



# North Shore Schools

*Discovering Your Dreams*

## BOE Meeting Summary

October 16, 2008

### **Discussion/Presentations:**

1. Dr. Melnick explained the goals for the new Ninth Grade Experience, an interdisciplinary yearlong study in a heterogeneous classroom setting designed for students to achieve their maximum capability. He briefly outlined the following:
  - a. 80 students will be chosen for the new program upon parental consent.
  - b. A learning profile for every child in 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be implemented to give future teachers a better idea of how they learn.
  - c. Students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to register for either the new or existing program.

Superintendent Melnick praised Assistant Superintendent Rob Chlebicki for his efforts in leading the launch of the Ninth Grade Experience.

2. Dr. Melnick expressed concern regarding the new state-mandated geometry Regents which would be given to both 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders. He said, *“Although, the test is not an absolute standard, it would place a lot of stress on students during the last week of classes.”* He added that he has considered refusing to impose the exam on his students and that other principals, math teachers and superintendents were already sending letters of objection to Albany.
3. Assistant Superintendent Rob Chlebicki discussed the new procedures for supervision and tenure evaluations. He communicated the following:
  - a. In the past, a minimum of three formal observations and multiple informal observations were conducted yearly for non-tenured teachers by the individual school building principals and curriculum directors. During a non-tenured teacher’s second year of probationary status, the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction conducted one of the three formal observations.
  - b. This school year, Mr. Chlebicki will begin conducting informal observations during each year of a non-tenured teacher’s probationary status. The annual formal observations will continue to be performed by the principals and curriculum directors. During the three-year probationary period, there will be a minimum of nine formal observations and numerous informal observations for non-tenured teachers at North Shore Schools.
  - c. Assistant Superintendent Chlebicki discussed that the newer procedures provides optimal opportunity to establish a relationship between the curriculum directors and the teachers. Additionally, it allows everyone to:

- 1) Be involved in the growth and development of the teachers early on (begins in September during the first weeks of school)**
- 2) Collaborate in the observation process and be on the same page**

**(For further information regarding this meeting, please see the North Shore Board of Education Minutes for October 16, 2008 at [www.northshoreschools.org](http://www.northshoreschools.org). Complete BOE Minutes are available in the Central Office.)**