



Board Hears Budget Committee Recommendations

Right: Board of Education members listen to public comment during the May 4 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Last night, May 4, at its regular Committee of the Whole (CoW) meeting, the Community Unit School District 95 Board of Education heard for the first time the District 95 Budget Committee's recommendations for the tentative budget for fiscal year 2007 (FY 07), which would begin July 1 and end June 30, 2007. The tentative budget is expected to be approved at the regular June 22 Board of Education meeting. The final budget, which is required by school code to be approved by September 30, is expected to be approved September 28. The required public hearing of the budget is tentatively scheduled for July 27.

The FY 07 tentative budget will be available for review at the school district's administrative office, all District 95 school buildings, the Elia Area Public Library, and on-line at www.lz95.org/business.

Held in the library/media center at Lake Zurich High School, there was a large audience of parents, students, staff and community members who were concerned about potential budget reductions and fee increases.

In crafting the FY 07 tentative budget, the district's Budget Committee was given the following goal by the Board of Education:



Create a budget out of the funding available—minus new construction growth on the levy—without the reduction of educational programs.

In addition, the Budget Committee set the following additional goals for itself:

- First provide for staff and operating expenses to meet student needs.
- Align resources with the Strategic Plan of

Action.

- Abandon programs and practices that do not move us (the district) toward our mission.
- Maintain safe and operationally sound facilities.

The 27-member Budget Committee met 10 times during a five month period. Highlights of the committee's recommendations are as follows:

Revenue Enhancements

- Band/Orchestra/Choir Fee (K-8): \$25 for each student who participates in Band/Orchestra/Choir. Currently there is no fee charged. Projected revenue: \$9,350
- High School Athletic Fee increase of 50%; \$195 for football, \$165 for other sports. There would be a family cap of \$600. Projected revenue: \$49,214

(Cont. on Page 2--see **Board Reviews 07 Budget**)

Sarah Adams Kindergartners Throw "We Can Read!" Party

The extended day kindergarten (EDK) students at Sarah Adams recently had something to celebrate. On April 13, the EDK students at Sarah Adams School held a "We Can Read!" celebration.

"The students are very excited about learning to read independently," said teacher **Carron Hanley**. "We wanted the students to share their enthusiasm for reading with faculty members in our building."

Students had the chance to read to Principal **Christopher Finch**, reading specialist **Mary Margaret Olson**, Social Worker **Stacy Krebill**, school psychologist **Laura Starck**, and library assistant **Karen Surdynski**. Afterwards students celebrated with treats before being presented with a book and a special "I can read" certificate.

Congratulations to the EDK students at Sarah Adams School!



Right: A Sarah Adams School kindergartner reads to school psychologist **Laura Starck** during the "We Can Read!" celebration.

Board Reviews 07 Budget Cont.

FY07 Budget Dates:

May 4

Tentative Budget Presented to Board of Ed.

May 5

Tentative Budget available for public review

June 22

Tentative Budget Approval by Board of Ed.

Mid July

Budget Committee Reconvenes

August 10

Final Draft of Budget Reviewed by Board of Ed.

August 24

Public Hearing on Final Budget

Sept. 28

Board of Ed. Approval of Final Budget

- High School Parking Fee: \$250 per spot, per year. Current rate: \$120. Projected revenue: \$100,000
- High School Activity Fee: \$25 onetime fee for any student who participates in an activity at the high school. Projected revenue: \$21,000
- Increased Lunch Prices: \$2 (elementary), \$2.25 (grades 6-12). Current rate; \$1.60 (elementary), \$1.75 (grades 6-12). Projected revenue: \$85,950
- Intramural Fees (K-8): \$10 per student, per sport, with a \$25 maximum. Current rate: \$3. Projected revenue: Projected revenue: \$8,488.
- Prior Revenue Increases: \$280,341
- Discontinue offering music to kindergarten students – Estimated savings: \$50,000
- Discontinue offering Physical Education to extended day students – Estimated savings: \$25,000
- Based upon current enrollment and projections, release one full time art teacher and rehire part-time – Estimated savings: \$25,000
- Based upon current enrollment and projections, reduce four elementary teaching positions through attrition – Estimated savings: \$200,000
- Eliminate Orchestra in the fourth grade – Estimated savings: \$30,000

Total Revenue Enhancements: \$554,343

Expenditure Item Reductions

- High School Applied Arts Department Chair position – Estimated savings: \$47,500
- Cost Sharing on Flu Shots – Estimated savings: \$3,500
- 12 Month Elementary Secretary Position Realignment – Estimated savings: \$17,318
- Discretionary Budget Reduction of 10% – Estimated savings: \$144,000
- Reduction of Technology Obsolescence Budget – Estimated savings \$125,000
- Strategic Plan Budget Reduction of 50% – Estimated savings of \$10,000
- Public Relations/District Doings Reduction – Estimated savings: \$24,500
- Elimination of Collective Liability Insurance Co-Op Contingency – Estimated savings: \$44,532
- 4% Average for Educational Support Personnel (ESP), Bus Drivers, and Administration Raises – Estimated savings: \$74,893
- Contract for Security at the High School – Estimated savings: \$4,820
- Supply Budget Reduction of 10% District-Wide – Estimated savings: \$53,696
- Summer 2006 Capital Projects – Estimated savings: \$375,000
- Reduce Middle School Team Leaders by Half – Estimated savings: \$12,500

Total Expenditure reductions: \$937,259

Items Eliminated from the FY 07 Budget

Elementary Level

- No Attendance Incentive for Non-Contractual Employees – Estimated savings: \$11,000
- Kindergarten, First Grade capped at each section at 23:1 prior to adding sections – Estimated savings: \$100,000
- Extended Day Kindergarten will have six classes across the district – Estimated savings: \$75,000

Secondary Level

- Through natural attrition attributed to student population, middle school levels reduce their certified (teaching) staffing by 4.4 FTE – Estimated savings: \$179,709
- Middle School reduce number of sixth period assignments at each building – Estimated savings: \$28,000
- Middle school boys volleyball – Estimated savings: \$12,280
- Move Breakthrough to Literacy program to building level funding: – Estimated savings: \$30,000
- Cost per copy allocation to school buildings – Estimated savings: \$25,340
- Complete shutdown of the Annex – Estimated savings: \$300,000
- No architect services for FY 07 – Estimated savings: \$20,000

Total Expenditure eliminations: \$1,214,517

Following the lengthy budget presentation, Board members shared their initial thoughts and concerns about the tentative budget with Superintendent Dr. Brian Knutson, including: examining what further revenue enhancements/budget reductions would be needed for an additional \$250,000 and \$500,000 in savings; concern over increasing the class size limit in kindergarten and first grade; urging the Budget Committee to prioritize its recommended reductions; and a closer examination of the long-term implications of the proposed budget reductions.

For more information about the FY 07 budget process, contact Jonathan Hitcho, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations, (847) 540-4959, or visit www.lz95.org/business.

SL Fifth Grade Concert

On Thursday, May 11, beginning at 7 p.m., the Spencer Loomis fifth graders will be presenting a concert entitled *Music in America*, at their school, located at One Hubbard Ln., Hawthorn Woods, IL. The concert, which is intended to be an educational experience for the audience, examines the history of music throughout key time periods in American history.

Students have been working in teams to research the songs and time periods, create costumes and stage decorations, and develop a PowerPoint presentation that will run throughout the concert. All fifth graders will be singing and playing instruments.

The songs will cover America from the Revolutionary War through the "British Invasion." Some key performances include songs by The Beatles, swing-era jazz favorite *Fly Me to the Moon* and George Gershwin's *Summertime*, featuring guest guitarist and Spencer Loomis fifth grade teacher **Patti Nishimura**.

The audience will be treated not only to an evening of music, but also presentations by students about the music and why it was so important to our history and culture.

If you love music, you do not want to miss out on this wonderful musical opportunity. Fifth grade parents are welcome to attend the afternoon dress rehearsal/all-school assembly at 1:40 p.m.

For more information, email music teacher **Michael Danz** at michael.danz@lz95.org.

Calling Student Artists

Cultural Arts Connection, proudly hosts the 11th Annual Student Art Exhibit & Sale on Saturday, June 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Deer Park Town Center. Open to all students currently enrolled in grades 3– 12, the exhibit is part of a Professional fine arts show.

The exhibit provides great experience, exposure, and encouragement for all participating students. Every student is eligible for cash awards and ribbons. High school students have the unique opportunity to choose to sell their exhibited art work.

Applications may be downloaded from www.culturalartsconnection.org (go to CAC programs, then Art Show), or pick them up from your art teacher. Applications and framed artwork may be dropped off at Cambridge Bank in Lake Zurich during business hours between May 15 to May 24.

MSN Muffin Science

Eighth grade chemistry students in the classroom of Middle School North Science Teacher **Jerry Clemens** have their muffin making down to a science, literally! As part of a science project, the students studied the breakfast standard and found that the ingredients often included abraded flaxen (wheat flour) bovine extract (milk), hen oospore, flora ointment, hydrated oxygen...yum?

In making their muffins in the science lab, some compounds and mixtures were purposefully excluded by the students in select batches in order to determine if a different and/or new type of muffin could be made. The cooking was done in an electromagnetic wave machine.

According to their teacher, the final concoctions varied, along with palatability.



Above: A Middle School North student carefully analyzes her muffin mix.

Lacrosse Clinic Offered

The Lake Zurich High School (LZHS) Lacrosse Club invites boys and girls in grades 5-8 to attend their lacrosse clinic on Sunday, May 21, from 2-4 p.m., at the Lake Zurich High School stadium. The cost is only \$10 and students can register early at the field on the day of the clinic, and is open to Community Unit School District students. This clinic is a great opportunity for students and their parents to see what lacrosse is all about. Equipment will be provided free, with no rental fee...or obligation. The clinics will be run by the coaches of the Lake Zurich High School lacrosse teams, who will be assisted by Lake Zurich High School lacrosse athletes.

The club is also hoping the community will "Pack the House" May 15th at 6:30 p.m., when the LZHS team takes on Lake Forest at Lake Zurich High School. At the game, the club will also honor graduating seniors from the boys' and girls' teams.

Founded in 2003, the Lake Zurich Lacrosse Club is committed to providing Lake Zurich High School students with the opportunity to play competitive lacrosse, while developing the growth of lacrosse in our community. The club currently has a Frosh/Soph, JV, and Varsity boys' teams, as well as new Frosh/Soph and JV girls' teams.

Visit www.lzlacrosseclub.com for game schedules, pictures, etc.



Thank Your School Nurse May 10!



In a show of healthy solidarity, District 95 school nurses will wear matching t-shirts to celebrate National School Nurse Day, May 10. While they deserve our thanks each and every day, make sure to give them the extra recognition they deserve on Wednesday, May 10.

National School Nurse Day was established in 1977 to foster a better understanding of the role of school nurses in the educational setting. Today, school nursing has become a specialized practice that advances the well being, academic success, and lifelong achievement of students.

Left: Our school nurses are front row (L to R):
Marie Schleich (MSN)
Judy Wilson (MW)
Andrea Bonkowski (district supervising nurse)
Bessie Benrus (LZHS)
Donnice Olsen (IF)
Jan Swanston (SL)
Lally Whetstone (SP)
back row:
Diane Slonski (SA)
Laura Melavic (MW)
Karen Filippi (MSS)
Jody Lucchesi (CQ)
Laurie Michaels (LZHS)

Show Your School Spirit!

Do you have school spirit? If so, we want your work, vacation and other photos **IF** you and/or your children were wearing school spirit wear (only school spirit wear from Dist. 95 schools will count) in the photos.

Please send your photo (less than 1.5 meg in total file size) to jim.jennings@lz95.org. Please identify the location and the people in the photo, as well as the school. We'll display a virtual **D-95 Spirit Wall** web page on the district web site, as well as publish some of the photos in future editions of **THRIVE in 95**. Show your school spirit here, there, and everywhere!

Please note that by sending us your photo, you are giving us permission to use your image and name on our district website (www.lz95.org) and in publications.



This Day in History...

What important events in history took place today? A tool found on The History Channel web site will tell you what major events occurred on any day relating to the Civil War, entertainment, Wall Street and much more. Just enter in a date that's of interest to you and you'll find a broad array of interesting historical facts to use: <http://www.historychannel.com/t dih/tdih.jsp?category=leadstory>.

Are You a Key Communicator?

Do you like to know things before others in the community? Do others seek your opinion? If so, then you are a perfect candidate for the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network**.

Our Key Communicator (KeyCom) program is a network of community residents, leaders, opinion shapers and watchdogs whose opinions are well respected by friends, colleagues and neighbors. We are not looking for cheerleaders, but people who care about our schools and want to be kept informed and are then willing to share that information with others.

As a Key Com, you will receive timely, factual information via a regular newsletter e-mailed to



you about the work we're doing and the issues affecting your school district and your schools.

Because this is designed to be a two-way communications network, we encourage you to give us your input and share your opinions. As a KeyCom member, your responsibility will be to share the information with friends, neighbors and colleagues. To become a KeyCom member, simply call,

email or fax:

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