

MARCH MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL – submitted by Lori Casey, Principal

- A letter was sent to the parents of our students who will be transitioning into first grade next year. In this letter, the house system was explained for those parents who may not understand the school-within-a-school concept.
- A fundraiser with Wendy's of Gurnee was held during the week of March 23-27 to raise funds for our Summer School Scholarship Fund. Many staff volunteered their time at the event.
- On the evening of March 19, a group of teachers involved in our Early Literacy Committee went to Park City and made a presentation to parents of incoming Kindergarten students. The presentation, which was in English and Spanish, was how to prepare their children for Kindergarten. There were approximately thirty people in attendance, which is the highest number thus far.
- On Friday March 14 the Primary School was buzzing with Leaders are Readers Day! Area mayors, police officers, Chuck E. Cheese, radio personalities and Chicago Bears players were among the many community members who read to our students that day. It is a fun motivating day for all and a great way for stakeholders to come into our school and become part of our learning community! A slide show was made celebrating the day, which was sent to all who volunteered their time that day to thank them.
- March is Frog and Toad month in Kindergarten and thanks to PTA all of the classrooms enjoyed David Stokes a.k.a. "The Frog Guy." Mr. Stokes is a humorist and naturalist who presented information through songs and motions. The children love the live frogs and toads that he brings for them to see and touch.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - submitted by Ann Goldbach and Dr. Ken Hyllberg, Principals

- From March 3rd -13th, ISAT tests were administered to all third grade students. Each student was tested in math, reading and writing. This is the first year 3rd grade students were tested in writing.
- MAP schedules are completed in preparation for the upcoming spring MAP testing. This year testing will occur from April 13th through the 29th.
- The combined east/west Scheduling Committee continues to meet to create next year's schedule. Being mindful of using best practices to maximize student learning, blocks of time for math and literacy are being planned. These blocks of time will allow reading and math specialists and learning resource teachers to develop flexible groups in order to meet the needs of more students at all three grade levels.
- Leaders are Readers was a success on March 27th. Many outside community members such as judges, doctors, sport professionals, and political representatives read to students

throughout the day. Many parents, teachers and administration also took time to read books for students emphasizing the importance of literacy.

- Plans are underway for the West Harvest Garden. Bonnie Plant Farm in Wisconsin will donate hybrid cabbage plants to each 3rd grader on east and west as well as to the garden effort.
- Elementary East PE teachers have been teaching students various dance routines. Students in 2nd and 3rd grade showcased their dancing talents to parents on March 25th and 26th in the evening. Parents loved to see their children put on a fun show and they got a chance to dance with the children too at the end.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL - submitted by Dr. Kent Ashton, Principal

- *ISAT Snack:* As mentioned in last month's report, we were piloting a program where each student received a daily, healthy snack prior to their ISAT testing time. This program was a huge success!! The students loved the snack and looked forward to what was going to be provided the next day. Arbor did a great job in preparing the food and setting it up so classroom teachers could pick it up each morning as they came in. Funding for the program was provided by using our Target donations, which means there was no actual cost to the District. We are hopeful that this program will positively impact our ISAT scores.
- *MAP Goal Setting:* The administrative team is immersed in our second round of MAP goal setting with our students. These meetings, in which every student in the school will meet individually with an administrator, is our continued effort to meet or exceed the District student learning goal #1a. We are looking forward to our spring results to see if our efforts have resulted in higher MAP scores.
- *Choir In-School Field Trip:* For the last several years our music department has provided those students that participate in the choir program the opportunity to experience a professional play without leaving the school. In the past the music department took students to a theater to receive this experience. This year choir students were treated to Emerald City's adaptation of Dr. Doolittle. The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance.
- *Culminating Curriculum Activities:* Several of our fourth grade classrooms have had culminating activities related to their social studies curriculum this past month. Our gold and purple teams on the west side held their annual Southeast Feast. These activities happen during the Mardi Gras celebrations. The classrooms parade through the school with decorated floats wearing beads and traditional masks. The parade ends at our multipurpose room where several parent volunteers are waiting to serve a celebration meal featuring foods that originate from the southeastern United States. During this celebration, students display their state projects they have worked on during the third quarter. The East side purple team holds a southwest feast. This is an opportunity for students to sample food that originate from the southwestern United States. These students also take the opportunity to display their state projects to the many parents and district office staff attending these celebrations. These culminating activities are a great way to bring to life our social studies States and Regions curriculum for the children.

- *Golden Paw Event:* Our 3rd Quarter Golden Paw Event took place on Friday, March 27th. This quarter's event included an instructional assembly that discussed the expected behavior and academic goals of the school. The short assemblies were followed by the students participating in a variety of fun activities ranging from the creation of friendship bracelets to game times in the libraries and gym. Students could also choose to sing karaoke, participate in drama lessons, or play soccer outdoors. There were almost thirty different activities the students could choose from. While all students participate in this educational event, the students who have earned the most paw points are able to sign up first for the various activities. Student raffles for prizes are also part of the Golden Paw event. We are very proud to say that our students continue to meet the behavioral and reading goals set by the staff each quarter.
- *Community Outreach:* In celebration of Music In Our Schools Month during March, the Intermediate School band teachers organized three separate community outreach concerts. Our six bands were joined to form three performance groups. For each concert, our guests were treated to a meal and an outstanding presentation of patriotic songs that included several solo performances. Afterwards, students mingled with the guests, discussing their experience in beginning band.

MIDDLE SCHOOL – submitted by Scott Snyder, Principal

- *ISAT* – Illinois Standards Achievement Testing concluded at WMS on Friday, March 13th. Testing went very smoothly due to the combined efforts of our administrative team and staff.
- *IGSMA District Competition* - Our bands and choirs performed at the Illinois Grade School Music Association district-level competition that was held at Johnsburg Junior High School on Friday, March 13th. The Woodland Middle School Jazz Band performed at their district competition at Washburne School in Winnetka on March 19th. Our bands and choirs brought back four Division I and two Division II ratings!
- *Regional Science Fair* – The regional Science Fair took place on Saturday, March 14th. 26 of the 47 projects presented by WMS students were rated as outstanding and will move on to the state level competition that will be held May 9th at the University of Illinois in Champaign. The following students will be moving on to the state competition:
Becky Accettura, Jessica Blumberg, Alexander Bofani, Madeline Brenner, Rebecca Bromann, Clarissa Carver, Erica Chau, Ryan Chiu, Sarah Frier, Madeline Gastfield, Derek Glennon, Nicholas Grienke, Andrew Hoeller, Shreya Jain, Joslyn Jose, Sarah Khan, Karis Kovacs, Alex Reed, Allison Salisbury, Austin Salisbury, Anisha Sharma, Rachel Shoemaker, Jaskaran Singh, Lucia Stan, Shelby Thompson, Timmy White

Shane Roberts won a special award from Underwriters Laboratories. And for the third year in a row, our school was honored with the first place designation for having the most projects earning an outstanding rating!

- *Grant Recipient* – We were recently informed that the WMS ROAR Team (PBIS) was named as a recipient of grant from the Woodland Educational Foundation. The grant, which was authored by ROAR Team member Kathy Gedemer, was for \$1,780 and will be used to provide positive incentives for deserving WMS students.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY – submitted Dr. Anne Swanson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

- The Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) was given to 1st and 2nd graders in February. The scores are back and were delivered to Elementary East and Elementary West to go home in 3rd quarter report cards. A letter to parents and an FAQ sheet were included with the scores. The OLSAT scores are used as part of the screening process for gifted/advanced placements, as part of retention meetings and as part of the problem-solving process for students not achieving at grade level.
- The focus for FY10 curriculum work will be in the areas of technology and foreign language. Deb Pelletiere and the math specialists at Elementary East and West have done some excellent detective work and discovered that the 3rd edition Trailblazers student material is newer (with better graphics), identical in content to the 1st edition (our current material) and substantially cheaper.
- The reading and math specialists have begun identifying “summer work” needs. These are generally curriculum areas that need additional work in response to achievement data or teacher request. Topics to date include: writing, Middle School Art, Trailblazers item analysis for ISAT and computation, Challenge Math grades 3 and 4, Progress Monitoring assessments for Tier 2 interventions, and Geometry (pending Board approval).
- Our population of ELL students continues to climb. We are looking at the possibility of ESL teachers at Elementary East and Elementary West adopting the same type of model found at Intermediate School and Middle School, i.e. teach across two or three grades.
- In May, we will present to the Board changes to the 8th grade Advanced Math program.
- We have created, along with the math and reading specialists, drafts of RtI charts for staff to reference next year. The charts contain Tier 1 and Tier 2 resources, screening assessment and progress monitoring assessments.

HUMAN RESOURCES – submitted by Kim Burke, Director of Human Resources

- FY10 Teacher Recruitment Fairs – On March 7, 2009 seven (7) administrators participated in the Lake County Education Job Fair to recruit for the FY10 school year. Approximately 150 applicants were screened for the few vacancies that exist, which will provide us with a great pool of candidates from which to choose.
- On April 9, 2009 support staff had the opportunity to participate in training. Motivational speaker, Tara Tharpe engaged staff in an interactive session that helped to re-energize, provide tips for teambuilding and overall to let staff know their efforts are appreciated.

- This marks the third year a comprehensive health screening will be made available to all Woodland employees. The wellness screening is available at no cost to all Woodland insurance eligible employees and at no cost to all covered spouses and dependents 18 years and older.

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES – submitted by Don Selzer, Director of Operations and Facilities

- O&F staff completed numerous projects during Spring Break, some of the projects were: deep cleaning kitchen areas, various painting, light bulb replacement, clean and paint custodial closets, and filter replacement. Thanks all O&F staff.
- Several O&F staff participated in school events: flashlight projects, Leaders are Readers, and stepping stone project. Thanks to Mike Ford, Jesus Hernandez, Ken Lohfink, Mike Plymale and Marie Smith.
- O&F leadership, staff, district architect and Bob Leonard are working to determine remodeling costs for a MS fitness center, to be funded through a grant.
- The District's public service program accumulated 1,236 hours of work for the month of March, thanks to all district representatives for public service. The work accomplished consisted of: beginning to clear out the tree line at Middle School, turning over playground mulch, various grounds tasks throughout the district, trash pick up throughout the district and vehicle cleaning/inspections as weather allowed.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS – submitted by Jennifer Bova, Public Relations Specialist
Community Education Cohort:**

- Carolyn Waller from Warren Township High School and Jen Bova were in attendance at the March 6 Community Education Cohort Meeting held in Arlington Heights. They met with 15 Directors of Community Education Programs from Cook and Lake County to seek their input and guidance regarding best practices for developing and managing a successful Community Education Program. They were able to get a better understanding with regard to the structure of the programs, program topics and cost guides.
- Tom Morris Scholarship: Work has begun to market the Tom Morris Scholarship to our 8th grade students. The committee intends to review applications in the middle of May in order to announce this year's second Tom Morris Scholarship recipient at our 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony in June.
- Website – Board Member Section – We are in the process of revising the Board member section of the website to include photographs and biographies of each Board member. We are also reviewing and incorporating ideas from previous feedback regarding this section in order to better serve the needs of our community.

SUPPORT SERVICES – submitted by Penny Dagley, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services

- The annual audit of our Pre-School For All at risk program occurred on March 19, 2009. The district passed the audit.
- Our special education parent group (SPEAC) had a presentation on visual perceptual skills provided by Deb Seeton and Laurie Sanzana two of our Occupational therapists. The April meeting will address the topic of ADHD. Laurie Retzky and Evelyn Cacioppo, two of our social workers, will provide this presentation.
- The Intermediate and Middle School PBIS teams had the opportunity to meet and share ideas. This also provided an opportunity for the Intermediate team to ask questions of the Middle School team regarding the success and challenges they have encountered in their first year of implementation. We will offer more opportunities for the teams to meet as we proceed with implementation of PBIS.
- Summer Wonders registration packets were sent home before spring break and registration is scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2009.

TECHNOLOGY – submitted by Dann Giesey, Director of Technology

- * LRC Software Update -_The LRC software replacement project has a final implementation date set for Monday April 6th, 2009. Training is complete for all district LRC staff, technicians and technology administrators. New features include:
 - New student enhanced interface.
 - Skyward standardization for all district patron records.
 - Standardized barcodes for students using their student ID. This also will be consistent with the food service system using the same ID's.
 - Internet browser access inside the district.

2009/2010 school year features include:

- Automatic Skyward updates for patron records.
- Internet access from outside the district.

MUSIC BOOSTERS – MINUTES FROM JANUARY 29

Woodland Music Booster Meeting Minutes

January 29, 2009

President Becky Saul called the meeting to order at 6:42 PM.

Attendees: Beth DeRosier, Mike Witkowski, Elise Matusek, Carolyn Awe, Stacy Reed, Greg Zalapi, January Muetz, Anna Fuhrer, Susen Holt, Terri Kasen, Becky Saul, Maurine, Beth, Margaret

President's Comments

Motion to pass last month's meeting notes - Margaret and Stacy 2nd.

Treasurer's report

The treasurer's report now includes the purchase order number next to the requested item (see page 3). The report was reformatted to show income and expenses. Currently the tax revenue income is less than the expenses. Carolyn A. was organizing some of the additional money so this may be in balance. \$1100 in cleaning fees has not been subtracted from the balance of actual available funds moving the actual available funds to \$3500. Becky believes that each group may get an additional \$500 added to their wish list money. She will confirm this later. ISYM prices did not increase so we are still on target with the amount we budgeted. Motion to pass the treasurer's report – Elise M. 2nd Susen H.

Old Business:

1. FUNDRAISER FOR 2008-2009 -
 - a. Company took all the food back this year except for something we did not refrigerate. In addition, we had very few help line calls.
 - b. Resigned two year contract with the company using the same parameters.
 - c. We still have more than \$800 in bounced checks we are trying to collect.
 - d. Did not have a lot of helpline issues or refunds.
 - e. The board will meet in March to come up with a proposal for the fundraiser structure for next year.
2. Winter Concerts are all complete!

. UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Middle School Band – 6:30	1/15
WMS Local Solo & Ensemble – at MS	2/7
WTHS Jazz Fest	2/17
IGSMA Dist. Solo & Ensemble	2/21.
IGSMA District Contest	3/13 or 3/14
IGSMA District Jazz Contest	3/19
Festival of Bands WMS	TBD
IGSMA State Contest/Band	4/25
State Jazz Contest	5/2

New Business:

1. Meeting dates and locations
 - a. No Feb meeting
 - b. March and April meetings will be held at the intermediate school.
2. Maurine will serve as the nomination volunteer for elections to be held in April.
3. Feb 7th is the local solo and ensemble contest at the middle school.
 - a. Stacy will organize the food for the judges (breakfast and lunch 12-15 sandwiches)
 - b. Judges are all selected
 - i. Debbie Williams (vocal)
 - ii. Corey Ames (band)
 - iii. Megan Ames (band)
 - iv. Kurt Gros (band)
 - v. Carol Behm (piano)
 - c. Timetable
 - i. Open building - 7:30
 - ii. Set up food 7:30 – 8
 - iii. Judges arrive 8
 - iv. Station first shift by door (8:10 – 10:30)
 - v. Station second shift by door (10:45 – 1:30)
 - d. Becky will work the table.
 - e. Elise will send out an email for volunteers. Becky will organize the volunteers.
4. Boston Brass – March 18, 2009
 - a. Need head of tickets.
 - b. Elise will send out email to parents of band kids to give them first dibs on tickets.
 - c. In one week send to local school band directors.
 - d. Completed order forms that arrive will be dated. There are 2000 tickets available.
 - e. Tickets will not be mailed except for tickets purchased by other schools. They will be mailed out around March 6th.
 - f. Maurine will date the order forms.
 - g. If a director from another school brings 10 or more kids, the director will have his/her tickets comped.
 - h. Elise is working on parking help. Park at high school and run a shuttle.
 - i. Need volunteers to take tickets. Only one entrance into room since this is a ticketed event.
 - j. Comp tickets will be stamped comp.
 - k. Program will be part of the ticket price.
 - l. Band kids in free.
 - m. Make sure volunteers get good seats. Let them reserve seats before working.
 - n. Need dinner for band. 5 people. Panera or something similar.
 - o. School board members will be comped.

Director and Administrator Comments

January – reading rocks, cool music in school with all bands

Terry – 4th grade musical in progress. 5th grade directors are each doing their own concert.

Carolyn – Sim II and Jazz have good concert music.

Susen – working on contest music, tomorrow am Susen is having a breakfast to recruit for choir. The choir count was down at the beginning of the year and is down a bit more. Hope to have children sing at breakfast for Susen so they can be place right away. She is buying donuts and juice and will submit the receipts later.

Elise – the concert was really fun. 3/13 dist concert at Johnsberg middle school. 4/16 is the festival of bands.

Greg – Concert was fun.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Terry and seconded by Susen. The meeting ended at 7:30.