



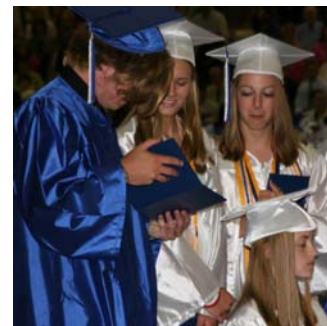
## June Brings Changes in Life, Grade for Students



June brought an end to a fantastic school year. With its conclusion came the traditional promotion and graduation ceremonies at Middle School North, Middle School South and Lake Zurich High School.

The Field House at Lake Zurich High School was the site of all the pomp and circumstance, as both middle schools and the high school used it for their ceremonies. An inside ceremony proved to be the best choice for Lake Zurich High School as a storm blew threw the area at the beginning of the ceremony.

There were hugs, smiles and tears as students either progressed to high school or graduated high school to pursue their dreams.



### Correction: Smith, Nemecek Appointments

In the May 27 edition of *THRIVE in 95* and in a May 31 news release (*District 95 Names Dr. Smith, Nemecek to Administrative Posts*), I erred when I stated that both **Dr. Beverly Smith** and **Mary Ann Nemecek** had been approved by the Community Unit School District 95 Board of Education for their new positions. In fact, only Dr. Smith was approved by the Board of Education. Ms. Nemecek's new position is simply a new administrative assignment and did not require Board approval. I apologize for the error and the confusion. --**Jim Jennings**

## Gammons, Barbour to Lead Seth Paine & Charles Quentin

Right: **Laura Gammons**

Far Right: **Alex Barbour**



In a unanimous vote at a special June 9 Board of Education meeting, the Community Unit School District 95 Board of Education unanimously (6-0) approved Superintendent Dr. Brian Knutson's recommendation of **Laura Gammons** as

Principal of Seth Paine Elementary School, and **Alex Barbour** as the Principal of Charles Quentin Elementary School. Both principals will begin their new positions on July 1.

Gammons replaces **Colleen Cazolas**, who has accepted a new principalship in Lake Forest, IL. Barbour replaces **Mary Ann Nemecek**, who has accepted the position of Curriculum Coordinator for District 95.

"I feel like I won the lotto," said Gammons. "I'm so excited to be coming here. I can't wait for July."

Likewise, Barbour is excited about becoming the instructional leader at Charles Quentin Elementary School.

"I am excited about the opportunity to join the Charles Quentin learning community," said Barbour.

"We are excited to have Laura Gammons and Alex Barbour joining our team," said Dr. Knutson. "Laura has a diverse background as a teacher, assistant principal and director of gifted



education. Alex joins us with extensive experience as an elementary school principal. The parents and staff of both schools will be pleased with these innovative educators leading their respective schools."

Gammons is currently the Assistant Principal at Everett School in Lake Forest (District 67). She also serves as the Director of Gifted Services for that school district, and has past experience as an instructional coordinator and gifted education resource teacher for grades 2-5, as well as working with at-risk students.

Gammons has a Master's degree in educational administration from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and a Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Michigan State University.

Barbour is currently the principal of William L. Thompson Elementary School in Lake Villa Consolidated School District 41. He has served his entire 18 year career in District 41, where, in addition to two principalships, he has also served as an assistant principal, interim principal and classroom teacher.

Barbour has a Master's degree in educational administration from Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, and a Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL.

## Websites Top Half-Million Visitors, 109 Gigs of Downloads

During the past two years, various websites of Community Unit School District 95 have shown tremendous growth thanks to the tireless dedication of the teachers, webmasters, and staff who have provided upkeep and content. The total number of publishers two years ago was 70. Today, there are 254 publishers.

The increased number of sites has attracted many more visitors as well. The number of external visitors to the district's websites has increased more than 50 percent from 360,702 to 546,557. External visitors are people outside of the District 95 electronic networks accessing district sites. The IT Department excludes any search engine traffic, such as Google, in their visitor calculations.

Another important statistic for the district's Information Technology Department, is how the web is being used. According to **Melissa Niemeyer**, Applications Support Specialist/District Webmaster, the district's teachers and staff are making full use of the websites' capabilities by publishing student work, homework files, audio and video performances and classroom projects,

as well as important district communications available for download.

A key measuring component for use is how many bytes are transferred. Last year the IT Department recorded 12.7 gigabytes of data downloaded by visitors to the district's websites. This year that download usage has grown to 109.6 gigabytes of data downloaded.

According to **Crystal Steker**, Director of IT, these numbers show amazing growth for the district's websites. A fact that is reflected in the district's recent Stakeholder Survey, which showed that a large majority of survey respondents rated the district's websites as a top source of information about the district and its schools.

The team of dedicated web developers and IT support staff include: **Lisa Feldman, Sally Lubeno, Al Willer, Beth Schwartz, Liz Szarek, Adam Hjerpe, Carrie Werner, Alice Troyer, Paula Vanderlinden, Anne Kuehl, Tracy Albert, Jim Westney and Bob Shellenberger.**

## MSS Recycling Club Seeks Old Cell Phones



The Lake Zurich Middle School South (MSS) Recycling Club has embarked on a new environmental mission. A cell phone recycling program has been spearheaded by the Club in cooperation with Motorola. Old and broken cell phones are being collected in the front foyer of the school. The phones are then recycled through Motorola. Not only will the program keep cell phones out of a landfill, but also Middle School South will be reimbursed \$3 for each phone recycled. Any brand of cell phone will qualify for reimbursement as long as the phone is intact and flip phone hinges are in working order.

Small, cell phones can leak substances such as lead, mercury, and cadmium into the water supply when they aren't properly recycled. When phones are recycled, no materials from the process end up in municipal landfills, and the smelting process is a clean process where no ash is released into air or ground water systems.

A box for the old and broken cell phones is located across from the school's main office. Collection will continue next fall, so remember to save those old phones over the summer and bring them to the school when classes resume in August. There are approximately 25 students active in the MSS Recycling Club. Teacher **Robert Vossel** is the faculty advisor of the club.

Right: MSS Recycling club members **Juan Gonzalez** and **Dan King** prepare donated cell phones to be sent to Motorola for recycling.

## WINGS Offers *Reality Check*



The twelfth edition of WINGS, the Middle School South yearbook, was distributed at the end of the school year. That may not seem newsworthy, but when you realize that all 88 pages of this year's hardcover edition were

done for the first time via the computer using Adobe InDesign, then you've got something interesting. Using the theme of *Reality Check*, the yearbook covered the school year in pictures and stories.

WINGS was edited and produced by sixth graders **Taylor Batten, David Ross** and **Bryan Freund**; seventh graders **Jeff Simnick, Brian Batten, Kelsey Wu, Kaitlin Beaver**; and eighth grader **Julie List**. Teacher **Tana Hamm** served as the advisor and editor of the year's edition.

## Ela Fine Arts Show June 11



Join in the celebration of the fine art of community as the Cultural Arts Connection presents the 5th Annual Ela Fine Arts Show.

Juried Fine Art Exhibition and Sale Featuring 58 fine artists in a variety of medias will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2005, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Deer Park

Town Center, Deer Park, IL, on Rand Rd./Rte. 12 north of Lake Cook Road, at the intersection of Long Grove Rd.

There, you can enjoy the Student Art Exhibit & Sale and light entertainment.

Admission is free and opened to the public. Please check out the winning art pieces from the student art exhibit at Barnes & Noble from June 11 at 5:00 p.m., to 4:00 p.m., June 12.

*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.

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

## *THRIVE in 95* to Take Summer Off, Back Next School Year

*THRIVE in 95* will be taking the summer off. We will resume with the start of the new school year, and we look forward to keeping you informed about the news in Community Unit School District 95. While *THRIVE in 95* will be dormant, the Office of Communications & Community Relations will be active throughout the summer. Call 847.540.5489, or email [jim.jennings@lz95.org](mailto:jim.jennings@lz95.org) if you have news and information about your school or department, or if you have any questions. Enjoy the summer!

— **Jim Jennings**, Director