January 14, 2005

The January 12th Board of Education meeting was one filled with students. The Varsity cheerleaders presented the Board a proposal to attend a national competition in Columbus, Ohio in February. After the Board approved the trip, they performed a cheer for the Board’s enjoyment. Middle School students: Melissa Cervantes, Diana Horton, Nick Whitmore, Nick Zona, and High School student Tanesha Bailey were present to share their impressions of the learning centers in their respective buildings. Along with their teachers, Cynthia Ferraro and Rochelle Linderman, they shared the success of the new academic intervention services (A.I.S.). The passing rates for learning center students in their core subjects (English, math, social studies and science) ranged from 78% to 97% for the first quarter.

After the learning center report, the Board heard a report from the Senior High music department on the district-wide music program. Over two-hundred (200) students are involved in the instrumental program. Since we will have a combined Jr./Sr. High School marching band this spring lead by Perry Plyter, this number should translate to a tremendous display of student talent. The High School drama production last spring will be hard to top, after its award-winning performance, but High School director Lois Fiegl has high hopes for this year’s cast of “Annie Get Your Gun.” The Board of Education thanked both Lois and Perry for the tremendous job they are doing.

Under New Business, the Board approved moving forward with the report of the bi-fold doors in the Elementary School. Since this is a costly repair, money will be used from the repair reserve to complete this. A public hearing on expending the needed money from the repair reserve for this purpose will take place at the January 26th Board meeting.

Also under New Business, the Board approved Jill Andrews and Lisa Verbridge as parent representatives to the Committee on Special Education. After some discussion the Board agreed to add an additional step to the strategic planning process. They set a time frame for the activity and asked that some of the data collection happen prior to the beginning of the group work.