

Don White

From: Don White [dwhite@pekin.net]
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2004 5:32 AM
To: message@pekin.net
Subject: [SUPT.MSG] Great News & HB750 Hearing

I am writing to share some great news about a District 108 school and to personally invite you to attend a public hearing on House Bill 750.

Willow Primary School Nominated for NCLB Blue Ribbon School Eligibility

We learned last week that Willow Primary School has been nominated for eligibility as an NCLB (No Child Left Behind) Blue Ribbon School. The program requires schools to meet either of two assessment criteria. It recognizes schools that have at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds that dramatically improve student performance in accordance with state assessment systems; and it rewards schools that score in the top 10 percent on state assessments. This is the second District 108 school to be nominated in the past few years. Dirksen was nominated two years ago and was selected as an NCLB Blue Ribbon School last year. Obviously, we are very proud of all District 108 students and employees and it is a pleasure to recognize the dedication of the students, employees, and parents of Willow Primary School for their efforts! More information about the NCLB Blue Ribbon Schools Program can be accessed by visiting <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.

House Bill 750 Public Hearing

Please accept this as a personal invitation to attend the January 10, 2005 House Bill 750 public hearing that will be held at Morton High School. Mr. Ralph Martire, author of HB750, will present information about HB750 and how it promises to overhaul education funding based on economic principals where the state would assume 51% of the cost of education compared to the current 36%. As you may recall, this bill provides a vehicle to dramatically change the way public schools are funded in Illinois. If you are tired of the over reliance on property taxes to fund schools, I urge you to learn more about HB750 and how it shifts the burden to a more progressive taxing system. The hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. and will be held in the Bertha Frank Performing Arts Center at Morton High School. This hearing is open to parents, school employees, school board members, business owners, and all other public that are interested in this topic. You can learn more about House Bill 750 by visiting <http://www.ctbaonline.org> or <http://www.legis.state.il.us/legislation/>.

Please contact me at your convenience if you have questions and/or a need for additional information about these or any other topics concerning District 108. Let me close by wishing all a very happy and safe holiday season!

Sincerely,

Don

You can choose to dream or you can dream and do something about it. I prefer the latter.

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