



DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AGENDA

Regular Meeting  
Keil Administration Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board of Education Room

May 28, 2013  
4:30 PM Closed Session  
6:30 PM Open Session

Legend: AI = Action Item

DI = Discussion Item

IO = Information Only

The Decatur Public School District is “**committed to educating all students for life-long success.**” The 2012-2013 school year theme is, “*Accountability. Excellence. Success!*” **District Strategic Plan Goals:** 1. Improving Academic Achievement 2. Promoting a Positive Learning Environment 3. Fostering Trusting Relationships Among Staff 4. Maximizing Parent and Community Involvement

**IO 1.0 CALL TO ORDER**  
Roll Call

**IO 2.0 CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
The Board of Education will meet in closed executive session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, possible litigation and discussion of collective negotiating matters between the Board and representatives of its employees.

**IO 3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AI 4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MAY 28, 2013**

**IO 5.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Congratulations to the Eisenhower and MacArthur High School graduating seniors from the Life Skills and Essential Skills Program!**

The following students were recognized at the graduation banquet held on May 17, 2013:

**Eisenhower High School:** Keosha Phillips

**MacArthur High School:** Amber Coalan, Camera Jeffro, Travis Jones, Cassondra North

**Congratulations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Decatur Public Schools Art Fair Students!!!**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual District Art Fair was held at the Madden Arts Center on April 26, 2013 for Elementary School students and May 3, 2013 for Middle and High School students. The students’ art work was beautifully crafted with their own personal touch and style. A great big thank you to all of the District Art Faculty who worked to make this event a great success.

The following Art Teachers and Students were a part of the successful event:

Merry Lanker, Art Teacher

Alex Mathis, Kindergarten student at Enterprise Elementary School

Olivia Tirey, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at Muffley Elementary School

Abigail Tate, 4<sup>th</sup> grade student at Muffley Elementary School

Zamarrion Jackson, 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Durfee Technology Magnet School

Terri Ellis, Art Teacher

Coy Baxter, 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Hope Academy Magnet School

Kyanae Toombs, 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Hope Academy Magnet School

Casey Wilen, Art Teacher

Michael Holmberg, Sophomore at MacArthur High School

Sunshine Card, Senior at MacArthur High School

Hartley Marston, Senior at MacArthur High School

**Congratulations to Stephen Decatur Middle School Running Reds 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Brady Moore!** Brady has been to the State Track Meet in both his 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years and during this time, he has excelled at throwing the shot put. Brady's hard work and diligence paid off in the 2013 season. Brady placed second in the State with a distance of 47 feet and 3 inches!!!

Assistant Principal Deloris Brown, Athletic Director Phillip Winecke and Coaches David Phillips and Laura Turner

**Congratulations to the Hope Academy Hawks!**

The Hope Academy Hawks Track and Field Team made great gains this year and sent several athletes to the state finals in East Peoria on May 4 and 5, 2013.

Byron Theus qualified for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys IESA state finals and ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the 100 Meter Dash and 31<sup>st</sup> in the 200 Meter Dash. Byron exceeded these expectations by finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the state of Illinois in both events by running a 12.85 second 100 Meter Dash and a 26.07 second 200 Meter Dash.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl's 4 x 100 Meter Relay Team also qualified for the IESA state finals in East, Peoria. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls track team was made up of two 8<sup>th</sup> graders - Qaniyah Brown and Cycelya Williams and two 7<sup>th</sup> graders - Taylor Dixon and Shaniah Smith. This team was ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the state and well exceeded their rank by finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the state.

Principal Cynthia Houston, Athletic Director Dustin Dees, and Coaches Caleb Ball and Brandon Jelks.

**Congratulations to the Johns Hill Eagles Track Team!**

The Johns Hill Eagles Track athletes competed in the IESA (Illinois Elementary School Association) State Track Meet held at Eastside Centre in East Peoria on May 10 and 11, 2013. The following athletes qualified in these events:

7<sup>th</sup> Graders:

- Iliyah Dawson – 4 x 100 Meter Relay
- Katina Martin – 100 Meter Dash, 200 Meter Dash, 4 x 100 Meter Relay, 4 x 400 Meter Relay
- Tina Martin – 100 Meter Dash, 200 Meter Dash, 4 x 100 Meter Relay, 4 x 400 Meter Relay
- Chloe Scharfenberg – 400 Meter Run, 4 x 100 Meter Relay, 4 x 400 Meter Relay
- Savannah Shaffer – 4 x 100 Meter Relay (alternate), 4 x 400 Meter Relay

8<sup>th</sup> Graders:

- Rosie Ganley – 800 Meter Run
- George Walker – 400 Meter Run

Principal Rob Prange, Athletic Director Kim Schafer and Coaches Mike Landacre and Annette Ross

The five 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls scored 52 points as a team and narrowly beat out the second place team by 3 points to claim the **2013 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls IESA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!!!**

Tina Martin also set two records at the State meet. She broke the 100 and 200 Meter Dash records and now holds the **All Time Record** in the 100 Meter Dash!

**Special Recognition for Team Quest Pull-Out Program!**

**Gifted Pull-Out** is a program where all identified students in grades 3-8 are pulled out of their classrooms once a week for 30 minutes. Students participated in challenges that promoted critical thinking, engineering skills and team work. The district held a Team Quest competition where one team from each building participated in engineering, math, art and music challenges.

Team Quest advanced to the Regional competition that was held at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds in January.

The following students advanced to the Regional's competition:

- Dennis Lab School 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Graders: Caleb Sternberg, Emma Chavira, Ethan Gardner, and Miruna Eynon
- French Academy 4<sup>th</sup> Graders: Caleb Henry, Jayden Mitchell, Kirra Long and Oliver Creighton
- Thomas Jefferson Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders: Bailey Tate, Chauncey Wulf and Hayleigh Lutz
- Johns Hill Magnet School 7<sup>th</sup> Grader: Sarah Bunker
- Garfield Montessori 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders: Charlie Blackburn, Jacob Powell, Trinity Mata and Mikhaila Couch

Johns Hill Magnet School and Garfield Montessori advanced to the finals (after regional's) which were held in Chester, Illinois at the end of May.

The following students advanced to the Finals competition:

- Johns Hill Magnet School 4<sup>th</sup> Graders: Delaney Kwasny-Black, Katie Forbes and Becca Allgeier
- Garfield Montessori 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders: Charlie Blackburn, Jacob Powell, Trinity Mata and Mikhaila Couch

### **Special Recognition for our Scholars and Mentors Students**

**Scholars and Mentors** is a program that involves juniors and seniors from each high school in a self-directed independent study, guided by District staff and community volunteers. This program is designed for students who want to pursue an in-depth study of a topic outside the traditional high school curriculum. Participants will visit area businesses to learn about the many career opportunities in our area. Research for the chosen topics is conducted both on and off campus. Bi-monthly contact with District staff ensures progress and development of their project. Presentations are given at the end of each semester.

On Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>, the students in the Scholars and Mentors program presented their projects. Students presented on a variety of topics including elementary education, engineering, finance, jazz music/professor and a host of careers in the medical profession. Students used Prezi, power point and hands on activities to inform their peers of what they had learned throughout the course of the semester.

### **Scholars and Mentors Projects – Spring 2013**

#### **Eisenhower High School:**

- Allison Kerper: Medical Occupations – Orthopedic Surgery, Dermatology and Oncology
- Alex Smith: Veterinary Medicine

#### **MacArthur High School:**

- Nathan Allyn: Criminal Justice/Psychology
- Miranda Brown: Neuropsychology
- Maggie Curlin: Pharmaceutical Sales
- Sam Funk: Business/Finance
- Quran Green: Elementary Education
- Tamera Holmes: Early Childhood Education
- Brian Jennings: Journalism
- Benie Kalala: CNA/RNA
- Brosnan McClendon: CRNA
- Ashaneka Newberry: Veterinary Medicine
- DaKwan Scruggs: Radiologist
- Alicia Thompson: Marketing
- Donald Thompson: Dentistry
- Brett White: Professor/Music Major
- Jacob White: Chemical engineering

There is a small reception in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room for the Team Quest Regional and Final Students and the Scholar and Mentor Students.

**IO 6.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**AI 7.0 CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Minutes: Regular/Closed, May 14, 2013
- B. Financial Conditions Report
- C. Treasurer's Report
- D. Bids: Harris Elementary School Circle Drive Project
- E. School Maintenance Grant Program Application
- F. Health Life/Safety Amendments: Durfee Technology Magnet School and Johns Hill Magnet School
- G. Disposal Agreement
- H. Retirement June 2014: Superintendent Gloria J. Davis

**AI 8.0 ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Personnel and Administrative Appointments
- B. Board Governance Policies: Second Reading and Approval for the following:
  - **Policy, Section 7-Students**
    - 7:30-Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer
  - **Policy, Section 7-Students**
    - 7:30-Extracurricular Athletics
- C. 2013-2014 Hope Academy Transition to Traditional Calendar
- D. Board Standing Committees and Assignments

**IO 9.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- A. Superintendent's Youth Advisory Council (SYAC) Report and Logo Presentation for Eisenhower High School and MacArthur High School: Anthony Bond (EHS), Miranda Brown (MHS), Kaleb Major (EHS) and Donald Thompson (MHS), Superintendent Youth Advisory Council (SYAC) Co-Chairs
- B. Installation of a Memorial at MacArthur High School
- C. High School Grading Policy Report: Jenny Mullins, Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator
- D. Encore Task Force Reports: Jenny Mullins, Curriculum and Assessment Coordinator

**DI 10.0 BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Board Standing Committee Reports (assignments will be added after approval)
  - 1. Finance Committee
  - 2. Discipline Action Committee
  - 3. Bargaining Team
  - 4. Schedule B
  - 5. Decatur Public Schools Foundation
  - 6. Joint Committee
  - 7. Class Size
  - 8. Insurance

Other Board Discussion

**IO 11.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Board of Education sends condolences to the families of:

Metta Elizabeth Quinlan, who passed away Wednesday, May 15, 2013. Mrs. Quinlan was a former Enterprise Elementary School Teacher from Decatur Public Schools.

Marilyn M. Long, who passed away Thursday, May 16, 2013. Mrs. Long retired as a Registered (School) Nurse (RN) from Decatur Public Schools. Mrs. Long is the mother of Karen Wade, Special Education Teacher at Thomas Jefferson and the mother-in-law of Larry Wade, retired Teacher from Decatur Public Schools.

**IO 12.0 IMPORTANT DATES**

**May** 27 Memorial Day Holiday – No School and All District offices are closed!  
28 Last Day of Student Attendance for Traditional District Calendar  
29 Report Card Day for the Traditional District Calendar Students

**June** 7 Last Day of Student Attendance for Balanced Calendar – Hope Academy  
10 Report Card Day for the Balanced Calendar Students – Hope Academy

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, June 11, 2013 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board of Education Room.

**AI 13.0 ADJOURNMENT**