

**SYNOPSIS**  
**URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT 116**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**JUNE 20, 2006**

We honored our retirees. Yea!

We have a new supportive supervision plan. Yea!

We passed a new curriculum. Yea!

We passed a new substitute compensation rate. Yea!

We have a new superintendent. Yea!

The Board of Education held its annual reception for school district retirees, including Jane Cain, Harold Dean, Roger Epperson, Mary Lee Milton, Mason Minnes, Dottie Norman, Belinda Porter, Penny Porter, Margaret Stensel, Ray Stoia, Karen Tucker, Polly Washington, and John Woodward.

The new evaluation (supportive supervision plan) process and format for teachers was explained to the board – complete with software designed by retiring UHS principal Dr. John Woodward. The new format was a response to a 2003 Appellate Court decision that said teachers must be evaluated with the terms “excellent,” “satisfactory,” and “unsatisfactory.” The software allows teachers to have access to the evaluation form, and it tallies as the evaluator inputs ratings into the form. There are better explanations of core expectation summaries. The new software also allows teachers and the evaluating administrator work together in situations where there is directed assistance for unsatisfactory ratings.

The new substitute teacher compensation rate includes: All new substitutes to the district are paid at the entry rate of \$75 per full day, and \$37.50 for a half day. A total of 85 substitute days (previous year) qualifies an individual to receive the \$85/day rate for the current school year. For extended assignments/long term substitutes, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day in the *same* position, the rate increases from \$75/day to \$85/day, applied retroactively to the first day and will continue while in that classroom. An individual working 30 or more consecutive days in the same classroom is considered a long-term sub, at which point a *certified substitute* is paid a per diem based upon the teacher’s base salary. Extended substitute assignments for a semester or more will place the substitute in a temporary teaching position with appropriate benefits. This rate only applies to *certified teachers who hold a valid teaching certificate* and will require authorization from the building administrator. The best part – teachers who have retired from Urbana school District #116 will be paid at the rate of \$110 per day. We are one of the few school districts that offer a special rate of compensation for our retired teachers.

The board also approved the K-8 Social Studies Curriculum Guide.

And the board unanimously adopted a resolution naming Deputy Superintendent Dr. Preston L. Williams, Jr., as the new superintendent, effective July 1, 2007. Two weeks ago, Superintendent Dr. Gene Amberg officially announced his retirement from the district upon the end of his 15<sup>th</sup> year here, effective June 30, 2007. The board spent several months looking at the possibilities for Dr. Amberg’s replacement – a search conducted by headhunter organizations, doing their own search, putting out feelers for who’s out there and who might be interested, as well as interviewing Preston Williams. Williams has been with USD since 1987 and has served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, director of human resources, assistant and deputy superintendent. He knows the community, he knows the district, and continuity is important to staff, families, and children. As board members commented prior to their vote, he’s an obvious choice for the position.

*The Urbana School District Board of Education does not meet during the month of July. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, August 15.*