

A Special Welcome for Next Year's Kindergartners

Parents of students who will enter kindergarten at the Hawthorn schools in the fall of this year will receive letters of welcome scheduled to arrive in early May. Parents will then be contacted to schedule an appointment for the incoming student to complete the Hawthorn Kindergarten Inventory.

District officials complete this assessment for all incom-

ing kindergartners in order to plan instruction that will meet their needs. The assessment takes place at the school the student will attend.

Let's Take the Bus

Parents of the kindergartners will receive information about bus routes in August. (This mailing will also include the name of the new student's teacher.)

On Wednesday, August 26, the district will hold a kindergarten bus dress rehearsal. This is a special opportunity for parents to ride the bus to school with their student, take a short tour of the school, and ride the bus home. Parents and students appreciate the chance to experience the bus transportation together before the student actually starts school at Hawthorn.

Information Nights

Parents of new students will also want to be on the lookout for details about the information nights that will take place in August. These meetings are a good way for parents to meet the building administrators, receive more detailed information about the experience their kindergartner will have, and to have their questions answered.

A Community Service of Hawthorn District #73 • www.hawthorn73.org

April 2009

Hawthorn Highlights

"Learning for All: Whatever It Takes!"

Leonard Bernstein "Boot Camp"

On March 20 and 21, approximately 20 Hawthorn teachers and administrators attended Leonard Bernstein "Boot Camp." Training was provided by facilitators from the Leonard Bernstein Center at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

Also participating in the Bernstein workshop was Martin Sieveking who teaches in Hamburg, Germany

and conducts the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival.

Artful Learning

The Leonard Bernstein Center is dedicated to implementing a classroom education that is designed to cultivate an understanding, appreciation, and advancement of music and the arts for all ages. Illinois state standards and Hawthorn District 73 standards form

the basis of Bernstein units of study and are brought to life through art-infused, inquiry-based learning. Implementing these learning strategies emphasizes interdisciplinary learning. Boot camp attendees were energized and motivated to continue to incorporate the arts and this inquiry process in their lesson plans.

Board Meetings on Cable

Board of Education meetings are rebroadcast on Vernon Hills Comcast cable 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 these channels are welcome to check out DVDs of the meetings from the Educational Services Center.

Pioneer Teachers Continue to Blaze Trail

Hawthorn District 73 continues to support the Pioneer teachers as they construct their twenty-first century classrooms. Since the beginning of the current school year, Apple, Inc. has provided three days of support for the pioneers. Consultants from Apple have also met with administrators and building technology facilitators.

Participants in these sessions have worked to define

twenty-first century skills, content knowledge, and expertise and to outline what these components will look like in their classrooms.

The Hawthorn pioneers are supported in engaging their students as they use real-world data and tools.

Twenty-first Century Skills

The curriculum that supports twenty-first century skills encourages students to build understanding across

and among core subjects. Students connect interdisciplinary themes and issues as they gain deep understandings, rather than shallow knowledge.

Additionally, teachers have begun to incorporate technology-infused lessons and units as they learn how technology can support a variety of learning styles to engage a wide variety of learners.

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Promotion Gowns

Is there a Hawthorn promotion gown gathering dust in your closet?

Consider donating it to either Middle School North or Middle School South.

Your donation will be put to good use by 8th grade students who will appreciate the assistance with end-of-the year expenses.

To make the donation, simply drop the gown off at the office of either school.

Principals Anna Groh and Joy Mullaney thank Hawthorn residents in advance for their generosity.

As they create their lessons, Pioneer teachers select one of the following twenty-first century goals:

- ☆ global awareness;
- ☆ financial, economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy;
- ☆ civic literacy;
- ☆ health literacy;

- ☆ creativity and innovation;
- ☆ critical thinking and problem solving;
- ☆ communication and collaboration; or
- ☆ life and career skills.

In continuation of this work, on April 8 and 9, Bruce Ahlborn, an Apple Distin-

guished Educator, visited Hawthorn to again work with both individual and team Pioneers. He spent time in several classrooms to demonstrate the teaching of lessons that the Pioneer teachers had requested.



Anne Hoffman Honored for Board Service

At the March 23 Board of Education meeting, board secretary Anne Hoffman submitted her resignation due to her new employment with an education-related organization.

Anne has been very active in the Hawthorn schools since moving to the district in 1993. In addition to volunteering in her children's classrooms, she was active in PTO and helped to develop the volunteer-based Art Adventure program.

She was first elected to the board in 2005, and was a candidate for reelection at the time of her resignation.

Her fellow board members, along with district administrators, extended deep appreciation to Anne for her years of service to Hawthorn District 73 and its students.



Quickly Around the District

"Go Green" with Hawthorn

Hawthorn continues to "go green," while it also aspires to communicate effectively with the community, by moving more items to the Internet. Residents are reminded that the district's website at < www.hawthorn73.org > is home to a variety of resources including an updated school calendar, school forms, board presentations, and meeting notices.

Announcements from community partners, including a variety of summer camp experiences, are posted on the Community Notes page at < www.hawthorn73.org/communitynotes > .

Week of the Young Child

Hawthorn prekindergarten will celebrate the Week of the Young Child from April 19 to 25. On April 20, students will enjoy storytelling with Paddy Lynn, as well as open house visits with parents. This nationwide event is sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

PTO Parent Workshop Rescheduled

The PTO-sponsored workshop, Raising Respectful, Responsible, and Resilient Children in a Privileged World, has been rescheduled for Monday, April 20. The program will be held at Elementary South beginning at 7:00 pm. If you have already signed up for this free program, you do not need to reregister.

To register, or to learn more, visit the website at < www.hawthorn73.org/pto > .

Hawthorn Happenings

At **Hawthorn Middle South**, teacher Tia Alexander's algebra and pre-algebra classes held Pi-Day celebrations. Both classes held contests to see who could recite the most digits of pi. Everyone enjoyed a slice of pie to end the celebrations. ❁ Members of the Hawthorn Beautification Club



Painted a picture integrating the school mascot eagle into "The Scream" painting by Edvard Munch. ❁ Eighth grade science students built mousetrap cars. Students design and build their own mousetrap cars using concepts of friction, force, and motion. ❁ Sixth grade students spent a day at Camp Duncan in Ingleside, the last of three environmental field and team experiences. During the day, students were involved in climbing a tower, orienteering (GPS), environmental issues, and outdoor living skills. ❁ Seventh grade students attended "Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry," by Mildred D. Taylor at the Gorton Community Center in Lake Forest. ❁ State Senator Matt Murphy met with students from both Middle South and Middle North. ❁ Students from Vernon Hills High School visited the eighth grade science classrooms to share presentations and activities about various topics from their genetics course.

❁ The Macalester College African Music Ensemble performed for the entire student body on March 18. The Middle South chorus sang several songs with the ensemble and also played drums with the group. ❁ Seventh and eighth grade chorus and orchestra students attended a performance of Paggiaci at the Civic Opera House in Chicago. ❁ The Science Club sent a team of sixth and seventh grade students to the New Trier Regional Science Olympiad. Second place medals were awarded to Noah Cho and David Wang in the "Scrambler" event, and Ben Limer and Michael Koczvara were awarded third place medals for the airplane they built and flew in the "Wright Stuff" event. ❁ Both the symphonic band and the orchestra earned Division 1 ratings at the Illinois Grade School Association's organizational contests. ❁ Congratulations to all of the volleyball and wrestling athletes. The eighth grade boys volleyball team won the Suburban Middle School Conference championship; the eighth grade girls volleyball team took 2nd place at the SMSC tournament. ❁

Something is fishy in the art room at **Aspen School**. Third graders worked on fish



shapes. They started with colored paper, and when they mastered that medium, moved on to clay and made fish plate

designs. ❁ Fourth grade students designed and built gravity-powered cars. They learned how to improve their designs by trial and error. Eager family members joined in with power tools, glue guns, and lots of encouragement. ❁ To better understand the three different types of clouds, students learned a new song, "I Know What Cloud That Must Be," to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean." ❁ Aspen students celebrated St. Patrick's day with dance, thanks to the stars of the Anam Mor Irish Dancers. ❁ Fourteen members of the Resident Experts produce the daily live morning broadcast. Students from grades 3, 4, and 5 set up the video/sound board, computers, tripods, and cameras each morning. ❁

The **Hawthorn Middle North** math team took first place in the Lake County Math Counts Competition and qualified to compete in the state math competition. There they took 9th in the state and eighth grader Russell Lee finished 18th out of 320 students. ❁ Congratulations also to Russell who was admitted and awarded a scholarship to the prestigious Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. ❁ The PTO sponsored a Scholastic Book Fair in February. We thank the many volunteers who helped with the fair. Thanks to their efforts, the library has the opportunity to expand its collection. ❁ The Hawthorn Middle North chorus, 7th/8th grade band, and 7th/8th grade orchestra all

received Division 1 ratings at the Illinois Grade School Music Association's organizational contests. ❁ The sixth grade band participated in the 2009 North Chicago Band Festival and was given very positive comments by all of the judges. ❁ The Middle School North Word Wizards won the middle school Battle of the Books, but it was a very rugged competition that required



four tie-breakers. The winners received medals and electronic photo albums. ❁ Student Council members, after a very successful pet drive and sale, delivered boxes of donated goods, as well as cash, to local shelters. They are now working on plans for the next Middle North Mania. ❁ Sixth grade students' study of Africa focuses on developing nations and the high death rate due to hunger. When the students learned that UNICEF had a new program to fight hunger in this part of the world, they decided to help. The students donated \$82 to supply 200 nutritious food packets to the UNICEF effort. ❁

Who's Who at Hawthorn

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Hawthorn Highlights is published as a service to residents of District 73. Please direct questions about your schools to Superintendent Dr. Joe Yomtoob. Residents are also welcome to attend meetings of the Board of Education. Hawthorn Highlights is prepared by Scholl Communications Incorporated, Deerfield. Dr. Susan Zook is newsletter coordinator.

Hawthorn School District 73

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During a visit by the Macalester College African Ensemble, with world-music artist Sowah Mensah, Middle South chorus members performed with the group.

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