

# Board Briefs

Highlighting Board of Education Action

Utica Community Schools

## Regular Meeting - Monday, November 14, 2011

Eight UCS educators honored as AP Readers

Eight UCS educators were recognized for being chosen by the College Board to be AP readers this past June: Maury Allmacher, Henry Ford II, AP United States History; Mary Blain, Utica Academy for International Studies, French exam; Diane Buchi, Utica High School, AP Biology; Heather Chase, Stevenson High School, AP Government and Politics; Chuck Cloyd, Henry Ford II, AP European History; Steve Domke, Utica High School, AP Government and History; Travis Mulhaupt, Utica Academy for International Studies, AP Biology; and Yvette Snopkowski, Davis Junior High School, AP World History.

Superintendent Update includes information on American Education Week, The MISD election, Veterans' day, Robotics, and Conferences.

Dr. Johns began the update by stating that the past few weeks have brought opportunities to reflect on the relationship between education and our democratic society. She talked about how local schools create American citizens who can think freely and help create the American dream by giving every student the tools to succeed.

She continued that our schools will celebrate American Education Week November 13-19. The theme is "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility." This week represents an opportunity for the district to thank this outstanding school community of parents and educators for their passion and commitment to public education.

She then commented on the MISD special enhancement millage on November 8. Dr. Johns stated that regardless of the outcome, the district staff and community should always be proud to advocate for students.

She continued by remarking about the annual Veterans Day celebration at West Utica Elementary. She stated that the assembly was an extremely emotional and powerful event. A short video clip on the assembly was shown at the meeting. Dr. Johns also reported that 40 elementary and junior high Lego Robotics teams from throughout the region participated in the annual UCS Thunderquest at Henry Ford II High School on November 12. The competition introduces students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots that complete challenging thematic tasks. Dr. Johns stated that Utica Community Schools had the highest number of teams both participating and qualifying for the state finals.

She further added that the success of our students is especially important when you consider our community is the new home of Velocity, a business incubator

*(continued)*

**Utica Community Schools**

**11303 Greendale**

**Sterling Heights, MI 48312**

**President Carol Klenow, Ed.D. • Vice President Gene L. Klida • Secretary Michele Templeton • Treasurer Robert A. Ross, Ph.D.  
Trustee Jennifer L. Prybys • Trustee Daniel J. Meyers • Trustee Ken Krolczyk**

that works with entrepreneurs and innovators seeking to specialize in the defense industry, homeland security and high-tech manufacturing. Looking ahead, Dr. Johns mentioned parent-teacher conferences are scheduled this week and stressed their importance to student academic progress. She closed by wishing the UCS community a happy Thanksgiving.

Resolution adopted  
For American  
Education Week

A resolution was adopted by the Board of Education designating November 13-19 as American Education Week in Utica Community Schools.

2010-2011 Audit  
presented to the Board  
of Education

The Board of Education accepted as submitted the 2010-2011 Financial Audit. More information on the audit and a video presentation on the report is available at this link: <http://www.uticak12.org/districtinfo/news/audit.asp>

Enrollment update  
presented to the Board  
of Education

A five year projection of the district's student enrollment was presented to the Board of Education. The projections indicated the continuation of a slight decline in overall enrollment in UCS.

Health Care changes  
approved for  
administrators/non-  
affiliated employees

A health care plan was approved for administrators and non-affiliated employees that reflects legislative changes through the recently-enacted Public Act 152.

Contracts approved by  
Board of Education

The Board approved the following contract bids: software maintenance agreement that facilitates the proper operation of Apple computers; furniture funded through the 2009 bond issue that is part of the current Utica High School renovation project; and a preventative maintenance of district roofs.





