



Right: Middle School North students are excited to begin utilizing a variety earthquake simulating equipment including a computerized tremor table, made possible by a Teacher Innovation Grant awarded to **Jerry Clemens**, Middle School North Science Teacher. School District 95 Educational Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, awarded grants as part of the second funding initiative for teacher innovation last month. (photo by **Annette Jacobsen**)

Teachers Awarded Grants for Innovation

As a part of its second funding initiative, the School District 95 Educational Foundation approved four grants for teacher innovation, which were awarded this past November. The School District 95



Educational Foundation awards educational grants annually in the spring and fall. They provide teachers with teaching tools and supplies for programs or equipment that are particularly innovative and ones that would not be considered for funding by the School District.

Those awarded grants this fall included:

- **Middle School North Science Teacher Jerry Clemens** for the materials to build eight Earthquake Shake Tables and purchase a computerized Earthquake Tower tremor table enabling students to simulate earthquake waves and resonance frequency displacement.
- **Lake Zurich High School Math Teacher J.B. Hanson** for a Tablet PC, enabling

creation of an online database of student solved geometric proofs that will prove invaluable to students studying for ACT math exams.

- **Middle School North Family & Consumer Arts Teacher Pam Grimm** for the purchase of

computerized embroidery software enabling students to turn computer designs into embroidery designs. The software will be used by Home Economics, Art, Drama and Health students for a variety of projects including creating fundraising apparel for school sponsored events and philanthropies.

- **Lake Zurich High School Biology Teachers Laura Cohen and Chris McOmber** for equipment enabling Honors Biology students to extract and amplify samples of their own DNA resulting in a "hands-on" environment

(Cont. on pg. 3-See *Teacher Grants*)

114 from LZHS Named Illinois State Scholars

Lake Zurich High School Principal **Dr. Michael Egan** is pleased to announce that 114 Lake Zurich High School (LZHS) students have been recognized as "2008 Illinois State Scholars."

The prestigious award is given annually by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)

which is recognizing 18,178 high school students from across the state as this year's State Scholars.

Illinois State Scholar winners rank in the top ten percent of the state's high school seniors from 711 high schools in all 102 counties. Selection is



based on SAT, ACT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of their junior year. High school guidance counselors work in conjunction with ISAC to determine the winners. At least a half million Illinois State Scholars have been recognized in the past 49 years.

Congratulations to **Krista Aistars, Bradley Andress, Randall Batridge, Brandon Baum, Christopher Beiser, Reid**

Bergstrom, Christopher Bondi, Leann Boucha, Nikolaus Briesemeister, Russell Brown, Linda Brozyna, Brad Caudill, Anthony Cerqua, Ming Chiu, Aaron Chun, Hayleigh Colombo, Brian

(Cont. on pg. 2-See *Teacher Grants*)

State Scholars (cont.)

Creagh, Jacob Cutts, Natalie Daab, Mark Decanio, David Demma, Michael Dietrich, Jenna Dijohn, Michael Dionesotes, Benjamin Ditton, Gregory Donatell Christopher Doust, Taylor Dreher, Tomas Drury, Timothy Ekl, Leah Fiddler, John Gage, Dan Gatsakos, Bryan Grant, Mark Guinter, MaryRose Hembd, Daniel Hoehne, Stephen Hofmann, Katharine Hooper, Amanda Hughes, John Ingles, Michael Jehl, Kevin Johnson, Amanda Jones, Samantha Jordan, Kelsey Karmell, Courtney Keenan, Samuel Kent, Jacqueline Kinney, Heather Kipnis, Jeff Kremer, Lauren Krzeminski, Emily Lamb, Laura Lane, Melanie Lawson, Scott Leighton, Joseph Lustig, James Madsen, Gina Maliekal, Colleen McGuckin, Lisa Miller, Mark Miller, Darrell Montonera, Michael Morrison, Chelsea Murawski, Jessica Nichols, Caleb Noble, Alexander Nocom, Courtney O'Donovan, Jacquelyn Otto, Clairissa Papa, Maggie Perion, Anthony Petrou, Bethany Ploughe, Nicole Pomerleau, Zachary Pope, Brian Poulakidas, Elliott Rill, Nicole Robin, Patrice Rosenberg, Chelsea Ruskoski, Michael Russart, Michael Sanders, Sarah Sarkesian, Melissa Schauer, Emily Schmidt, Kimberly Schofield, David Sibilsky, Rebecca Smith, Nicholas Solarz, Amy Spinabella, Megan Stavnes, Matthew Steffen, Annie Stitt, Michael Stott, Megan Sue, Kerri Sustich, Kate Tarquino, Jessica Thelander, Ashlea Thomsen, John Tiedmann, Amy Turner, Anna Turner, Claire Turner, Eric Vanderwerff, Mark Walker, Ryan Wanat, Kelly Warych, Erica Weathers, Matthew Weinrauch, George Wilkin, Kathleen Willmot, Rebecca Woodley, and Jeixuan Zhang.

"These students personify excellence," said ISAC Executive Director Andrew Davis, whose agency has overseen the Illinois State Scholars program since 1958. "Illinois State Scholars are among the best and the brightest in our state's high schools. We salute them, along with their partners in reaching for the stars: their families, and the teachers and staff at Lake Zurich High School for this stellar achievement."

While the recognition does not provide a monetary award, winners are encouraged to cite the award on applications for college admission and scholarships.

"Competition for college admission and financial aid is tough. Illinois State

Scholar awardees have shown they can hit the books, so I encourage every Illinois college to put Illinois State Scholars at the very top of their list for admission," Davis said. "These 114 Lake Zurich High School students are shining examples that hard work pays off."

High school students and their parents are urged to visit collegezone.com for more information about the many college financial assistance programs available. The innovative site also offers career counseling services, a planning timeline, virtual campus tours and online applications.

Created in 1957, ISAC is the state's central provider of college aid. The agency oversees the Monetary Award Program (MAP), Illinois Veteran Grant, and service-related programs to encourage students to pursue careers in teaching or nursing. Last year, ISAC issued 185,000 grants totaling \$448 million and guaranteed \$1.2 billion in loans. Its 529 prepaid tuition program – *College Illinois!* – has allowed more than 27,000 Illinois families to prepay more than \$1 billion in tuition and fees.

For more information, contact Sue Althoff at Lake Zurich High School, 847-540-7058.

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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Teacher Grants (cont.)



for research technology and DNA sequencing.

The School District 95 Educational Foundation is an outgrowth of the school district's latest Strategic Plan. As a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, the Foundation is an independent organization working with District 95 to support activities that enhance, enrich and supplement instructional opportunities for CUSD 95 learners consistent with the school district's core values and mission.

For more information about the School District 95 Educational Foundation, visit www.lz95foundation.org, or contact **Jim Jennings**, foundation liaison, at (847) 540-5494 or **LeJane Carson** at (847) 884.0000. For more information about the Teacher Innovation Grant program, contact **Lori Smith**, Chair of the Grant Review Committee, at (847) 540-5494.

PJs On a School Day



The neighbors my have thought that the staff and students at Sarah Adams School had forgotten to get dressed on December 14, but the students and staff were actually enjoying the school's PJ Day by wearing their favorite "onesie" or other sleep apparel.

MW-SL Hoop it Up



Who wins when the staff of May Whitney Elementary School hits the hardwood against the staff of Spencer Loomis Elementary School? The children with cancer who attend the "One Step at a Time" summer camp, that's who!

Playing to a packed crowd of students, parents and fellow staff members,



the two teams played a nail biter of a game until the final buzzer with the May Whitney School staff finally eking out the victory. More importantly, the friendly b-ball game raised more than \$2,400 for the charity, while the free throw shooting

skills of former college hoops star and current school board president **Kathy Brown** raised another \$300, bringing to total to nearly \$3,000.



The game featured two great teams, as well as cheerleaders, "geriatric" supporters, and an entire gym filled with screaming supporters for both teams. Trying to keep order in their zebra stripes were **Dr. Nate Carter** and **Craig Podolski** of Middle School North, while

Board member **Jim Hussey** and President **Brown** handled the announcing and color commentary.

The evening provided great fun and entertainment for all and left only one question hanging in the air: Will there be a rematch?

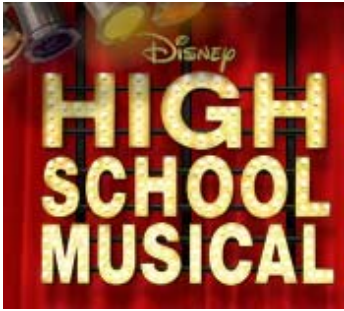


Far Left: Middle School North Teacher **Pam Grimm** was awarded a grant from the School District 95 Educational Foundation for computerized embroidery equipment enabling students to turn computer designs into embroidery designs. (photo by **Annette Jacobsen**)



Left & Above: Scenes from the May Whitney-Spencer Loomis Staff Charity Bash Basketball game. (Game photos by **Cheryl Hussey**, **Brian Knutson** and **Nancy McGee**)

High School Musical Coming to PAC in Jan.



Observe the magnetism and do the math as the Performing Arts Center of Lake Zurich presents *Disney's High School Musical on stage* Jan. 25

and 26 at 7 p.m. and Jan 26 & 27 at 2 p.m. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, students and children. Call the ticket hotline at 847.540.4740, or order on the web at www.lz95.org and avoid the additional \$2 for tickets at the door.



"Iced" Concerts, Financial Aid Meeting Rescheduled

The week's icy weather led to the cancellation of several concerts and events. The schools have rescheduled the affected events for the following dates and times:



- Lake Zurich High School's Financial Aid Night has been rescheduled to Monday, December 17, at 7 p.m., in the PAC. A Financial Aid expert from Northwestern University will present information on the financial aid process. Contact **Lisa Andriano**, College/Career Counselor, at (847) 540-5438 or lisa.andriano@lz95.org.
- The Middle School North Orchestra Concert has been rescheduled for Monday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m., at Middle School North.
- The Fourth Grade Orchestra Concert—featuring students from Sarah Adams School, Isaac Fox School and Charles Quentin School—has been rescheduled for Wednesday, December 19, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at Middle School South.

Become a Key Communicator

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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