



October 10, 2012 meeting

Summit Hill District 161 Board Briefs

Serving 3,296 students living in portions of Tinley Park, Mokena, and Frankfort

For additional information, please contact Supt. Barb Rains at 815.469.9103

Summit Hill District 161 receives 2012 Bright Star Award for educational excellence

For the 17th consecutive year, Summit Hill District 161 has been awarded the School Search Bright Star Award for achieving high student performance while managing the finances of the District. District 161 is one of the 85 Illinois school districts (out of 868 school districts) to be honored with the award in 2012. District 161 has received the honor yearly since the award originated in 1995. Award criteria are based on districts whose students' academic performance ranks in the upper one-third of Illinois school districts, but whose expenditures per pupil rank in the lower one-fourth of Illinois school districts. The ranking is based on 2011 Illinois Report Card data, which is the most recent data available. Award criterion for student achievement is based on the average percentage of meets/exceeds percentages in Reading and Math on the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT). The state average for this percentage is 82.2. The Bright Star Award sets the bar for student achievement at or above 88.8%. The award criterion for fiscal management – the average operating expenditure per student -- is at or below \$8,725. The state average is \$11,537.

District 161 Board of Education honors SHEF with Standing Ovation Award

Over the years, the Summit Hill Educational Foundation (SHEF) has been instrumental in securing funds for District 161. At Wednesday's Board Meeting, members applauded the extraordinary efforts of SHEF in securing a total of \$270,000 in grants. This past year, \$80,000 was raised and expended on 47 grants and the Foundation's ELMO document camera initiative. The initiative involves generating enough funds to provide a document camera in every classroom. Additionally, SHEF recently unveiled its new grant writing initiative to secure corporate dollars to support District technology needs.

In other matters, the Board

- recognized the Summit Hill Jr. High Boys Baseball team for their participation in the IESA Class 3A state tournament;
- offered input on resolutions that will come before the Illinois Association of School Board Delegation Assembly in November at the IASB Convention;
- accepted the Fiscal Year 2012 audit;
- discussed student activity accounts;
- discussed the missing assignment/homework procedure in the Student-Parent Handbook;
- heard an update on the District's anti-bullying program;
- heard a report on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Technology;
- authorized publishing the Annual Financial Report;
- authorized publishing notice of the 2012 Levy Hearing to be held at 7 p.m. on December 12, 2012;
- approved the trip to Springfield, IL for band students; and
- approved the employment of Michael Hall to fill a family medical leave.

Mary Kenny
President

Joy Murphy
Vice President

Denise A. Lenz
Secretary

Stacey Borgens
Member

Sean William Doyle
Member

George Perros
Member

Denise Wildeveld
Member