

DISTRICT 202 PRIDE

Partners Recognizing Individual Developmental Excellence

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Issue 1

A publication of the Gifted/Honors Parent/Teacher Advisory Council

Welcome to the newest addition to the District 202 Family

Welcome to the new "***PRIDE*** Newsletter." District 202 has a tradition of community outreach to provide resources allowing students to reach their full potential. In keeping with this tradition, last summer District 202 formed the Gifted/Honors Parent/Teacher Advisory Council (The Council) to foster a partnership between all constituents of the community. Through the appointment of parent representatives from each school in the district, to work alongside school administration, the Council created program targets to enhance our children's educational experience.

Parents, along with district representatives, met over the course of the 2008-2009 school year to target developmental needs of this gifted/accelerated/honors student community. Through the hard work of its members, the Council created useful targets to better address the social, emotional, and parent-readiness needs of the student community. This newsletter is our way to communicate the exciting updates resulting from these efforts. The Council believes that through collaboration, District 202 will open a world of possibilities for all learners through targeted information sharing manifested in the quarterly ***PRIDE*** newsletter. In the spirit of collaboration, we welcome ideas for articles and information you would like to see in future editions of this newsletter. Additionally, the Council will accept applications for new members to begin fall 2009. Please send ideas and/or notes indicating interest for serving on the Council, to Dr. Nancy Hayhurst, Director of Secondary Curriculum @ nhayhurs@learningcommunity202.org , call (815)577-4035 or contact Ms. Cathie Pezanoski, Director of Elementary Curriculum @ cpezanos@learningcommunity202.org , call (815)577-4068.

Community Announcements

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Parent Advisory Council Speaker Series

"The Emotional Development of Gifted Children"

Speaker: Dr. Mark McKee

On April 23, 2009, the Council hosted a speaker to discuss the social/emotional issues affecting our children, as one of the identified program targets for the 2008-2009 school year. The speaker, Dr. McKee, is a licensed counselor, operating a private counseling practice in Naperville, IL. Dr. McKee encouraged parents to move past labels such as ADHD or ODD as ways to explain the behavior of their children. He challenged parents to seek out resources, like the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC), to become better equipped to help children reach their full potential.

What's New in District 202

Elementary

3rd Grade Gifted Students year 2009-2010 – Current 2nd Grade students will be identified for gifted education in the fall of 2009. Parents will receive notification by the middle of September if their child qualifies with services beginning directly after the parent notification.

4th & 5th Grade Gifted Students year 2009-2010 – Gifted Education services will begin immediately in the fall.

5th Grade Accelerated Math school year 2009-10 – The process for identifying current 4th grade students for next year's 5th Grade Accelerated Math has begun. Parents of students who have been identified will be notified in June. Parents should contact their building principal if they have questions pertaining to this program.

Middle School – Summer Math Offering

The district will offer a new Algebra Prep course for current 7th graders who plan to take algebra in 8th grade, but struggled in their 7th grade pre-algebra. As well, the district will offer a new Pre-Algebra Short Course. This course is designed for 6th graders who have done well in accelerated math, or 7th graders in regular math prepared to take 8th grade pre-algebra, but who want to move ahead and take regular algebra next year. Both of these courses are an effort to help students move forward in math before entering high school.

High School

AP Summer Institute - Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202 is very excited to host our first summer institute. The community support and tremendous growth of the AP* program at District 202 has created an outstanding atmosphere for professional development. This year's institute will be hosted at the new Plainfield East High School campus.

Enrichment Opportunities

For a list of **SCIENCE RELATED** activities in the Chicagoland area available at little to no cost, please visit: www.sciencechicago.com

Joliet Public Libraries:

<http://joliet.lib.il.us/events/calendar>
Has an extensive list of events at both the Black Road and downtown location that are listed by age appropriateness. Most are free!

College of DuPage Youth Education

www.cod.edu (630)942-2208

Lederman Science Center - Fermilab, Batavia

Family/student adventures and teacher workshops www.ed.fnal.gov (630)840-5588

Center for Talent Development (Northwestern

University) – D202 parents need to submit current report card instead of the typical teacher recommendation requirement. Online classes, Saturday school and satellite locations are available. www.ctd.northwestern.edu

Illinois Math & Science Academy- (offers

summer school for kids in 3-9th grade)
www.imsa.org (630) 907-5950

Joliet Junior College Kids College (offers a

variety of classes to enrich children from toddlers through high school)
www.jjc.edu/llc/kids-college



Summer Issue Feature - Two District 202 teachers are among 40 educators named Regional Trainers for the newly designed Illinois Gifted Education Seminar offered through the ISBE. **Fall Issue Feature** - Procedures for identifying 3rd grade students to qualify for the Gifted Education program for fall '09.

Submit ideas to include in upcoming newsletters nhayhurs@learningcommunity202.org or cpezanos@learningcommunity202.org