UPDATE

Quincy Public Schools Newsletter

Issue No. 4

November 24, 2014

SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSES ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES AND APPROVES FIRMS

One of the first steps after voters passed the $89 million building referendum is for the Board to select the architects. Todd Moore, engineer with Architechnics, Inc. presented information to the Board at the November 19th meeting on a tentative contract. Under the proposal, Architechnics would be hired to work on the building project along with Klingner & Associates and Poepping, Stone, Bach & Associates. The three firms worked collaboratively to develop a master facilities plan for the referendum. The Board discussed the architects' fees which are proposed to be $5.61 million or 7% of the total construction cost. The need for a construction manager or owners' representative to oversee the construction for the school district was discussed. The contract with the architects is still being reviewed and no decision was made at the November 19th meeting. After further discussion at a special meeting held November 24th, the Board approved sending a *letter of intent* to hire the three local architectural firms pending final approval of the contractual agreement.

PMA SECURITIES—FINANCIAL ADVISORS

The Board approved an Advisory Agreement with PMA Securities to provide financial advisory services in connection with the sale of the $89 million in general obligation bonds. Robert Lewis, Senior Vice President, Managing Director of PMA Securities, presented information on a plan for the sale of the building bonds. Historical data on bonds and market rates from 1990 were presented showing a downward trend. Interest rates are the lowest since 1990. PMA has outlined the sale of the bonds in stages, with the first issue to be in December of 2014. Bank Qualified Bonds will be sold in 2014, 2015 and 2017. Tax-exempt municipal bonds are designated as Bank Qualified if the District does not issue more than $10 million in debt in a single calendar year. Bank Qualified bonds provide a tax savings to institutions, which in turn allows for some of the savings to be passed along to the district. In 2016, Non-Bank Qualified bonds will be sold in an amount over $30 million. This will meet the objectives of the building plan. The district is eligible for lower interest rates due to an increase in the district's credit rating in recent years.

TENTATIVE TAX LEVY

At the November 19th meeting, the Board approved the tentative tax levy of $33.63 million. This is an increase of $808,000 or 2.46 percent. The Board will vote on the levy at next month's School Board meeting where it will hold its Truth in Taxation hearing. The hearing must be held as the aggregate levy is increasing by more than 5 percent, actually seeing a 6.53 percent, but paying off bonds helps reduce the rate of the overall increase. Although the levy is rising, the overall rate is expected to drop two cents to $4.11 per $100 in assessed valuation.

Business Manager Joel Murphy said the increases are in the district's tort, IMRF and Social Security funds. Those levies were reduced last year to maintain a consistent tax rate.

PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS/CHANGE IN ASSIGNMENT—**BETHANY NANNEN MILLER—SPEC ED QHS. 11/17/14. DEB ROUTH—SCI QHS 1/5/15. BRANDY HICKERSON—.5 LIBRARY/.5 PARA WASH 10/30/14. CINDY LATOUR—SP ED ADMIN ASST BOE. PREV BALDWIN 12/1/14. JOHN PETERSON—DAY CUST ADAMS. PREV NIGHTS. 10/23/14. JUANITA GRIESBAUM—CAFÉ COORD QJHS. PREV COOK 10/16/14. MINDY MCALLISTER—PARA ADAMS. 1/7/14. AMBER TAYLOR—CAFÉ COORD MADISON 11/17/14. AMANDA COWGILL—PARA QJHS. 11/24/14. ABBY HARTLEY—PARA BALDWIN N 11/24/14.** ***EXT DAY INSTRUCTORS WERE APPOINTED AT ALL SCHOOLS.***

LEAVE OF ABSENCE—**BRIAN BANGERT—SP ED PSYCHOLOGIST—2 WK PATERNITY LEAVE APPROX 4/13/15 THROUGH 5/27/15. KRISTEN WALKER—LANG ARTS QJHS—MATERNITY LEAVE APPROX 1/26/15 THROUGH 3/23/15. MICHELLE REYNOLDS—REI BALDWIN W—EXTEND MATERNITY LEAVE THROUGH 12/4/14. PREV 11/24/14. RICK LITTLE—DEAN QHS—MEDICAL LEAVE 11/12/14 THROUGH APPROX 1/2/15. DAVE BOSTER—HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR—MED LEAVE 11/17/14 THROUGH APPROX 12/5/14. SHANTI BOWEN—PARA QJHS FMLA 10/27/14 THROUGH APPROX 12/8/14. EMY HILGENBRINCK—PARA WASH FMLA 10/23/14 THROUGH APPROX 11/21/14. WANDA ROBERTSON—PARA MADISON—EXTEND FMLA THROUGH 11/11/14.**

RESIGNATIONS—**THOMAS PICKETT—ASST WRESTLING COACH QJHS. 5/11/14. JONATHAN O'NEAL—MATH QHS. 12/19/14.**

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIBRARY GRANT

The School Board approved submission of the School District Library Grant also known as the Per Capita Grant. This grant program, offered to Illinois School Districts by the Illinois General Assembly, awards districts and school with eligible libraries a .75 per-pupil amount. The grant funds are designated for the purchase of both print and non-print library materials and resources to enhance school library programs and improve educational opportunities. Last year, QPS received $4,434.75 for our libraries.

Quincy Public Schools

1416 Maine Street
Quincy , IL 62301

Phone: 217-223-8700
Fax: 217-228-7162

CLASSIFIED ADS—

- **For Sale**—Red Love Seat/Couch. Excellent condition. Smoke-free home. $400. Amana Washer $175. Maytag Dryer $175. Buy both for $300. Call Brian 217-617-8837.

Get Away for the New Year!

3 NIGHTS, DECEMBER 29 TO JANUARY 1
FIVE-STAR RESORT
BRANSON, MO

1 BEDROOM UNITS WITH KITCHEN, LIVING ROOM, BEDROOM. SLEEPS 2 TO 4. $63 TOTAL ($21 PER NIGHT!) SEE TOM NIEHOFF AT QJHS OR CALL 217-653-8685 FOR A RESERVATION BY DECEMBER 12.

Come join us on Facebook.

Make A Merry Christmas Program

(QPS Transportation Department)

CONGRATULATIONS!

QHS Music Department Students and Staff for the wonderful performance of

THE MUSIC MAN!