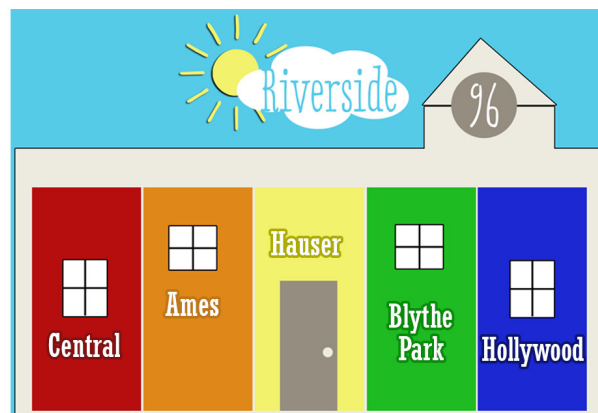


RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96
Five Schools • One District • Optimizing Excellence



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Regular Business Meeting
November 19, 2013

Guiding Principles:

Academic and Professional Excellence:

- Curriculum Committees: We had over 70 staff members apply to participate on 4 committees. These committees have met throughout the month of October and November to focus on aligning our curriculum to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), develop a quality and consistent Response to Intervention Program, establish instructional technology guidelines and further study English Language Learner best practice models. Applications for how parents can get involved and participate on these committees will be available in late November. We hope you will consider getting involved. We hope that these district professional development efforts will support staff in their implementation of consistent practices.
- Multi-District Institute Day: D94, 95, 96 and 208 staff were brought together to attend professional development sessions related to Common Core State Standards (CCSS), instructional technology and focused subject matter topics at RBHS. The special education staff met to get an overview of the updates in Special Education Law, and the paraprofessionals attended training at the Hauser Auditorium. It was a great 1st step to begin to establish consistent, clear and district-wide practices and procedures related to teaching, learning, technology and assessments. In addition, the district leaders met to discuss future opportunities to articulate and evaluate how we transition students from elementary to high school, share data and evaluate programs. We hope for regular meetings between all 4 districts to start soon. This is a powerful first step for K-12 consistency, continuity and collaboration.
- Special Services Department: Mrs. King and Ms. Folland have hit the ground running as the Interim Directors of Special Services. They have met with staff, administrators and parents in regards to current practices, policies and procedures. They are working together with stakeholders to identify areas of focus and priority. We have held several meetings to make things consistent district-wide, increase communication and provide trainings for the IEP process. In addition, they will be looking at all out-placed students and services and working with LADSE to optimize all resources and supports available.
- Illinois State Report Card: The new state report card became available on 10.31.13. (illinoisreportcard.com) We hope you had a chance to review your child's and school's progress and results. We are working hard as a district to align our curriculum and instruction to the CCSS. The 2014 ISAT will focus on these new rigorous standards that prepare students for college and career readiness skills. In 2015 the assessments, called PARCC, will be on-line and aligned completely to the CCSS.

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Financial and Operational Excellence:

- Levy: The BOE President asked Mr. Zayed to prepare different scenarios and assumptions, which he presented earlier this evening. You will be asked to take action on the LEVY during the action items portion of the meeting.
- ADA Compliance: Mr. Zayed and Mr. Radtke continue to work with engineers on the recommendations for the Hauser Parking Lot compliance issues. He will be sharing the costs of the options presented later this evening in his financial report.
- Ames Server Room: Mr. Radtke will be contacting the architects and plumbers to evaluate the Ames server closet and potential water leak situation that was presented in the Client First report last month.
- Stipends: The BOE asked Mr. Zayed to work with principals and determine when stipends were being earned and for what duties. He has highlighted the report to you in the Finance Section of your packet and can address any questions prior to action later this evening.
- Construction Costs: Mr. Zayed continues to gather all costs associated with the construction project. We are waiting for all final bills and invoices to come in and then we can get an accurate total of projects that were bid and those that were not.

Rigorous Communications:

- Facebook/Twitter: All 5 schools are up and running with Facebook and Twitter accounts. We look forward to sharing the progress, lessons learned and next steps with you at the Education Committee.
- 96 Seconds: 1st Trimester District 96 Newsletter will go home to families on Friday, 11.22.13.
- BOE Updates: We continue to provide the staff and community updates with the BOE information after each business meeting.
- PTA/O Meetings: Dr. Ganan and I met with each PTO/A during the month of October to review ISAT scores, New State Report card and next steps for academic and professional excellence to meet the new CCSS. Parents were very receptive and appreciative.