

UPDATE

Quincy Public Schools
January 21, 2010



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER NOMINATED AS A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



The Early Childhood Center has been selected as a nominee from the State of Illinois as a *Center of Excellence in Early Childhood*. *Center of Excellence* is a recognition through Head Start where programs are selected through a competitive process designed to acknowledge excellent, effective programs that are examples for others to follow. Programs selected serve as exemplary models for other programs by implementing comprehensive, innovative and targeted approaches to serving children and families. They must also have demonstrated positive outcomes documenting student learning and have displayed a commitment to collaborative community partnerships.

Once recognized at the state level, centers are then entered into a competitive process at the federal level where five centers will be selected for national recognition. National recognition includes funding of \$200,000 a year for five years. The Board congratulated Director Julie Schuckman and Early Childhood staff.

SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT

Special Education Director Kristen Kendrick presented a report on special education eligibility and services. Quincy Public Schools also provides services to Adams County Schools through the Special Education Association. Through legislation passed in 1975 mandating education for all handicapped children and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), public schools are required to provide free appropriate education and an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in the least restrictive environment for students with disabilities. Schools are responsible for the education needs from the age of three until graduation or the day before the student's 22nd birthday in cases that involve 13 specified categories of disability. Mrs. Kendrick explained that each student's IEP is reviewed at least annually and includes information on his or her present level of performance, goals and objectives, educational accommodations, assessment information, and services and placement. The IEP must include transition plans for students 14 1/2 and older and a summary of performance for graduating seniors. Over 1,100 Quincy District students receive special education services. Mrs. Kendrick described the important role paraeducators serve in the lives of special education students in helping support and deliver instructional and related services. She also explained the function of school psychologists, social workers, and other therapists in meeting the needs of special education students and developing the IEP's. To end her report, Mrs. Kendrick quoted George Evans—*Every student can learn, just not on the same day, or even the same way.*

**At the January 20th meeting,
the Board approved:**

- Food and non-food bids awarded to Kohl Wholesale and Fox River Foods.
- Revised Policies 2:200—Types of School Board Meetings and 2:250—Access to District Public Records. The revisions align the policies with recent changes in the Freedom of Information Act.
- 2009-2010 Seniority Lists.
- School and District School Improvement Plans.
- Seeking quotes for a line of credit up to \$4 million if needed due to state funding shortfalls.
- Seeking proposals for auditing services for the 2009-10 school year.

CLASSIFIED ADS—

- **1994 BUICK CENTURY**—4 door, low mileage, navy blue. Has been garaged. 222-4335.
- **PET NANNY**—Reliable care for your furry family members. Daily visits and overnight stays available. Call Judy Schaller at 228-7683.



*Thank you to
Bill Cox and Brown Drug
for the donation of a wheelchair to
Quincy Junior High School*

PERSONNEL ITEMS

-Leave of Absence-

LISA TAYLOR-2nd grade Monroe, approximately April 27 through the end of the 09-10 school year. **CAROL SCHAFFER BENT**-2nd grade teacher Adams January 15 through March 1, 2010. **MARCI KELLER**-3rd grade Monroe approximately April 27 through the end of the 2009-10 school year. **JULIE BEAVER**-5th grade Baldwin South approximately April 23 through the end of the 2009-10 school year. **DEBBIE NIEDERHAUSER**-Reading Recovery/Support Berrian effective for the 2010-2011 school year. **RICKY JONES**-Baldwin Custodian, January 7 through approximately January 11, 2010.

-Resignations-

KELSEA QUILLIN-7th and 8th grade cross country coach. December 17, 2009. **PAULA MERTZ**-TPS Kitchen Helper. January 14, 2010. **LORA BATCHELOR**-IFT bus driver. December 18, 2009.

-Appointments-

MELISSA BROWN-Family Link Coordinator. **JOHN LUMPKIN, LACHELLE SCOTT, RHONDA MURRY, LUANN ROYALTY, MARTIN WILKES, DENNIS WILLIAMS**-Family Link Program Effective January 4, 2010. **MOLLY KATTELMAN**-para Washington January 4, 2010. **MELANIE ZEHNLE**-para Washington January 13, 2010. **BRUCE BONNESS**-para Baldwin South. January 11, 2010. **MYRA McCALLISTER**-midday IFT route-resigned SEIU midday route. December 15, 2009. **SUNNA HESTON**—2 hrs/day IFT driver. January 13, 2010.

Update Newsletter
January 21, 2010
Published monthly
(except June, July, August)
Quincy Public Schools
1416 Maine St. Quincy, IL 62301
Issue No. 6

