

HEADLINES

July 5, 2005



Pep Rally for New Rock Island Academies Planned

[Neighborhood Partners](#), a City of Rock Island group of its organized neighborhoods along with other non-profits, has organized an **"A"cademy GOOD NEIGHBOR** Pep Rally, set for **Thursday, July 7th, in the Community Room of the [Rock Island Public Library](#)**. The Rally starts at **4 PM** and brings together residents from [Broadway](#), [Douglas Park](#), [Greenbush](#), [Longview](#) and [Old Chicago](#) neighborhoods along with other individuals, groups and businesses who have pledged to help Rock Island's two new Academies.

"The design of the Academies is based upon strong community support. Neighborhood Partners believes that it is in their mission to bring residents along with other groups into a working relationship with kids, staff and the community," stated Jennifer Fowler, Community Marketing Director. **"A" GOOD NEIGHBOR** demonstrates the community will help the Academies."

The main purpose of the Pep Rally is to bring together people who believe in the Rock Island Primary and Intermediate Academies and are willing to volunteer their time to help the students succeed. Each of the five organized neighborhoods which are in the Academies borders have recruited at least five non-parent residents who have volunteered to be a liaison with these schools. As Mike Markell, President of Greenbush Neighbors said, "Get me a list of specific tasks and I will find the volunteers to help. This is going to be one great school with a super big neighborhood. I like challenges when it comes to kids." With school registrations set for July 20 and 21, **"A" GOOD NEIGHBOR** volunteers will be asked to sign up for tasks related to helping parents and kids get settled into the Academies.

Groups and individuals currently helping [Hawthorne-Irving](#) and [Lincoln](#) as well as those who assisted [Grant](#) are going to be recognized. Members of the Academy Advisory Task Force and business partners, Modern Woodmen of America and Thoms-Proestler Co., will participate in the Rally. School staff will be present to meet **"A" GOOD NEIGHBOR** volunteers.

Rick Loy, Superintendent of [Rock Island-Milan School District](#), along with the Rock Island Academies Principals, is participating in the Rally. Supt. Loy will give an address on "Why the Academies are going to be successful." Rev. David McAdams, a member of the Rally planning committee, will speak on "Why the whole community needs to support the Academies." Volunteer materials and other information will be available for all participants.