



# Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central Schools *Board Highlights*

A summary of  
Board of Education  
meetings published  
by Superintendent  
of Schools Jim Schultz

Meeting of October 7, 2008

## Board agrees to plan & timeline for two renovation committees

### Action items

School board members approved a gift of \$1,000 to Pashley School from the Glenville WalMart. This was made in recognition of teacher JOHN CLEMENT's selection as the store's Teacher of the Year. Also approved were recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.

### Discussion Items

Board of Education members examined and agreed to a written plan for using two committees to develop recommendations for the district's next major Renovations Referendum. The plan was prepared by Superintendent JIM SCHULTZ and Assistant Superintendent JACQUELINE St. ONGE as per the Board's previous discussions.

Renovations committee #1 is to be a nine-person **Critical Infrastructure Needs Committee (CINC)**. This will start meeting right away to identify infrastructure needs that are essential to protect the community's investment in school facilities, address health and safety or ADA compliance issues, and/or provide energy efficiency and cost savings. Ms. St. Onge, all five school principals, the Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, and the two Construction Managers will make up the CINC Committee. They will report their recommendations to the Board on December 16.

Committee #2 will be a 29-person **Programmatic Renovations Needs Committee (PRNC)**. It will be composed of 14 non-staff (seven community representatives, one PTA rep. from each school, and two high school students), 13 staff (one teacher from each school, three support staff, two administrators, the Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, and the Custodial Supervisor), plus two ex-officio Board members.

The PRNC Committee will begin meeting in January and will report to the Board in June on its recommendations for up to \$10 million in projects needed to support instruction and student activities. The tentative plan is that the school board would then deliberate over the summer months on the total referendum package with an eye to a possible referendum in October 2009.

Mr. Schultz reminded everyone that the fiscal crisis on Wall Street may have severe consequences on the state budget and subsequently on state aid to schools. Both renovations committee members and community members need to be aware that the Board may be forced to scale back or postpone next fall's hoped for referendum as our financial situation dictates.

Board members also discussed their 2008-09 goal of developing a process for capturing and assessing the components of the 20-year strategic framework for the school district by next August.

At the Board's request, Stevens principal RALPH ROTHACKER described how the newly hired half-time teacher with multiple certifications may be used to help other teachers address the needs of his school's four third grade classes with 25-26 pupils including a number of special education pupils.

Board president NANCY DELLA PIA had previously announced she will be resigning from her position effective October 29 to move to Owego, New York. Board members discussed how to find and appoint someone to fill the vacancy her resignation will create. They agreed to extend the deadline for residents wishing to apply for the open board seat until October 31, and decided to start their regular business meeting on November 4 at 6:00 pm to allow time to interview all board candidates that evening.

### Personnel Action

#### APPOINTMENTS

KATHERINE MAGGS 5/10 Stevens Special Ed Teacher  
effective 11/7/08

HILLARY POTTER High School Science Teacher  
increase in hours effective 11/10/08 - 6/30/09

JANICE MURPHY Middle School Food Service Helper  
effective 10/8/08

The Board made appointments for the Middle School drama production and also approved an increase in hours for bus drivers SOFFIA COOK, SUSAN LaFOUNTAIN, and JILL MIGLIN.