

# Homework Expectations

As District 73 moves toward full implementation of new report cards, Superintendent-elect Dr. Sue Zook explained that students, teachers, and parents need to understand the role that homework plays in teaching and learning. "The new report cards require teachers to separate homework and other work/study habits and behavior from achievement,"

she said. "We have developed a homework plan—using the work of noted educational researchers Tom Guskey and Robert Marzano—that is intended to address the academic needs of our students."

### Philosophy

Behind the homework plan is the philosophy that homework is a constructive teaching/learning tool that provides

students with opportunities to apply and practice what they are learning. It also promotes student responsibility and accountability by encouraging students to develop work habits that are essential for succeeding in life.

### Brochure Developed

A new brochure, "Homework by Design," has been developed to review the purposes,

amount, effectiveness, and grading of homework. This brochure was recently sent home with students.

For parents who may have misplaced the copy that was sent home, and for other interested community residents, the brochure is available in PDF format, in both English and Spanish, on the website at < [www.hawthorn73.org](http://www.hawthorn73.org) > .

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December 2007

# Hawthorn Highlights

"Learning for All: Whatever It Takes!"

## Twenty-First Century Learning: Hawthorn Merges Technology, Curriculum, and Staff Development

District 73 has merged the departments of technology, curriculum, and staff development into one team in order to focus on integrating twenty-first century skills into every classroom. The merger is also designed to support engaging and effective instruction for all Hawthorn students.

### The Team

Under the leadership of Superintendent-elect Sue Zook, four staff members form the nucleus of the team.

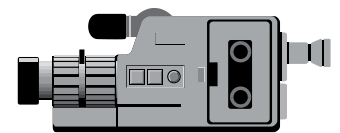
**Lisa Gosen: Director of Technology** Having been a member of the technology department at Hawthorn for 8½ years, Lisa brings to the team her knowledge of both

hardware and software. She is an active participant in many networks of professionals who are developing new ways to integrate technology into classrooms with the goal of supporting instruction.

**Karen Olker: Coordinator of Staff Development** Karen brings to the team her experience as a Hawthorn classroom teacher, local trainer, and teaching and learning coach (TLC). She is focused on supporting teachers as learners of technology and effective instructional practices through coaching and job-embedded training. Karen is currently working on her doctorate and doing in-depth work on current, effective coaching practices for educators.

**Julie Georgeson: T + L Support Specialist (Teaching/Tech + Learning)** As a member of the technology department, Julie has become

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### 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.



Congratulations to the winners of the District Flag Design contest. Grand prize winner was Edgar Nevarez (second from left), an eighth grader at Middle North. Honorable mentions were awarded to (from left): Tyler Schaefer, Elementary South; Jennifer Cheng, Middle North; and Jacqueline Luna, Elementary South. The students received gift certificates from Barnes & Noble and Edgar's design will be fashioned into an actual flag.



## Summer 2008 Learning Opportunities

Hawthorn District 73 will offer three summer learning opportunities in 2008.

### Hawthorn Enrichment Institute

The Hawthorn Enrichment Institute (HEI) is a multi-disciplinary enrichment program with classes that cover topics ranging from ceramics and cooking to math games and computer skills.

Two sessions will be held on Monday through Thursday mornings, from June 11–26 and from July 7–24. All classes will be held at Middle School South.

Register by May 2 for best class selection. More information, including enrollment forms, will be posted on the District 73 website by the end of January.

### Hawthorn Music Camp '08

This program is a mix of lessons, group performance, and fun for band and orchestra students who have at least one year of experience. The program will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from July 21 through August 1 at Townline Elementary.

For more information, download the registration form which will be available on the District 73 website in late January.

### Jump Start

Formerly known as Summer Scholars, Jump Start is a grant-funded, by invitation program designed to boost students' core skills and help them transition into the fall schedule. The focus of 75 hours of instruction will be on literacy and math, with some time spent on the arts and/or physical education.

The program will run from July 28 through August 15 and includes breakfast and a light lunch. Classes will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Friday.

Early bird invitations will be sent home with students in March.

a program implementation expert in many areas of the Hawthorn technology landscape. Be it MAP testing, custom typing, or Study Island, Julie is available to explain and implement the ways these tools can best support curriculum and instruction.

### Lisa Cerauli: Coordinator of Student Achievement

Lisa has also been a Hawthorn classroom teacher, local trainer, and TLC. Her focus is the

effective implementation of the Hawthorn Standards and incorporation of technology as a tool for success. As a current doctoral candidate, Lisa is studying standards-based curricula.

### Looking Ahead

The newly merged team has already begun to build its knowledge base by participating in professional workshops and conferences. Team

members are working with administrators, TLCs, and technology facilitators in each District 73 school to support teacher learning and student achievement. They are eager to create the conditions through which Hawthorn can become a model of twenty-first century instruction.

*"[Members of the new team] are eager to create the conditions through which Hawthorn can become a model of twenty-first century instruction."*

## Hawthorn Sunrise Scholars

The Hawthorn Sunrise Scholars program is gearing up for another session to work with selected English Language Learners (ELLs) who need extra support in reading.

The program serves third through fifth grade students most in need of a literacy boost and offers them reading support for an hour before school on Mondays through Thursdays. The next session of the program will be held from January 28 through February 28, 2008. The program is funded through a federal grant awarded to promote literacy for ELLs.

### Camp-Can-Do

As Coordinator of Bilingual Services and Federal Grants Lara Christoun explained, "For the upcoming session, we

are using a new hands-on curriculum called Camp-Can-Do. This is a standards-based program geared toward increasing English proficiency, especially in the areas of fluency and reading comprehension."

The program will take place in all four Hawthorn elementary schools.

### Selection of Students

Students are selected to participate in the program through standardized test scores, English language proficiency as determined through ACCESS scores, and teacher recommendations.

Students who are selected for the program will receive letters of explanation by December 15.

### Program Amenities

Sunrise Scholars offers participants breakfast and bus transportation at no charge. The program culminates with a graduation breakfast hosted at Townline Elementary. Both the participating child and parents may attend on the final day of the program.

Christoun acknowledges, "This program succeeds because it has support from so many directions including the ESL and dual language teachers, teacher aides, building and district office administrators, and even the bus company." Those who have questions are welcome to call Christoun at 847-990-4254.

# Hawthorn Happenings

The Student Council at **Middle School South** sponsored a very successful Fall Fest to begin the Halloween weekend. They extend a special thanks to Cold Stone Creamery, Starbucks, and Buffalo Wild Wings for donating raffle prizes.

\* Eighth grade students took placement tests to help determine class selection at both Vernon Hills and Mundelein High Schools. \* To celebrate Veterans' Day, the Student Council hosted "Take a Vet to School Day." More than 17 veterans, who had served from WW II to Desert Storm participated. \* Sixth grade students enjoyed their outdoor educa-

tion trip to Camp Edwards in East Troy, Wisconsin. \* Some seventh grade students visited the Freedom Museum at the Tribune Tower in Chicago. They reviewed the freedoms granted in the Bill of Rights. \* The Student Council food drive provided 41 families with Thanksgiving dinner. A special thanks to the Mundelein Police Department for its donation of five turkeys. \* Students in seventh and eighth grade orchestra, band, and chorus participated in music festivals at Vernon Hills High School. In addition, eight students participated in the Illinois Music Educators Association honors music concert at Maine West High School. Bravo! \* Students in teacher Karen Janisch's eighth grade language arts class recently became teachers for a day. They devised creative lessons and assessments to teach their classmates words that are frequently misused or misspelled. \* Students in Sally Busse's and Renee Schiemann's eighth grade classes completed "Cool Globe" projects for an integrated science and language arts unit. As a culminating activity, students researched environmental concerns and designed a globe that expressed the theme. \*

Second graders at **Aspen** had a wonderful month of No-



ember exploring the story of Thanksgiving. They created costumes for Native Americans and Pilgrims, reenacted the story of Thanksgiving, and ended with a fabulous feast prepared by the students' families. \* Fifth grade students took a field trip to the Milwaukee Public Museum to wrap up their study of Native Americans. They were able to view exhibits that showed how the natives lived and various aspects of their culture. \* All first and second grade students in technology classes with teacher Karrie Meiners have created drawing documents to be used as folder covers for class assignments. \* PreK parents and their

families enjoyed Mary Jane Haley as "Mother Nature" during a storytelling assembly. They are looking forward to a December Family Night visit from the renowned children's musician, Jim Gill. \* In PE classes, second and third grade students know that helicopter, skier, straddle-cross, and basic jump double bounce are moves they can use to demonstrate their rope jumping skills. \* Students in Tara Neville's and Joyce Schullian's fifth grade reading classes have completed studying the 1800s and the impact the Orphan Train had on the Western Territories of the U.S. As part of their study, each student read a book of historical fiction, dressed in costume, and gave a speech. \* As the cold chases away the outdoor geese, fourth grade art students have made paper geese to decorate the halls of Aspen. \*



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**Middle School North** students, faculty, and staff have worked hard to assist MSN graduate Patrick Abraham, who is receiving treatment in Arizona for a rare form of lymphoma. Events organized by teacher Jennifer Harris raised more than \$1,600. \* Middle North was honored by the Lake County Board of Education as one of the county's "top ten" during the fall Attendance Week. \* Nearly 300 students attended the Student Council-sponsored Middle North Mania. They look forward to another Mania in the spring. \* In cooperation with Vernon Hills High School, students are participating in the "Adopt-a-Family" program.



Each academic team has adopted a family and will make the December 20th party at the high school special. \* In early December, Student Council members took part in a leadership development workshop with noted educator and team builder Chuck Roach. \* Middle North students raised \$747.80 for UNICEF on Halloween. \*

# Who's Who at Hawthorn

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Superintendent-elect  
847-990-4244

Eileen Conway,  
Director of Human Resources  
847-990-4216

Alan Hahn, Director of Finance  
and Business Operations  
847-990-4223

Lisa Gosen, Director of Technology  
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  
847-990-4500

## Elementary South South Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5  
430 N. Aspen Drive  
Jill Martin, Principal  
Lisa Cerauli,  
Assistant Principal  
847-990-4800

## Townline Elementary North Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5  
810 N. Aspen Drive  
Karen Cencula, Principal  
Eileen Conway, Principal  
Betsy Sostak, Assistant Principal  
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## Middle School North North Campus

Grades 6 through 8  
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Anna Groh, Principal  
Robert Natale,  
Assistant Principal  
847-990-4400

## Middle School South South Campus

Grades 6 through 8  
600 N. Aspen Drive  
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Assistant Principal  
847-816-8317



[www.hawthorn73.org](http://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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*Congratulations to students from the Art Clubs at Middle North (left) and Middle South (right) who again this year designed and painted the blades of Vernon Hills' showplows.*

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