



PAC-Field House Win Award

On January 26, *Midwest Construction* magazine, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, presented Board of Education President **Jan Putbress** and **Jon Hitcho**, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations, with the **Award of Merit** in the K-12 Education category of their **Best of 2004** awards competition for the Performing Arts Center/Field House construction project at Lake Zurich High School.



The awards were presented before a packed conference room of approximately 500 people at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Chicago.

Out of 25 construction projects that were nominated, the PAC/Field House was one of only four schools to win this year's award.

An article highlighting the project states that "the building acts as a beacon in the community."

In commenting on the PAC, the jurors said: "The theater interior is fully expressed. The use of color is fabulous."

"We are justifiably proud of our Performing Arts Center," said Hitcho. "The entire project has quickly proven to be a great benefit to our students and the entire community. That is why it is gratifying to see *Midwest Construction* magazine acknowledge both this wonderful learning environment

and our community."

The construction project has won several awards and is often used by architects and construction companies as an example of exemplary learning environments.

Board of Ed. Approves Preschool Program

Last night, January 27, after much discussion and on a 4-3 vote, the Board of Education approved a proposal to take back the early childhood program from the Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL) and expand the current services to preschoolers needing special education services for the 2005-2006 school year. Under the current agreement SEDOL has with District 95, the Board had to give notice by February 1.

Those board members voting against the motion to approve the proposal did so not because they opposed the proposed program, but because of the short time line for having to make the decision and their concern that parent and

community collaboration had been given the short shrift.

According to **Nancy Rosenfeld**, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, the district's proposed early childhood program will better prepare these young children for kindergarten, while also providing a cost savings to the school district.

Currently, District 95 contracts with SEDOL to provide early childhood education programs and services for special needs children who are three to five years of age. There are approximately 46 children in District 95 currently identified as needing these services. Most of the children

Kuzniewski To Take On New Challenge

On January 24, **Mark Kuzniewski**, Principal of Lake Zurich Middle School North was named the new principal of Aptakisic Junior High School in Buffalo Grove, IL. He will begin his new duties on July 1, 2005.



Kuzniewski is looking forward to new challenges and opportunities at Aptakisic Junior High School.

“While I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Middle School North, it is very exciting to take the experiences that I have learned in this school system and apply them in a new system,” explained Kuzniewski. “The design, preparation and opening of a new state-of-the-art school and the implementation of new technology throughout the school have allowed me to grow professionally. Likewise, by working with the faculty, students, parents and community, I believe that I have helped Middle School North to achieve a higher level of academic excellence.”

Kuzniewski, now in his fourth year as principal at Middle School North, was principal when the new state-of-the-art school opened in Hawthorn Woods, IL, replacing the much older former Middle School North on Church Street in Lake Zurich, IL. His days were often spent running one school while working to open the new facility.

“We are very appreciative of the wonderful service Mark has provided the district,” said **Dr. Brian Knutson**, superintendent of Community Unit School District 95. “His meritorious effort in closing one school and opening of a new school would be difficult for anyone. He was able to do both while providing for the needs of our students and his staff. I know that he will apply those same talents and abilities in his new position and I wish him well.”

Prior to serving as Principal at Middle School North, Kuzniewski was the assistant principal at the Barrington Middle School Station Campus, and before that served as the assistant principal of the old Middle School North facility. He also served as the English department head at McHenry High School East Campus, and taught at Locus School in Marengo, IL and at the Oster-Oakview Junior High School in New Lenox, IL.

Kuzniewski is currently completing his Ed.D. in educational leadership at National-Louis University. He also holds a master’s degree in educational leadership from there, as well as a BA in English and Communications from Illinois College

The school district will soon begin the search for a new principal at Middle School North.

Bowman Wins Ballot Lottery

This morning, January 28, a lottery was held to determine the rank order on the April 5 ballot of the six Community Unit School District 95 Board of Education candidates. All six candidates filed their candidacy papers at 8 a.m. on January 18, the first day of filing for the four board seats.

The six candidates will be listed on the April 5 ballot in the following order: **Lawrence Bowman**, **Jim Hussey**, incumbent **Jan Putbress**, **John Kropf**, **Kathy Brown**, and **James E. Tarbet**.

The four Board of Education seats up for election are currently held by Putbress, Patti Lebanik, Pat Priniski and Mike Siri.

Important Dates to Remember:

- February 3, 2005 – Last day for local election officials to certify offices and names of candidates to appear on ballot
- March 8, 2005 – Last day for registration of voters for April 5 election
- March 29, 2005 – Last day to file a notarized declaration to be a write-in candidate
- April 5, 2005 – **ELECTION DAY**

A Calculated Victory!

Demonstrating District 95’s core value of “enthusiasm and high expectations are contagious and yield higher achievement,” **Ann Heltzel** challenged her programming class to enter a problem solving contest sponsored by the Metropolitan Mathematics Club. The class took the challenge and submitted a solution to the December problem of the month. The class, under Ann’s leadership, tied for 1st place with two other entries.

The problem to solve: Identify a set of 10 whole numbers whose sums, differences, products, and quotients generate the most integer solutions between 1 and 100.

The students wrote a computer program in the Visual Basic language to generate the set of 10 whole numbers. Their set, {1, 2, 3, 5, 22, 35, 49, 62, 78, 90}, generated 89 of the integers between 1 and 100.

Students in the class include: **Paul Bono**, **Kara Buffardi**, **Steve Dolinajec**, **Stephen Elliot**, **Jeff Fox**, **Bradley Greene**, **Clayton Kleppinger**, **Marcel Kuper**, **Evan Liddell**, **Alex Loeb**, **Anne Parenzan**, **Philip Rabe**, **Bobby Razes**, **Erick Schneider**, **Ron Spinabella**, **Matthew Uhl**, and **Ashley Walding**.

Can You Spell W-I-N? Preschool (cont.)

One letter at a time, that's how fourth grader **Megan Hughes** won the Charles Quentin Elementary School Spelling Bee on the afternoon of January 26 before a gymnasium full of third grade students, parents and staff members.

Hughes out spelled fifth grader **Patrick Bienek** and 12 other of the school's fourth and fifth grade finalists to win the school spelling title. She will next represent her school and community in the Lake County Regional Spelling Bee in February.



Megan Hughes, center, smiles after correctly spelling the winning word in the Charles Quentin Spelling Bee.

Community Unit School District 95 Superintendent **Dr. Brian Knutson** served as the event's guest announcer. Often, at a student's request, he had to repeat the word, define it, provide its origin and use it in a sentence before the student would attempt to spell the word.

PTO's Want You to Know the Board Candidates

The combined Community Unit School District 95 PTO's will be hosting three school board candidate forums prior to the April 5 election. These forums are open to the entire community.

The format of the forums will be question and answer. Community members will write questions to the candidates on cards, which will read by a facilitator. Candidates will have an allotted amount of time to answer the questions directed to them. These forums will offer you a great opportunity to learn more about the candidates who are seeking to be a member of the Board of Education. The dates and locations of the forums are:

- Monday, February 28
7:30 p.m.
Lake Zurich Middle School South – Cafeteria
435 West Cuba Rd., Lake Zurich
- Wednesday, March 9
7:30 p.m.
Seth Paine Elementary School – Library
50 Miller Rd., Lake Zurich
- Tuesday, March 22
7:30 p.m.
May Whitney Elementary School – Library
120 Church St., Lake Zurich

attend the SEDOL half-day programs at either Spencer Loomis or Seth Paine elementary schools. Under the district's proposal, the district would take over those services and expand the program options to a half-day and full-day session, thereby creating better learning opportunities for the participating children.

The current SEDOL early childhood program structure offers two morning programs, two afternoon programs, two SEDOL classroom teachers, and other SEDOL related services based upon student need.

The District 95 proposed program would offer one full-day kindergarten class, one full-day class for children ages 4-5, one full-day or two half-day classes for children ages 3-4, one morning class for three year olds, one afternoon class for three year olds, four full time early childhood teachers, for full time classroom assistants, one psychologist, a speech pathologist, social worker, a part-time occupational therapist, and a part-time physical therapist to serve the children's needs. All other related services will be provided based upon each individual child's needs.

Students Share the Dream



Second grade students in **Megan Guerrero's** class at May Whitney School performed their original play, *A Good Man*, about slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., today, January 28, before a large crowd of students, parents and staff in the school gym.

The play, written by Guerrero and her sister, was set at a school where some children wonder why there isn't school on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Other students and a teacher explain the important role Dr. King played in trying to erase discrimination and make America a better country for everyone, regardless of their race, religion or gender.

The play concluded with a song in American Sign Language (ASL) and then each student shared his or her dream for society.

Coming Soon.....

- The LZHS Children's Theatre will perform Alice In Wonderland at the PAC Jan. 28, 29 & 30, Tickets are only \$7 Adults and \$5 for children.
- On Feb. 2, District 95 will hold our Kindergarten Information Night at all our elementary schools beginning at 7 p.m.; that will be followed by Kindergarten Registration Night on February 15, from 6-8 p.m., at our elementary schools
- Camerata Chicago will work with our student musicians on Feb 4 in preparation for a community concert on Feb. 13 at 7 pm at the PAC. Tickets are only \$7 students, \$12 seniors and \$18 general admission.
- The District 95 Orchestra Festival will be Feb. 12, beginning at 2 pm in the Field House at LZHS

Are You a Key Communicator?

Public schools must depend on the support of local citizens if they are to be strong and vital learning environments. In turn, the interest and support of citizens depends on their understanding and engagement in school affairs. That is why Community Unit School District 95 has created its **Key Communicator** program and we invite you to join us so that our schools can more effectively communicate with you and hear the opinions you have about the work we are doing and the issues facing our schools.

Our Key Communicator 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 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. Your responsibility, as a Key Communicator, will be to share school district news with friends, neighbors and colleagues.

To become a Key Communicator, simply call, email or fax:

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