Closed Session Minutes to be Opened to the Public

AUGUST COMMUNITY PACKET

- J. Approval of Construction Change Orders for Life Health Safety Projects
- K. Approval of Revision to Job Description for Assistant Director of Technology

XII. Action Items

- A. Approval of Lowest Responsible Bidder – Diesel/Gas Fuel Bid
The Board will review and approve a bidder to provide fuel for district vehicles.

XIII. Reports/Discussion Items

- A. Strategic Planning Goal 1A Student Learning – Achievement
Dr. Joy Swoboda and Dr. Anne Swanson will provide the Board with a report on the local assessment program, Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and the FY 08 Illinois Standards Achievement Test.
- B. Summer Programs
The Board will receive a written report on the summer programs for 2008: Summer Wonders and Camp Inventions.

XIV. Board Improvement and Operations

The Board will discuss various ways to improve the efficiency of meetings and the receipt of information via monthly packets.

XV. Status of Requests from Board Members/Recap/Future Board Items/Correspondence

Board members will discuss:

1. Status of requests from Board meetings
2. A recap of the meeting and future Board items
3. Correspondence to the Board and direction on responses
4. Receipt of any Freedom of Information Act Requests – None at this time

XVI. Announcements and Board Committee Reports

XVII. Return to Closed Session, If Necessary

XVIII. Adjournment

WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #50
COMMUNITY/PRESS PACKET FOR
AUGUST 2008 BOARD MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of Closed Session Minutes to be Opened to the Public – Twice a year the Board of Education approves closed session minutes to be opened to the public. Minutes may remain closed if they reference a confidential matter that involves a staff member still employed by the district or within the last 5 years. The Board is to open the following minutes:

August 22, 2007	November 13, 2007	January 23, 2008
August 30, 2007	December 13, 2007	February 27, 2008
September 26, 2007	December 15, 2007	March 6, 2008
October 24, 2007	December 19, 2007	April 7, 2008
		April 15, 2008
- Approval of Construction Change Orders for Life Health Safety Projects – The Board has received nine change orders from this summer’s life health safety projects. The total change is \$50,300.88.
- Approval of Revision to Job Description for Assistant Director of Technology – The job description is being recommended for revision from the Director of Technology.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approval of Lowest Responsible Bidder – Diesel/Gas Fuel Bid - Woodland and Warren Transportation departments have met to review areas where we might share services or combine efforts to reduce costs. One of the areas where we can look to join efforts is with a combined fuel bid. Both Warren and Woodland have in-ground storage tanks and purchase the same type of fuel (ultra low sulphur diesel). Combined, Woodland and Warren purchase over 210,000 gallons annually for their transportation programs. A bid opening was held and the administration is recommending the Board award the bid to Olson Oil. The district pays the Oil Price Information Service daily average cost, plus a per gallon delivery charge (.044 per gallon delivery charge for gas, a .024 delivery charge for diesel to Lot A and a .036 per gallon charge for delivery of diesel fuel to Lot C.

REPORTS:

- Strategic Planning Goal 1A Student Learning – Achievement - Dr. Joy Swoboda and Dr. Anne Swanson will provide the Board with a report on the local assessment program, Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and the FY 08 Illinois Standards Achievement Test results. A copy of the powerpoint is enclosed.
- Summer Programs – Each year the Board is provided with written reports from the summer programs for 2008: Summer Wonders and Camp Inventions. Copies of the reports are attached.

BOARD OPERATIONS

- The Board will discuss the tentative agenda for the September 4th Committee of the Whole meeting.



Why do you measure a district with MAP?

- “To identify whether a school is producing value-added results for students on the NWEA measure.”
(NWEA 10/21/2003)
- “To establish numerical targets for school or program improvement.”
(NWEA 10/21/2003)

What is Woodland's goal as measured by MAP?

- By 2008 - 2009 Woodland will attain "High Growth" of students achieving targets as defined by NWEA and as measured by Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) in grades 2 - 8 in both mathematics and reading.

Why do we measure growth?

- Measuring growth ensures that all children are learning regardless of their achievement level: below grade level, at grade level or above grade level.

Is looking at growth enough?

- No, growth alone does not tell the whole story.
- Teachers and administrators need a context for growth. What constitutes a high growth year vs. a low growth year?
- For example, if 40% of the children in a classroom reach their growth target, is this a strong performance?

Why the change from the 80th Percentile to “High Growth”?

- This school year NWEA added a new feature to the Dynamic Reporting Suites
- The feature is a tri-colored speedometer
 - Red - “Low Growth”
 - Yellow - “Average Growth”
 - Green - “High Growth”
- Each teacher has easy access to his or her class information
- Percentiles need to be derived by hand. They are not available to teachers.

Why the change from the 80th Percentile to “High Growth”?

- It is important that the measures used for the strategic direction mirror the measures used by teachers
- We need a common understanding of success

Achievement

- Woodland’s Spring RIT scores continue to exceed the national mean scores in both mathematics and reading.
- Woodland’s mean Spring scores are consistent over the past three years. (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, and Spring 2008)

		Spring 2006	Spring 2007	Spring 2008	NWEA Mean	Woodland 2008 Compared to NWEA Mean
		Mean RIT	Mean RIT	Mean RIT		
Reading	2nd	189.7	191.7	191.6	188.2	3.4
	3rd	201.6	201.8	201.8	197.9	3.9
	4th	208.2	210.4	210.2	205.0	5.2
	5th	214.1	215.1	216.1	210.6	5.5
	6th	218.3	218.9	217.6	215.0	2.6
	7th	223.1	222.7	221.4	218.1	3.2
	8th	--	227.2	226.6	221.3	5.3
Mathematics	2nd	193.4	193.8	193.1	190.6	2.5
	3rd	206.6	205.3	205.8	201.7	4.1
	4th	216.4	216.8	215.8	210.4	5.4
	5th	226.0	225.6	225.3	218.3	7.0
	6th	229.2	229.7	228.3	223.3	5.0
	7th	234.2	235.0	233.8	228.0	5.8
	8th	--	241.7	240.6	232.8	7.8

Growth

- Woodland's growth this school year was predominantly average growth

		Spring 2005 to Spring 2006		Spring 2006 to Spring 2007		Spring 2007 to Spring 2008	
		Percent Reaching Target	Growth Category	Percent Reaching Target	Growth Category	Percent Reaching Target	Growth Category
Reading	2 nd	--	--	--	--	--	--
	3 rd	61.2	High	63.2	High	52.8	Average
	4 th	62.9	High	61.6	High	59.7	Average
	5 th	54.8	Average	61.0	High	56.0	Average
	6 th	55.5	Average	57.2	Average	49.5	Average
	7 th	58.3	Average	60.2	High	54.0	Average
	8 th	--	--	61.6	High	61.7	High
	Mathematics	2 nd	--	--	--	--	--
3 rd		63.8	High	59.4	Average	54.3	Average
4 th		67.7	High	59.6	Average	60.1	High
5 th		61.6	High	56.0	Average	53.1	Average
6 th		49.2	Average	48.6	Average	41.2	Average
7 th		49.6	Average	54.5	Average	47.9	Average
8 th		--	--	65.5	High	55.9	Average
Low growth =		< 40% of students achieving growth target					
Average growth =		40-59% of students achieving growth target					
High growth =		≥ 60% of students achieving growth target					

Hypothesis 1

- One potential influencing factor is the timing of the testing windows

Woodland's MAP Testing Windows

	2005 - 2006	2006 - 2007	2007 - 2008	2008 - 2009
Fall MS Date	9/19	9/18	9/5	9/17
Regular Fall Date	9/19	9/18	9/12	9/17
MS days after start	15 days	16 days	4 days	14 days
Spring MS Date	4/10	4/9	4/2	4/13
Regular Spring Date	4/10	4/16	4/2	4/13
MS days after break	5 days	5 days	2 days	3.5 days

Hypothesis 2

- The Spring 2007 scores were high which might have led to some complacency

Hypothesis 3

- Staff and administrators who were not part of Woodland's initial staff development, may have limited understanding of MAP and require additional training

Hypothesis 4

- Staff and administrators who were part of Woodland's initial staff development, may need additional refresher training especially in the areas of goal setting, Des Cartes and differentiation

Hypothesis 5

- Other influencers
 - Piloting
 - Snow days

CIA Initiatives for 2008 - 2009

Or, how can we help you?

- Adjust testing windows
- New Challenge math classes in grades 3 and 4
- Expanded Challenge Math in grade 5
- Assessment of Challenge Math Boot Camp
- Additional Gifted position at Elementary
- Benchmarking Literacy Assessments
- Elementary Math Tier II intervention
- Parent notification system

What we can do together for 2008 - 2009

- Initiate standardized timing and format for conversation with teachers about growth in their classrooms
 - What questions?
 - Who facilitates?
 - What is shared?
 - When?
 - How do we help teachers self-reflect?
- Smooth Language Arts curriculum and materials implementation
- Parent participation

What about ISAT?

- It's possible that scores will be delayed until November
- We need to plan without the scores.

2008 ISAT Data

- Even when we “control” or eliminate ELL student, preliminary ISAT scores appear to have declined 7 points from last year
- We were not alone. All neighboring districts appear to have experienced similar declines
- The state began a review with external psychometricians

2008 ISAT

- Elementary and Intermediate will likely have several subgroups not meet AYP in reading
 - LEP
 - Students with Disabilities
 - Hispanic
 - Economically Disadvantaged
- If scores return to past levels the Middle school might meet AYP targets
- The AYP target for 2008 is 62.5% of students meeting or exceeding
- The AYP target for 2009 is 70.0%
- We need to continue aggressive efforts for both proficiency and growth.

School Action Plans

- First, focus on individual students
- Second, focus on school wide initiatives that CIA can develop with you, e.g. flex grouping, after school programs, summer programs
- Third, maintain a strong focus on learning

August 18, 2008

MEMO TO: Dr. Swoboda

FROM: Ana Fuhrer, Director of Summer Wonders

RE: 2008 Summer School Report

OVERALL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The 2008 Summer School programs were in session from June 23, 2008 to July 18, 2008. The length of our programs was shortened by one week due to the later end date of the school year and to better accommodate the Operations and Facilities Department's life safety schedule as such, the cost per course reduced from \$75 to \$68 for one year.

There were three components to our summer programs: Summer Wonders, Boost, and Express. The Boost and Express classes are remedial programs the latter for those students at risk of retention. Both programs are by invitation only. The Boost classes are double the length of the enrichment classes, and are designed to provide a grade level review in Language Arts and Math.

Summer Wonders classes offered a wide variety of enrichment opportunities including areas such as science, technology, cooking, and academics. A numeric breakdown of the classes offered is delineated in the statistics section of this report.

A new feature this year was a morning of orientation and set up for staff prior to the arrival of the students. This afforded an opportunity for me to review expectations and the procedures for accessing technology. We were able to discuss arrival and dismissal procedures and address safety concerns. Additionally the nurse was able to share information regarding medical and health related issues. I received positive comments for the staff regarding the orientation. Further I believe it resulted in a smoother opening of summer school for the students and parents.

Mrs. Susan Adams, one of our hall monitors, held weekly school wide contests that offered opportunities for all students to participate. The contests included T-shirt designing and finding our missing Summer Wonders mascot. The objective of the contests was to help provide a fun and interesting summer school atmosphere for students. Mrs. Adams was able to secure small donations for prizes from Target and two bicycles from Wall-Mart, worth approximately \$238.00.

LOCATION

Once again, the program was held at the Middle School. This location is a preference due to the availability of rooms more conducive for hands-on science opportunities as well as cooking opportunities. More gymnasium space increases opportunities for physical education offerings and the climbing wall is an added benefit.

Given the ability to drive around the school made for an efficient and safe system for pick up and drop off by parents as well as for our buses. Buses dropped off and picked up on the south side of the school and parents were on the north side.

REGISTRATION AND PREPARATION

We utilized the same process for registration as we have for the past two years. On the day of registration packets were stamped with the date and time to preserve the order in which registrations were received. Classes were filled accordingly. Parents were able to pay with credit cards on site, which reduced additional processing by the business office after registration. Preliminary schedules were mailed home two weeks after registration. We will be exploring on-line registration for next year.

We held one open house rather than two. The open house was on June 14, 2008. In order to accommodate those who could not attend we offered individual tours. This appealed most parents but I would suggest, if possible, returning to two open house opportunities in the future.

Last year Penny Dagley and myself held meetings with administrators and staff members from the Technology, Transportation, Registration, and Operations & Facilities departments, to help facilitate the transition of the program to the Middle School. Following the end of the session, we met with the groups once again, to assess the program and gather feedback to help us plan for next year. We held a similar series of meetings this year, which again were very beneficial and contributed to the efficient and safe operation of our summer programs.

STATISTICS

A total of 814 students attended Summer Wonders 2008. This was about 50 less than last year. Of the 814 students, 122 attended the Boost classes with the remaining 692 enrolled in enrichment programs.

Summer Express served 59 students in grades 1st – 5th this year. Of the 59 students, 4 students in 1st grade, 2 in 2nd grade and 1 in 3rd did not complete the program successfully due to very low effort demonstrated, and/or poor attendance.

A total of 65 staff was employed in Summer Wonders. This number included 4 hall monitors and an ESL teacher to support the needs of our second language learners.

There were 59 different classes offered for grades K – 7th including the following categories:

- 7 Reading
- 4 Math
- 8 Science
- 5 Social Studies
- 3 Cooking
- 8 Physical Education
- 3 Dance/ drama Enrichment w/ an academic component
- 1 Music
- 5 Computer
- 4 Life skills
- 11 Art/crafts

BUDGET

We are still processing some bills that will be paid at the August 27, 2008 Board of Education meeting. Penny will provide a separate budget report in BUD on Friday, September 5, 2008.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2009

- 1) Continue use of the Middle School – The facilities best meet our needs and consistent use of the same school increase familiarity for parents and students.
- 2) Continue to bring staff in a day before students arrive so that teacher questions can be answered and they can receive an inservice on technology usage, meeting with the nurse regarding medical and health related issues of the student attending, classroom maintenance and a meeting with the Director to go over general expectations.
- 3) Explore on-line registration.
- 4) Review criteria for successful completion of Express. It has been several years since we reviewed these criteria and we feel this would be a good time to do so. This will be addressed with School Administrators and Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability staff.

To: Dr. Joy Swoboda
From: Deb Pellettiere and Jennifer Haack
Date: August 15, 2008
Re: Camp Invention

The week of July 21-25, 2008, Woodland District 50 hosted Camp Invention for students entering grades 1-6. In its fifth year at Woodland, attendance was at 62. This year eight campers benefited from the adopt-a-camper promotion and five students from a scholarship provided by Motorola and Ford Motor Company, and three campers that benefited from the special staff adoption rate. Woodland's Camp Invention staff consisted of three teachers, three counselors, an Assistant Director and a Director.

Camp Invention promotes problem solving and creative thinking particularly in the areas of math and science. The curriculum is aligned to the Illinois Math, Science and Social Studies Standards. Each day, campers rotated between five modules, including *Recess Remix*, *Saving Sludge City*, *Art Park*, *M.A.R.S. (Moving at Rocket Speed)*, and the ever favorite - *I Can Invent: Fantasy Inventions & Complicated Machines*.

As a culminating activity on Friday afternoon for camper's family and friends, we hosted the *Camp Invention Hall of Fame* featuring students' imaginative inventions. The *Camp Invention Hall of Fame* offered a wonderful opportunity to gather parent feedback. Many families offered positive comments about camp, and students look forward to returning next summer. Next summer, Camp Invention will have a new Director, Jen Haack, the assistant director for the last four years.

Thank you,

Deb Pellettiere
Director of Camp Invention

Jennifer Haack
Asst. Director of Camp Invention