

Board of Education Highlights

February 26, 2008 - Hawthorne Elementary School

Recognitions & Achievements

On Saturday, February 24, 2008, Wheaton Warrenville South High School's Wind Ensemble and Concert/Symphonic Band participated in the Midwest Band Festival at Lemont High School.

For the second consecutive year, WWSHS's Concert/Symphonic Band received a Division 1 Superior rating and was named Best Brass section over a field of 19 other groups. In addition, South's Wind Ensemble also earned a Division 1 superior rating and Best Brass Section in their division for the second consecutive year. This is the first time in the 25 year history of the Midwest Band Festival a group has finished first in consecutive years in either class.

Several of our high school students that attend the Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) have recently received honors. WWSHS student Bailey Mitchell was a member of the first place culinary team and WWSHS student Stuart McLuckie was a member of the first place management team at the Illinois ProStart Student Invitational competition culinary division. Each student received an accumulated \$24,000 in scholarships from various colleges. Both of these students will compete with their teams at the National ProStart Invitational in San Diego in April. The state competition was sponsored by the Illinois Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. Twenty Illinois high school culinary programs competed.

A team will represent TCD at the "Hot Rodders of Tomorrow Engine Challenge" in March. Only six high schools were invited to participate. Bogdan Mamalat from WNHS was chosen as a member of the team.

Another TCD team from the Landscape Design & Management program placed second at the Section 6 Forestry Development Event held at Morton Arboretum. James Fileta from WNHS was part of that team. We are very proud of all of these students.

Donna Kozica, Social Worker at Hubble and Department Chair for Social Workers and Mary Cortes, Social Worker at Johnson Elementary School were invited to be part of the response team that assembled at Northern Illinois University on Sunday to support students, staff, parents and community members as they met for the Memorial Service and the re-opening of classes following the tragedy there last week. Donna and Mary are trainers for the Crisis Intervention Programs across the State of Illinois and have been active nation wide in this initiative. Donna and Mary have been meeting with students in dorms and have been in classrooms to talk with students and professors as students were back in school yesterday. They have been a tremendous support for the NIU community and have lent their expertise and guidance throughout this sensitive process. Both Donna and Mary are anxious to share their experience with District 200 Administrators and the Board of Education in the near future. Our thanks to Donna and Mary for all that they

have done to help so many during this difficult time. They are a shining example of the dedicated and expert professional team that serve District 200 and our thanks to them for their willingness to share their gifts and talents with our neighbors in need.

Congratulations to the Tiger Speech Team that finished second in the IHSA State Speech meet on February 16. The following contestants were finalists:

Mary Mangan - Verse Reading

McKenzie Seibert - Dramatic Interpretation

Dan Ottolin - Humorous Interpretation, Original Comedy

Mark Schmidt - Impromptu Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking

Leah Hendrickson - Radio Speaking

Gillian Losh - Special Occasion Speaking

Performance in the round:

Allie Winberg, Nathan Stringer, Chris Quinn, Brianne Paver, Tegan McQuaid, Kelsey MacDonald, Pat Hecker, Brendan Hack, Priyanka Gupta, Elsa Gunther, Jon Goetz, Wyatt Fertig, Ryan Eakins, Clare Bruzek Student Director: Erica Pohl

Mark Schmidt was state champion in both Impromptu and Extemporaneous speaking. Dan Ottolin was state champion in Original Comedy.

The Special Olympics Basketball Program concluded two weeks ago with the Awards Program at Wheaton Warrenville South High School. Twenty high school athletes were honored at this event, many of whom have been with the Special Olympics Program since it began four years ago. Ten of our basketball players have been invited to a special event at a Bulls Game on Tuesday, March 4th where they will be playing at half time with Special Olympics basketball players from all over the Chicago and Suburban area. This will be an exciting evening for our students and their families and all of us are excited about this great opportunity for the athletes in our program. Our Track and Field Program has already begun and 25 middle and high school students are participating this year, many of them repeat athletes. This season will begin our 4th Special Olympics Track and Field season and many of the students who are participating began this program their freshman year and now are seniors. In addition to our athletes, we have ten high school student assistants who have become a valuable part of this program.

Belief Statement:

Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Bill Farley, spoke about the District Belief Statement, "Services must be delivered in a cost-effective manner." Mr. Farley mentioned a number of efforts the District takes to reduce expenditures. The District participates in a number of pools with other districts to maximize buying power. For example the District purchases natural gas in a cooperative with 46 other districts. The District also participates in pools for workers comp and liability insurance. Outsourcing services is another way to save money. By outsourcing some custodial services, the District is able to save over \$700,000. The District also outsources transportation and food service.

The Board took the following action:

Approved the school fees, without increase, for the 2008-09 school year

Accepted the 2006-07 District financial audit as presented by the firm of Virchow Krause & Company. The firm reported that the fiscal management of the District was sound and the staff in the Business Department was doing a fine job in handling the financial aspects of the District.

Approved the redistricting of Lowell Elementary School for the 2008-09 school year. The approved plan will have students who live in the Danada North subdivision attending Lincoln Elementary School and Edison Middle School. Students from Briarcliffe North and South will attend Wiesbrook Elementary and will continue to attend Hubble Middle School.

Approved Serious Safety Hazard Bus Route at Naperville Rd. and Farnham and Naperville Rd. and Elm. By this action, students from Danada East subdivision will be bussed to Edison Middle School.

Next Meeting:

March 12, 2008 at Pleasant Hill Elementary School