

Kindergarten Welcome

Families who will have students in kindergarten in the fall should be on the lookout for their welcome letters. Schools expect to mail the letters on April 19.

The letters will explain which school the student will be attending. In addition, parents will be reminded of the Hawthorn Kindergarten Inventory diagnostic screening which

will take place over the coming weeks. Schools will contact families directly to set up appointments. (Students interested in the School of Dual Language should have already been screened.)

AM or PM Assignments

While schools have their general kindergarten rosters in place, actual classroom assignments are still being deter-

mined. However, families *will* receive information about morning or afternoon class assignments before the end of this school year.

Practice Bus Rides

Kindergarten students who will ride school buses will have an opportunity to take a practice ride on August 20. Families received reservation forms in their

kindergarten registration packets. These forms must be completed and returned to the District Office no later than August 2.

Important Dates

Kindergarten parents should mark their calendars for some important dates. They are encouraged to attend

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April 2010

Hawthorn Highlights

“Learning for All, Working Together, and Doing Whatever It Takes”

Future Search Work Continues

Thanks are extended to the nearly 60 volunteers who participated in the Hawthorn Future Search Conference, held February 25 to 27 at Middle South. With the help of facilitator Susan Sparks, the group discussed and documented educational trends, community history, probable and desirable futures, and a general vision for Hawthorn and the wider community as we move toward 2015.

As a follow-up to the initial Future Search Conference, the group created a Vision Team to continue the full group’s work of refining the District’s vision statement. At a March 10 Vision Team meeting, the group created the following statement: “Learning for All, Working Together, and Doing Whatever It Takes.” Board of Education President Tim Shanahan notes that fiscal stewardship is viewed as an integral part of the entire vision.

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Awards for Hawthorn Schools

Hawthorn District 73 has once again earned the Bright Red Apple Award for educational excellence. The award, presented by SchoolSearch® is based on five, family-friendly categories: academic performance, pupil/teacher ratio/operating expenditure per pupil, educational level of teachers, and average teacher salary. This year, 83 of 869 Illinois school districts earned this honor.

ISBE Honors

Congratulations to Hawthorn Middle South and Aspen Elementary for being named to the Illinois State Board of Education’s 2009 Honor Roll. Both schools were honored with Academic Excellence Awards for sustaining academic excellence as related to the Illinois Learning Standards. To receive the award, at least 90 percent of students must meet or exceed state standards in reading and math for at least three consecutive years. Schools must also make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as outlined in No Child Left Behind mandates, for 2008 and 2009.

Spring Testing Begins

Across the district, students will take a variety of tests to measure academic progress.

From April 12 through 16, students in all grades will take the writing assessment prepared by the ECRA Group of Rosemont, Illinois.

The spring round of Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will be administered to students in grades 2 through 7 between April 19 and 30.

During that same period, students in kindergarten through grade 2 will also take the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) tests.

Program Improvements

Beginning next fall, the district will implement revised plans designed to meet consistently the needs of advanced students. As Lisa Cerauli, Director of Student Achievement and 21st Century Learning explained, "Our goal is to provide experiences for our students that are consistent in all elementary buildings and in the two middle schools."

The model for the new plans emphasizes flexible delivery. Enrichment teachers will have more opportunities to collaborate with academic teachers. There will also be more resources available and more opportunities for co-teaching.

Cerauli also stressed that the new model will provide enrichment opportunities for students in lower grades than are currently in place. "We look forward to instruction that will enrich the Hawthorn standards," she said.

Kindergarten/New Parent Information Nights (parents only).

The meetings for Elementary South, Townline, and Dual Language parents are tentatively scheduled for August 18. August 19 is the tentative date for Elementary North and Aspen parents. Meetings will be held at 7:00 pm at each school.

Get Acquainted Time

On Tuesday, August 24, kin-

dergarten students can bring in their supplies, tour their classrooms, and meet their teachers as the schools will be open from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm with time split between morning and afternoon classes.

The first day of school for kindergarten students will be Thursday, August 26. Students in grades one through eight will begin with a two-hour day on Wednesday, August 25.

Please stay updated by

visiting the online school calendar posted at < www.hawthorn73.org > .

Students who turn age 5 by September 1, 2010, are eligible for Hawthorn Kindergarten. If you have an eligible child who has not yet registered for kindergarten, please do so right away by visiting the Hawthorn District Office between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm on any day when school is in session.



Reminder: 2010-2011 Registration Moving Online

As outlined in previous issues of Hawthorn Highlights, the district is moving to a simpler online process for re-registering current students for next fall. Instead of filling out paper packets for each child, parents will receive login passwords and directions for going online to review and update contact information, provide additional data, and pay fees with a credit card.

The District Office will have a computer available for families who do not have access to the Internet at home or who need additional assistance.

Passwords and directions will be provided to each family in late April, with the new registration and fee payment website expected to be open during May. More information will be provided as the online registration dates near.



Future Search (continued from page 1)

Associated Vision Points

- ❖ Fiscal Stewardship
- ❖ Collaborative Partnerships
- ❖ 21st Century Learning
- ❖ Respecting Diversity
- ❖ High Expectations for Growth and Achievement
- ❖ Creativity and Innovation
- ❖ World Class Curriculum for the Whole Child



The Future Search group will continue to collaborate and create teams related to specific tasks and interest areas, as identified during the conference. They hope to reconvene in late May.

More information about the Future Search effort, including notes from the original conference, are available on the Hawthorn district website at < www.hawthorn73.org > under the Future Search quick link.

Hawthorn Happenings

In this year's Battle of the Books, the Bookineers from **Middle School South**

edged the Word Wizards from Middle School North. Members of the winning team, all seventh graders, received gift cards to Barnes & Noble and custom

"iRead" posters. ✨ Teacher Tia Alexander's classes celebrated Pi (3.14) Day with apple pie, homework about circles, and contests to see who could recite the most digits of pi. ✨ It has been a busy time in the music department. The orchestra and the band performed at the District 8 Organizational Contest. The symphony orchestra, directed by Nancy Kocal, received a 1 rating. The symphonic band, directed by Jim Garbrecht, also received a 1 rating for their performance. In addition, sixth grade band students participated in the North Chicago Little People Band Festival. The group was evaluated and given a clinic. Chorus members traveled to Northwestern University to work with choral students at the university. Finally, both the chorus and orchestra traveled to Chicago for a Chicago Lyric Opera performance. ✨ Students and staff celebrated "Go Red for Women" to increase awareness regarding heart disease. They showed their support by wearing red and raising money through class donations and the purchase of red pins. The school was able to make a \$150 contribution to the American Heart Association. ✨ The Science Olympiad Team competed in

the New Trier regional competition. The team of sixth, seventh, and eighth grade



students finished 12th of the 23 teams entered. ✨ The Student Councils of the South Campus schools organized a drive that raised more than \$6,700 for Haiti relief. ✨

Middle School North's

Math Counts team did very well in county and state competitions. The team came in second in the county competition, and Justin Yim came in first in the individual competition. At the state competition, MSN's team placed 8th out of the 35 schools competing, and Justin Yim came in 3rd out of 188 contestants in the individual competition. Congratulations to the team and their coach, Nancy Alexander. ✨ The Science Olympiad team placed eighth at the county level and also won the "School Spirit Award" for demonstrating the "best overall sportsmanship and spirit of the Competition." Congratulations to the team and their



coaches, Tommie Arens and Kim Newton. ✨ The third annual International Fair will

take place on April 22. There will be an assembly during which students will perform cultural dances, sing national anthems, and play national instrumental songs. ✨ On May 14, speakers will present information to students during three Career Day sessions. ✨ Band, orchestra, and chorus members performed at the Illinois Grade School Music Association organiza-

tional contest. All three groups received 1 ratings. ✨ The boys volleyball teams at Hawthorn North had a very successful season. The seventh grade team, coached by

Jenna Clausen, won the Suburban Middle School Conference tournament. The eighth grade team, coached by Matt Polnow, was undefeated for the season and was crowned SMSC Conference Champions. ✨ The wrestling team also had a successful season. Nine wrestlers qualified to participate in the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) State Meet at Northern Illinois University. ✨

As part of a Bernstein unit at **Aspen Elementary**, second and fifth graders made a quilt as their Buddy Project. ✨

Learning Center students in teacher Debbie Hurst's room took part in a Readers' Theater. ✨ As part of a unit on color, teacher Carly Burda's Early Childhood class learned about using blue and

yellow to make green using hand paints. ✨ Third grade classes took a field trip to Adler Planetarium to kick off a unit on the solar system. ✨ Students in Diane Motley's class finished a unit of study on pets. They learned about different kinds of animals that make good pets, why they make good pets, and how to take care of them. ✨ Fifth graders



waved their flags as they completed a unit on Canada. ✨ Fifth grade students designed quilt squares for Project Linus. ✨ Second grade classes studied the gamelan music of Bali and Java. They composed and performed their own music for the gamelan ensemble. ✨ Teacher Carly Landaker's students loved roller skating in gym class. ✨ Kindergarten students enjoyed activities to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. They made their own hats, completed a class graph for green eggs and ham, and worked on number sense by graphing colored goldfish after reading *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*. ✨ Second graders are learning about solid figures in math. Included in their study are spheres, pyramids, cylinders, and cones. ✨ During their study of electricity, third graders built different types of circuits. They also studied conductors and insulators and learned about the power of electricity. ✨

Who's Who at Hawthorn

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(housed at Aspen Elementary)
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Sue Bartuska, Liaison for PreK/
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Elementary North North Campus

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Richard Viviano, Principal

Elementary South South Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5
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Robert Collins, Assistant Principal

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Townline Elementary
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Townline School of
Dual Language
Betsy Sostak, Principal

Middle School North North Campus

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Anna Groh, Principal
Luis Salto,
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Middle School South South Campus

Grades 6 through 8
847-816-8317
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Joy Mullaney, Principal
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Welcome
Spring



www.hawthorn73.org

Hawthorn Highlights is published as a service to residents of District 73. Please direct questions about your schools to Superintendent Dr. Sue Zook. Residents are also welcome to attend meetings of the Board of Education.

Hawthorn Highlights is prepared by Scholl Communications Incorporated, Deerfield, IL. Superintendent Zook is newsletter coordinator.

Board Meetings on Cable

Board of Education meetings are rebroadcast on the
Vernon Hills Community Access Channel
(Comcast channel 4 or AT&T channel 99)

at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays
and 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays
following board meetings.
Residents who do not receive
a community access channel
are welcome to check out DVDs
of the meetings from the
Educational Services Center.

