

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

December 10, 2003

School and District Report Cards

The Illinois State Board of Education has finally released 2003 School Report Card information to Districts. The information is being "embargoed" and held from public release until December 19, 2003, thereby allowing Boards of Education to see the results before they are released to the general public. The number of data fields on school and district report cards has doubled from 5,500 last year to 11,000 this year to accommodate accountability requirements under the federal No Child Left Behind legislation. District administrators are currently analyzing the information and developing ways to address and be accountable for continuous improvement. The aggregate test score information was shared with the Board at the September meeting in Dr. Tornatore's "Testing Report". The official report card contains a great deal of demographic and financial information. Copies of each school's Report Card and the District Report Card and District Summary are included in this "packet", but not bound in this booklet. After tonight's Board meeting, our reports cards will be released for public viewing through District 10's website. At the January meeting, I will provide the typical review of our results as compared to the other Lake Park feeder districts.

Illinois Associations Conference

The IASB, IASA, IASBO Joint Conference was held in Chicago November 21 – 23, 2003. I attended sessions on several topics including school improvement processes, school finance, leadership and accountability. We had three Board members attending the conference.

Ed-Red Dinner Meeting

Ed-Red, the legislative lobbying group we belong to, is having their annual dinner at 6:00 PM on January 26, 2004 at the O'Hare Marriott Hotel, 8535 West Higgins Road in Chicago. The guest speaker has yet to be named. Typically, the speaker is well connected to Illinois politics. Any Board members interested in attending should let Catherine know by January 5th, 2004. Once I find out the speaker, I will forward that information to everyone.

Typing During Tutorial

The Board directed me to look into the possibility of having some keyboarding instruction or practice time during the after school program at Peacock. The administration has done some initial investigation. Although we do not believe actual direct instruction can be made feasible, it may be possible to have computers available and accessible to students. That would allow students to practice and track their progress in a self-directed manner. Licensing cost would be about \$320. Other issues regarding security and supervision are still under investigation.

Talented Survey

Last year, the Board directed me to survey parents of identified Talented students in order to assess the impact of change I proposed one year ago. That survey was mail out. A copy of the survey follows this report. I anticipate reporting back to the Board on the results in January.