

The Board Bulletin

A Report to the Community from the Glencoe Board of Education

The End of a School Year

Dear Community Members,

Time flies when you are having a great time! As hard as it is to believe, the end of the school year is right around the corner. It seems as though we just finished posting class lists, waxing the hallway floors, and finalizing plans for "Go-to-School" Nights. The end of a school year brings both an air of pride in accomplishments and excitement regarding the future.



As we close this school year, staff members are well into the process of preparing for the new 2009-2010 school year. This summer, teachers will participate in workshops focused upon instructional technology, writing, and building-based projects. The Board of Education will continue studying financial options available to our school district during these challenging economic times.

For many District 35 students and teachers, the future includes participation in *Summer Explorations*. This four-week enrichment program begins Tuesday, June 9, and runs thorough Thursday, July 2. See the article on page 2 for information about possible last-minute enrollment.

The District's future also includes changes. District 35 bids farewell to Dr. Jay Howe and thanks him for 11 years of service to our school district (page 4). We welcome a new assistant principal at Central School and several administrators moving to new positions within our school district (page 2). Our Board of Education also welcomes Nancy Shaw and returning members Keith Stauber, Eddie Chez, and Rob Bailey (page 2).

As you and your family prepare for the summer break, I thank you for your contributions and partnership with our school district. With an eye to the future we will continue preparing for yet another successful school year in Glencoe in 2009-2010.

Sincerely,

Cathlene A. Crawford
Superintendent, Glencoe School District 35



New laptop carts deliver portable, productive, and popular technology to individual students in classrooms at West and Central Schools. See story, page 3.

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Dates Glencoe Families Know and Love

8th Grade Graduation: **Tuesday, June 2**

Last Day of School for kindergarteners:
Thursday, June 4

Last Day of School grades 1 - 7: **Friday, June 5**

First Day of School 2009-2010:
Wednesday, August 26

First Day of School for kindergarteners:
Tuesday, Sept. 1

New Administrators in District 35

The 2009-2010 school year will see several familiar faces in new administrative roles in District 35, along with a new addition at Central School.

Catherine Wang, currently Principal of South School, will become the new District 35 **Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology**. She assumes the administrative responsibilities held by retiring Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Jay Howe, but also adds “Technology” to her title—a fitting addition because of her expertise and long years of experience in that area. (Mrs. Wang began her career in Glencoe as the District 35 Educational Technology Specialist.)

Molly Cinnamon will become the new **Principal of South School**, and taking her position as **Assistant Principal of Central School** will be **Eddy Kim**, who comes to District 35 from Lincoln Junior High School in Skokie, where he was Dean of Students for grades 6 – 8. He previously taught at Deer Path Middle School in Lake Forest and the Chicago International Charter School’s Bucktown campus.

Jason Edelheit, who has served on the District 35 administrative team since 2007, has been named the **Director of Finance and Operations**.

Kindergarten Registration Continues

South School’s 2009-2010 kindergarten registration was held in the South School Library in February, but parents can continue to register their kindergarten children at the office of South School at 266 Linden Avenue. The office is open Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

To enroll in kindergarten, students *must* be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2009. A birth certificate must be presented at the time of registration. In addition, *all* families must provide proof of residency in District 35. (Please review the information on residency documentation found on our “Student Registration” link on the upper left-hand side of the South School website glencoesouth.org). Please call the school office at 847 835-6400 with additional questions.



Enriching and exciting courses await Glencoe students participating in District 35’s **Summer Explorations** summer school program running each morning from **Tuesday, June 9, to Thursday, July 2**. Those who missed the on-line registration session can contact the summer school co-directors, Allison Rose (847 835-7888, voice mailbox 6644) or Nan Weiss-Ham (847 835-7888, voice mailbox 8384), for late registration information.

New Board of Education Sworn In

Four newly elected members of the Glencoe Board of Education were sworn in at the Board’s May 4 meeting and immediately set about the task of guiding the ship of District 35. The four include **Nancy Shaw**, new to the Board; **Keith Stauber**, appointed to the Board last June to fill the vacancy of retiring member Greg Makoul; and incumbent Board members **Eddie Chez**, who has served on the Board of Education since 1993, and **Robert Bailey**, a member since 2005 and currently President of the Board.

Mrs. Shaw, a 10-year resident of Glencoe, is an executive marketing coach with her own Glencoe-based business, Marketing Identities Inc. She and her husband Alan are parents of a son, who is a fourth-grader at West School, and a daughter, a first grader at South.

She is a graduate of Niles West High School in Skokie and holds a BA from Harvard and an MBA from Northwestern University’s Kellogg Graduate School of Management.

In submitting her application for the Board, Mrs. Shaw emphasized both her professional background and her commitment to her own children’s academic and social growth. “Leveraging my professional expertise, experience, and capabilities,” she wrote, “and applying them to the activities of the School Board to optimize our children’s development is a natural extension of my passions and skill set.”

Current Board members also include **James Burnham**, **Laura Malehorn**, and **Eric Sigurdson**.



Newly elected members of the Board of Education were sworn in at the May 4 meeting. Vice President James Burnham (left), administered the oath to Nancy Shaw, Keith Stauber, Rob Bailey, and Eddie Chez.

Walk-in registration will be available on **Monday, June 8** (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.) at Central School on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited and not all classes will be available. Payment will be expected at the time of registration.

For more information about summer school, see the “Summer Explorations 2009” box on the web pages of South, West, and Central Schools at glencoeschools.org.

Technology on the Move

An innovative yet simple use of portable technology has debuted at West and Central Schools in the form of new laptop carts that bring individual computers to students in their classroom. The carts hold 22 laptops each—one for each student—and can be wheeled from the Library Learning Center into classrooms to support instruction and facilitate teacher-to-students and student-to-student interaction.

Teachers praise the laptop carts for a number of reasons. Bringing the carts to students maximizes class time (no “dead” time spent going to-and-from computer labs) and also maximizes use of SMART Boards that are in many classrooms.



The new laptop carts save time, free up classroom space, and allow students to combine book and Internet research at their desks.

A Perspective from Central School

“Being able to show students on a SMART Board what you would like them to do, while they have computers in front of them, is quite helpful,” says Central School language arts teacher Chelsea Alsberg.

And, not least, the carts allow an expansion of technology capacity without taking up more building space. In fact, taking computers out of a fixed location has freed up one computer lab for an additional classroom at Central School.

Alsberg cites an example of how the laptops are used in instruction. As part of the 7th grade Constitution Unit, students researched specific Supreme Court cases and then taught their fellow students about the case. Students are instructed to use both books and the Internet for research and create presentations. “I can have all the students in my classroom working in the way that best suits each student’s skills,” she says.

Another good use of the laptops involves simulations available on the Internet. Simulations have taken students along the route of Lewis and Clark and along the Underground Railroad. “Using the laptops and SMART Board together, we can help guide students through the simulations and then close up the laptops and reflect on the activity without the distraction to the students of active computers.”

“One of the best aspects of the carts,” adds Alsberg, “is the reality that any time you get technology in a classroom, students have a higher level of engagement. Students can use them to answer whatever questions they may have and direct their inquiry.”

Used Wisely at West

The arrival of a laptop cart in the classroom is equally appealing to younger Glencoe students, says West School 4th grade teacher Shelly Schwetz. “Technology can be a powerful and incredibly motivating tool for students,” she says. “It allows teachers to reach several learning styles at once. When I tell my class, ‘We will be using the laptops for social studies today,’ it creates a contagious energy in the classroom. Individual laptops create a learning environment where all students are active participants.”

Ms. Schwetz gives the example of the students accessing the website, “Blobz Guide to Electric Circuits” (Note: www.andythelwell.com — try it; it’s great fun!) to reinforce curricular concepts and state standards for electricity. Her students also recently used the laptops to access activities to help them practice for an upcoming 50-states geography test.

In fact, her students react eagerly to any lesson utilizing the laptops. “Some students have remarked they feel ‘grown up’ (which is pretty important to 4th graders) when they use the laptops,” comments Ms. Schwetz. “Unlike an excited, noisy bunch of children, the enthusiasm for using the laptop usually results in a quiet volume in the classroom. Once a child is working on the laptop, he or she is focused, productive, and content.”

Student Fees for 2009-2010: Unchanged, with a Discount Incentive

The annual student fees will remain unchanged for the coming 2009-2010 school year. However, the Board of Education will implement a change in student fee collections for the school year. **A \$20 discount** will be applied to the following student fees if paid by

September 30, 2009:

South School students: \$125 (*\$105 with discount*)

West School students: \$100 (*\$80 with discount*)

Central School students: \$135 (*\$115 with discount*)

The student fees collected each school year are used to assist in defraying the cost of consumable educational materials and supplies. Examples of these student materials include, but are not limited to, items such as: mathematics journals, multiple copies of guided reading books, modern languages work books, spelling/grammar/vocabulary workbooks, print and non-print materials for the Library Learning Centers, Social Studies Alive student journals, and more.

Additionally, a portion of the South School fee is designated to assist in defraying the costs associated with a transportation clerk. A portion of the Central School fee is designated to cover the cost of before and after school student programs.

It's All About Teamwork

by Dr. Jay Howe, retiring Assistant Superintendent

There is not one thing I can point to from the past 11 years and say, "This is something I accomplished alone." On the contrary, there have been fabulous reforms and effective revisions to our curriculum and instruction at every grade level and in every subject area—all thanks to the considerable contributions by numerous district professionals and community members.

Administrative Team

Superintendent Cathy Crawford expertly leads the administrative team. She is easy to follow because of her incredible insight to the profession, loyalty to children and community, and her impeccable attention to detail. Dr. Crawford encourages team members to scrupulously articulate before a decision is made affecting students. None of us stands alone. Positive cooperation is the norm. **Principals Ryan Mollet, David Rongey, and Catherine Wang** are three strong forces, whose great skills and talents have been impressively proven. **Molly Cinnamon**, Central's assistant principal, provides



Dr. Howe joined Glencoe District 35 in 1998 as Principal of South School and became Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction in 2000. Beginning in September, he plans to work as an adjunct instructor at National Louis University, Concordia College, and Aurora University.



Dr. Howe praises the professionalism of District 35 administrators, a team that also prizes humor—as evidenced every year at Halloween when they, like students, love to dress up.

heart and reminders of our missions. **Valerie Lamberti**, the **Pupil Services Director**, possesses great patience and strength. **Jason Edelheit**, one of our newest mem-

bers, has taken charge of finances and operations deftly with the knowledge base of administrators twice his age.

Instructional Teams

The teaching teams have become stronger thanks to excellent hires, increased opportunities for instructional and technological planning, and sharing curricular goals so that all team members are addressing the same grade or subject area targets. Teachers and teacher associates assist in planning professional development, working directly to reform curriculum, making materials

selections, helping decide how to advance in technology and enhance/differentiate instruction, and instructing one another in our own Glencoe University. Administrators and teachers have always strived to keep their relationships positive.

Parents

Our parents are another effective team. Not only do they support educators through the **Glencoe PTO** (Parent-Teacher Organization) and **Glencoe Educational Foundation**, but also in everyday decision-making and problem-solving that deal directly with their children. On the whole, the district's parents are generous, supportive and intelligent. They make great part-

ners in their children's education, and planning together is customary in Glencoe schools. The WE CARE program, before- and after-school student enrichment activities, service learning ideas, city school partnership projects, and "dreams come true" projects like the science laboratory classrooms have come to fruition through their energies. It is "en vogue" to support your local public schools and the people in them. Just look at the overwhelmingly positive results of the April 2005 referendum vote!

Students

The students have the best social skills I have ever known in children their ages! They are polite and honest. In my work with them, I have always been amazed at their levels of vocabulary, ability to advocate for themselves, and how valuable their opinions are if you take the time to ask! Student surveys on issues of tolerance, modern language programming, and physical education instruction have all proved to be helpful tools for reform. The surveys we annually send to Central School graduates who are freshman at New Trier High School have evolved into a township effort, and those students who have been through our system reveal many of our strengths and present possible goals.

Community members

Community organizations such as **Glencoe Public Safety, Glencoe Family Services, Glencoe Public Library** and the **Human Relations Forum**, to mention a few, have been strong partners to education. Our school safety committees, special parent and family events, and social services have all improved thanks to sharing mutual missions.



Joining Central School faculty and students for this year's Earth Day activities were Glencoe Village Manager Paul Harlow (in suit and tie), as well as David Mau (second to right) and John Houde (right) of Glencoe Public Works.

Other school staff members

School and District 35 secretaries and custodians make our environments more conducive to learning. Everything the district sponsors, from Family Mathematics Nights to Institute 2000, when Glencoe hosted the science segment for township teachers, depends on the cooperation of the fine secretaries and custodians. They are dedicated and possess many needed skills. Their contributions are immeasurable and most are regarded as "family."

The Board of Education

Most important, the Glencoe Board of Education members are special people. What a rare privilege to work with so many talented, intelligent representatives of the community! They allow the professionals space to do their important jobs and monitor district activities with proper scrutiny. In a quality school district, there is no need to micro-manage, which can leave the professionals feeling helpless and unnecessary. It has been a privilege to serve in a professional environment that supports, trusts, and nurtures creative, prepared professionals.

Teamwork! It has never been stronger, nor have I ever known it to be quite as effective in my 34 years in education. It was my very good fortune to land employment in the Glencoe schools, and I will forever be a positive advocate for the Glencoe School District teams—even if it is from the sidelines!



Students in Kristen Cimino's 2nd grade class and Katie Geier's 7th grade advisory were "writing buddies" for the school year, writing to each other and recently meeting face-to-face.

"Project Welcome" recently brought 4th graders to Central School to scout out their new school surroundings come August.



Twelve 7th and 8th graders were winners in the Health Essay Contest. Their topic: "These Are the Healthy Choices I Am Making Now and that I Plan to Continue as I Go on to High School."



The rites of Central School graduation: These young men are preparing to pose for the traditional Class Picture.

Environmental News from South, West, and Central...

...Where Green Is More Than Just a Color of the Season

Activities reflecting Glencoe students' growing environmental awareness were in full swing this spring. Here are some highlights from the three campuses:

South School: Shoes for the Shredder...and a Trip to the Glencoe Greenhouse

South School's Recycle Club collected eight large bags of old athletic shoes that will be donated, shredded, and turned into a material that is used to make basketball and tennis courts, soccer and football fields, running tracks...and more. The courts, fields, and tracks are donated to needy committees to help keep kids playing. As part of the project, South students worked with teachers to sort and organize the sneakers and learn more about the recycling process.

In early May, kindergarteners visited the Glencoe Park District's Greenhouse, located behind the baseball field at the newly renovated Takiff Center (Community Center) at 999 Green Bay Road. There, the kindergarteners learned more about the resources and people who help keep the parks of Glencoe green and healthy. The field trip also provided a wonderful connection to their study of plants. The enthusiastic group was warmly welcomed by Parks Director Rick Bold.

West School: Earth Day Observed, Custom-Made Recycling Stations, Composting on Campus, and a Go-Green Mosaic

For Earth Day, West School students decorated the playground with drawings of the earth and other important symbols of the day. Grocery bags were decorated and taken to Grand Foods in Glencoe to be re-used.

Gracing West's lunchroom are two efficient new recycle stations designed and built to accommodate the height of 3rd and 4th graders. There are slots for students to dispose of liquids, organics, recyclable material and garbage. The students thanked custodian Rudy Jimenez and his colleagues for building the stations and assisting with recycling.

West School now also has two compost systems, including a green cone and a tumbler that decompose lunch waste.

The Go-Green Club made great progress in completing a large and colorful "West Goes Green" mosaic composed of plastic bottle caps—many of which cannot be recycled and would otherwise go into landfills. The Club has also collected caps for a map of the world designed by West School art teacher Brian Fisher.

Central School: Earth Day Celebrated as Earth Week

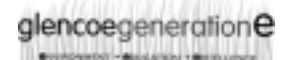
Central students turned the week of Earth Day into a technicolor celebration. On Monday, April 20, students wore green to honor green trees. The Green Club assisted the Village of Glencoe in planting a tree at Central School. Tuesday's color, blue, symbolized clean blue water. On Wednesday, brown sent the message that composting makes soil richer—and there was more planting on campus. On Thursday yellow and gold reminded students of the sun's rays and the power of solar energy. "We add up to save our earth" was the theme of the day on Friday, when students wore T-shirts with that—or another earth-friendly—message.



The PTO's "Generation E" Takes Learning Outdoors

Working closely with District 35 this year, Glencoe PTO launched **Generation E**, an innovative, multi-year program to integrate hands-on, outdoor learning into existing curriculums. The PTO's goal—as with all of its programs—is to create possibilities for Glencoe students and teachers that might not otherwise exist. The Generation E initiative allows teachers to apply for quarterly grants that get kids learning outside and promote the use of Glencoe's myriad natural resources, such as Lake Michigan, the Skokie Lagoons and the Chicago Botanic Garden.

This spring, more than 150 Glencoe families and teachers contributed more than \$25,000 to fund Gen E grants. Examples of projects underway include: 7th- and 8th-grade studies of solar and wind power and the chemistry of recycling; a 4th-grade, interdisciplinary study of soil and nutrients needed to grow corn; and a 1st-grade study of habitats over time in the Everly Wildflower Sanctuary adjacent to South School. To see the rest of the approved grants, go to glencoepto.org and click on "Gen E."

 glencoe generation e

Read Any Good Books Lately? Try One (or More) of These!

The Library Learning Center Directors—Nancy Bearwald at South School, Barbara Feldman at West School, and Susan Meyer at Central School—recently polled students for summer reading recommendations. The result is this list compiled from their many suggestions—printed here for Glencoe readers of all ages. Feel free to cross grade levels—and enjoy finding a great escape for children you know!

Eighth Graders' Recommendations

Pendragon: Raven Rise by D. J. MacHale
Twilight by Stephenie Meyer
Pretties by Scott Westerfeld
Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox by Eoin Colfer

Seventh Graders' Recommendations

Midnighters: The Secret Hour by Scott Westerfeld
The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau
Point Blank by Anthony Horowitz
Cirque Du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant by Darren Shan

Sixth Graders' Recommendations

A Drowned Maiden's Hair by Laura Amy Schlitz
Raven's Gate by Anthony Horowitz
The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
Last Shot by John Feinstein

Fifth Graders' Recommendations

The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan
100 Cupboards by N. D. Wilson
A Dog's Life by Ann Martin
Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings



Fourth Graders' Recommendations

The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School
by Candice Fleming
A-Z Mysteries series by Ron Roy
Hachiko Waits by Leslea Newman
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Third Graders' Recommendations

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd
Bone series by Jeff Smith
Judy Moody series by Megan McDonald
Babe the Gallant Pig (and other animal stories) by Dick King-Smith

Second Graders' Recommendations

Diary of a Wimpy Kid series by Jeff Kinney
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo
The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams
Stuart Little by E.B. White

First Graders' Recommendations

The Butter Battle Book by Dr. Seuss
The Principal from the Black Lagoon by Mike Thaler
Henry and Mudge series by Cynthia Rylant
If I Built a Car by Chris Van Dusen

Kindergarteners' Recommendations

Muncha! Muncha! Muncha! By Candace Fleming
Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude by Kevin O'Malley
SuperHero ABC by Bob McLeod
Skippyjon Jones series by Judy Schachner



*The halls were
alive with the
sound of
music in
2008-09.*



THE 2009 GLENCOE SUMMERFEST AUGUST 7TH, 8TH & 9TH SPONSORED BY THE GLENCOE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Glencoe Summerfest—Fun for All

The Glencoe Educational Foundation (GEF) is proud to announce the **2009 Glencoe Summerfest**, to be held **Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 7, 8, and 9**. Presented in conjunction with AT&T, this three-day festival will include the **Spartan Cup**, a four-person scramble golf tournament at the Glencoe Golf Club on **Friday, August 7**; the **Panda Ramble 5K** run on **Saturday morning, August 8**; various activities

for the whole family on Saturday afternoon, and a **family block party** for all families in the community on Saturday evening. The block party will be held on Vernon between Hazel and Park and will include games, food, and live music. Summerfest concludes on **Sunday, August 9** with the third running of the **Glencoe Grand Prix** bike race, including the famous kid bike races scheduled at high noon!

The GEF has been raising funds for the placement in classrooms of SMART Boards, which are computerized interactive whiteboards that facilitate instruction. To date, 52 SMART Boards have been installed in District 35, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the GEF.

For details, to sign up for events, volunteer, make a donation or to offer support for Glencoe Summerfest 2009, please visit the GEF website at **www.glencoegef.org** or call Jon Knouse, GEF President at 847 987-0819 or David Metrick, GEF Vice President at 847 682-9291.



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*Our schools
are only as
strong
as the
informed
support of
the people
who com-
prise the
community.*

Carrier Route Presort

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GLENCOE, IL 60022**