

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

Volume 1, No. 8 (Amended)

October 10, 2006

## Superintendent's Message.....

Dear Colleague:

**Thank-you for the notes of thanks and encouragement that I received as a result of the message I wrote to each of you. I guess there is truth to the adage, "You can't apply perfume to someone without drops of it remaining on you."**

In a few short weeks, we will find ourselves ready to "pull down the curtain" on the first of our four quarters this school year! Where has the time gone? While I am certain that you will have the qualitative and quantitative data necessary to validate your levels of progress, let us not forget also to use this time to reflect upon our results, regroup, strategize and adjust practices and policies, as appropriate. While we have to pay attention to our data, remember that we still have  $\frac{3}{4}$  of our journey yet to complete. Make sure your benchmarks for measuring success are directly correlated with and aligned to the desired ends. I will be counting on you to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that we reach our anticipated destination. My point has been and continues to be, with YOUR success, will come OUR success!

On another note, this week is Waukegan High School's homecoming week! Our school system is a family that provides an education and an outreach to this city's children. Let's pack the stands to show our support to the Bulldog regiment of football players, their coaches, support activity auxiliaries, teachers, families and this community. As we work together, we become brothers and sisters with whom we share and celebrate the opportunity that we have been granted to positively impact young lives. May we, together, be granted greatness of spirit sufficient to make our future better than our past. Remember our theme and motto: **"A New Day, A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools! ...one pace beyond."**

**Donaldo R. Batiste, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent

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## Table of Contents

Important Dates.....	2
Notices .....	2
Legal.....	3
Registration and Enrollment.....	3
Physical Education / Health .....	3
English Language Learning .....	5
Classroom Resources.....	5
Music / Fine Arts .....	6
Professional Development .....	7
Enclosures.....	7

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## Important Dates

- Illinois Arts Week – **October 8-14, 2006**
- National School Lunch Week – **October 9-13, 2006**
- School Improvement Inservice (½ day) – **October 11, 2006**
- Principal Appreciation Day – **October 20, 2006**
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Expo (Park Place Senior Center) – **October 21, 2006**
- End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – **October 27, 2006**
- Last Day to Enter HOUSSE Data – **October 31, 2006**

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## Notices

### CONTRIBUTIONS

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

**Patrick Schwisow**  
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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*.

### HATS OFF TO:

**Dr. Bethel E. Cager, Principal of Jefferson Middle School.** Dr. Cager was featured in the September 2006 edition of *The School Administrator* (pp 40-44), as an outstanding educator administrator and leader. *The School Administrator* is a juried professional research journal in education and this article referenced successful supervisory styles of instructional leaders. We are proud of you, Dr. Cager, and see evidence of your labors at Jefferson School.

**Col. Barry B. Gallagher, JROTC Senior Army Instructor and Dean of Instruction.** Colonel Gallagher and the Waukegan High School JROTC Regiment conducted outstanding Olympic Drills last Saturday at the high school. The Bulldog Regiment is a source of great pride for Waukegan High School in particular, and the Waukegan community in general. Spectators were in awe at the level of teamwork and team spirit exhibited. Keep up the great work!

### PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY

As a reminder, Friday, October 20, 2006, is Principal Appreciation Day. This state-endorsed occasion honors the work and commitment of principals, assistant principals, and deans in schools throughout Illinois. Please remember to acknowledge the dedication and leadership these administrators provide to your school district as well as to the students and the community in which they serve.

## ILLINOIS ARTS WEEK

Governor Rod Blagojevich and the Illinois Arts Council invite you to celebrate Illinois Arts Week 2006, to take place October 8–14, 2006. The theme '**The Arts Are All Around Us**' captures an important message – that the arts are present every day, in some way, in our lives. Illinois Arts Week focuses attention on this message, as each year hundreds of communities, schools, community arts groups, park districts, tourism organizations, and individual artists celebrate the arts in a special way during this week.

For more information, go to <http://www.state.il.us/agency/iac/artswEEK/ArtswEEK.htm>.

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## Legal

### AMENDMENTS TO THE ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILD REPORTING ACT

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) issued a letter to school administrators detailing recent changes made to the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. To briefly summarize, effective June 20, 2006, the list of “mandated reporters” has been broadened and clarified, and school board members now have specific obligations under the Act.

All school personnel should review their legal obligations as “mandated reporters”. Please see the attached letter (in [Enclosures](#)) for details or visit the DCFS website: [www.state.il.us/dcfs](http://www.state.il.us/dcfs).

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## Registration and Enrollment

### TRANSFERRING STUDENTS

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

The Illinois School Code ([105 ILCS 5/2-3.13](#)) requires schools to forward an unofficial record of a transferring student's grades to the school to which the student is transferring within ten days of notice of the student's transfer.

While districts are not required to enroll a new student transferring from another Illinois school district unless he or she can produce the standard form from the student's previous school district enrollment, Illinois districts **are** required to admit a new student transferring from **an out-of-state public school** if the parent or guardian certifies in writing that the student is not currently serving a suspension or expulsion imposed by the out of state school from which the student is transferring.

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## Physical Education / Health

### NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

Join schools across the country to celebrate National School Lunch Week, October 9 through 13, 2006. The week recognizes the positive contributions school lunch has made for 60 years. For more information including logos, menus, recipes, and other tools, visit <http://docs.schoolnutrition.org/meetingsandevents/nslw2006/index.asp>.

## **ACTION FOR HEALTHY KIDS OF ILLINOIS BACK TO SCHOOL WELLNESS EVENT**

→ ***From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent***

Action for Healthy Kids of Illinois (AFHK-IL) is participating in a nationwide back-to-school wellness event. AFHK-IL will host *Game On! The Ultimate Wellness Challenge* at KidsFest, October 12–14, 2006, at the DuPage Expo in St. Charles. The *Game On!* Challenge course is filled with energizing activity stations, all of which are kid-tested and approved. For further information on how to host a *Game On!* event at your district, visit <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/>.

## **ILLINOIS AWARDED TEAM NUTRITION TRAINING GRANT**

→ ***From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent***

Illinois is one of 11 states to receive a fiscal year 2006 Team Nutrition Training Grant for fiscal year 2007. The grants are designed to help children develop better eating and physical activity habits. This year's Team Nutrition Training Grants provide training and technical assistance on USDA's HealthierUS School Challenge, a school recognition program that encourages schools to take specific steps to improve their nutrition environment. The following two initiatives will be conducted through the Illinois Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program, a nonprofit program.

*Illinois Schools Can!* initiative assists elementary schools in taking the HealthierUS School Challenge. Components of the initiative include an electronic newsletter, and mini-grant opportunities that support schools taking the HealthierUS School Challenge.

*Principals Step and Crunch Challenge* will enlist principals, teachers, students, parents, and foodservice professionals to serve as role models for students in practicing healthy eating and being physically active.

More information on the Team Nutrition Training Grants and how schools can become Team Nutrition schools is available at <http://www.fns.usds.gov/tn>.

## **EMPLOYEE FLU SHOTS**

Flu Shots will be available for all District 60 employees at the following times / locations:

- Thursday, October 19, 2006 2 – 4 p.m. Lincoln Center, Room 129
- Thursday, October 26, 2006 2 – 4 p.m. UGC Teacher Center Workroom

The cost is \$22 payable by cash or check to ISR Consulting. For more information, see the attached flyer (in [Enclosures](#)).

## **HEPATITIS B IMMUNIZATION REMINDER**

Employees who have signed consent to receive the Hepatitis B immunization will be receiving the second of the three-part series on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> between 2 – 4 p.m. in Room 129 at Lincoln Center. Flu shots will also be offered at this time. Yes, you can receive both in the same day!

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## English Language Learning

### INTERPRETING STUDENT PERFORMANCE ON W-APT ACCESS SCREENER

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

In an ongoing effort to provide direction in interpreting student performance on the W-APT ACCESS Screener, Version 2, the ISBE Divisions of English Language Learning and Student Assessment have created two flowcharts for determining bilingual/ESL program eligibility. See news items at <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual> for the flowcharts.

If you have further questions about eligibility, please contact the English Language Learning Division at 312-814-3850. If you have assessment questions, call the Assessment Division at 217-782-4823 or e-mail Harriette Herrera at [hherrera@isbe.net](mailto:hherrera@isbe.net).

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## Classroom Resources

### ESPINDLE: SPELLING INCENTIVES

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

The United Star Distance Learning Consortium (USDLC) announces a new affiliation with eSpindle, winner of 2006 Parent's Choice Award eSpindle is an online approach for the development of spelling and vocabulary skills for grades K-12 which begins with students starting a quiz drawn from a database of over 100,000 words, organized into grade levels.

In cooperation with eSpindle, USDLC is pleased to offer a 30-day free trial for classrooms (K-12) of up to 40 students. Read the description below to learn how e-Spindle can enhance your students' spelling and reading skills. Go to [www.espindle.org/usdlc](http://www.espindle.org/usdlc) to sign up for a free trial.

Teachers like eSpindle because it is a valuable teaching tool that:

- uploads word lists so you can focus on other tasks;
- sends words to individual students or groups;
- replaces spelling tests with detailed performance reports;
- provides three to 333 repetitions--whatever is needed;
- supplies 100,000 words--complete with audio definitions, examples and resource links;
- supports spelling as the basis for both writing and reading success.

eSpindle creates personalized sessions based on students' skills, goals, and words they need to practice. Through proven techniques, eSpindle turns unorganized pieces of information into solid, reliable knowledge as well as repeating problem words at carefully planned intervals until students can master them.

Besides being the winner of the Parent's Choice Award, parents and students like using eSpindle because it:

- teaches visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners;
- provides personal attention and instant feedback fuels motivation;
- customizes tutoring to build skills systematically;
- focuses on the individual student goals as well as teacher's "priority words";
- provides a National Spelling Bee Study module;
- is accessible 24/7 from anywhere;
- provides performance reports to monitor progress; and
- boosts reading and writing skills.

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## Music / Fine Arts

### STATEWIDE STUDENT ART CONTEST

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

The Illinois Alliance for Arts Education and the Illinois State Board of Education are requesting student artwork for the Annual Poster Contest. **The deadline for submission is November 15.**

For complete information on requirements for entry and where to submit please contact: Illinois Alliance for Arts Education (IAAE) Executive Director, **Barbara Heimerdinger**; 315 Dresser Rd.; DeKalb, IL 60115; [barbarah@tbc.net](mailto:barbarah@tbc.net).

### NATIONAL STUDENT ART CONTEST

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

The National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems (NCCREST) is sponsoring a national art contest, in conjunction with its National Forum: *Leadership for Equity and Excellence: Transforming Education*. NCCREST works to raise awareness of the impact of race, class, and culture in our schools.

Imagine a world in which everybody is included, valued, appreciated. Visualize a school where the atmosphere is caring, promoting respect for diversity, a community of learners born of compassion, trust, and courage. A school where students and teachers intentionally commit themselves to support and encourage an individual's unique gifts, passions and intentions; to challenge and expand the comfortable limits of thought, tolerance and performance. How would you artistically express this type of school environment? NCCREST seeks to capture the vision of artists about what schools would look like when they value and include the backgrounds, experiences, and heritage of ALL students.

Work submitted to this contest will be used on products and materials developed by NCCREST to raise awareness and to help people across the nation understand the vision of inclusive, culturally responsive education. For additional information about the mission of NCCREST please visit our website: [www.nccrest.org](http://www.nccrest.org).

The contest is open to students in grades K-12 and adults. The grand prizewinner will receive a \$300 cash award and a trip for two to Washington, D.C. to attend the 2007 National Forum on Disproportionality in Education, February 7-9, 2007. At this national forum, the grand prize winner will be honored at a reception and artwork will be on display. For more information, please visit [www.nccrest.org](http://www.nccrest.org).

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## Professional Development

### **BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY MASTER OF EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Benedictine University Representatives have been meeting with certified teachers of Lake County School Districts to start a new cohort in Master of Education, Reading and Literacy. This degree program prepares the teacher to take the Reading Specialist state exam and earn their certification. The first program will begin this fall at the Grayslake University Center and a second group is building to start after the new year at the Waukegan University Center.

This 33-semester hour, 15-month Master of Education has the interest of many certified teachers. Benedictine University knows that a teacher's time is valuable and they want to provide a convenient forum for prospective students to learn about the program delivery, curriculum, and financial options. If you would like information on the program, please contact Scottie Snyder at [ssnyder@ben.edu](mailto:ssnyder@ben.edu).

**Please know that the sharing of this information in the *Superintendent's Bulletin* in no way serves as an endorsement of this program.**

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## Enclosures

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. **Current Vacancy Postings** – [VacanciesV1N8.pdf](#)
  - ⇒ Bilingual Liaison Social Work (Lincoln Center)
  - ⇒ Courtesy Officer (2) (Lincoln Center)
  - ⇒ Twilight School Site Administrators / Facilitators / Teachers (A.O.E.C.)

### **LEGAL**

2. **DCFS Letter to School Administrators** – [CETCletter.pdf](#)

### **HEALTH**

3. **District Employee Flu Shots** – [FluShots.pdf](#)

Waukegan Public Schools Administration

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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  
Services

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***"A New Day...A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools!***

***...one pace beyond."***