

Maries County R-II
School Board Spotlight
January 2012

Greetings to all patrons of the Maries County R-II School District. Our Board of Education is pleased to introduce this newsletter. Our board is committed to enhanced communication with all in our district, and this newsletter is one method to meet this important goal.

We have much to be proud of in our district! We were recently honored with the District Distinction in Performance for the 2010-2011 school year. This means that our district has met at least thirteen out of fourteen performance standards including MAP test scores in mathematics and communication arts. This distinction also targets attendance rate and graduation rate of our students. Without the support of the families of our students, this would not have been possible. Now that our district has achieved this Distinction in Performance, it is important to work together to make this our new standard. Together we can meet and exceed these requirements! We as a board congratulate our students, families, teachers, administrators, and staff on this outstanding achievement and look forward to more honors in the years ahead.

Our board has been holding monthly work sessions in addition to our monthly board meetings in order to conduct listening posts with our employee groups. The goal of these posts is to learn directly from our employees things that are working well for the education and safety of our students, and areas that we can work together to make improvements. These posts will be concluded in the month of April. We recognize that our employees are able to provide us with information that is important to help our students succeed. Our board is in the early stages of planning listening posts for the community as well. Please watch for updates to come on this topic.

As a board, we recognize that trust and communication are an important part of the success of our district, and ultimately the successful education of every student. We have recently adopted a resolution to support the Missouri Public Education Vision Project. This project is a combined effort of school board members and administrators throughout the state with the cooperation of the Missouri School Board Association and Missouri Association of School Administrators. Information on the project can be found on the internet at www.visionformopublicschools.org. This project focuses on teaching and learning assessment, early learning and student success, recruitment and retention of quality teachers, leadership and accountability, community support, financial and physical resources. As we all work together, we can ensure that our students have the education they need in order to be competitive and successful adults.

Our board would like to remind the community that our meetings are normally the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the district administration building. All are invited and

welcome to attend the open portion of the meetings. Near the beginning of each meeting we allow for public comments of two minutes or less according to our board policies.

Working together as a community we can and will improve the education of all of our current and future students. That is our mission, and that is what we are committed to doing. We thank you, our community, for working with us to ensure our future as a community through education.