

# 27 BOARD BRIEFS

Northbrook School District 27 Board of Education Meeting  
March and April, 2014

## Student Fees

The District 27 Board of Education approved the 2014-2015 student fee schedule.

Over the years, the Board has been sensitive and responsive to economic conditions while maintaining fiscal responsibility. As a result, the book and material fee per grade level has not been increased for at least 15 years or more. Due to changes in the curriculum and correlating instructional resources, the cost for consumable resources and on-line subscriptions have increased.

The changes to the fee schedule include:

- Book and material fees will increase to \$25 for kindergarten students; \$40 for first and second grades; and \$45 for grades 3 through 8.
- Bus fees will increase to \$325, due to the higher cost of transportation services. There will be an “early bird” discount fee of \$300 for parents who are able to complete the bus registration process prior to or on the established due date.
- All other fees remain the same.

The District will continue the online registration process for the 2014-2015 school year. Parents will have a choice to pay for student fees online or mail in their payment.

## Technology Budget

The Board of Education has approved the 2014-2015 technology budget, which calls for continuing the District’s 1:1 computer initiative. To help offset the high costs of repairing the devices used by Wood Oaks students, the District will buy insurance on new computers purchased for incoming sixth graders, as well as buy coverage for the existing computers used by next year’s seventh graders.

Dr. Reggie Ryan, the District’s Director of Technology, told members of the Board that the District could save as much as \$30,000 a year in replacement and repairs after the second year.

Other expenditures in the budget include new netbooks for fourth grade, infrastructure improvements (additional bandwidth, etc.), as well as printer and projector replacements in the classrooms.

## Excellence in Financial Reporting

District 27 has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

The award is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

An award of Financial Reporting Achievement is given to the person responsible for preparing the award winning report. That recognition was awarded to Kimberly Arakelian, District 27’s Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, and Chief School Business Official.

“This recognition is the most rigorous financial certificate to earn,” Superintendent Dr. David Kroeze told the Board of Education. “Mrs. Arakelian does a phenomenal job.”

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association that serves approximately 17,500 government financial professionals with offices in Chicago and Washington, DC.

## Summer Reading Program

The Board of Education approved the Summer Library Program at Hickory Point School.

The program will run seven consecutive weeks on Wednesday evenings, beginning on June 11 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Hickory Point Library. The program ends on July 23.

This year, the program will be called "Paws to Read" and will have an animal theme.

Last summer, more than 200 students participated in the library event and the average nightly attendance was 207 (with parents, students and siblings.) The students checked out 1,423 books.

Families from both Hickory Point and Shabonee are invited to attend.

### Additional Board Action

#### **Teacher Retirements Accepted**

The Board accepted the retirements from the following four teachers, effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

- Susan Hauer, ELL teacher at Shabonee
- Sandy Olson, third grade teacher at Shabonee
- Robert Revels, ELL/Applied Technology teacher at Wood Oaks
- Mary Lou Gilliam, teacher at Wood Oaks

#### **Teacher Resignations Accepted**

The Board accepted the resignations of the following teachers, effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year:

- Dan Swartz, District Math and Science coordinator
- Kim Leonteos, teacher at Wood Oaks

#### **New Employment**

The Board also hired Paul Metzinger as a full-time custodian at Hickory Point School.

#### **Calendar Revised**

The Board approved revisions to the 2013-2014 school calendar, setting June 10, 2014 as the last day of school. On June 10th:

- Hickory Point students will attend school from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Shabonee students from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
- Wood Oaks sixth and seventh graders from 8 to 11 a.m.

The last day for eighth graders will be June 2, 2014. Dismissal will be at 2 p.m.