



Awarded the INSPRA
2006 Award of
Excellence

Clean Hands, Health Kids!

The photo in the masthead (top of page) features children from Charles Quentin School checking out the germs and bacteria that can be on the hands of another student. Sodexo, the district's food service provider, provided the "black light" demonstration as part of a lunch time discussion on the importance of hand washing before eating.

The mission of Lake Zurich Community Unit School District 95 is to inspire all students to be passionate, continuous learners and to prepare them with the skills to achieve their goals and flourish as responsible, caring citizens in a global community.

Early Childhood Changes Bring National Attention

The decision to bring its Early Childhood program in-house has shown to be better for children, increase staffing and services, improve teacher collabora-



School. A key point in the article was to make sure that school districts include parents in the process so that they are fully informed and supportive

tion—and save the district money. It has also earned **Nancy Rosenfeld**, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education Services, and her staff some national attention.

The changes in the district's Early Childhood program are featured in a full-page article on page 8 of the October 2006 edition of *Early Childhood Report*, a national publication focusing on children with special needs and their families. Rather than focusing simply on the savings of bringing the program in-house from an in-state cooperative program, the article focuses on how other school districts could make such a change in their own districts by focusing on the process used by Rosenfeld and her staff.

The article includes quotes from both Rosenfeld and **Julie Garrow**, an early childhood special education teacher at Charles Quentin

about the proposed program changes.

In the fall of 2006, Rosenfeld and her staff recommended bringing the program in-house after extensively reviewing the services offered by the state cooperative and believing that the school district could offer much more to children and families. Approved by Superintendent Dr. Brian Knutson and the Board of Education, the changes have resulted in increased services and educational time for students, alignment with the district's curriculum, and greater collaboration for teachers. An additional benefit, although not a primary motivator for making the changes, was the fact that the program saved the district nearly \$200,000 over what it would have paid in the existing cooperative.

Elyte Staff Honored for Yearbook Work

Several members of the 2007 Elyte Yearbook staff were honored for their work in several areas of the book which will be published in May, 2007. The awards were given by the Herff-Jones Yearbook Company at the Chicagoland Yearbook Experience which took place on the campus of Dominican University late last summer. Receiving awards were:

- Junior **Matthew Berggren**, Bronze Level Award for Outstanding Photography
- Senior **Kara Buffardi**, Gold Level Award for Outstanding Yearbook Layout
- Junior **Annie Stitt**, Bronze Level Award for Outstanding Yearbook Layout
- Silver Level Award for Outstanding Photography
- Junior **Ashlea Thomsen**, Honorable Mention for Yearbook Layout
- Junior **Anna Willman**, Bronze Level Award for Outstanding Yearbook Layout

The overall theme concept (which will be announced when the book is published) for the 2007 Book was given a Silver Level rating by the organization.

"The yearbook staff has been working hard to produce a quality book which allow future generations a glimpse into what it was like to be a student at Lake Zurich High School in 2006 and 2007, said **Karen Marchand**, English teacher and 2007 Yearbook co-advisor. "These awards are indicative of the hard work that the students put in toward making the book a success."

Marchand and her co-advisor, **Kevin Rubenstein** (Special Education), received the award for 'Most Improved New Advisors'. Students and staff who are interested in ordering a book should contact Mr. Rubenstein or Ms. Marchand at Lake Zurich High School.

Two Talk at National Forum Join an Action Team

Congratulations to LZHS teachers **Chris McOmber** (Biology) and **Mary Ann Eiserman** (English), who were selected to present at the prestigious National Association of Biology Teachers in Albuquerque, NM. Their presentation on October 12, was entitled “Two Teachers and Seven Daughters”: Reading a novel to understand DNA in the science classroom. The teaming of the duo is intriguing in that Eiserman teaches English, not Biology.



Community Unit School District 95 is still seeking staff, parents, students and interested community

member volunteers to serve on action teams which will develop the necessary steps for successfully implementing the five strategies of the district’s strategic plan. The plan was renewed last spring and approved by the Board of Education on May 25. The five action teams include:

- Staff Commitment**
- Community Commitment**
- Trust & Collaboration**
- Recruitment/Retention**
- Curriculum & Learning Opportunities**

Action teams will begin meeting soon with their final product due next spring.

The finished action plans will then be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Steering Committee before being submitted to the school district and its Board of Education.

If you are willing to participate on an Action Team, simply call the district’s Office of Communications, (847) 540-5489. For more information, visit the district’s strategic plan web site at www.lz95.org/strategic.

Bye, Bye Birdie at MSS

With more than 100 students involved in the production, Middle School South (MSS) is excited about its upcoming production of *Bye Bye Birdie*. According to drama teacher **Tammie Herrejon**, the students and teachers have been working very hard to put together a wonderful musical performance.

“We are so grateful to all our parent volunteers who have gone above and beyond to get this show off the ground and running,” said Herrejon.

Lovers of the theater, and musicals in particular, are encouraged to see this fabulous musical before it flies away! Performance dates, times and location include:

- Thursday, November 16, 7:00 p.m., MSS
- Friday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m., MSS
- Saturday, November 18 at 7:00, p.m., MSS

Tickets at the door will be only \$6 for adults and only \$5 for students and children.

Are You in the Know?

Get in the know about your public schools by joining the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network (KeyCom)**.

Our KeyCom program is a network of community residents, leaders, opinion shapers and watchdogs whose opinions are well respected by friends, colleagues and neighbors. We are not looking for cheerleaders, but people who care about our schools and want to be kept informed and are then willing to share that information with others.

As a Key Communicator, you will receive timely, factual information via a regular newsletter e-mailed to you about the work we’re doing and



the issues affecting your school district and your schools.

Because this is designed to be a two-way communications network, we encourage you to give us your input and share your opinions. As a KeyCom member, your responsibility will be to share the information with friends, neighbors and colleagues.

To become a Key Communicator, simply call,

email or fax:

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THRIVE in 95 is produced by the Community Unit School District 95 Office of Communications & Community Relations for staff and interested community members. Story submissions are greatly encouraged.

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