

Brought to you by the Scotch Plains – Fanwood PTA District Legislative Team (DLT)

Resource Center

Applying for open Board seat:
<http://www.nj.gov/njded/title1/accountability/profiles/05/profiles39.pdf>

For AYP 2005 Test score report:
<http://www.nj.gov/njded/title1/accountability/profiles/05/profiles39.pdf>

District Policy Book:
http://www.spfk12.org/sp-f_policies.htm

Board of Ed. Meeting Schedule:
http://www.spfk12.org/sp-f_board_mtgs.htm

S1701 bill information:
<http://www.gscschools.org/gsc/S1701%20Information/>

Contact DLT newsletter editor at webmaster_council@spfk12.org or 908-322-9142

DLT 1: Local Issues

Highlights from Board of Ed. meetings:

- Deadline for applying for **open Board seat** is **Sep 12**. Public interview of candidates on Sep 15 from 8:00-10:00pm. Details on Page 2.
- Joint impasse declared in **contract negotiations** by Board & SPFEA. Assigned mediator will meet both parties on

Sep 12.

- NCLB Test Scores:** 7 of 8 schools in the district achieve **Adequate Yearly Progress** (AYP) in 2005. Park students achieve only 39 of 40 indicators while SPFHS remains on state warning list. For detailed Report, look for web-link in Resource Center.

- District Policy Book** containing all policies passed by Board of Ed. for administration of the school district is available on the SPF district website.
- Be informed - attend a **Board of Ed. Meeting**. Meetings are held at Board Office @ 8:00 pm. Agenda is posted on the district website before the meeting.

DLT 2: State Issues

Garden State Coalition of Schools (GSCS) calls for a parent advocacy event:

“Parents in Trenton” – a GSCS event (Sep 21)

Details on Page 2.

DLT 3: Federal Issues

No issues to report at the time of publication as Congress went into summer recess between July 29th & Labor Day.

About DLT

DLT is an SPF PTA Council committee.

We aim to better inform our membership at all schools about legislative affairs related to education and child advocacy issues and foster a membership that is vocal about our concerns.

The team comprises representatives from every school in the district.

However, any interested PTA member is welcome to join. We believe there is strength in numbers and a well-organized membership can make a difference.

DLT is a team approach in dealing with legislative issues that affect our children. In the last school year, DLT members were active attendees at Board meetings, rallied the community to get out

& vote at Budget and Board elections, participated in state legislative and lobbying events, and contacted legislators through letter & phone campaigns regarding bill S1701 that aimed at placing caps on school budgets.

Be a part of this energetic team! **Our first meeting is on Sep 26 at 9:15am in the Board offices.**

Open SPF Board Seat

(taken from SPF District website)

At the June 2005, public meeting of the Board, seven-year board member **Lance Porter** announced his resignation from the Board effective August 1. Mr. Porter's resignation is due to a job transfer. The Board will have 65 days from August 1 to appoint a new Scotch Plains member of the Board to serve until the next school election in April 2006. At that time, candidates may run for the 1-year unexpired term.

Applying for the Open Board Seat:

Scotch Plains residents who are interested in applying for the open board seat are invited to submit a letter of interest, including a brief biography and their reasons for wanting to be on the Board of Education, to:

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education
% Linda Nelson, President
Board of Education Offices
Evergreen Ave. and Cedar St.
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Deadline for the application is Monday, September 12 at 4:00 PM.

The Board will conduct public interviews of candidates on Thursday, September 15 from 8:00 to 10:00 PM, then recess into closed session to discuss the candidates' interviews. The Board will then reconvene in open session to take a public vote to select the successor board member. (If there are more candidates than time allows, the process will be completed at the September 22 business meeting of the Board.)



Public Support for Public Education

"Parents in Trenton" – a GSCS event

GSCS and its Parent Network are organizing a press conference in Trenton for **September 21, 11:30 a.m.**

The goal is to get the message out that parents across New Jersey care deeply about the quality of education being offered to their children in our public schools and that parents will take a stand where that quality is threatened or being diminished. Politicians seeking elected office need to hear this

message and make the well-being of public education delivered to children a part of their political platform. This year there is a gubernatorial election as well as the election of the full Assembly. The Senate on both sides of the aisle would like to see their own party gain seats, so all Trenton leadership has a stake in the November 8, 2005 elections.

The event will start at 11:30 and should last no longer than an hour. Look out for

more details.

GSCS encourages you to reach out to others in the community to attend with you in order to make a bigger presence and a bigger point, besides a more interesting and enjoyable day when you carpool and meet with other parents in Trenton who share your vital concerns.

If you are interested in attending this event, please RSVP your local DLT rep.