

In The Round

Your Key To Round Lake Area Schools Community Unit District #116

*The **Mission** of the Round Lake Area Schools, a diverse and multicultural district, in partnership with our community is to develop successful life-long learners who can contribute to an ever changing global society by providing all students with high quality learning experiences.*

Volume 3 Issue 1

www.rlas-116.org

October 2006

Privilege to Serve by Dennis Stonewall

Greetings to Everyone!

Perhaps the best place to begin is with my recent decision to tender my resignation. Effective June 30, 2007, I plan to journey to retirement. The reason: I'm tired! Funny thing for one to broadcast when his desk boasts a sign "No Whining"!

My Round Lake Area School employment has never been a job, rather it has been an opportunity to join hands with others who wanted something better for their school community. From July 1, 2003, a story of helping hands would unfold to make a difference and that my friends, would become the catalyst for outcome driven decisions for improvement and progress.

In the very beginning I shared these statements: "Decisions will be made for outcomes, not for individuals because I didn't come to be your friend. I came to make a difference"! The blessing: thousands of helping hands that would steady the bow for every target. The gift: a better school district!

Most satisfying has been the privilege for serving everyone. Without question, the reward is woven in the

positive response of student, staff and taxpayer alike for things done big and small. Perhaps the greatest compliment came from those that supported our referendum.

One has to know when to lead and when to prepare for those that will follow, steady hands hold the bow and the arrow knows its target so, until that time, there is much to be accomplished and little time to rest. You have 9 months more of me, not 9 months less!

Get Involved: Join your school PTO or Panther Pushers! Attend School Functions! Consider Serving on the Board! This is your School Community!

The 3 Chief Officers want to thank everyone for their response to the health insurance enrollment with a special thank you to Norean Hill and Heather Bennett for the enrollment and Karla Schneider for the necessary payroll entries.
Job well done!

Board of Education	School Finance Authority	District Administration	
<p>Ann Welk <i>President</i></p> <p>Delores Anderson <i>Vice-President</i></p> <p>Hal Davis <i>Secretary</i></p> <p>Tonesha Baker</p> <p>W. Guy Finley</p> <p>Annette Negrete McGinley</p> <p>Nanci Radford</p>	<p>Dr. Douglas Parks, <i>Chairman</i></p> <p>George Lingel, <i>Vice-Chair</i></p> <p>Robert Traxler, <i>Secretary</i></p> <p>Bish Krywko</p> <p>Rosa Reyes-Prosen</p> <hr/> <p>Dennis Stonewall <i>Chief Executive Officer</i></p> <p>Dr. Janet Elenbogen <i>Chief Educational Officer</i></p> <p>Walter Korpan <i>Chief Financial Officer</i></p>	<p>Patrick Alcock <i>Operations & Maintenance Manager</i></p> <p>Tim Bagby <i>Transportation Manager</i></p> <p>Dr. Sandi Brunati <i>Interim Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Support Services</i></p> <p>Gabriella Greene <i>Asst. Administrator of Bilingual & ESL Services</i></p> <p>Michael Kastler <i>Director of Technology</i></p> <p>Debra McDougle <i>Upper Grade Special Services Administrator</i></p>	<p>Dr. Dennis Pauli <i>Asst. Supt. of Curriculum & Instruction</i></p> <p>Susan Pritzker <i>Director of Health Services</i></p> <p>Jeanne Rennie <i>Elem. Special Services Administrator</i></p> <p>Katie Reynolds <i>Director of Elementary Learning</i></p> <p>Mytzy Rodriguez-Kufner <i>Director of Bilingual/ESL Services</i></p> <p>Lana Soldat <i>Director of Upper Grade Learning</i></p> <p>Nancy Whittall <i>Human Resources Manager</i></p>

Putting It All Together

by Dr. Janet Elenbogen

Our theme for this year, "Putting it All Together", begins with the strengthening of TEAM. Team includes all members of the Round Lake Area Learning Community: students, parents, staff and administration. This year we are focused on optimizing the creativity, experience, training and energy of all learning community members across disciplines, programs, service areas, schools and grade levels to provide great outcomes for students.

We have been fortunate to identify some great additions to the RLAS team. Our new administrative additions provide leadership, support and coordination of services. They include: Asst Supt of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Dennis Pauli; Interim Asst Supt of Pupil Support Services, Dr. Sandi Brunati; Administrator of Special Education, Jeanne Rennie; Administrator of Upper-Grade/ Middle School Special Education, Debra McDougle; Assistant Administrator of Bilingual ESL Services, Gabriella Greene; Parent

Coordinator, Myrna Leal; Principal of Ellis Elementary, Bill Pritchard; Assistant Principal of Ellis Elementary, Lori Henkels; Principal of Indian Hill, Kenneth Hyllberg; Assistant Principal of Indian Hill and Murphy, Amanda Stochl; Athletic Director/Assistant Principal of the High School, Spencer Byrd; Dean at the High School, Brett Bending; and Assistant Principal and Dean of Women at Round Lake Middle School, Cheryl Caesar.

Another aspect of "Putting it All Together" is the formal mapping of the curriculum. Over the years, the components of our curriculum have been mapped to Illinois Learning Standards. The efforts this year, focus on clearer communication and updating of the maps, involvement of a broader base on the design team with an emphasis on vertical as well as horizontal articulation, and making the maps living documents. We will be utilizing the curriculum mapping software, "Rubicon Atlas," to enhance these efforts.

On the assessment front, "Putting it

All Together," focuses on strengthening our assessment system to guide instructional decisions. At the elementary school level we have expanded the use of the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) assessment at grades K-2 and began the use of MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) in grades 3-7. These tools along with data from our State Assessments, Stanford 10, Aprenda, Explore, Plan and ACT, will help staff to focus and differentiate instruction to meet student needs.

On the professional development and instructional front, "Putting It All Together" places the emphasis on differentiated instruction with focus on literacy that spans all curricular areas. The leadership of staff is spring boarding this into a real success story.

As we end our first quarter, we look forward to continued success.

Calendar of Events

October 26

Parent-Teacher Conferences
No School
School Finance Authority Meeting

October 30-November 3

PLAN Test - Grade 10

November 2

Board of Education Meeting

November 7

Teacher Institute Day
No School

November 16

Board of Education Meeting

November 22

No School

November 23

Thanksgiving Day / No School

November 24

No School

November 30

School Improvement Day
Early Dismissal
School Finance Authority Meeting

December 5

Junior College Bound Assembly

December 7

Board of Education Meeting

December 21

End of 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester
Board of Education Meeting

December 22

Winter Break Begins / No School

January 8

School Resumes



Mr. Hyllberg, Principal of Indian Hill Elementary accepts awards from Governor Blagojevich for Indian Hill's academic progress in 2004-05.

2006-07 New Staff

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following individuals. Some of the staff members listed are brand new to our District and others are returning to a new position. Wherever you fall in this list... THANK YOU for joining our team and we look forward to the great enrichment that you bring to the children of RLAS!!!

Round Lake Senior High School

Michael Beller, Brett Bending, Keilan Bonner, Spencer Byrd, Antonio Carbajal, Lee Carlson, Thomas Davies, Patrick DeDina, Robert DeGraff, Amanda Dykes, Kristen Edwards, Anna Faber, Friedrich Fahmert, Alan Giuliani, Gary Gruebnau, Jonathan Henkels, Rebecca Hoffman, Michael Jansma, Eric Kristoffersen, Sean McGruder, Jeffrey Skibinski and Carrie Walsh.

Round Lake Middle School

Nicole Bihn, Cynthia Bock, Cheryl Caesar, Robert Diedrich, Wylie Douglass, Maria Teresa Ganem, Diane Gleeson, Thaddeus Jach, Andre Pipes, Thomas Townsend and Galileo Wells.

Beach Elementary

Marge Cavazos, Peng Fei Chen, Melinda Gessert, Flor Gonzalez, Ruth Parafino and Jonathan Schlegel.

Ellis Elementary

Lori Henkels, Raul Hernandez and Bill Pritchard.

Indian Hill Elementary

Ashley Franz, Holly Garwick, Ken Hyllberg, Litsa Kubiak, Kurt Link, Candace Passaglia, Jennifer Reed, Reggie Steger, Ann Steidl, Mandy Stochl and Laura Studders.

Murphy Elementary

Wilfredo De la Cruz, Melinda Gessert, Katerina Korakakis, Linda Ruzicki and Mandy Stochl.

Village Elementary

Melody Ganz, Margaret Gustafson, Salvador Sanchez, Melissa Taylor, Kristine Tierney, Georgann Vetrano and Filimon Villanueva.

Early Education Center

Karen Carpintero, Maria Hernandez, Orinthia McCoy and Susan Tunkl.

Education Service Center

Operations Service Center

Dr. Sandi Brunati, Teresa Foy, Gabriella Greene, Kim Kofron, Myrna Leal, Debra McDougale, Dr. Dennis Pauli, Jeanne Rennie and Katie Reynolds

Counselors Corner by Nicole Bihn

Hello! I would like to introduce myself. My name is Nicole Bihn, and I am the new middle school guidance counselor. This is a brand new position, and I am very excited about working with the students at Round Lake Middle School. You may ask, "What does a middle school guidance counselor do?" Students may come to me if they have questions about academics, careers or if they are in need of personal and social counseling.

On October 17, all of the eighth graders at Round Lake Middle School took the Explore Test. The test was developed by ACT to help our eighth graders create a high school course plan to meet their post-high school goals. Information gained from the test results will help students set goals and learn more about themselves. The results should be available before winter break. Together, we can use the information to help students create their own unique high school schedule and plan.

If one of your child's goals is to attend college, the time to plan is now. Having a good foundation in the required courses in high school will give your child more options no matter what his or her post-high school plans may be. In every job, having the ability to communicate effectively and utilize math skills will be vital to job success.

1) ACT suggests these ten tips to improve the success of students in high school. They are... Ask questions. Don't be shy. If you're confused, others in the class probably are, too.

2) Speak up in class discussions. Your ideas are as important as everyone else's.

3) Sit close to the front of the classroom whenever you can.

4) Write down assignments and other instructions your teachers give you.

5) Do your class assignments on time. Pick a time for doing your homework and stick to it.

6) Ask for help in any class where you're not doing your best.

7) Develop keyboarding skills and learn how to use a computer.

8) Use your library. Read often and not just for school assignments. Try to read a newspaper or news magazine at least a few times a week. Make a habit of reading just for fun and relaxation and of using the dictionary when you come across words you don't understand.

9) Take a good look at the notes your teachers write on your tests and assignments. Be sure you understand why something was marked incorrect and look up or work out the correct answer.

10) Learn how to take tests, including tests with time limits and answer sheets. There are many ways to practice; ask your teachers for help.

RLAS Adopts 2006-07 Budget

By *Walter J. Korpan*

The Annual School Budget is regarded as a contract entered into by our citizens/taxpayers and the Board of Education.

The 2006-07 School Budget is for the period beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007, and is a complete financial and educational forecast, including expenditures and receipts, based on past experience, present conditions, and future needs.

It is generally recognized that the Board of Education delegates three primary functions in the construction of the budget: (1) planning the educational program, (2) scheduling expenditures, and (3) estimating the revenue to finance the expenditures.

The budget states, in dollars and cents, the philosophy and policies of the District. It reflects the efforts of the Board of Education to provide for a good education program. By comparing the 2006-07 budget with that of previous years, we are able to assess, monitor and identify increases and/or reductions and expenditures. This is a satisfactory process that identifies revenues and expenditures of every facet.

The 2006-07 budget, therefore, affects this school system in all its phases or funds. The three main operating funds are educational fund (10), operations and maintenance fund (20) and the transportation fund (40). These funds account for the majority of personnel, instructional materials, maintenance of facilities and rides to and from school.

School districts operate under a fiscal year, however revenues are determined by a calendar year and appropriations of local revenue (taxes). These are often received several months following collection.

Revenue projections for the 2006-07 budget are based on the latest information available from the Illinois Office of Education and the Avon Township Assessor and Lake County Clerk. Revenue projections include funds from the Corporate Personal Property Tax Replacement and Federal and State grants. Local tax revenue is based on the 2005 Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) of \$451,436,730. This is the assessed land value for the boundaries served by Round Lake Area Schools.

Local taxes are computed by: (1) applying the State controlled multiplier to the local assessment which gives the equalized assessment; (2) dividing the equalized assessment by 100 and multiplying by the authorized tax rate; and (3) requesting a levy to raise the specific amount of money determined in (2) above. The levy is requested in the winter of one year, is collected the following spring and summer and is applied to the next fiscal year beginning July 1.

State aid monies are calculated based on a complex "Resource Equalizer". This is a state formula that takes into consideration local ability to meet state requirements for school programs. Average daily attendance is an important part of this formula as an increase of 1% could mean an additional \$250,000. The state determines the foundation level and this year it is \$5,334.00. This dollar amount is derived from a formula which is an average of the local wealth of a school district and the state's share to provide more equity between school districts. **Continue Page 5**

Character Counts! Writing for a National Grant—Parent's Help Needed

The Character Education Partnership names 10 public and private schools as National Schools of Character for their outstanding work in character education. The Round Lake Area School District is in the process of submitting an application for this grant. The award recipients of this grant will receive a \$20,000 grant - \$10,000 to enhance the district's program and \$10,000 to provide outreach to other educators. Parents may be asked to complete a survey evaluating CHARACTER COUNTS! during Parent Teacher Conferences. Your answers and input will help the District strengthen and enhance the current character education program. For more information, please contact Kathy Myers, at 847-270-9300.



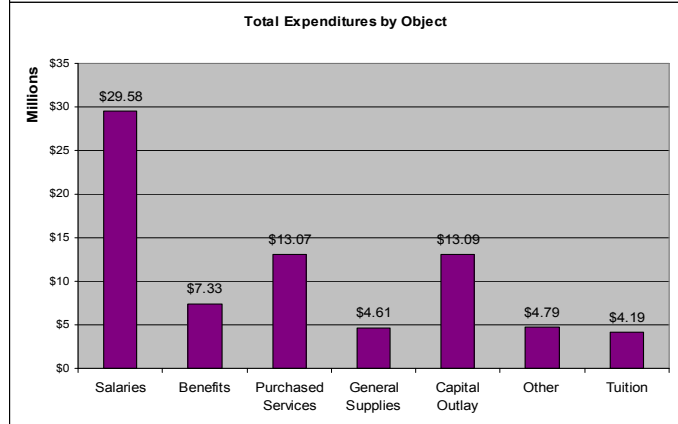
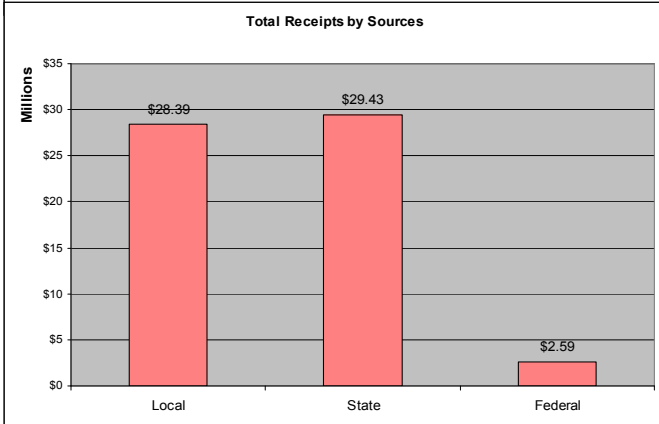
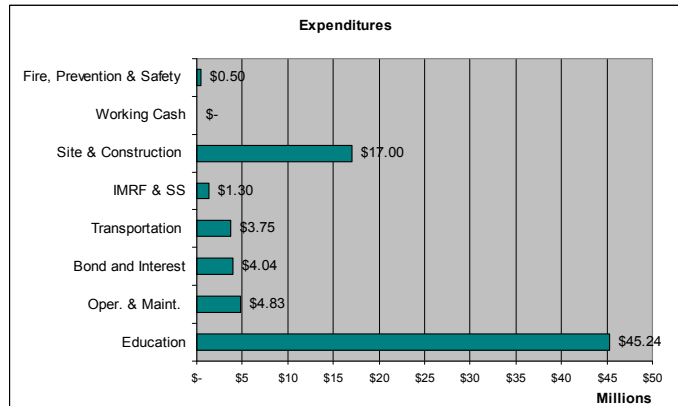
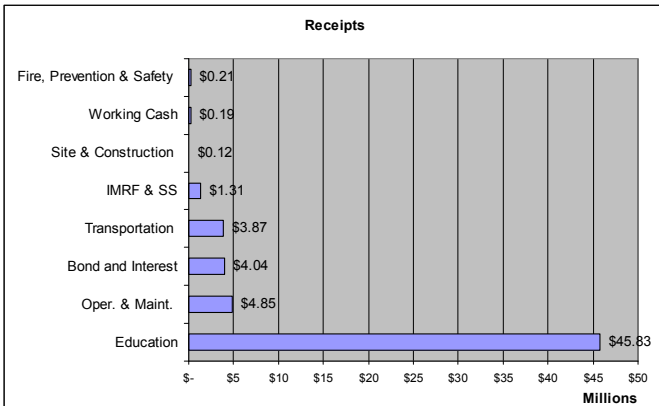
EEC students starting a new day.

Continued from Page 4

As referred to previously, the Board must maintain separate funds as prescribed by Illinois State Law. The funds, their general purpose, and sources of support follow:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>PURPOSE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>SOURCES OF INCOME</u>
Educational	Instructional program	Local taxes, State Aid, Federal Categorical Funds, fees and donations
Operation and Maintenance	Upkeep and remodeling of buildings and grounds	Local taxes and State Aid
Debt Service	Retire capital improvement construction bonds voted previously	Local taxes
Health and Safety	Improvements required by law	Local taxes and bond revenue
Tort Immunity	Liability insurance premiums	Local taxes
Illinois Municipal Retirement	District's portion of non-certificated employees' retirement	Local taxes
Social Security/Medicare	District's portion for social security for non-certificated employees' retirement and Medicare for certified employees	Local taxes
Transportation	Regular and special education transportation	State reimbursement and local taxes
Working Cash	Used in lieu of tax anticipation warrants	Local taxes and bond revenue
Site & Construction	Building construction and major repairs	Bond revenue
Special Education	Special education buildings and programs	Local taxes

A summary of the revenue and expenditures of the 2006-07 budget is listed below. If you have any questions please contact Walter J. Korpan at 847-270-9000.



Look, Listen and Enjoy @ your library®

By Elena Lara, Public Relations Coordinator RL Area Library

Make learning fun at the Round Lake Area Library! Check out reading clubs, storyhours, movies and other free programs for kids and families. The library offers much more than just books, such as free access to the Internet, wireless Internet (**New!**), and free access to exclusive databases. Our entertainment collections include magazines, music CDs, Videos, and DVDs Free @ your library®. Look for exciting programs for the entire family in the December issue of our newsletter, *Paige-Turner*. Copies will be available in the library, and you can also view and print a copy from our website at www.rlalibrary.org.

Drop-In Reading Clubs: Contact Robbyn Allbee at ext. 105 for information about drop-in book clubs for middle school students (RAD READERS) and high school students (BOOKED). The next BOOK IT, adult book discussion group will meet on November 14th. Contact Deb Allen at ext. 129 for additional information.

On-line Reading Clubs: Join our Adult Online Book Clubs. Each day

we'll email you a 5-minute portion of a book. During the week you can read 2-3 chapters and decide if you want to check the book out of the library. Every Monday we start new books. Children can access e-books for kids through the Kids link on our website.

Homework Help: The librarians at the reference desks can help students find books and information to assist them in completing their assignments. It is helpful when the students bring in a copy of their assignment and instructions from their teacher to assist the librarian.

Obtaining a Library Card:
Residents of the Round Lake Area

District library may obtain a free library card when they present two current items as proof of identification and residency in the library district. Both items must contain your name. At least one must be a photo ID. At least one form must contain your name and current Round Lake street address. Children under the age of 14 must have a parent/guardian sign his/her application. Children over 14 may obtain their own card by presenting a photo ID or school ID, and a current item with their address such as a report card. Please contact the circulation department to obtain a library card.

The Smartest Card. Get it. Use it. @ your library®

Today's library offers you a world of knowledge and entertainment, and I encourage everyone to gain access to a world of opportunity by getting their own library card.

906 Hart Rd
Round Lake, IL 60073
847-546-7060
www.rlalibrary.org



Health & Wellness at RLAS

by Susan Pritzker

We are very excited to be launching our wellness procedure at all 8 schools in District 116. Some changes that will be taking place will include some new delicious healthy choices in the cafeterias along with smaller portion size. We are attempting to help children learn what an appropriate portion is for their age and size. 3 of our schools were chosen by the American Heart Association and

Bill Clinton Foundation to pilot a wellness program. These schools are Murphy, Round Lake High School and Round Lake Middle School. One area targeted is staff wellness. To begin our staff wellness campaign we started an after school Weight Watchers group. We have 25 members and this column will keep you updated on our success.

As cold and flu season are upon us, please encourage your children to use good hand washing techniques. When you practice at home be sure to get under the nails and up to the wrists with soap and warm water. Finally a good hand wash should take a minute so sing the happy birthday song while you wash and you will be sure to wash for a long enough time!

What's New in the Bilingual/ESL Area?

By Mytzy Rodriguez-Kufner

The English Language Learner Department is happy to report on many wonderful things that have been accomplished since summer. Among them are the following:

- 1) The hiring of two individuals with many years of varied experience in education. The new Assistant Administrator of Bilingual/ESL services, Mrs. Gabriella Greene has worked as a Bilingual and ESL pull-out educator and an ESL specialist and the new Parent Coordinator, Mrs. Myrna Leal who has worked as a bilingual educator as well as a case manager with adolescent children.
- 2) Purchasing of library resources for Students: Books at different reading levels and in different languages were purchased for the school libraries. The languages are: Spanish, Korean, Polish, Mandarin, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Romanian, Cambodian, Thai, Greek, Italian, Japanese, and German.
- 3) Purchasing of library resources for Teachers: Books with strategies and methodologies in Bilingual education were purchased for all teachers to use. These are housed in each school's library media center.
- 4) Purchasing of Technology at various grade levels: Imagine Learning (K-3), Earobics Literacy Launch (K-6), Read 180 (M.S) and Read 180 were purchased with Title 1 funds for the ESL classrooms at Ellis. Teachers at the schools have access to ReadingA-Z.com which helps them to supplement their lesson plans. Computers were purchased to help with implementation of the above software programs.
- 5) Implementation of Spanish for Educators: During Hispanic Heritage month (September 15-October 15) there were mini lessons sent via electronic mail to the whole district. Also, there will be Spanish lessons offered to administrators, teachers, and support staff starting in mid-October free of charge.
- 6) Offering of ESL endorsement classes for educators on site: ESL endorsement classes are being offered at Round Lake Senior High through Illinois State University. These classes are for educators who wish to get their ESL endorsement/approval. These same 6 classes can be used to apply for a Bilingual Endorsement/Approval if another language is spoken and the educators teach in a self-contained language classroom. Individuals from neighboring districts, such as Hawthorne and Mundelein are participating. Winter classes that will be offered include Methodology and Assessment; there is still room available for interested educators.
- 7) General Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee meetings: We had our first BPAC general meeting September 28th and will be hosting 7 more meetings our next ones being October 25, November 29, and December 14, 2006. These meetings are conducted as part of Article 14C of the Illinois School Code Book, yet opened to community members. If parents who have children in the Transitional Bilingual Education programs are interested in running for a position on the BPAC Board please call our office at 847-270-9450 or 847-270-9036.

These are but a few of the many projects from the ELL department that have come to fruition. There will be many more to report on for the winter issue.

Staff Achievements

Congratulations to the following individuals who have recently received their Masters degree!

John Amrein, Gloria Baran, Gail Conway, Leif Hanson, Kim Pedley, Tanya Prais, Manuel Reyes, Jose Rodriguez, Curtis Rupert, Maria Somarriba and April Tucibat.

Clarese Ornstein was named Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year!

We are so fortunate to have such high achieving teachers in our District. The following individuals have been featured in "Who's Who in Americas Teachers" 2006 Edition!

Pam Fainman, Cindy Heaster, Shanna Laird, Marge Niemi, Clarese Ornstein and Carla Shepard!

Congratulations to **April Tucibat** who had an article published in "Instructor" magazine!



Staff and students from Ellis celebrate Homecoming!

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: Keys to Student Success

by Dr. Dennis Pauli

Research strongly supports the link between curriculum, instruction, and assessment with improving student achievement. In fact, Marzano's (2003) meta-analysis of more than 5,500 educational studies discovered that a *guaranteed viable curriculum* has the greatest effect on student achievement followed closely by instructional practices and assessment.

As a result, our elementary, middle, and high school teachers are participating in a process called curriculum mapping. During this process teachers are aligning the RLAS 116 curriculum with the State of Illinois Learning Standards and Assessment Frameworks. They will also be developing common assessments and identifying effective resources for teaching. Curriculum mapping will ensure that all students receive a *guaranteed viable curriculum*.

This year the RLAS 116 is implementing two new assessments at the elementary level to determine the instructional level of students, monitor their progress, and assist teachers in the development of individual learning goals. These assessments will be given in the fall, winter, and spring.

- 1) Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) are brief measures of the critical skills that underlie early reading success. The assessments used in DIBELS predict how well

children are likely to be doing in reading comprehension and fluency skills.

- 2) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) measure student progress or growth in reading, language usage, and math skills. Each Measure of Academic Progress is made up of parts, which are called goals.

The middle school will also be implementing the use of MAP's in seventh grade. Both the DIBELS and MAP assessments are recognized nationally as reliable instruments for predicting student performance.

This year all teachers will be participating in professional development activities on *differentiation*. The need for differentiating instruction to meet the individual needs of every learner is well documented. Through an aggressive professional development plan all of our teachers will receive training in research based instructional practices. They will be learning effective teaching strategies and techniques for meeting the learning goals of every child. School improvement days will be used to provide training for our staff on the integration of research based best practices. Ultimately, students benefit when instruction is presented in various modalities to support different learning styles.

The curriculum and instruction team are excited about the initiatives being implemented this year. We are confident that students will be the direct beneficiaries of these initiatives and their achievement will soar.

Round Lake Area Schools Community Unit District 116 Contact Information

Administrative Offices	Schools	
<p><i>Administrative Service Center</i> 316 S. Rosedale Ct. 847-270-9000 Fax 847-546-3538</p> <p><i>Educational Service Center</i> 801 Sunset 847-270-9030 Fax 847-270-9035</p> <p><i>Operations Service Center</i> 811 Sunset 847-270-9040</p> <p>www.rlas-116.org</p>	<p><i>Round Lake Senior High School</i> 800 N. High School Dr. 847-270-9300 Principal, Dr. Jeff Brierton</p> <p><i>Round Lake Middle School</i> 2000 N. Lotus Dr. 847-270-9400 Principal, Paul Flatley</p> <p><i>Beach Elementary</i> 1421 N. Ardmore 847-270-9930 Principal, Keel Vetere</p> <p><i>Raymond Ellis Elementary</i> Central Park Dr. 847-270-9900 Principal, Bill Pritchard</p>	<p><i>Indian Hill Elementary</i> 1920 N. Lotus Dr. 847-270-9970 Principal, Kenneth Hyllberg</p> <p><i>W.J. Murphy Elementary</i> 220 N. Greenwood 847-270-9950 Principal, Jeff Prickett</p> <p><i>Village Elementary</i> 880 W. Nippersink 847-270-9470 Principal, Elizabeth Sullivan</p> <p><i>Early Education Center</i> 882 Nippersink 847-270-9490 Principal, Shahrhan Spears</p>