

# THE BOARD REPORTS

## Highlights of the White Plains Board of Education Meeting

October 19, 2009

MOMENT OF SILENCE: Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Christopher Clouet** asked for a moment of silence in memory of **Regina O'Leary**, a teacher in the district for 21 years until retiring in 1992.

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION: Dr. Clouet congratulated 18 High School students who were recognized in this year's National Merit competitions. **Amy J. Kasman** and **Brian T. Smiley** are National Merit Semifinalists, and 13 other seniors were named Commended Students. Outstanding Participants in the National Achievement Scholarship Program are **Iman Gulston, Samuel J. Hodges** and **Kiah B. Sterling**.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK: Celebrating this week of appreciation proclaimed by the Governor, **Kerry Broderick**, President of the Teachers Association, and **Adele Herzenberg**, President of the Civil Service Association, expressed their thanks for the Board's dedication and made donations in honor of each Board Member to the school library of their choice. **Laura Havis**, representing the Administrators and Supervisors Association, thanked the Board for "unwavering support and exemplary service" and said that the Post Road community, in particular, is truly appreciative of the Board's vision and perseverance in enabling the new school building to become a reality. She invited everyone to the open house there on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Clouet mentioned the new team visits to the schools, which began last week at Eastview. The day-long process involves all segments of the school community, including parents, and takes a holistic view of the schools.

The Residency Committee has met and is taking a very serious look at how this issue is handled. Potential changes are being discussed to insure that all students in the schools are legitimate residents.

The Graduation Committee has also met and is looking at possible sites and different options. Dr. Clouet will eventually bring a recommendation to the Board.

Dr. Clouet mentioned an Alumni Video Session at the High School on the Saturday morning of Thanksgiving weekend and invited all alumni to stop in and say a few words. He also reminded everyone of Hall of Fame Day on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

PROGRAM INITIATIVES: Contracts were approved with two organizations to provide important instructional benefits to the district. We have partnered with Children's Literacy Initiative for the past five years and this new contract will provide a first year of training to every second grade classroom teacher. Board members noted that results of the program have shown this initiative to be very beneficial.

The district has also formed a Professional Development Partnership with the School of Education of Manhattanville College to strengthen initiatives for current and prospective teachers and the school community. It will begin at George Washington School.

**BOARD MEMBERS:** **Donna McLaughlin, President; Rosemarie Eller, Vice President; Peter Bassano, Sheryl Brady, James Hricay, Charlie Norris, Randy Stein**

