

Welcome Veterans

HORIZON

COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 146
SPRING 2011



LEARNING FOR ALL

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DISTRICT 146 BAND PROGRAM: A SOURCE OF MORE THAN JUST GOOD MUSIC

Enthusiastic is a good word to describe the students in the District 146 Band Program. "Band has taught me dedication, discipline and appreciation that will carry with me as life skills" says Michael a student in the Symphonic Band. Christina adds, that "I have been supported by band friends of all ages, and they taught me the value of teamwork."

The District 146 Band Program has a long-standing tradition of excellence that goes beyond the notes and rhythms written on a page of music. Through music, students are learning life-long skills and values that will benefit them in many facets of their lives. These values range from leadership to responsibility to pride and everything in between. Students learn that through their dedication and persistence, a high level of musical understanding and performance can be achieved. This self-accomplishment is a tremendous confidence

builder and when it is done as a group, it creates great camaraderie. "I realized (being part of band) that I am in love with music and that playing a musical instrument will open up doors for me in the musical world", mentions Krystal.

With pride and enthusiasm students participated in many exciting events throughout the year. Students performed at the Veteran's Day assembly, Winter Concert, the Illinois Grade School Music Association (IGSMA) Solo and Ensemble Contest, Music-a-thon and marched in multiple parades. The May performances include the Spring Band Concert, grade school music tours and a Symphonic Band tour to Minneapolis, Minnesota. One of the highlights of the Minneapolis tour involves the students working with a music professor at St. Olaf College – a school known throughout the Midwest for their outstanding music program.

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One event this year special for District 146 and our Band Parent Association was hosting the Illinois Grade School Music Association (IGSMA) Organization Band Contest. This contest took place in March, and this year, Central Middle School was selected as a host site. Through the support of the administration, School Board, the District 146 Band Parent Association parents, students and alumni volunteers, we welcomed 15 area schools to perform for three adjudicators throughout the day. A full day of hosting and with more than 1,500 people through the halls of Central Middle School brought much satisfaction and pride as the amazing facilities of our school were shared with many musicians.

The band students work everyday continuously to make high achievements and maintain the great tradition of this band program. As Jayne mentions, "It makes me feel proud that I am participating in this band program." Such students fuel and breed success, making them eager to continue achieving high standards - not only in music, but in all areas of their lives.

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS ART CONTEST

District 146 is home to many great artists. Not only do we have a teacher whose artwork has been on display at the National Baseball Hall of Fame, but we can boast of students who produce award-winning artwork. Most recently, this artwork was on display in the Main Gallery of the Tinley Park Library.

The artwork was part of the annual Creative Expressions Art Contest sponsored by District 146. The contest is open to any student in grades K-5. Entries are judged on design, elements, layout, use of color, interest and expression, and students are not limited by topic or medium. On Wednesday, April 6th in the evening, Cindy DePinto-Dawud, Dan McLaughlin, and Jennifer Marx hosted a small awards reception for the winners and their family members.

Winning students were Johanna Espitia, 1st Grade, Jillian Hessling, 1st Grade, Antonio Perna, 2nd Grade, Adnan Yurtsever, 3rd Grade, Jessica Hultman, 3rd Grade, Antonio Rodriguez,

4th Grade, Mary Kate Sherman, 5th Grade, Ema Darbutaite, 6th Grade, Sally Tadros, 7th Grade, and Allyson Yucuis, 8th Grade.



Also to be commended are the students who participated in the 2nd annual S.W.I.C. Art Invitational held on May 18th. Jesse Mezera, Katie Pruitt, Alex Rodriguez, Alissa Schultz, and Grace Suglich each received an Art Achievement Certificate. Alex Kaffka and Sammi Gancarski received Merit Awards, and Valeria Navarro received the Best of School Award. Great job!



CUB SCOUTING PROVES A HEALTHY USE OF TIME

Cub Scouting has proven to be a healthy use of time for two of our students. Collin Krause, a fifth grader at Fierke, was awarded an Award of Merit from the BSA Calumet Council in March for saving the life of a friend who was choking on a piece of hard candy. Collin used his basic first aid training from Cub Scouts and from his Mom who is in the health industry, and after confirming with his friend that he was indeed choking, pushed on his stomach until the candy flew out of his mouth. The Award of Merit is one of the highest honors a Cub Scout can receive.

And Adrian Swiech (Gr3 Kruse), is a Bear Cub in the Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383. He participated in their Pedometer program logging more than 2,000,000 (that's two million) steps which is equivalent to 1,000 miles between March 8, 2010 and August 10, 2010. Adrian was honored at a pack meeting this past March.



Photo Courtesy of Orland Park Patch

OUR PARADE OF SUPER STARS CONTINUES . . .



Art isn't the only arena in which our students excel. Many of our other students have outdone themselves in the areas of academics, citizenship and personal accomplishments.

In March, students participated in the annual Young Author's contest. Student winners who represented the District at the annual Illinois State Young Author's conference in Springfield were Hanne Forster "A Banana and a Cherry" (K-1); Kara Curtain "I Wish I was Tall" (Gr 2-3); Emily Smith "When the Battle Horn Sounds" (Fr 4-5); and Donald Riddle "Inhuman" (Gr 6-8).

In April, ten Central Mathletes competed against students from 12 other schools in the SWIC Conference. Overall, our two teams placed fourth. In addition, Molly Brennan (Gr8) placed 3rd overall, and Christina Ernst (Gr8) was 1st overall!

Also in April, our students competed against each other in the annual ORE Math Challenge. Grade 1-2 winners were: Vinnie Kaplar (Fulton), Jack Day, Todd Bajzek, and Madeline Denty; Grade 3-4, John Roth, Arsh Shaikh, Katie Sanders (all Fulton) and Sean Ford; Grade 5-6, Nathan Soyk, Cases Brennan, Jack Ruane,

and Ryan Sadowski, and Grade 7-8, Michael Leyden, Andrew DeLorme, Christina Ernst, and Roshan Satish (Central).



2011 Math Challenge

And then the first week of May, winning Math Challenge students attended the South Cook Math Bowl. Sean Ford took 2nd place overall for Gr4 and Andrew DeLorme took 4th overall for Gr7. Our teams placed 5th and 6th overall out of 22 teams participating.

At a breakfast and awards ceremony held on May 6th at Odyssey Country Club, 8th graders Christina Ernst and Eric Deasy were recognized by the Illinois Principal's Association for outstanding scholarship and citizenship.

Thirteen Kruse students read at least 15 out of the 20 books in the Blue Stem Book Award Contest, qualifying them for a party in the Media Center. The annual Book Award gives 4th and 5th grade students a chance to vote for their favorite book from a list of 20 nominated books. Students who qualified for the party are Erik Schultz, Matthew Cryan, Adian Gore, Madison Lockwood, Ashley Wood, Mitchell Redman, Elijah Barber, Nicholas Redman, Alex Orquijo, Noelle Doody, Nicole Obrochta, Grace Gerst and Katherine Kuserper.

At Memorial School, 99 students participated in the Six Flag's Six Hour Reading Incentive Program. These students earned a free children's admission ticket to Six Flags Great America for reading 360 minutes.

Finally, this year's winners of the \$500 Marilyn Wessel Scholarship are Matthew Hoppenrath, Jason Mullens, Kate Mollohan, Emily Hartl, and Jason Vaccaro. To qualify for a scholarship the student must be a relative of a staff member, and at least a Sophomore in college in good academic standing

Talented kids, great teachers, awesome results! Congratulations to all.

Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow

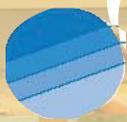
When I arrived at District 146 in July of 2004, I came with a vision for the District. Now, seven years later, I leave the District with much of that vision realized, and with pride and respect. Pride in the accomplishments that together we have made for this District, pride in the bonds that we have forged with our parents and the community, and respect for all of the people who work to make this District great.

I have been honored to partner with Board Members, Principals and Administrators who work tirelessly for the betterment of our schools, and the education of our youth. I have worked with dedicated teachers who pour their heart and soul into their teaching. I have witnessed paraprofessionals take a personal interest in not only the education, but the life and accomplishments of

their special needs student. I have worked and laughed with the staff at the Administration Center – my second family. And I have learned that while at times it has not been easy, my years at District 146 have been absolutely worthwhile.

It has been my pride and my pleasure to have been your Superintendent. This is a District to be proud of and I want to thank you for allowing me to be a part of it. Shakespeare said it best, "Parting is such sweet sorrow." I can now confirm that I know exactly what he meant.





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A PUBLICATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**District Calendar
Highlights**

The school calendar for the 2011-2012 school year will be posted on the District website when it becomes available.

Registration packets will be mailed out by the beginning of July.

WELLNESS INITIATIVE - A Year in Retrospect

On June 21, 2010, six administrators and staff members met to discuss establishing a committee to promote health and fitness for district 146 staff and students. At that time, five target areas were identified:

- Improving the lunch program
- Increasing physical activity
- Educating students and the community about good nutrition
- Improving staff wellness
- Educating and motivating parents.

Today, the Wellness Committee can confirm that progress has been made in all five target areas -- and it has been fun!

- We adopted the very popular "Stop, Drop and Move" in all classrooms first thing in the morning.
- We sponsored the Tag You're Fit Fun Walk which got students and their family members moving and also provided a venue for parents and students to learn about good nutrition. We are hoping to make this an annual event.

- We created the *Tag Your Fit Newsletter* with the anticipated "Eat This Not That section".
- We posted the nutritional values of our lunch menus on our web site.
- We are working with our staff on starting a District Walking Club, and have participated in a field test of a pedometer incentive program.
- Working with Preferred Meals, we have made some changes to the Central lunch program which have received rave reviews.

And this is only the first year.

As this school year draws to a close, please help our students continue to keep active during the summer months, eat healthy foods including lots of fresh fruits and vegetables, and make smart food choices. Who knows what next year will bring!

