



Orchesis Presents *TO DANCE* Feb. 9-11

Right: Members of the Lake Zurich High School Orchesis Dance Company take a break from preparing for *TO DANCE*.

Tickets are now on sale for the Lake Zurich High School Orchesis Dance Company presentation of *TO DANCE* at the Lake Zurich Performing Arts Center (PAC), Feb 9, 10 and 11, at 7 p.m. The PAC is located at 300 Church St., Lake Zurich. Tickets for this night of exciting music and dance are only \$8 for adults (ages 13 and up), \$6 for seniors (65 and older), and only \$4 for children (ages 12 and under).

This year's show will include special performances by the Xtreme Dance Force Professional Dance Company.



The Lake Zurich High School Orchesis Dance Company is a performing dance group dedicated to improving their technique while having lots of fun. Every year Orchesis puts on a show like *TO DANCE* in order to demonstrate a variety of dance forms including ballet, jazz, hip-hop, modern, lyrical, and tap. Orchesis also performs at the Lake Zurich High School Homecoming Show and various assemblies and events throughout the year.

For more information about *TO DANCE* or the Lake Zurich High School Orchesis Dance Company, contact Michelle Riportella, (847) 951-9889, or email her at mommyrip@sbcglobal.net.

Seth Paine Sets Off on *Literacy Adventures*

Seth Paine Elementary School held a "Literacy Adventures" workshop in the library media center on Tuesday, January 31, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. **Laura Gammons**, Principal; **Jan Boden** and **Michelle Gates**, Reading Specialists; **Robin Reinstein**, First grade teacher; **Colleen Green**, Speech and Language; **Jan Powers**, Resource; **Ashley Meis**, Fourth Grade Student; and **Katie Less**, Ela Children's Librarian;

worked with parents on simple, effective methods of reading with children.

During the parent-teacher segment the children were supervised in another room.

Later in the session, the children joined their parents and they had an opportunity to practice the reading methods together. The workshop was fun for all and presented new and exciting ways for parents to share the joy of reading with their children.



Board of Ed Seeks Your Input Via Online Surveys

Vice President
Kathy Brown



Striving to be a representative body that is even more responsive to its constituents, the Community Unit School District 95 Board of Education is actively seeking feedback from the communities it serves. To lead this effort, the Board of

Education has named Board Vice President **Kathy Brown** and board member **Jeff Didier** as co-leaders of its Board communications goal.

Board Member
Jeff Didier



“As communication is a key component in establishing trust and credibility in any endeavor; the Board is committed to utilizing new approaches in achieving this goal,” said Didier.

“District 95 wants to take the lead in providing information relating to our district.”

While the school district already conducts an annual stakeholder survey, and produces a weekly e-newsletter (*THRIVE in 95*) and quarterly community news magazine (*District Doings*) covering news about schools and the district, there exists a need to expand the two-way communication channels between the Board of Education and its communities.

One of the new communication channels developed by the Board involves an online survey on topical issues and questions that come before the Board. By clicking on the links from the Board of Education’s web site

(www.lz95.org/lzboe), and/or the school district’s main web page (www.lz95.org), district taxpayers and students can access and complete the short survey—which can range from one to several questions—in just a couple of minutes. While the first one-question survey deals with discussion topics for upcoming board community forums; the questions on the short survey will change monthly, if not more often.

“While the Board of Education is currently developing better methods to communicate our work to the community, it is also extremely important to the Board to find the best and easiest ways for the community to communicate to us,” said Brown. “We hope that the public’s ongoing responses to monthly—or more often—short survey questions will provide our communities with a quick and easy way to express their opinions to the Board, while at the same time providing the Board with the input we need to help move our district forward - together.”

Community members will be notified about the topic of each survey through news releases, *THRIVE in 95*, postings on the board and district web sites, and the district’s Key Communicators Network, which sends out regular email updates to its members. To sign up for the free Key Communicators Network, simply email the district’s Office of Communications & Community Relations at keycom@lz95.org, or call (847) 540-5489.

Board Honors Excellence in Education

At its regular January meeting, the Board of Education honored the following people for their excellence and commitment.



Students

High School - **Jack Zhou**, senior
Middle School South - **Eric Lehmann**, eighth grade
Middle School North - **Amie Hansen**, sixth grade
Spencer Loomis - **Alexis Fye**, third grade
Seth Paine - **Rebecca Sutura**, second grade
May Whitney - **Taylor Kuhn**, third grade
Sarah Adams - **Allie Heinrich**, fourth grade
Isaac Fox - **Noah Rosanova**, second grade
Charles Quentin - **Ryan Moran**, fifth grade

Adults

Staff Member of the Month - **Sylvia Bath**, Isaac Fox fourth grade teacher
Staff Member of the Month - **Adam Hjerpe**, Sarah Adams music teacher
Volunteer of the Month - **Laurie Finn** and **Peggy Walding**, Isaac Fox School

P.U. is for YOU!

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, March 4, 2006, District 95 is presenting the 12th annual PARENT UNIVERSITY.



Plan on spending an inspirational morning with **Char Wenc**, speaker and award-winning author of, *Parenting-Are We Having Fun Yet?*

PARENT UNIVERSITY is geared to parents and grandparents of children ages preschool through

high school. Many great sessions dealing with a variety of parenting topics and issues are planned for this year's event.

Titles for some of the sessions include: *The Challenging Child*, *Internet Dangers*, *From Tee-Ball to Testosterone—What a Son Needs From His Dad*, *From Walking to Weddings—What a Daughter needs From Her Dad*, *Overindulging Your Children*, *Substance Abuse In Our Community*, *The Top Ten Signs It Is Time To Talk To Your Kid About Money*, *How To Build the Muscle of Confidence In Our Children*, and more!

A continental breakfast and lunch as well as child care will be provided. Registration forms will be sent home in January.

Questions? Call **Lori Schwartz** (847) 438-1949.

Creating a Lasting Legacy

On Thursday, January 26, the Board of Education honored **Al Bednarz** and his daughter,

Kara, with a plaque for their large financial donation to the newly formed Joanie Bednarz Needy Student Fun, which is affectionately known as Joanie's Closet.



Joanie's Closet is named after **Joanie Bednarz**, the longtime nurse at May Whitney School. Joanie, who passed away unexpectedly last August, was especially drawn to those students and families who were in need. She could often be found searching for clothes, food, school supplies and other necessary items for those students and their families who would have otherwise gone without. Continually seeking donations, but also often using her own money. She never turned anyone away.

Thanks to the contributions of the Bednarz family and so many others, Joanie's legacy of love for those in need will continue.

Superintendent **Dr. Brian Knutson** (far right) presents a plaque to **Al Bednarz** and **Kara** (second and third from left). Looking on are May Whitney School PTO President **Kristie Wagner** (far left) and Principal **Deb Breummer** (second from right).

LePage and Class Celebrate Groundhog Day

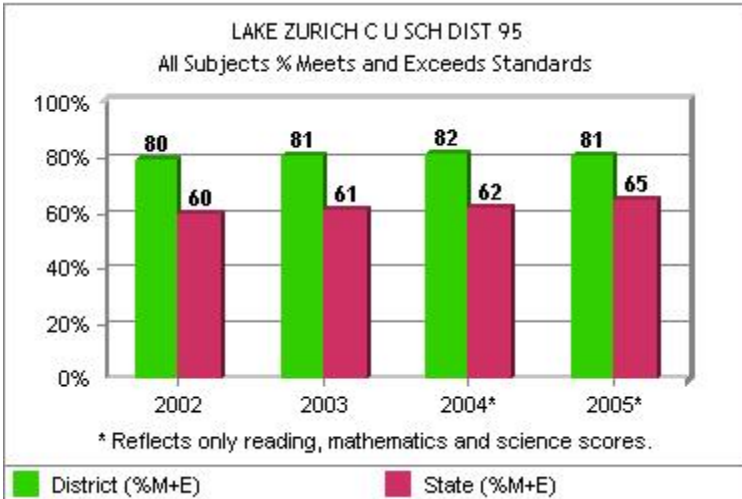


Students in **Lisa LePage's** third grade class at May Whitney School saw their shadows, even if the groundhogs may have not. The class celebrated Groundhog Day on Thursday, February 2, by reading about groundhog facts, singing music about groundhogs, groundhog crafts, groundhog cupcakes, learned groundhog math, and much more.

While it's not clear whether or not there will be six more weeks of winter. We do know that the students and LePage had a fun time celebrating and learning about that furry prognosticator.



Digital Dashboard: Dist. 95 Scores Well Above State



The chart at left shows that students in District 95 score significantly higher on state tests (ISAT, PSAE, IMAGE, IAA) than their fellows students from around the state.

To learn more about how District 95 compares to districts throughout the state in the areas of scores, finances, teacher education and student demographics, visit the Illinois Interactive Report Card at the web link listed below the chart.

<http://iirc.niu.edu/scripts/district.asp?districtID=340490950&test=all>



Learn more about registering your child by attending **Kindergarten Information Night** on **Feb. 8**, beginning at **6 p.m.**, at your **local elementary school**. For more information, contact your local elementary school:

Charles Quentin School	847-438-2420
Isaac Fox School	847-540-7020
May Whitney School	847-438-2351
Sarah Adams School	847-438-5986
Seth Paine School	847-438-2163
Spencer Loomis School	847-719-3300

Do You Like to Know Stuff?

Do you like to know things before others in the community? Do others seek your opinion? If so, then you are a perfect candidate for the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network**.

Our Key Communicator (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 Com, 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 KeyCom member, simply call, email or fax:

**CUSD 95
Office of Communications
400 S. Old Rand Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047-2459**

**Phone: (847) 540-5489
Fax: (847) 438-6702
jim.jennings@lz95.org
www.lz95.org**

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Annette Jacobsen,
Editor
Jim Jennings,
Publisher
(847) 540-5489
jim.jennings@lz95.org
www.lz95.org