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# LAKE PARK HIGH SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

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## New Staff Introduced to Board

Dr. Margaret Eskey, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, introduced Lake Park's fifteen new teachers to the Board of Education. She said that they were chosen from a pool of 2,500 applicants and 150 interviews.

This year, an additional day was added to the new teacher training program. They attended *Lancer Summer Camp* for six days which included learning about the district's strategic plan and goals, professionalism, human resource items such as policies and procedures, and also CRISS training and building-based training modules which included the nurses, administrative team and technology staff and mentors. The training began in July to help the new staff have more time to prepare before the start of the school year.

This year's new teachers are:

**Lynne Benson** – Family and Consumer Sciences at East and West

**James Chellson** – Physical Education at East

**Katie Gillies** – Spanish at West

**Megan Greenfield** – Spanish at East

**Julie Holtz** – Math at East

**Nadia Javadi** – Science at East

**Patrice Lovelace** – Guidance Counselor at East

**Thomas Mazzie** – Science at East

**Bina Mesheimer** – Spanish at West

**Elizabeth Olinski** – Math at East

**Alison Stephans** – Physical Education at East

**Nicole Strass** – Science at West

**Jenna Terpinas** – Special Education at West

**Marc Tolkson** – Business at West

**Patricia Wilson** – Spanish at East and West

## Superintendent Highlights Pending Legislation

Superintendent John Butts highlighted several legislative items which will impact LPHS District 108 this year. He stated that the State of Illinois budget has passed (however an "implementation bill" still needs to be passed). The new budget includes increases in education line items including a foundation level increase of \$400 per student. This year's state budget also includes an increase in the reimbursement rate for special education staff. For many years, schools have been reimbursed \$8,000 per special education certified staff and \$4,000 per classified staff. These amounts are scheduled to increase to \$9,000 and \$4,700 this year. The certified staff amounts are also scheduled for annual increases of \$1,000 per year over the next five years until it reaches \$13,000. This will impact the the LPHS District 108 budget by \$135,000 this fiscal year.

Dr. Butts also spoke about new legislation regarding teen

driving which will have a strong impact on high school driver education programs. More information on this is highlighted in a separate article on the following page.

Another piece of legislation we are keeping an eye on requires special support services to students with diabetes. We are awaiting further details.

Dr. Butts also informed the Board of a new law pertaining to the use of contracted services by schools. The law requires that all schools who use contracted services (such as food service or transportation service) must contract with companies which provide comparable benefits to the school's own employees. While we do not yet know the effect it will have on our existing services, it is expected to impact school budgets since many school districts participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

# Board Approves Variety of Projects

Dr. Jeffery O'Connell, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, updated the Board on the 2007-2008 capital improvements projects and timeline. The following projects have already been completed:

\* Installing the district-wide communications system: Budget = \$200,000; Actual = \$195,491.

\* Seal coating and re-stripping the parking lots at both campuses: Budget = \$71,250; Actual = \$62,971

\* Redoing the tennis courts at West campus. Budget = \$150,000; Actual = \$163,234.

\* Replacing the football scoreboard at West: Budget = \$42,450; Actual = \$46,620.

\* Enlarging concession stand at West: Budget = \$65,000; Actual = \$59,421

Additional capital improvement projects which have not yet been completed but are budgeted for this year include:

\* A variety of "life safety" projects such as repaving the driver education area, replacing boilers, replacing galvanized water piping, and installing auditorium carpeting. This area totals \$4,556,142.

\* Replacing railing at East \$17,500

\* Remodeling food labs at East \$50,000 (summer 2008)

\* Building new Educational Service Center \$825,000 (winter 2007)

\* Equipment \$75,000

\* Refurbishing auditorium at West \$1,000,000 (summer 2008)

\* Building auditorium entrance at West \$663,750 (summer 2008)

The financial means for completing the various projects have already been secured through bond proceeds and

district cash reserves. The Board voted to approve all of the above projects, except for repaving the driver education lot. That decision will be made after a recommendation is made regarding the restructure of the driver education program due to changes in state law.

In addition, LPHS District 108 has 10 copier leases that will be expiring in November. A team of District representatives visited three sites to review the equipment and specifications that are needed to meet the District's copier and production needs. The visits entailed a demonstration and the utilization of output products that are used on a daily basis in the district. The team recommended the Konica Bizhub equipment, which will be placed throughout both campuses and the Educational Service Center. The board voted to approve a five year \$1 lease buy-out contract with Imagetec to provide 11 new Konica copiers. This initiative includes replacing the press at West with a high production copier.

## Driver Education Changes

Recent proposed legislation will be affecting not only individual teen drivers but high school driver education programs as well. For instance, range and/or simulation hours will no longer count toward reimbursement dollars to a district. (LPHS currently uses 4 hours of this supplemental time for each student, in addition to their actual on-street driving.) To accommodate Lake

Park's average 800 students per year, the instructor time alone will cost \$175,728. In addition, LPHS will need to increase the number of leased cars and furnish each with \$800 in add-on's to become instructor compliant. LPHS currently receives \$124 per student from the State for each student completing driver education through the Lake Park driver education program.

## Board Approves Hiring Two Principals

Dr. Edward Wardzala and Dr. Martin Quinn will both be retiring at the end of this school year. In order to begin a search for their replacements and allow for a smooth transition, the Board agreed to post the two positions in

September. Screening and interviewing of candidates will occur throughout the fall. The Board anticipates completing the search and hiring the new individuals in December.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS is a monthly publication of Lake Park High School Dist. 108 Office of Community Relations 450 Spring Court Roselle, IL 60172-1978 630-295-5401

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