



September 24, 2014 meeting

Summit Hill District 161 Board Briefs

Serving 3,256 students living in portions of Tinley Park, Mokena, and Frankfort

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

Indian Trail teachers and students share instructional strategies with Board members

Indian Trail 3rd grade teacher Pam Wandersen began the presentation sharing examples of strategies to support math instruction through the use of student-made foldables. Foldables are multi-dimensional graphic organizers used for skill reinforcement and practice. 4th grade teachers Melissa Farrell and Christina Horan then shared the use of anchor charts and interactive notebooks in everyday learning. The teachers explained that anchor charts are “notes” for students in a student’s own words. Posting anchor charts keeps current learning accessible to students to enable them to make connections as new learning occurs. Students can use the charts as tools as they answer questions, expand ideas, or contribute to discussions and problem-solving in class. Interactive notebooks add creativity to the note taking process. Board members had the opportunity to review several spiral notebooks that have begun to be transformed by Trail students into valuable resources. The notebooks include class notes, foldables, and other cues to assist with recall and demonstrate understanding of the concepts taught.

ISAT results presented to Board; parents to receive student reports Oct. 3

Supt. Rains reported on District ISAT results for 2014. She noted that this year’s ISAT questions were all geared toward the PARCC assessment. The District’s overall percentage of meets/exceeds standards is 74% compared to the state average of 59%. Student test results continue to demonstrate the collective high achievement of District 161 students on this state test. Parents of students in Grades 4-8 will receive an individual student report from the Spring testing on Oct. 3.

In personnel matters, the Board

- approved the employment of Mary Hamm as a certified occupational therapist assistant;
- approved the employment of Erica Howell as a lunchroom supervisor;
- approved an FMLA request; and
- accepted the resignations of Christy Gardner and Leslie Newby.

In other matters, the Board

- approved its \$40.4 million FY15 budget;
- approved the second and final reading of Board Policies 2:20, 4:60, 5:30 5:260, 5:330, 7:20, 7:180 and 7:240;
- discussed a proposal recommended by Frankfort Square Park District for security cameras at Frankfort Square School;
- approved the request from Cornerstone Church to void its lease for rental space at Mary Drew School effective Nov. 15;
- approved the questions to be used in the upcoming District Climate Survey for parents, staff and Gr. 6-8 students;
- approved the trip to Springfield on April 9 and 10, 2015 for interested SHJH band students;
- approved the placement of emergency notification signage around Walker School;
- set Jan. 24, 2015 as the date for a special meeting for school year 2015-16 planning; and
- heard a preview of the Oct. 10 teacher-in-service.