

## School board members deserve community ‘thank you’

*Beach Park*— Nov. 15, 2011, has been designated as School Board Members Day in Illinois, and *Beach Park School District 3* is joining other districts across the state to thank these community volunteers for their commitment and contributions to public schools.

“Our school board members serve without monetary compensation to make public education the best it can be for every child,” said *Dr. Robert DiVirgilio*, District 3 superintendent.

“During these trying fiscal times, they develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational and social issues that affect the entire community and the lives of individual students. They bear responsibility and oversight in District 3 for an annual budget of approximately \$25 million; 2421 students in grades Pre-K to 8; more than 300 employees; and 5 buildings.

“Preparing today’s students to be productive citizens and the leaders in a global economy is a tremendous task. As elected officials, school board members are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of our schoolchildren,” *Dr. DiVirgilio* stated.

To honor school board members in *Beach Park*, District 3 plans to dedicate part of the November 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting in their honor. Handmade cards from students expressing their appreciation will be presented to board members.

“Often we take for granted the service that these education advocates provide. Taking time out to say ‘thank you’ is the least we can do as they provide vision and leadership for student achievement, academic programs, district funding, and school facilities,” *Dr. DiVirgilio* said.

“Their service ensures that decisions about local public schools are made locally by those most familiar with the needs of our community. School board members deserve recognition and thanks for their unfailing commitment to the continuing success of our students now and in the future.”

The men and women serving *Beach Park School District 3* are: Andy Luther, President; Steven Lenzi, Vice-President; Cindy Bowen, Secretary; Jose Olvera; Marianne DeBoer; Steven Garris; and Marcia White.