

Waukegan Public Schools Community Unit School District #60 Superintendent's Bulletin Dr. Donaldo R. Batiste, Superintendent

Volume 1, No. 4

September 11, 2006

Superintendent's Message.....

Dear Colleague:

As this district continues to focus on "**A New Day ... A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools! ... one pace beyond.**", it remains an important priority for me to improve our working environments. A study is currently underway to determine feasibility of increasing and improving security reinforcements, within the district, particularly at our elementary buildings and Lincoln Center. Results of this study will become the "spring board" for reallocation of resources to address these needs.

Since our opening meeting at the Genesee Theater, I am happy to report that if you have not recently visited Lincoln Center, our administrative offices building, when you do, you are in for a major surprise. Uninvited guess have been evicted! Among those being served eviction notices were the unsightly weeds and vines that grew in bedding areas and / or attached themselves to the exterior bricks and took up residence in the many cracks and crevices along the wall. Low-hanging branches and dead branches on trees that once hovered over and on parked vehicles of employees and guests to the building have been permanently removed and told that they are not welcome on our premises.

Additionally, at least 15 legal parking spots have been added to the front parking lot and an additional 15 previously reserved administrative spots have been opened and reassigned for guests to Lincoln Center. Employees have opportunities to avail themselves to certain of these added parking spaces on a "first-come/first-served" basis. There are also two designated "guest teacher" and two "guest principal" spots in the front lot, along with four handicapped spaces. All of this work has been accomplished by the hands of district maintenance staff and volunteers provided to us through our partnership with Lake County United Way. Hats off to our maintenance and grounds crews, as well as to the employees of Abbott Laboratories!

Finally, all cabinet level employees have designated spaces in the rear of the building, making room for those of you who are our guests. These are but a few innovations implemented to keep our theme and motto alive, "**A New Day ... A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools! ... one pace beyond.**" I promise to keep you posted on all future developments.

District employees, "Welcome to Lincoln Center ... your friendly service provider!"

Donaldo R. Batiste, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Important Dates

- Exchange Club September 11th Remembrance Breakfast – **September 11, 2006**
- *Application Deadline:* The Illinois Capitol Forum on America's Future – **September 15, 2006**
- Constitution Day (219th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution) – **September 17, 2006**
- Institute Day (Location TBA) – **September 22, 2006**
- Attendance Week – **September 25-29, 2006**
- Columbus Day (Legal Holiday) – **October 9, 2006**
- School Improvement Inservice (½ day) – **October 11, 2006**

Notices

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

It is with deep regret that we acknowledge the passing of two district family members: **Mariah Williams**, first grade student at Cooke Magnet School, and **Ms. Addie Jorden**, teacher on leave from Miguel Juarez Middle School. Both passed away Tuesday, September 5, 2006. At publication time, funeral arrangements were incomplete.

Dr. Cathy Watkins, principal of Juarez, wrote of Ms. Jorden, "Last night after battling a long illness, Ms. Addie Jorden died. She was an integral part of our staff since 1999. She taught Communications and Social Studies to 6th as well as 8th grade students. Ms. Jorden will be sorely missed."

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN EXPO

Waukegan Public Schools is a proud sponsor of Waukegan Township's *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Expo*. The Expo will take place Saturday, October 21, 2006, 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m., at Park Place Senior Center. **For more information, see the attached flyer** (in [Enclosures](#)).

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT FITNESS CENTER

The Waukegan Park District will soon be opening a Fitness Center at The Field House at Hinkston Park (on Baldwin Avenue, north of Grand Avenue). District 60 would like to negotiate a group discount rate for employees, but we must have a minimum of 100 people signed up. Any District 60 employee who would like to purchase a membership to the Fitness Center should complete the attached form (see [Enclosures](#)) and return it to Human Resources at Lincoln Center. **For more information, call the Waukegan Park District at (847) 360-4700 or visit www.waukeganparks.org.**

LARGE PLANNING WALL CALENDAR ONLINE

The new Waukegan School District #60 Planning Calendar is now available online (along with other calendars) at <http://www.waukeganschools.org/calendar/>.

LARGE PLANNING WALL CALENDAR CORRECTION

The large planning wall calendar for 2006-2007 erroneously lists a School Board meeting for Tuesday, March 27, 2007; this is spring break week and no board meeting is scheduled.

ENROLLMENT AUDIT

An enrollment audit will occur in each building during the week of September 25, 2006. The purpose of this audit will be to reconcile teaching staff with enrolled students. Adjustments in personnel to align with this audit will be made to coincide with the beginning of the 2nd quarter.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Superintendent's Bulletin is a weekly newsletter from the Superintendent, the Web Manager, and other district administrators. Please send all contributions to:

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The preferred submission method is via e-mail. **Contributions must be received by 12:00 noon on Wednesday** to be included in next week's *Bulletin*.

District Spotlight

***THE WORLD WITHIN OUR MINDS* BY WAUKEGAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Nightengale Press has just released a new book: ***The World Within Our Minds* by Waukegan High School Students**. The book contains poems and short stories by students in Diane Bressler's classroom and artwork by students in Cheryl McArdle's classroom.

The World Within Our Minds is available for \$9.95 from the publisher, Nightengale Press (<http://www.nightengalepress.com/store/customer/product.php?productid=16174>), and other online bookstores. All proceeds go to Waukegan High School. For any questions, please contact **Diane Bressler at Waukegan High School Upper Grade Center W244**.

Division of Specialized Instructional Programs and Services

PRESCHOOL FOR ALL GRANT

The State of Illinois awarded a \$600,000 grant to Waukegan Public Schools' Division of Specialized Instructional Programs and Services as part of the state's highly competitive and prestigious *Preschool for All* initiative. Under the leadership of Governor Rod Blagojevich, Illinois is among the first states to commit funds to universal preschool for three and four year-old children.

Researchers have found that Early Childhood Education has a positive impact on later student achievement and quality of life for participants. Similarly, economists have demonstrated that the return on investment for preschool education is at least seven to one; which is to say that, for every dollar invested in early childhood education, society saves at least seven dollars in terms of participant contributions to society, less involvement with the law and social service agencies, better academic achievement, jobs, marital outcomes, etc. **With early childhood education every one wins, especially the children.**

This is the third competitive grant awarded to Waukegan Public Schools' Early Childhood programs under **Dr. Karen Carlson's** leadership since the governor committed to expanded preschool education. The district has expanded its service to at-risk youngsters and their families from 240 students in 2004 to **more than 1,000 this school year**. The new grant creates a partnership between District 60 and the Community Action Partnership of Lake County (CAP)

Head Start. The program will serve children at six locations this school year: **North Shore, Shiloh, Y-Pals, AAUW, the former Happy Day site** at 540 S. McAlister, and **CAP Head Start** on Glen Flora.

Among the many who helped to make this a possibility are **Kay Henderson**, Early Childhood Division Administrator at ISBE, who had faith in Waukegan's ability to deliver quality preschool services; **Rep. Eddie Washington**, who supported the initial grant to Waukegan; the grant writing teams, who worked so hard to build a convincing proposal to obtain the needed funding from ISBE; **Mr. Jules Gaudin**, Deputy Superintendent / Chief Operating Officer; **Dr. Mary L. Lamping**, Chief Academic Officer; **Dr. Donald R. Batiste**, Superintendent; and many Board of Education and community members who stepped up to help children.

In particular, we would like to recognize the grant writing team led by **Ms. Louisa Zink** and **Dr. Karen G. Carlson**. Waukegan residents and District 60 employees who worked on the grants include: Linnie Bailey, Laurie Rickerd, Nancy Moran, Mary Lockhart White, Pat Fry, Joanne McCartney, Kay Peterson, John Komocar, Ruth Shirley, Brian Luosa, Mark Kiiskila, and many others. Their hard work and dedication on a series of grants brought \$3 million dollars to District 60 to serve at-risk preschoolers. **Mr. Jeff McBride** shepherded the program through the Board of Education and garnered community support; **Brother and Sister Atwater** and **Pastor Frances** stepped up to provide space and moral support. **United Way's Success By Six** initiative and **Temple Jeremiah** donated human and financial capital. **Jason Abraham, Sandi Correa, and Jim Otahal** worked behind the scenes to provide support and make things happen. Teachers and support personnel along with EPIC leadership have been steadfast in their commitment to children and families. Many others also joined together to make up the winning team. **The real winners, of course, are the children and families of Waukegan. Thank you all!**

School / Classroom Safety

ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING: MULTI-HAZARD CRISIS PLANNING

→ *From the Lake County Regional Office of Education*

At the beginning of October, PASS (Positive Alternative Student Services) in partnership with the Lake County Educational Services Center are hosting two workshops regarding Multi-Hazard Crisis Planning. The difference is:

- [AD67010 Multi Hazard Emergency Planning for IL Schools: Trainer of Trainer](#)
 - a. **2 days – October 4-5**
 - b. After completion, you are certified to teach others in your district (or community) regarding the current laws
- [AD67009 Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Illinois Schools: Creating An Action Plan](#)
 - a. **1 day – October 6**
 - b. To assist you in creating a plan for your school using current laws.

For more information regarding the two classes go to www.lake.k12.il.us, and click on "workshops" at the right side of the screen, then select Administrator Academy classes. Registration is done online.

Don't forget – Under HB2693, each school administrator or designee must contact the local Fire Department / District no later than **September 15th** and propose four dates in October for their participation in one of the three evacuation drills required. There will be a form required for the districts to submit to the Regional Office of Education, signed off by the Fire Department / District, forthcoming.

Field Trips

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

The Pritzker Military Library (located in Chicago) encourages students, teachers, and other visitors to make use of their book collection consisting of over 18,000 titles spanning all periods of history, countries, cultures / peoples, and branches of the United States military services. Materials focus on the concept of the Citizen Soldier as an essential element for the preservation of democracy. The concentration of military titles is primarily 20th century or modern warfare and the American Civil War. They also have films, videos, slides, and audio tapes, as well as prints, realia, and magazines that can be used to learn more about the military and American history.

Student groups are welcome Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with prior appointment. Admission is free, but groups are asked to register at least two weeks in advance. To schedule a field trip, call (312) 587-0234 or e-mail fieldtrips@pritzkermilitarylibrary.net. After registering for a field trip, the Library can provide a list of resources and sample lesson plans on World War II, the American Civil War, Blacks and the Military (for Black History Month), and Women and the Military (for Women's History Month).

For more information, see <http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/>.

Professional Development

SEMINAR: *HOW TO DEFUSE ANGER AND CALM PEOPLE DOWN*

The Waukegan Park District will be conducting a one-day seminar, *How to Defuse Anger and Calm People Down*, to provide participants with proven ways to help reduce stress in the workplace and increase productivity. The seminar will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Waukegan Park District's Belvidere Recreation Center and will be led by national training company **Fred Pryor Seminars / CareerTrack**. The seminar fee is \$99 per person (groups of 5 or more save \$10 per person). To enroll, complete and return the attached registration form (see [Enclosures](#)). **The registration deadline is September 13 or until filled.** For further information, **call Jennifer Dumas at (847) 360-4705.**

Enclosures

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **Current Vacancy Postings** – [VacanciesV1N4.pdf](#)
 - ⇒ Secondary School Counselor Grades 9-12 (AOEC)
 - ⇒ AVID Resource Specialist (WHS / NGC)
 - ⇒ Intervention Coach (Lincoln Center)
 - ⇒ School Social Worker (Lincoln Center)
 - ⇒ Night Custodian – Area 7 (WHS)
 - ⇒ Move-In Facilitator / Lead Teacher (Lincoln Center)
 - ⇒ High School Library Media Specialist (WHS)

2. **Sign-up for Waukegan Park District Fitness Center** – [FitnessCenterSignup.pdf](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

3. **Flyer: *How to Defuse Anger and Calm People Down*** – [HowToDefuseAnger.pdf](#)

4. **Registration Form: *How to Defuse Anger and Calm People Down*** – [SeminarRegistrationForm.pdf](#)

OTHER

5. **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Expo Flyer** – [2006GRANDPARENTSexpoFLYER.pdf](#)

Waukegan Public Schools Administration

Donaldo R. Batiste, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Mr. Jules A. Gaudin
Deputy Superintendent /
Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Brian Luosa
Executive Director
Business Services

Mr. Fredrick Howard
Executive Director
Human Resources

Mary L. Lamping, Ph.D.
Chief Academic Officer

Mrs. Jeanne Kearby
Executive Director
Instructional Programs and Services

Karen G. Carlson, Ph.D.
Associate Superintendent
Specialized Instructional Programs and
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Waukegan Public Schools Board of Education

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Mr. Marvin Reddick

Mr. Jeff McBride

Ms. Anita Hanna

Mrs. Patricia Jones

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