

Lisle School District 202 Board of Education Highlights March 16, 2009

Board of Education approves Staffing Report for 2009-2010

At its March 16 meeting, the Lisle School District 202 Board of Education approved the 2009-10 staffing report as recommended by administrators. Enrollment projections for the 2009-10 school year show a slight increase of 26 students. Class size averages will be maintained within the target goals set in 2004 while reducing certified teachers by 0.2. The number of English Language Learners will increase from 35 in the 2007-08 school year to 54 in the 2009-10 school year. The needs of ELL students will be met with a realignment of current staff rather than an increase in staff.

The board also approved a reduction in force resolution for part-time certified teachers. These six part-time certified staff members were dismissed this time of year due to the uncertainty of federal and state funding. Staff members may be recalled for the 2009-10 school year if funding becomes available and there is adequate student enrollment.

Two new classes approved at the Junior High school

Two new classes at Lisle Junior High School were approved by the District 202 Board of Education at its March 16 meeting. For the 2009-10 school year, an Advanced Computer Skills course will be offered to seventh- and eighth-grade students and will provide additional support for students to improve their computer skills. The new French course will provide an introduction to the language to prepare students for advanced classes offered at Lisle Senior High School. With the restructuring at the Junior High, these two new classes were added without an increase in staff needed.

Transitional Program of Instruction

An evaluation of the Transitional Program of Instruction was conducted. This evaluation reviewed program components and state requirements for English Language Learners. Information on existing practices was gathered under the guiding questions of the Professional Learning Communities philosophy. Purpose of the program, identification, student enrollment, standards aligned curriculum, student assessment, instructional delivery, professional development, and finances were included in this program evaluation. Data received will drive future program decisions.

Changes approved to proposed 2009-10 Fee Schedule

Although there are no fee increases for the upcoming school year, several changes were made to the proposed fee schedule, which were approved March 16 by the District 202 Board of Education. The Science Olympiad and Scholastic Bowl were added to the high school for a fee of \$31. Cheerleading at the High School and Junior High was moved to Tier II, based on the cost of the program and because it is an IHSA or IJHA program. Drill Team is not an IHSA or IJHA sport, so it will remain outside of the tier categories. The intramural category was eliminated at the high school because no programs exist. The fee schedule also defines which sports are included in the "other" category at the high school and junior high.

Junior High set to implement new schedule for 2009-10 school year

Beginning with the new school year, Lisle Junior High School will have an amended schedule that will offer teachers the ability to plan, meet and collaborate together at each grade level. Lisle Junior High School will be implementing a revised scheduling system for the 2009-2010 school year. Highlights for students include the addition of a computer skills class at seventh and eighth grades, adding specialized reading, math, and study skills classes to assist struggling students, and adding a French I language class as an elective for seventh graders.

Other highlights include common planning periods for teachers, study halls being moved to the end of the school day, built-in grade level and department PLC time, and other shared meeting time among staff. This schedule will eliminate early release days that are currently held twice a month. We currently have 90 minutes a month for collaboration and with the new schedule, collaboration time will increase to 528 minutes per month. This will result in a gain of 438 collaboration minutes.

The administration and teachers at the Junior High designed this schedule to provide more collaboration time, and increased learning opportunities for students. This is at no additional cost to the district.