

Waukegan Public Schools Community Unit School District #60 Superintendent's Bulletin Dr. Donaldo R. Batiste, Superintendent

Volume 2, No. 13

November 12, 2007

Superintendent's Message.....

Dear Colleague:

“A Salute to our Veterans...Yesterday, Today and Beyond”

While walking through an airport during the first weekend of November, I was somewhat taken aback to see the vast amount of Christmas and Chanukah decorations that were being displayed—not to mention the music and commercials that had also begun to flood the airwaves. On some plane however, I knew deep down that I should not be surprised because commercialization of these celebrations has long focused on the “shop-till-you-drop” notion of these seasons. The frenetic pace of the approaching holiday season can really spoil what could and should truly be wonderful times spent with family and friends. As important as this aspect is, it was not what concerned me the most about the early displays.

During that same weekend, I visited a Borders’ bookstore. And as always, at the entrance of the store, there were “bargain books” of one kind or another. In that setting I was struck by the number of books related to histories of military conflicts of which our country had been a part, as well as the pictorial histories of our varied branches of the military. I could only assume that this bargain book sale was the commercial equivalent for Veterans’ Day that the airport decorations were for Christmas and Chanukah. It was this observation that made me reflect on what Veterans’ Day means to me.

Throughout history, all societies have been involved in military conflicts. The nature of the conflicts and the causes of these conflicts are as vast as the number of conflicts themselves. The only constant in all of these is that the members of the military of each society have fought these conflicts. From the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, the Spanish–American War, WWI, WWII, Korean Conflict, the wars in Vietnam, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and now, Iraq, the men and women of our military continue to serve dauntlessly. Whether fighting for independence, ridding the country of the scourge of slavery, protecting the world from the specter of Nazism, or fighting an unpopular war in Southeast Asia, the commonality in all of these can be found in the faces of the faithful and courageous young men and women who sacrifice their lives to protect and safeguard our freedoms.

Although this is officially “*the day after*” Veterans’ Day, I hope that you would join me retrospectively in thanking the many valiant veterans whom we have living and working amongst us for their inimitable and faithful service. We also pause to remember thankfully those veterans who have transitioned, who also stood as the valiant protectors of our freedom. Let us commit never to forget these brave men and women who have been and will continue to be among the “everyday heroes” who have made our country the safe place it is in which to live. And finally, as we salute our veterans, remember our theme and our motto, “**A New Day...A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools... *onward and upward!***”

Sincerely,
Donaldo R. Batiste, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Table of Contents	
Important Dates	2
Notices	2
District Spotlight	3
Awards and Honors	4
Professional Development.....	4
Waukegan-Area Events.....	4
Enclosures	5

Important Dates

- Illinois School Breakfast Week – **November 12 – 16, 2007**
- American Education Week – **November 12 – 16, 2007**
- Children's Book Week – **November 12 – 18, 2007**
- National Young Reader's Day – **November 13, 2007**
- School Board Member Day – **November 15, 2007**
- National Family Week – **November 18 – 24, 2007**
- Thanksgiving Break (Schools / District Offices Closed) – **November 21 – 23, 2007**
- *Application Deadline:* IMPACT Educator Grant Program – **December 1, 2007**
- *Deadline:* Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Nominations – **December 5, 2007**
- School Improvement Inservice (Full day) – **December 7, 2007**

Notices

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of **Jeffrey Harrison, son of Judy Harrison**, who passed away on Wednesday, October 31. Jeffrey was 24 years old and was a student in the Pharmacy Program at Butler University. He courageously battled Hodgkin's lymphoma for nine years. Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Ms. Harrison, Lead Librarian at Waukegan High School (Upper Grade Center), and her family.

Word was also received that **Patrick Clyne, father of Amy Clyne**, passed away Friday, November 2. Friends may pay their respects at Marsh Funeral Home, 305 Cemetery Road, Gurnee on Friday, November 16, 2007 from 4 – 7 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at St. Anastasia Church in Waukegan on Saturday, November 17, 2007. Further details were published in the News Sun on November 5th and 6th and are available online at <http://www.legacy.com/STNG-NewsSun/Obituaries.asp?Page=Notice&PersonID=97346182>. Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Ms. Clyne, Mathematics teacher at Waukegan High School (Ninth Grade Center), and her family.

PARAPROFESSIONAL 2007–08 WORK YEAR

Recently, there was confusion regarding the school calendar, and the paraprofessional work year became a major focus. The issue was whether paraprofessionals were required to work during the evenings of parent-teacher conferences. While there were rumors, falsehoods and partial truths being transmitted throughout the district, we wish to acknowledge that the paraprofessional union leadership never agreed to any of the false scenarios that were being mistakenly spread throughout the school district. While it was an unfortunate occurrence, we apologize for any inconveniences or hardships this misinformation may have caused. Suffice it to say that in the past, paraprofessionals have not participated in parent-teacher conferences, and they still are not required to do so.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DAY

→ *From the Weekly Message issued by the Office of the State Superintendent*

House Resolution 162 proclaims **November 15th** of this year and every year thereafter as *School Board Member Day*. According to the Illinois Association of School Boards, there are nearly 6,000 men and women voluntarily serving as members of local boards of education. Please feel free to take this opportunity to recognize those members of your community serving in this capacity.

CHANGE IN DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER 26 SUPERINTENDENT'S BULLETIN

Because of the closing of all schools and offices Wednesday, November 21, through Friday, November 23, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be a change in the deadline to submit items for the *Superintendent's Bulletin* to be published November 26. All approved submissions received by 12:00 noon on Friday, November 16, will be included in the November 26 issue. All information received after that date and time will be included in the December 3 issue.

– P. Schwisow

CONTRIBUTIONS

Superintendent's Bulletin is a weekly newsletter from the Superintendent, the Web Manager, and other district administrators. Please send all contributions to:

Patrick Schwisow
Web Information Manager
Lincoln Center for Educational Services
1201 N. Sheridan Rd
Waukegan, IL 60085
Phone: (847) 263-2300
pschwisow@waukeganschools.org

The preferred submission method is via e-mail. **Contributions must be received by 12:00 noon on Wednesday** to be included in next week's *Bulletin*.

District Spotlight

WAUKEGAN ORCHESTRA STUDENTS SELECTED TO IMEA HONOR ORCHESTRA

→ *Submitted by DeAnna Elliott, Director of Elementary & Secondary Education*

Congratulations to **Kate Dudley**, Orchestra Director at Abbott Middle School, and her students from several Waukegan middle schools. These Waukegan orchestra students competed with over 300 students from surrounding communities including Lake Forest, Evanston, Barrington, and Glenview and were selected to participate in the **2007 Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) Junior Division Honor Orchestra**. They rehearsed all day and played a concert in the IMEA Music Festival held at Maine West on Saturday, November 2nd.

Front row: Josephine Jose (Jefferson), Marial Williams (Abbott), and Lindsey Bennett (Jefferson). Back row: Karolena Hughes (Abbott), Lauren Russell (Abbott), and Kate Dudley (Director, Abbott).



Awards and Honors

TOYOTA FAMILY LITERACY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) and Toyota is seeking nominations for the **2008 Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Award**, to be presented to an educator who demonstrates exemplary efforts to help parents and children achieve their academic and non-academic goals. The educator selected as the 2008 Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year will receive a \$5,000 award for his / her program, courtesy of Toyota. He / she also will receive a trip to the 17th Annual National Conference on Family Literacy in Louisville, Kentucky, March 30 – April 1, 2008. Several finalists will receive a \$500 scholarship.

Nominations for the 2008 Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year will be accepted online through **December 5, 2007**. For more information, please see: http://www.familit.org/site/c.gtJWJdMQIsE/b.2014417/k.CBF7/Toyota_Family_Literacy_Teacher_of_the_Year_Award.htm

Professional Development

LAKE COUNTY CURRICULUM RESOURCE COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS

→ *Submitted by Dr. Ellen E. Mauer, Romona School Principal*

As noted in a previous *Bulletin* ([Vol. 2, No. 11](#)), the Lake County Curriculum Resource Council (LCCRC) has two presentations coming up. If you are interested in the December 6 presentation (**Tier 2 Reading and Math Materials** presented by Marilee Cielo and Carrie DeLaCruz), please see the attached brochure / registration form (in [Enclosures](#)).

Waukegan-Area Events

DISCOUNT TICKET OFFER AT THE GENESEE THEATRE

→ *From Gary Zabinski, General Manager, Genesee Theatre*

The Genesee Theatre is offering Waukegan Public Schools employees and students discount tickets to an upcoming concert. **THE BLUZMEN Tribute concert on Saturday, November 17 at 8:00 p.m.** is a real-life recreation of the famous Blues Brothers band created by John Belushi and Dan Ackroyd and has played in dozens of cities around the world and virtually every casino theatre in Las Vegas. Additionally, this show is produced by a local Waukegan High School graduate, Janet Ten Pas, who left her roots to make it big on the West coast.

From now through the night of the show, anyone affiliated with the Waukegan Public Schools can purchase tickets to this show at a **\$5.00 Off Discount**. There is no limit on the number of tickets. Please purchase in person directly from the Genesee Theatre Box Office and show an employee or student ID issued by District 60 (or any District 60 school) at time of purchase. The box office is located at the theatre at 203 N. Genesee Street and is open weekdays from Noon – 5:30 p.m.

DOWNTOWN WAUKEGAN YMCA

→ *From Jacqueline Camacho-Ruiz, Director, JJR Marketing Consultants*

The new Downtown Waukegan YMCA is hosting a preview opening in December, and the Grand Opening will be in January. For more information, please see the attached flyer (in [Enclosures](#)).

Enclosures

HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **New Vacancy Postings** – [VacanciesV2N13.pdf](#)
 - ⇒ Technology Support Technician (Lincoln Center)
 - ⇒ Training Support Specialist (Lincoln Center)
 - ⇒ Library Assistant (**Multiple Positions**)
 - ⇒ Paraprofessional Inclusion (Benny)
 - ⇒ Assistant Girls Soccer Coach (Waukegan High School)
 - ⇒ Assistant Rifle Team Coach (Waukegan High School)
 - ⇒ Head Varsity Girls Soccer Coach (Waukegan High School)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2. **Tier 2 Reading and Math Materials Brochure** – [lccrcDec6Brochure.pdf](#)

WAUKEGAN-AREA EVENTS

3. **Downtown Waukegan YMCA Flyer** – [ymcaFlyer.pdf](#)

Waukegan Public Schools Administration

Donaldo R. Batiste, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jules A. Gaudin, MBA, CPA
Deputy Superintendent /
Chief Operations Officer

Mary L. Lamping, Ph.D.
Chief Academic Officer

Mr. Fredrick Howard
Executive Director
Human Resources

Mr. Rich Pattison
Executive Director
Information Technology Services

Waukegan Public Schools Board of Education

Mrs. June M. Maguire
President

Mrs. Rita Mayfield-Jedkins
Vice President

Ms. Anita Hanna

Mr. William P. Anderson

Mr. Mark E. Hawn

Mr. Domingo "Sonny" Garza

Mr. Michael Rodriguez

*"A New Day... A New Way in Waukegan Public Schools...
onward and upward!"*