

April 7, 2003



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Glen Ellyn School District 41 Mission: To be an advocate for children and to provide the highest quality educational programs and services.

Board members: John Vivoda, President | Willie DiFabio, Vice President | Debbie Hoffman, Secretary
John Marcheschi | Carol McElvain | John Ruckstaetter | Walter Snodell

Following is a summary of the District 41 Board of Education special meeting of April 7, 2003. Board of Education meetings are preceded by the half-hour “**Listening Post**,” during which board members are on hand to listen to residents’ comments and concerns.

Since this was the first session of the District 41 board to be held after the April 1 School Board election, it was really two meetings held sequentially—one meeting of the pre-election board and one of the new board.

First meeting: The pre-election board conducted business, recognized departing board members and welcomed incoming members before adjourning.

Second Meeting: Newly-elected members Debbie Hoffman (an incumbent), Carol McElvain and John Marcheschi took the oath of office; the board elected its officers; established its meeting calendar and conducted other organizational business.

ACTION

BP AMOCO SOLAR PANELS: D41 has been working with BP Amoco on a renewable energy project **funded largely through state grants**. The administration recommended Corsetti Welding for the steel framing for the installation and the board affirmed that recommendation. This is the final step before the solar panels can be installed on Hadley Junior High’s roof.

CANVASS OF ELECTION RESULTS: This is a step required by law during which the board **certifies the election results** provided to it by the DuPage County Election Commission and authorizes the election of new board members.

2002 LEVY ADJUSTMENT: The adjustment is a routine part of the levy process, which determines how many tax dollars D41 receives. Previously, the board authorized adjustment of the levy as allowed by law. The administration made some **final changes in the way the levy was distributed among its nine funds (not in the amount of the levy)**. **The board approved the adjustments.** D41’s levy complies with the Illinois Tax Cap, which limits any increase in the levy to 5% or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is lower.

New construction and the 2001 referendum contribute additional dollars. In 2002, D41 saw an unusually large amount of new construction due to the Hartz-Greenbrier development north of Geneva Road: overall, new construction comprised 3.67% of the total **Equalized Assessed Valuation (33% of fair market value of taxable property)** this year.

NEXT STEPS

The solar panels will raise community awareness of solar energy and Hadley students will benefit from the addition of a solar energy component to the science curriculum. **D41 will set the installation date in conjunction with BP Amoco and Corsetti Welding.**

The canvass **results and the abstract of votes will be filed** with the DuPage County Election Commission.

The administration **filed the adjusted levy with the county clerk. The levy is 7.78% higher than last year.** The overall EAV (including new construction) increased by 11.2%; the portion of the increase due to appreciation does not result in increased dollars for D41. The district will continue to phase in the 2001 referendum through the 2005 levy. All these factors together **result in a decline of \$32 to \$1,034 taxed per \$100,000 of EAV.**

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS: The board recognized board president **Kathleen Schmidt and** member **Judith Kinn** upon their departure from the board for their dedication, commitment and contributions. Schmidt has served for 12 years and has been board president since 1997. Kinn was elected in 1999 and has a long history of volunteerism within the district. The board also welcomed newly-elected members John Marcheschi and Carol McElvain, and returning member Debbie Hoffman.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS: As part of organizing as a new board, the following **officers were elected:** John Vivoda, president; Willie DiFabio, vice president, and Debbie Hoffman, secretary. The newly organized board also adopted the meeting calendar, school board policies and procedures and the school board code of conduct.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Board members as well as a number of D41 employees and residents spoke of their **appreciation of the hard work and contributions** of departing board members Kathy Schmidt and Judy Kinn.

NEXT MEETING: There will be a special meeting on **April 14** to conduct a **financial workshop** for the board. The **next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 21.** Both meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary J. Luginbill Board Room in the Administration Center. GETV tapes regular meetings for broadcast on channel 17 at 8 p.m. the Monday following the meeting.

The board will discuss **committee assignments** at its April 21 regular meeting. The full board is now: John Vivoda, Willie DiFabio, Debbie Hoffman, John Marcheschi; Carol McElvain; John Ruckstaetter and Walter Snodell.

The public is always welcome at board meetings and is encouraged to come to the **Listening Post, from 7 - 7:30 p.m.** preceding the meeting to talk informally with board members with no obligation to stay for the meeting.

About the Glen Ellyn School District Board of Education:

- Board members are unpaid volunteers, each representing the whole district. The board is accountable to the public and makes decisions as a unit based on what is best for the whole district.
- The board hires the superintendent, sets instructional policy, approves the budget and ongoing expenditures and is ultimately responsible for the performance of the district.
- Board meetings are working sessions held in public with time allotted for public participation.