

HORIZON

COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 146
WINTER 2011



LEARNING FOR ALL

Board of Education

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Community Consolidated
School District 146
Board of Education

TAG YOU'RE FIT FUN WALK WAS REALLY FUN!

As part of its 2010-2011 wellness initiative, the District sponsored a Tag You're Fit Fun Walk at Central Middle School on November 13th. The walk was not a race, but a way for students, families and staff to come out and get some exercise. It was originally intended to take place outside so participants could enjoy the beautiful fall weather, but Mother Nature decided to rain on our parade -- literally. 291 students, siblings, parents and staff representing all 5 schools arrived to enjoy each other's company, learn about healthy eating, and get some exercise which, due to the cold, dreary and wet weather, was held in the warmth of the Central hallways. The walk was free and open to the families and staff of District 146.

The District 146 Wellness Committee was organized to address through education and preven-

tion, the growing problem of childhood and adult obesity in our schools and community. Students, parents, administrators, food service vendors, and staff form the makeup of the committee.

Members of the Committee manned the Fun Walk registration tables, and several booths were set up with information on healthy eating. A snack table was also available for the walkers, with healthy items like apples, bananas and granola bars. Sponsors included Ingalls who donated 400 bottles of water, Meijers Foods who made a gift card donation, and Robinson Engineering who made a cash donation used to purchase the granola bars. 250 jump ropes were donated by District 146 and distributed to all of the children who participated.

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The event was a smashing success! Whole families came out to walk and given the close proximity of the Central hallways, meet and greet other families, friends and staff members.. The Day Family attended the event and in a thank you note to the Wellness Committee had this to say:

“Thank you for your work in organizing the fun walk. It sent such a great message to the 146 community and was a nice district bonding experience. And most of all, it was fun!



Some participants asked if this event could be repeated in the spring, but for now the Committee is focusing on making this an annual fall event. The Committee is also teaming up with the Tinley Park Village Healthy Team to promote the importance of exercise and healthy eating to the Tinley Park community.



This is a reminder that ISAT testing is scheduled for February 28 - March 11th. Please keep these days reserved for testing. Do not schedule doctor's appointments.

SOC HOP CELEBRATES MEMORIAL'S COMPLETION



While it won't officially open its doors again to students until the start of the 2011-2012 school year, Memorial School has been given the thumbs-up for occupancy by the State. According to Scott Slager, Building & Grounds Director, Memorial is all ready to go, and when she toured the completed building, Dr. Hoyda, Superintendent of 146 said that it was very warm and welcoming.

A Soc Hop to celebrate the completion of the construction was held on January 14th for Memorial students and staff. Dr. Hoyda, Susan Mulchrone, principal of Memorial, and all of the board members were there to greet the visitors who were treated to pizza and ice cream sundaes. Controlled chaos ruled in the gym as the students and siblings jumped and danced and twirled to music played by a local DJ.

Parents and staff were interested to see first hand the upgrades that were made to the school. Most noticeable is a new main entrance and a revised configuration for park-

ing and bus traffic. Other upgrades include a soft playground, ADA compliant classrooms, new offices and a faculty lounge.

Renovations on Memorial were halted due to a construction strike last summer and students and staff were moved to the vacant Sandidge School for the 2010-2011 school year. The move from Sandidge back to Memorial will take place during the summer months.

The Board of Education and administration are also planning a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and Open House at Memorial School in the fall. All parents, staff members, community members and government dignitaries will be invited to the event.



BOARD & JEFF STAWICK MAKE IT OFFICIAL



In April 2010, Dr. Marion Hoyda, Superintendent of District 146, announced her intent to retire at the end of the 2010-2011 school year. Dr. Hoyda has served District 146 since July of 2004.

One of the most important functions of a Board of Education is to hire the Superintendent. With Dr. Hoyda's announcement, the Board moved into high gear, with the ambitious intent of having a new Superintendent approved at the board meeting in December.

Eight months and 68 applications from 11 states later, the Board approved Jeff Stawick as the new Superintendent for District 146. At the December Board meeting, with his wife Jennifer and their two sons looking on, Mr. Stawick signed the paperwork making it official.

Mr. Stawick is not new to District 146. During the 2003-2004 school year he worked as an Assistant Principal at Central Middle School. He then accepted a principal position with Homewood District 153 from 2004-2007, and in 2007 began serving as Superintendent at Steger 194.

Dean Casper, Board President, said that while Mr. Stawick's experience in District 146 was a factor that would ease the transition with staff, it was not the deciding factor for the Board. More important for them was that he was currently serving as both Superintendent and Business Manager at Steger.

District 146 has been fortunate in that it has not seen the massive layoffs and pay freezes that have hit so many other Illinois school districts. Mr. Casper attributes that to solid financial planning and vigilant use of taxpayer resources. But he acknowledges that over the next few years, finances will continue to be a big issue for all Illinois school districts, including 146.

As part of a November press release, Mr. Casper said "Jeff Stawick will be a tremendous addition to the already great team of educators here at District 146. Under Jeff Stawick's leadership we will continue to be an education leader. . . . The teachers, administration, support staff, parents, students and community all contribute to this atmosphere of learning that makes District 146 a destination."

Well said, President Casper.



LUCKY, TANK, GODZILLA, SAMANTHA & BUBBA VISIT FIERKE EDUCATION CENTER



If you don't like scaly, slithering members of the animal kingdom, you might have had a hard time with the visitors to Fierke's 2nd Grade classrooms. For the third year in a row, Jim Nesci's Cold Blooded Creatures program visited the students at Fierke. It is a unique program that entertains while educating the audience about reptiles. Jim employs a hands-on approach to deliver information about reptiles, their native habitat, their individual personalities, their eating habits and about conservation of the animals.

Jim Nesci hand selects each of the animals in the program that represent 4 of the 5 types of reptilians. The format of the program allows for the audience to progressively feel comfortable with the smaller animals before showing the larger ones (the adult alligator and large snake). The program has been designed to be very interactive by allowing the student audience to pet, touch, or hold each of the five reptiles in the program.

The friends that Jim brought with him that day included Lucky, the baby alligator, Tank, an African Spurred tortoise, Samantha an Albino Burmese Python snake, Godzilla, a Black Throat Monitor lizard and Bubba, an adult Alligator. With much experience and everyday handling, Jim is very familiar with all of his animals and their characters and has selected these unique animals to accompany him in the program because of their calm demeanor.





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A PUBLICATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**District Calendar
Highlights
February/March/April**

- 2/14/11 Valentines Day
- 2/21/11 Parent/Teacher Conferences
No School for Students
- 2/22/11 Institute Day
No School for Students
- 2/24/11 Board Meeting
- 2/26/11 CMS Music-A-Thon
- 2/28/11 ISAT Testing Begins

- 3/1 - 3/11 ISAT Testing Continues
- 3/7/11 Casmir Pulaski Day
No School
- 3/24/11 Board Meeting
- 3/28 - 4/1 Spring Break

- 4/4/11 Classes resume
- 4/11/11 SWIC Choir Festival
- 4/12/11 SWIC Choir Concert
- 4/15/11 Report Cards
- 4/15/11 Fulton Fun Fair
- 4/21/11 SIP - No School for Students
- 4/22/11 No School
- 4/25/11 No School
- 4/28/11 Board Meeting

GOODBYE ANGIE. WE'LL MISS YOU



As we all know, it's not easy to say goodbye. For school employees, it's especially difficult when it's someone who has been a member of the District family as a parent, and as an employee for over 30 years.

Back in the late 1970s, Angie Chobot's children attended Kruse Education Center in Orland Park. Angie became a parent volunteer and in 1989 was hired as a school nurse at Fulton School. In 1994 she was promoted to the position of Nurse Coordinator for the District where she worked until she announced her retirement effective January 7, 2011.



Since 2006, along with her fellow nurses, Angie has provided hands on training for all of the staff in the use of the building AEDs. She has helped the District weather many health-related storms, the most recent being the H1N1 pandemic. She attended the international H1N1 conference in Washington D.C., and brought back critical information which the District used in formulating its contingency plans. She also was instrumental in arranging the 2009 H1N1 vaccination programs in each of the schools.

A retirement party was held for Angie, and many staff members stopped by to say goodbye. As a parent, a colleague, a nurse and a friend, she will be missed.

Happy Retirement, Angie.