

UPDATE

Quincy Public Schools
November 15, 2007



2006 ILLINOIS HONOR ROLL

The following schools have been named *Spotlight Schools* by the Illinois State Board of Education: **Adams, Berrian, Dewey, Irving, and Washington**. To earn a Spotlight Schools Award, a school must:

- Have had an enrollment of at least 50% low income students in 2006;
- Have had at least 60% of students meeting or exceeding standards in both reading and math in 2006;
- Have had at least 50% of students meeting or exceeding standards in both reading and math in 2004 and 2005; and
- Made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2005 and 2006.

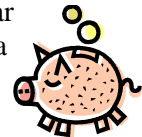
Baldwin and Quincy Junior High School received *Academic Improvement Awards*. To be awarded Academic Improvement a school must:

- Have made significant academic improvement by either showing at least 7.5 point improvement in state test scores in both reading and math in 2005 and 2006 **or**
- Shown at least 15 point improvement in state test scores in both reading math in 2006 **and**
- Shown an upward trend in state test results.

We all celebrate these accomplishments. Congratulations to all staff for their efforts to help students succeed academically.

ESTIMATED TAX LEVY

At last night's meeting, the Board approved a total estimated tax levy for fiscal year 2007 of \$25,059,796. This is down from last year's levy of \$26,659,208. This represents a tax rate of approximately \$3.64 per \$100 assessed valuation compared to \$4.15 in 2006. The decrease is due to no funds being levied in the Tort Fund. Last year's Tort Levy was nearly 80 cents. In September, the Board directed the administration to preclude the payment of any employee salaries from the tort levy portion of the tax levy proceeds now on hand, without further authorization of the Board. That leaves a \$4.5 million balance on hand in the Tort Fund. This money cannot be transferred to any other fund. The Eighth Circuit Court ruled this summer that Quincy was improperly levying Tort Funds to pay salaries based on a Risk Management Plan that was improper. Quincy is appealing the Eighth Circuit Court ruling.



The District's Risk Management Plan, which outlines allowable expenditures in the Tort Fund, is being revised following recent higher court rulings. Money will be expended from the Tort funds on hand for those expenditures deemed allowable under the revised Risk Management Plan. The Board will meet in special session on November 30 to discuss placing a referendum on the ballot in February 2008 to increase the Education Fund levy. Quincy's Education Fund tax rate has been \$1.84 for almost twenty years.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Appointments: **SHIRLEY SHADE**-QHS Family /Consumer Science/Business 10/1/07. **CARLYN RUTLEDGE**-part-time speech/language pathologist 10/30/07. **ELISABETH BERGMAN**-ECFC special education teacher 12/10/07. **JEFFREY SCOTT WATKINS**-Adams night custodian 11/15/07. **ANNE MEYER**-Washington paraeducator 9/24/07. **RICHARD KEPPNER**-Berrian paraeducator 11/1/07. **ARIEL PROST**-special education records secretary 10/1/07. **TIM WILSON**-EC SEIU bus driver 10/2/07. **JESSIE STOTLER**-bus driver Route 67 AM-PM 10/23/07. **AMY PLATT**-bus driver Route 55 AM-PM 10/23/07. **JACKIE NICCUM**-security guard CARES 10/30/07. **GEORGE DURST**-security guard Irving 10/31/07.

Resignations: **IVAN MIRANDA-NUNEZ**-QHS Spanish 11/2/07. **DON ARNOLD**-QHS paraeducator 11/9/07

Coach Appointments: **MIKE RUDD**-7th grade boys basketball. **SCOTT HUMPHRIES**-7th grade boys basketball assistant.

In other action, the Board approved:

- *Rock Climbing Wall for Irving School*—funded by parents and students.
- *Quincy Senior High Sign*—reopen bids.
- *Seeking quotes for line of credit*
- *Agreements with Counseling Agencies*



Three Berrian teachers have received National Board Certification.

PAM HAVERMALE
SANDY CASSENS
LISA MACHOLD

QHS MUSIC STUDENTS AND STAFF for the wonderful musical production *Bye, Bye Birdie*.

