

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
May 11, 2005

Budget

I was originally planning on bring the tentative budget to this meeting for approval. However, after discussing it with Patrick, it appeared that two factors pointed to waiting for a month. First, if we passed the tentative budget at this meeting, it must be put on display for 30 days. There are not 30 days between this meeting and our June meeting. Therefore, the final budget vote couldn't come before our July meeting. There are 30 days between our June and July meetings, so we end up at the same place at the same time anyway. Second, I did not think it was appropriate to send the new Board members a budget book and have only a few days to review it before voting on a tentative budget. Therefore, we will send the official budget books (State of the District Report) out in a week on a special run. That will give everyone more time with it and plenty of opportunity to call me with questions.

Technology Audit

Under separate cover in your Board Packet envelope, you received a copy of our technology audit. Not only is it comprehensive, it is complimentary. To quote from the first page of the report narrative, "...we are happy to report the Itasca District 10 exhibits an exemplary level of instructional technology integration. Our reviewers have experience at national, regional, state and local levels. All found a level of use in Itasca District 10 not yet achieved by most districts in the country." The finding of most interest to the Board may be that we could extend our replacement cycle by two years without sacrificing too much. That would allow us to "chip" away at large, looming costs of 2006-2007. Of course we still would need to decide exactly how to proceed and what, specifically to purchase.

Following Reports

Four reports my report in your Board packet. You will find the list of vendor contracts we currently have. This information was requested by Mrs. DiCiolla. You will also find the specific planned technology purchases for next year. The tentative budget was change to reflect this lower figure. Next is a ten-year history of placement of our 8th grade student in classes at Lake Park. The Board has requested this information in the last two years. I will routinely provide it from here on out. Finally, the results of Benson TAG surveys is included.

Flowers

The Board of Education provided flowers to all secretaries during "Administrative Assistant Week" in the last week of April.

Board Appointments

As a result of the Board elections, some appointments need to be made at this meeting. Patrick will be seeking Board representation on the District Advisory Committee, Policy Committee, the salary committee and an alternate for NDSEC.