



WISCONSIN EDUCATION NEWS

February 4, 2010

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REMINDER! The deadline for nominations for the WASDA Child Advocacy Award is FEBRUARY 6. Nomination information can be found at www.wasda.org

'Everything on the table' during listening session (*Sauk Prairie Eagle* © 02/03/2010)

Sauk Prairie residents suggested the possibility of cutting everything from the outdoor pool to high school electives during a school board listening session Jan. 30.

Adding teachers on committee agenda (*Janesville Gazette Extra* © 02/04/2010)

JANESVILLE — A Janesville School Board committee will meet Thursday to discuss increasing the number of elementary music, art and/or physical education teachers.

Agreement still elusive for BEA, Beloit schools (*Beloit Daily News* © 02/04/2010)

Negotiations between the BEA and School District of Beloit are still ongoing without agreement, despite several offers and counteroffers.

Back from the Brink: Wausaukee Schools Win Awards (*WBAY Green Bay* © 02/04/2010)

The financially-strapped Wausaukee School District was once on the brink of dissolving. But this year the district has rebounded, earning three prestigious awards rarely achieved in one year.

BoE moves step closer to 4K with ok of provider contract (*Merrill Foto News* © 02/04/2010)

The Merrill Area Public Schools Board of Education took another step toward starting a kindergarten program for 4-year olds last Wednesday when it approved the contract that area parochial schools and day care centers must enter into with MAPS to take part in the program which will start in the fall.

Cedar Grove vows 'no new taxes' if referendum passes (*Sheboygan Press* © 02/04/2010)

Members of the Cedar Grove-Belgium School Board are still wrestling with how much money they want to ask voters to approve in an April referendum and they're not completely sure of all they want to do with the money if they should get it.

Crowding at Madison elementary schools brings challenges (*Madison.com* © 02/04/2010)

Through 2014-15, the elementary school-age population in the La Follette attendance area — which includes Allis, Nuestro Mundo, Kennedy, Elvehjem, Glendale and Schenk schools — is expected to increase by 100. By 2014, that number could double to 200 — half the size of an average elementary school.

FdL School Board seeks input on budget (*Fond du Lac Reporter* © 02/04/2010)

The public is being asked to share ideas on how to cut \$1.7 million from the Fond du Lac School District budget.

In Middleton, athletic director likes turf - The Waunakee Tribune - Waunakee, WI (*Waunakee Tribune* © 02/04/2010)

Count Luke Francois among the supporters of an artificial surface in Warrior Stadium. The Middleton High School athletic director said his district's turf is so popular that at times the district has to turn users away

Language barriers broken (*Kewaunee County News* © 02/03/2010)

District Administrator Pat Saunders said several years ago, a committee of teachers and administrators studied the benefits of a foreign language program in the lower grades. After hearing the positives, the School Board decided to add the program in a progression manner, he said.

Lena school referendum set (*Oconto County Reporter* © 02/04/2010)

Last Wednesday, the Lena School Board clarified some verbiage while approving a referendum resolution for the April 6 election to meet budget shortfalls.

Waupun School District looking at \$3.4 million budget deficit by 2013 (*Fond du Lac Reporter* © 02/04/2010)

WAUPUN — While a district-wide reconfiguration helped the Waupun Area School District bridge a \$1 million budget deficit this year, the financial reprieve will be short-lived.

Will voters support construction of new schools? (*Muskego NOW* © 02/04/2010)

Muskego — About 50 people attended the first of five public input forums on whether the Muskego-Norway School District should close two elementary schools, build at least one more school and upgrade other elementary schools.

A Sparta school has a unique way for students and their families to stay active (*WKBT TV* © 02/04/2010)

The Sparta School District has a new way for students and their families to stay active this winter. The district received a \$2,100 grant to buy 32 pairs of snowshoes.

Chi-Hi offers advanced classes to those willing to take challenge (*Chippewa Falls Online* © 02/04/2010)

AP classes are offered at more than 17,000 high schools across the country, including Chi-Hi.

Educators await President Barack Obama's No Child Left Behind overhaul (*Post Crescent* © 02/04/2010)

Ever since federal No Child Left Behind education reform was signed into law in 2002, it has been a lightning rod for public opinion.

Green Bay Schools Now More Aware of Threats (*WBAY Green Bay* © 02/04/2010)

Three-and-a-half years ago, the Green Bay school district had a similar scare that Crivitz High School is facing -- allegations of threats, weapons, and even bombs uncovered after a student came forward with concerns.

High tech fingerprint scan checks out well (*Oconomowoc Focus* © 02/04/2010)

Oconomowoc Area Schools — No library card? No problem. At least for students at Silver Lake Intermediate school where a new fingerprint scanning device allows them to borrow books with just the touch of a finger. It's the high tech, low-maintenance way of checking out a book

Neenah High School may return to semester schedule (*Post Crescent* © 02/04/2010)

NEENAH — Neenah High School will switch to a semester schedule in 2011-12 to cut costs unless a compromise can be reached with the Neenah teachers union.

Obama would overhaul No Child Left Behind (*Oshkosh Northwestern* © 02/04/2010)

President Barack Obama is proposing to overhaul the No Child Left Behind education law, replacing the school accountability system that has slapped a failing label on more than a third of schools, including many that made big gains but just missed their annual targets.

Open enrollment period begins; has minimal impact on Sun Prairie School District - Sun Prairie Star - Sun Prairie, WI (*Sun Prairie Star* © 02/04/2010)

For the 2009-10 academic year, there are 60 students who have come into the Sun Prairie Area School District through open enrollment, and 148 students who have left the district through open enrollment. Five years ago, 51 students entered the district through open enrollment, showing a fairly steady influx of students.

Schools of Hope success dependent on volunteers - Sun Prairie Star - Sun Prairie, WI (*Sun Prairie Star* © 02/04/2010)

Schools of Hope—a tutoring program currently offered in five Sun Prairie public schools—has proven to be one of the Sun Prairie Area School District's (SPASD) most effective tools for closing achievement gaps for students in poverty and students of color.

Schools Tackle Bullying (*WBAY Green Bay* © 02/04/2010)

While Neenah High School has had an anti-bullying policy in place for at least ten years, last year the school enhanced it, empowering students to step in and stop any harassment.

State honors Waunakee school for excellence (*Madison.com* © 02/04/2010)

Waunakee Community Middle School has been named as one of six Middle Schools of Excellence by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators.

Street work will complicate school day (*Tomah Journal* © 02/04/2010)

Transporting students to and from three Tomah School District buildings will get considerably more complicated beginning April 1.

Student magazine a big hit at West (*Stevens Point Journal* © 02/04/2010)

The student body has taken hold of the Warrior's Word magazine, which was changed last year from a newspaper format because of district budget cuts.

Prep spotlight: Wrestler shortage difficult for team (*Kewaunee County News* © 02/03/2010)

From weight classes to 2-point takedowns, wrestling is a sport filled with numbers. But many high school teams across the state, often do not have enough people when trying to fill the 14 weight classes for a varsity dual.

Sweet Education: Class business helps Mel-Min students learn job skills (*Jackson County Chronicle* © 02/04/2010)

Sweet Tooth is managed by 15 students in Mesa Heit's special education class. The business gives students an opportunity to learn on-the-job skills that will help them transition to the workforce after high school.

Catholic schools search for something to celebrate (*Marquette Tribune* © 02/04/2010)

According to reports from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, enrollment in Wisconsin private schools, religious and secular, has decreased about 15 percent from the 2000-'01 school year to the 2009-'10 school year. With the continuing economic downturn, funding for these schools is drying up and enrollment rates are crashing fast.

Mukwonago's St. James School to close (*Milwaukee JS Online* © 02/04/2010)

Feb. 3, 2010 | St. James Catholic School in Mukwonago will close at the end of the school year due to "significantly" falling enrollment, according to the parish's pastor.

Sievwright saws logs to educate Elmwood students (*Pierce County Herald* © 02/03/2010)

Working from an education plan initiated by a grant through Wisconsin's Environmental Education Board, Elmwood staff members seek to improve their outdoor education facilities.

The WISCONSIN EDUCATION NEWS is brought to you by:

Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators

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UPCOMING WASDA EVENTS

***New Superintendents Workshop IV
WASDA School Leadership Center-Madison
February 24, 2010***

***Wisconsin RtI Summit
KI Convention Center-Green Bay
March 10-11, 2010***

***WASDA School Finance Workshop
WASDA School Leadership Center-Madison
March 19, 2010***

***WASDA School Finance Workshop
Holiday Inn-Stevens Point
March 23, 2010***

***WASDA Annual Educational Conference
Kalahari Resort-Wisconsin Dells
May 5-7, 2010***