

# SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

WALTER J. HRYCENKO—SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

ISSUE 1, VOLUME 2—FALL 2011-12

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome back to school. The District has been working diligently throughout the summer months to prepare for the 2011-12 school year. Teachers and administration have been participating in professional development and in the recent weeks been busy with preparing their lessons and classrooms for student return. Specifically in the middle schools, the math department is moving forward with the pilot of a new program that will bring our students more challenging work. High school teachers and administrators are preparing to meet state requirements with the introduction

of two new high school courses, Environmental Science and Financial Literacy. The District's maintenance and custodial departments



Superintendent Hrycenko is pictured here reading to PLC students on Read Across America Day

have also been working hard to prepare buildings for students and staff. Deep cleaning is being finalized at the school buildings and a disin-

fection plan is in place in preparation for the annual flu season. More than 200 students worked hard this summer through their participation in our summer Jump Start and Camp Beadleston programs. This year, Jump Start was expanded to incoming high school freshmen through the launch of a successful Super Start. Although it's impossible to fit into this newsletter all

of the hard work by the District staff who have been working to prepare for the new school year, I can ensure to you that the effort has been tremendous. We all look forward to welcoming students back to school with open arms on September 6. Please refer to the District website and your student's school website for the latest information on the new year such as the 2011-12 school calendar, Back to School nights, and Board of Education meeting dates and times.

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WANT STUDENT NEWS?  
LOG-ON TODAY!

WWW.BRICKSCHOOLS.ORG



Lanes Mill Students heading Back to School 2010-11

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

- SEPTEMBER 1 & 2—STAFF ORIENTATION
- SEPTEMBER 5—LABOR DAY, SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED
- SEPTEMBER 6—FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL  
  
BOE RETREAT, 6 PM @ THE TTC
- SEPTEMBER 7 - BOE PREAGENDA MEETING 7 PM & BTHS
- SEPTEMBER 15—BOE MEETING 7 PM @ BTHS
- SEPTEMBER 29—ROSH HASHANAH, SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED
- OCTOBER 10—COLUMBUS DAY SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED

**ANTI-BULLYING INITIATIVES**

Brick schools have always been committed to creating a safe environment for our students. This includes the prevention of bullying, harassment and intimidation. This summer, Mr. Earl Mosley was appointed as the District's Anti-Bullying Coordinator. A natural leader, he is working hard for the District to apply his 28 year military background, 14 years as an educator, and his extensive knowledge as the parent of 6 children to ensure the fair and practical application and administration of our District Bullying Policy.

The updated District Bullying Policy was put into place by the

Board of Education in August of 2012. It can be found on our



District website. In addition, School Anti-Bullying Specialists for each school building have been appointed by the building principals. The administration and these specialists have been participating in classes and in-service trainings.

This was turnkeyed to the teachers on September 1 and 2 during professional development days. Students will then be updated on the new district policy and procedures upon their return in September.

It is important that parents, students, teachers, and administrators work together on this effort. Please log in to [www.brickschools.org](http://www.brickschools.org) for the contact information for our district Anti-Bullying Coordinator and Anti-Bullying Specialists in our schools as well as helpful third-party resources.

**SUMMER SUN BRINGS SOLAR PANEL REVENUE**

Although the hot summer sun typically brings high energy bills to those who are running their air conditioning, for Brick Schools the sun translates to revenue. The solar panels on Brick Memorial High School

have been soaking up the sun all summer long to provide significant financial savings to the District. In July, the panels hit record sun absorption. These funds are used to offset other energy costs. Examples include

lighting and air conditioning. We welcome you to monitor the BMHS solar panels along with us through the live link on our website or by copying and pasting the same link located to the left of this column.

**WONDERING ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE BMHS SOLAR PANELS?**



VISIT:

<http://www.brickschools.org/Pages/SolarPanelStatus.aspx>

**DISTRICT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Since the fall of 1996, Brick schools have been community volunteers become major participants in the school day. We are happy to share that the 2011-12 school year will not be any different! Becoming a Brick Schools Volunteer is separate from participating as class parent or with the school parents' associations. This volunteer organization is run specifically through our District Volunteer

Program Coordinators, Mrs. Dina Silvestri and Mrs. Magda Diaz They work hand-in-hand with the teachers to staff volunteers for classroom events, school functions, and special projects as they arise throughout the school year. Volunteers in this this program are not only parents, but community members such as retired teachers, grandparents, and special Brick residents who love giving back by working with our children. Each volunteer is required to participate in a criminal background

check before volunteering. This is an ongoing check done each time someone reports to school as a volunteer. We also require that volunteers have the appropriate paperwork on file before they participate. Log in to [www.brickschools.org](http://www.brickschools.org) for further information on how you can become a volunteer this school year. We look forward to working with you as we together enhance the education of our students.