

Board Briefs

Highlighting Board of Education Action

Utica Community Schools

Regular Meeting - Monday, January 23, 2012

Board recognized for service to the community

Utica Community Schools students and staff thanked the Board of Education members for their service to the community. Students representing fall plays from all four high schools held short performances in front of the Board.

Dr. Johns reports on Powerschool, student successes, the Academic Blitz and recent State of Michigan reports

Dr. Johns began her update by noting the second semester of the 2012-2012 is now under way. Starting with this semester, elementary parents will have access to the PowerSchool portal already available at the secondary level.

Dr. Johns continued by recognizing two recent student successes. This year, more than 20 UCS junior high school students were selected for the Regional Junior High School Honors Band. In addition, eight students from the Utica Academy for International Studies recently earned top honors at the state legislative debate tournament hosted by the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association, including the state championship.

She noted the UAIS is one program that will be featured in the fifth annual Academic Blitz Thursday night. Dr. Johns continued that the Blitz will allow parents to investigate all the options available in UCS and can assist them in forming an academic game plan for their child's high school, college and career success. She noted that the Blitz is occurring during National School Choice week, and indicated the activity was another reminder to our community that there is no better place for real and relevant educational choices public schools. Dr. Johns concluded by reporting that governors' state of the state address and the recent Revenue Estimating Conference have set into motion the development of a revenue package for schools. Legislative action will continued to be monitored as the district prepares its 2012-2013 budget. Dr. Johns reported that with the conversations now taking place in Lansing, it appears that it will continue to be necessary to make adjustments to the district's budget.

She finished by stating that the district will continue to work together on this important issue to ensure Utica Community Schools provides the best learning opportunities with the resources available.

Board approves full day kindergarten

The Board of Education approved a resolution to establish full day kindergarten at all 25 elementary schools. More information will be shared with parents at February 15 Open Houses.

Utica Community Schools

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*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*

First readings held on policy revisions

The Board of Education held first readings on revisions to several policies: non-instructional staff appointments and promotions; recruitment and selection; possession of weapons-employee violence; social security number confidentiality policy

Henry Ford II gymnasium floor named Coach Barker Court

The Henry Ford II gymnasium floor was named "Coach Baker Court" in honor of 32 years of service by Jim Barker. A dedication ceremony will be held at the beginning of the next basketball season.

Changes approved to Board of Education election dates

In compliance with a new state law, the Board of Education changed its election dates for its members to even years in November.



