

UPDATE

Quincy Public
Schools
Newsletter

Issue No. 8

March 20, 2014

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Business Manager Joel Murphy presented an update on the District Wide Improvement Master Plan and Superintendent's Steering Committee. The firms of Architechnics, Klingner and Poepping, Stone, Bach are working as a team to develop the plan. Mr. Murphy explained that the Design Team is not part of the Superintendent's Steering Committee but rather is charged with doing research and gathering data for the committee. The Superintendent-nominated committee is made up of administration, curriculum leaders, QPS Foundation, maintenance, municipal/government (city, county, park district), and district patrons. The committee will research facility needs for the next five years including the possibility of new facilities/locations, grade structure, and financing the project. He said the guiding principal of the plan is that the facilities must support a flexible curriculum and instructional model. The environment must be suitable for teaching students and not limiting.

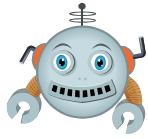
The Steering Committee will make recommendations to the Superintendent, who in turn will make recommendations to the Board. The committee has had two meetings. An initial meeting was held to develop strategies and objectives. The second meeting focused on developing survey questions. Parents, staff and the community will be informed how to access the survey. This input will be analyzed and meetings will be held with area/level planning committees – groups addressing the needs of specific areas and/or grade levels. Planning Committees will include: PE/Music/Cafeteria, Custodial/Maintenance/Security/Transportation/, Library/Technology/Building Administration/Nursing/, Special Needs, Primary PK-2 educators, Intermediate 3-5, middle school 6-8, senior high (9-12). Cost estimates will be based on square footage needs of the various areas or levels, factoring in the shared spaces. Technology needs will be addressed as well as physical set-up such as cubbies within the classroom or lockers in the hall, for example. The Design Team will use the information gleaned from the survey and the planning committees and present to the Steering Committee. Historical data on past maintenance and repair of buildings and projected costs for upcoming projects identified through the 10-year Life Safety Surveys will be incorporated into the overall plan. All information will be provided to the Steering Committee so that they can make an intelligent, well-reasoned recommendation to the Superintendent.

QHS PROJECT C.A.R.S.

Project C.A.R.S. (Caring About Riding Safely) is a student led safe driving organization that promotes safety behind the wheel in the school and community. Students presented information at the March Board meeting about this year's C.A.R.S. promotion held the third week of February. Some of the activities for the event included Tweet and Instagram messages, school announcements, wrecked car and tombstone display, numerous posters and the theme question, "Could you live without me?" displayed at school and around town. A student seatbelt check was held in the QHS parking lot. Those with their seat belts on received Smarties candy and those who did not have their belts on received Dum Dum suckers. QHS has submitted a video about this year's campaign to the Illinois Department of Transportation's Operation Teen Safe Driving Program competition for prize money. QHS's team was selected as one of the top five schools in the region to participate in the Ford Motor Company Fund's *Driving Skills for Life, Ride and Drive* event in Chicago during spring break.



QAVTC/QHS FIRST ROBOTICS TEAM



The Robotics Team competed in a regional event held in Pekin, Illinois February 27 through March 1, 2014. The team spent many hours designing, fabricating and testing their robot for the competition. Engineers from the Harris Corporation and Gardner-Denver Company provided technical assistance. There were 40 teams in the competition. Quincy was in 9th place early on but ended up placing 24th after some joy stick problems.

At the March 19th board meeting, the team demonstrated the robot's throwing and catching skills using a large lightweight ball. Staff leaders for the team are Kristen McKenna and Kaleb Smith.



RIFLE TEAM RECOGNITION

The Board of Education recognized the Quincy Rifle Team. Coach Jim Holtman introduced the team members who have had an undefeated season thus far and has qualified for national competition. Funding for the Rifle Team was cut four years ago as part of district budget reductions. However, with parental support and donations from Winchester, Midway and NRA, the program has continued. Mr. Holtman volunteers his time to coach the program.



5Essentials Survey

Parents, teachers and students have the opportunity to share their voices by completing the *Illinois 5Essentials Survey*. The survey provides important information about a school's learning conditions and organizational culture. To receive data, the district must have 50% of teachers and 30% of parents complete the survey. The surveys are anonymous and provide an opportunity for individuals to bring attention to issues and concerns at their school. The report will only present aggregated information. No individual level-survey will ever be shown to the school or ISBE. Parents, teachers, and students (grades 6-12) are encouraged to participate in this short survey to help improve schools for our children. A link to the survey is provided on the district's website: www.qps.org. Parents who have questions or need assistance should contact the principal at their child's school.

CLASSIFIED AD:

◇ **FOR SALE: Sylvan Pontoon \$3,000 OBO**
217-242-8009.

Quincy Public Schools

1416 Maine Street
Quincy, IL 62301

Phone: 217-223-8700
Fax: 217-228-7162
Website: www.qps.org



PERSONNEL

Appointments/Change in Assignment—
LINDSAY BURRY-QHS HEAD GIRLS
GOLF COACH. AIREN FERGUSON—
ADMIN ASST FOR ELEMENTARY EDU-
CATION DIRECTOR BOE. MATT
LEAPHART—DAY CUSTODIAN
BALDWIN(PREVIOUSLY NIGHTS).
Leave of Absence—JOHN FRISBIE—
TRANSPORTATION-FMLA 1/24/14. KIM
SORENSEN—TRANSPORTATION-FMLA
2/9/14. CARLENE SAPP—QHS CUSTO-
DIAN FMLA 3/7/14. GWEN WESSEL-
MAN—DEWEY NURSE MEDICAL
LEAVE 3/7/14.

Teacher Resignations—end of 2013-14.
TAMI REDD—PBIS COACH ECFC.
CLINTON LAW—RDG RECOVERY
WASH. MELISSA PINTER—QJHS
HEARING IMPAIRED. KATHRYN UN-
TIEDT—QHS ENGLISH. RAMON
CARUSO—QAVTC AUTOBODY. SARA
WRIGHT—ECFC. MATT THOMAS-
BALDWIN N 5TH. ERIKA GOMEZ—
QAVTC COMMERCIAL FOODS.
KELSEY O-BRIEN—ADAMS 2ND.

Other Resignations—WILLIAM
SCHLEGL—QHS MATH 3/21/14.
STEPHANIE ROSS—BALDWIN W 6TH
4/11/14.

CONGRATULATIONS Q-CITY POMMERS

**Placed 1st in AAA State Competition
in Springfield, IL on February 15**
Captains: Kaleigh Kuhlman, Kelsey Reichert,
Paige Prost and Abby Beck

It has been 10 years since a
1st place finish by QHS!
There are 21 girls on the squad
Coach—Amy Bannon
Assistant Coach—Debbie Bradshaw