

Staff Development Continues for Use of MyAccess!®

District 73 is now using the MyAccess!® instructional writing program with students in fourth through eighth grades. The Web-based product offers teachers the opportunity to create writing assignments in forms that include narrative, persuasive, informative, and expository. The prompts are aligned to major textbook series and to state

standards. They also support writing across the curriculum for mathematics, science, and social studies.

Staff Development

As with all new programs that are introduced in the district, staff development activities are an important part of implementation.

Forty-plus teachers in grades four through eight have

recently taken part in MyAccess!® workshops. The focus of the sessions were how to implement moving beyond the initial introduction of the program. Training topics included:

- ☆ revision planning;
- ☆ use of student portfolios;
- ☆ communication between students and teachers;
- ☆ using the available reports, and

☆ using the prewriting wizards and graphic organizers that the program provides.

Coordinator of Staff Development Karen Olker explained, "Continued support for the program is being provided by the Teaching and Learning Coaches and personnel from the Technology Department."

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

March 2008

Hawthorn Highlights

"Learning for All: Whatever It Takes!"

Hawthorn Enrichment Institute Offers a Summer of Fun

The Hawthorn Enrichment Institute (HEI-2008) with its theme, "Summer of the Wild Horse," is galloping toward learning and fun. New classes within the arts, as well as other areas of enrichment, have been added this year. And many old favorites

will return with new looks and newly varied opportunities.

Whether your child participates in filmmaking, instrumental band or orchestra, our dance studio, daring forensic studies, Spanish language, cooking, or x-treme fitness, we know it will be a summer filled

with learning something new and having fun.

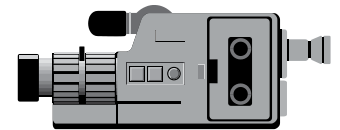
Red Rose Children's Choir of Lake County

We are delighted to be able to offer a very special opportunity this summer. Red Rose Children's Choir of Lake County will join us for Session 2. We encourage Hawthorn students to sign up for the chance to add their voices to this quality choral performance group.

Family Friendly Schedule

HEI-2008 continues its family friendly schedule of holding classes four days a week and taking Fridays off for longer family weekends.

Children may take one or two classes each day, or stay for the full morning. They may attend one or both of the planned sessions.



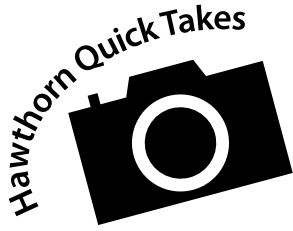
Board Meetings on Cable

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 DVDs of the meetings from the Educational Services Center.



Officer Vincent Utter of the Vernon Hills Police Department and his dog, Bullet, are pictured here as they visited a fifth grade class. He explained that the dog helps him locate individuals who are lost, search for drugs, and go into places that humans cannot.

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Spelling Champ Heads Downstate

Congratulations to Hawthorn Middle South's Michelle Liu who has spelled her way to the state level of the Scripps Howard Spelling Bee.

She competed against 44 other school champions during the Lake County Sectional Bee that was held at South Park Elementary School in Deerfield in late February. Best wishes, Michelle!

Townline Student Earns Spot in State Geography Bee

Townline fifth grader Robbie Williams is on his way to the 2008 Illinois Geography Bee. He first won the Townline contest and then excelled on a written test. He will go up against 99 other students during the event which will be held in Chicago at the Field Museum. The state winner will move on to the national finals to be held in Washington, DC.

Tentative Calendar Posted

To help parents with planning, a tentative 2008-2009 school calendar is now available on the district website at <www.hawthorn73.org>. This calendar is tentative, pending approval from the district and state boards of education.

Anniversary T-Shirts

In celebration of Vernon Hills' upcoming 50th anniversary, the village held a T-shirt design contest that was open to Hawthorn middle school students. Congratulations to the winning designers—Alicia Chang, 7th grade, Middle South; Morgan Levy, 6th grade, Middle North; and Lysette Gonzalez, 8th grade, Middle South. View the artwork on the order form or contact Vernon Hills village hall at 847-367-3700.

We are also offering a special two-week session for older students who attend the Hawthorn Band Camp.

Finally, the Vernon Hills Park District is continuing its after school camp, Camp Triple E. This option is particularly attractive to parents who are looking for full-day programs for their students. Please contact the Vernon Hills Park District for camp information.

The Nitty Gritty

The first session of HEI will begin on Wednesday, June 11 and end on Wednesday, July 2. The second session will begin on Monday, July 7 and end on Thursday, July 24. The three 55-minute classes that are offered each day begin at 8:30 am and end at 11:30 am.

ACE Leadership Course

ACE-Leadership Director Lilly Olsen continues to build the Academic Counselor of Enrichment Program for our high school students.

This summer will feature a special leadership course for our ACE counselors. The students who participate in ACE receive service hours credit on their high school transcripts, and many of the ACE members are themselves former HEI students.

How to Enroll

Parents may enroll their students during an HEI-2008 Round-Up. During a Round-Up, you can individualize your child's schedule on the spot and walk away with a summer plan.

The April round-up is



Residency Verification

According to state law, school districts must verify that their students actually live within the district's boundaries.

While residency verification is required to comply with state law, it is also an element of the district's fiduciary responsibility. School funding sources rely on enrollment numbers to allocate resources to public schools, and it is our responsibility to assure that students attend school where they live.

How Is Residency Verified?

A person verifies residency by providing documentation about who they are and where they live. At Hawthorn, when a parent or guardian registers a student, he or she must provide a photo identification card (driver's license or state ID card) that shows a current address within the district.

The parent or guardian must then provide two additional documents showing where the family lives. One should be a mortgage document, closing papers, or a lease agreement. Other acceptable documents include a recent property tax bill, utility bill, homeowner/renter insurance policy statement, public aid/medical card, or income tax return.

A more complete description of the documentation requirements is available on the website at <www.hawthorn73.org/registration> or by calling the Education Services Center at 847-990-4200.

Changes in 2009-2010

To date, the Hawthorn schools have verified residency when a student first enters school—during kindergarten registration or when a new student

scheduled for Saturday, April 19, at Aspen School from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Following the round-up, you may still sign up for HEI. You may schedule an individual appointment with HEI Assistant Principal Jan Greene by sending her an e-mail at <greenej@hawthorn73.org>.

Visit the HEI link on the District 73 website to learn more. You can download forms and take an electronic moment to hear the Red Rose Choir sing.

Join us this summer to learn and play together. We look forward to seeing you at the round-up on April 19.

moves to the district. However, the state is now encouraging a more vigilant process.

In an attempt to balance our fiduciary responsibility with practicality and convenience for our families, District 73 plans to modify our process beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. At that time, in addition to checking documentation for kindergartners and new students, we will also reverify residence for students entering grades three and six.

The Board of Education and administrators are working to determine exactly how the new process of residency verification will be implemented. We will, of course, share that information with the community as we approach the 2009-2010 school year.

Hawthorn Happenings

February and March have been festive months for **Townline Elementary** first graders. They celebrated their 100th day of school, groundhog day, Valentine's



Day, and Presidents' Day. In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday, the students went to see the musical, "Seussical," at the Lincolnshire Marriott. ♣ For second graders, two annual projects have provided exciting ways to study communities. Curious George is making his way around town while students complete his journal, and the Flat Stanleys are on their way to visit communities in the U.S. and other countries around the world. ♣ Third grade students have completed experiments to explore the characteristics of magnets. To learn about cities, rivers, lakes, and surrounding states, the students created maps of Illinois. ♣ To culminate a Bernstein unit on force and motion, fourth graders built gravity powered cars using simple machines that concentrated on wheels, axles, and levers. ♣ Teacher Susan Kobeski's fifth graders related geometry to various art forms, including string art, symmetrical Native American designs, and mirror-image photography. ♣ Since last fall, students have been reading the books

nominated for the Monarch Book Award and the Caudill Young Readers' Award. Both awards are determined by votes from students throughout the state. More than 600 Townline students voted in the awards competition. ♣ First grade art students created water color penguins, and second graders used a dabbing technique to create frogs. ♣ Music students took part in activities that ranged from first graders' learning call and response songs to fifth graders' study of classical composers. ♣ The Elementary North and Townline fifth grade band performed for judges at a clinic held in North Chicago. ♣

Hawthorn Elementary North students thoroughly enjoyed the gymnastics and climbing unit in physical education. They were introduced to the uneven bars, balance beam, vault, rope climbing, ladder climbing, and monkey bars. They send a big "thanks" to the parent volunteers who assisted with the unit. ♣ The



Library Media Center received a \$1,000 sweepstakes prize which they have used to order LeapFrog materials. ♣ Third graders have conducted sci-

ence experiments by growing cucumbers, lettuce, carrots, and radishes. They have investigated different variables including sunlight and soil type. ♣ Elementary North is in the beginning stages of establishing a Family Partnership Council to help students get to know their classmates, teachers, and school community through planned activities. ♣ Congratulations to fifth grade student Kyra Pan, our Spelling Bee champion. Kyra made it all the way into the fourth round of the county spelling bee held in Deerfield. ♣ And again a reminder! Construction at Elementary North will begin around March 17. Updated information on the construction can be found on the district's website. ♣

Hawthorn Elementary South kindergartners practiced their



knot-tying skills by making 20 fleece blankets that were donated to sick or needy children through Project Linus. ♣ Two dental hygienists from Associated Dental Specialists of Long Grove made a presentation to first grade students. They talked about brushing and flossing, tooth decay, and good and bad food and snacks. ♣ First graders also celebrated the 100th day of school. ♣ Second graders enjoyed their

visit from Channel 7 meteorologist Mike Caplan. They engaged in lively conversation about the wild winter weather we have had. The students were also fascinated by a video Caplan showed about tornado storm track-



ers. ♣ To culminate a unit on force, motion, and simple machines, fourth graders designed gravity powered cars which they then launched from the top of an inclined plane. ♣ Some fourth grade classes have practiced persuasive writing using MyAccess!® as a tool to help guide their progress. ♣ Third grade students made circuit boards using aluminum foil as the conductor and tape as the insulator. They also worked on inventions at home leading up to the March 7 Invention Convention. ♣ Fifth grade students completed individual science experiments which they then showcased at our first Science Fair. ♣ In February, fifth grade band members participated in the solo and ensemble contest. Congratulations to these students, each of whom received a Division 1 rating. ♣

Who's Who at Hawthorn

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Lisa Gosen, Director of Technology
847-990-4235

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Tom Springborn, Principal
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Elementary North North Campus

Grades Kindergarten through 5
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Elementary South South Campus

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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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Fifth grade students relate geometry to various art-forms. This picture shows how some of them worked with mirror-image photography. They got a notion about how they would look if they had identical twins.

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