

Measuring Students' Progress

Over the course of a school year, Hawthorn students take a variety of tests designed to assess their academic progress.

As Superintendent-elect Sue Zook explained in a recent conversation, "Teachers, our Teaching and Learning Coaches (TLCs), and the administrators of our schools use this information to adjust instruction for students,

as well as for entire classes." The differentiation of instruction is an important aspect of meeting the challenge of "learning for all."

Early Reading Fluency

Students in kindergarten through second grade begin the year by completing individual tests on the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS).

The information gained from these tests assists teachers in predicting and monitoring students' progress in reading fluency.

MAP Tests

From September 10 to 21, students participated in this year's first administration of the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing program. MAP tests are admin-

istered via computer in the subject areas of mathematics and reading.

The tests are developed by the Northwest Evaluation Association, an organization that partners with more than 2,700 school districts to foster a community of educators who are dedicated to improving teaching and learning.

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September 2007

Hawthorn Highlights

"Learning for All: Whatever It Takes!"

Dr. Joe Discusses the Year Ahead; Administrative Changes

"We have had two years of outstanding student achievement as measured by our District 73 guidelines for reading and math. We are seeing between 92 % and 96 % of our students meeting standards." That was where Superintendent Dr. Joe Yomtoob began a recent interview to discuss the year ahead at Hawthorn. "Our challenge for the year ahead is to continue and expand that momentum."

The Administrative Team

As readers will learn in the article on page two, there have been several changes in the district's administrative team at both individual schools and in central administration.

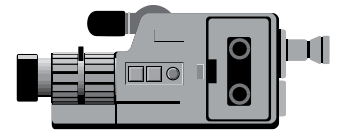
Dr. Joe explained, "As we developed the concept of our new coordinator level of administration, we wanted to assure that our school principals and assistant principals had strong resources upon which to draw," he said.

Financial Stability

Another target for the central administration and the Board of Education is to maintain the district's track record of financial stability.

"Our district is continuing to grow," observed Dr. Joe as he commented on the addition of a section of first grade at Elementary South. "We are committed to maintaining our small class sizes, and our financials are rock solid right now, but we need to keep close track of both our revenue and expenses as we move forward."

The superintendent, who will retire in two years is pleased with the plan of transition to Superintendent-elect Sue Zook. "I am very much looking forward to moving into the next phase of the transition and am glad to be able to report to the community that the year is off to a very positive start."



Board Meetings on Cable

Residents are reminded that Board of Education meetings are rebroadcast on Vernon Hills cable, channel 4, at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays following board meetings. Residents who do not receive this channel are welcome to check out videotapes of the meetings from the Educational Services Center.



Summer was fun, but Hawthorn students are glad to be back with friends in their classrooms.



Congratulations to 11 Who Completed Advanced Degrees

We extend congratulations to the 11 members of the Hawthorn staff who have completed master's degrees.

Townline's Terri Barclay
Vandercook College of Music

Townline's Jessica Bayliss
Texas A&M

Elementary North's
Kristie Blasinski
Roosevelt University

Middle North's Pat Cantagallo
Vandercook College of Music

Aspen's Joy Hagel Brocks
Saint Xavier University

Middle South's Sarah Hilger
University of Illinois-Springfield

Elementary South's Megan Holt
National Louis University

Elementary North's Cara Hunwick
Argosy University

Elementary South's
Jennifer Jacobson
Concordia University

Townline's Kristina Hughes
Saint Xavier University

Townline's Jennifer Sajovec
Roosevelt University

Interpreting the Data

TLCs and building administrators will provide teachers with additional training on interpreting the test data. MAP test data also provide information on student growth and help to identify areas of both strength and concern, allowing the district to set targets for its students.

Reporting to Parents

Following the September testing, and for each additional test period, parents receive reports showing each student's academic progress during the school year. The first test reports will be sent home by the end of November and will also include the results of the Illinois Standards Achieve-

ment Tests (ISAT) which were administered last spring.

Parents who have questions about the testing programs or an individual student's results should contact the classroom teacher or the building principal.

Changes Made in Administrative Team



Pictured (l to r): Rich Viviano, Eileen Conway, Betsy Sostak, Robert Natale.



Renee Ullberg

The opening of school finds five individuals new to the Hawthorn administrative team.

Rich Viviano

The new principal at Elementary North joins Hawthorn with more than a decade of experience in Northbrook District 28. Viviano holds his bachelor's degree from Trinity International University and his master's from Northeastern Illinois University.

Eileen Conway

As she completes a transition year continuing as co-principal at Townline, Eileen Conway has also been named Director of Human Resources. Conway joined District 73 in 1986 as a fourth grade

teacher. She has also served as assistant principal and principal at Elementary North. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Northern Illinois University.

Betsy Sostak

Townline's new assistant principal has previously served at Townline as a dual language teacher and as a Teaching and Learning Coach (TLC). Sostak holds her bachelor's degree from Illinois Wesleyan University and her master's from Northern Illinois University.

Rob Natale

Middle North's assistant principal is new to the Hawthorn team. Natale joins the district following service in Avoca

District 37 in Wilmette and Evanston Skokie District 65. He holds his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Cortland and his master's from Loyola University Chicago.

Renee Ullberg

Middle School South's new assistant principal is no stranger to the district having been a member of the staff since 1995. She has served as a speech/language pathologist, as well as coordinator of the DIBELS program (see story on page 1). She holds her bachelor's degree from Northwestern, an MS from the University of Texas at Dallas, and an MA from Roosevelt University.

Welcome New Teachers and District Psychologists

Elementary North and Aspen



Front row (l to r): Carly Landaker (Aspen); Courtney Ballinger (Aspen); Debbie Hurst (Aspen). Back row (l to r): Rachel Smith (Elementary North); Jean Earhart (Aspen); Sally Hanson (Aspen); Lauren Bierworth (Aspen).

Townline



Front row (l to r): Gambol Beham, Nicole Gilmore, Gina Selander. Back row (l to r): Mary Hoyland, Jessica Lois, Lauren DiBenedetto, Jennifer Koschmann.

Elementary South



Front row (l to r): Kelly Garner, Andrea Trela. Back row (l to r): Kirstin Kloss, Carrie Cymerman, Lelah Beasley-Hedrick.

Middle Schools and District Psychologists



Front row (l to r): Josephine Munkvold (Middle South); Kristine Dechter (District Psychologist). Back row (l to r): James Cieciva (Middle South); Janine Carozza (Middle School North); Lisa Anderson (District Psychologist).

Who's Who at Hawthorn

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847-990-4235

Joy Kane, Director of
Special Services
847-990-4243

Aspen Elementary South Campus

Grades Pre-kindergarten through 5
500 N. Aspen Drive
Tom Springborn, Principal
847-990-4300

Elementary North North Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5
301 Hawthorn Parkway
Richard Viviano, Principal
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Elementary South South Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5
430 N. Aspen Drive
Jill Martin, Principal
Lisa Cerauli,
Assistant Principal
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Townline Elementary North Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5
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Eileen Conway, Principal
Betsy Sostak, Assistant Principal
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Middle School North North Campus

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Robert Natale,
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www.hawthorn73.org

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.

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Dr. Susan E. Zook is newsletter coordinator.*

Hawthorn School District 73

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