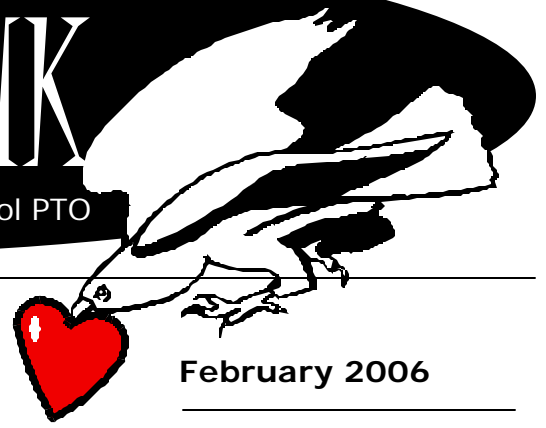


HIGHCREST HAWK

A Publication of the Highcrest Middle School PTO



From the PTO Presidents

Anne Williams and Eileen Noren

Hope you enjoyed the winter break as much as we did! The second half of the year is in full swing with many exciting events to look forward to!

We had an incredible presentation by Debbie Atwater and Elizabeth Kaiser on the technology program at Highcrest and the new Broadcast Studio at the January PTO meeting. We saw some sample broadcasts and heard how they were put together - amazing!

We have two great speakers scheduled for February and March. On February 1, Cathy Rosen will be giving a presentation on the IOWA tests. So for those of you who just got manila envelopes home with a lot of data, and have some questions about what it all means and how to interpret it - this is the meeting to be at! Feb 1st, 9:15 in the auditorium.

On Wednesday, March 1st, Vicki Lundy is going to be presenting on family fitness and nutrition. Anyone who knows Mrs. Lundy knows this is a passion of hers. So get up off the couch and come to the meeting and learn some fitness and nutrition tips for you and your family! Wednesday, March 1st, 9:15 in the auditorium.

The Youth Connection 6th grade dance is scheduled for Friday, February 10th. This dance is a well attended fun introduction to the social events that are provided for the students next year at the Junior High School. All sixth graders are invited.

The **BOOK FAIR** is scheduled for February 14, 15, & 16. There will be a great selection of books for the entire family! The ever popular Book Jam Café will be presented on Wednesday evening, February 15th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fourth grade students are invited to this evening event! Please refer to page 18 for additional Book Fair hours. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Karyn Glass, Molly Goren or Marianne Marquardt.

Continued on page 2...

February 2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Office News; Year book order form	3
From the Superintendent's Desk	4
Library Media Center; Bar/Bat Mitzvah Calendar	5
Birthday Book Form	6
PTO Membership Form; Family Awareness Network	7
The Highcrest Store; Youth Connection	8
Highcrest Variety Show; PASS 39 Announcements	9
Kids are Key Fundraiser; 6th Grade Enrichment	10
Club News; D39 Foundation Event	11
Certificate of Appreciation Form	12
Cafeteria Volunteers	13
Educational Foundation Ticket Form	14
Cafeteria Menu	15
Parent Education Consortium Programs	16
Highcrest Book Fair	18
Calendar of Events	19

...**From the PTO Presidents** (continued)

Career Day Chairs - Debbie Van Solkema (vansolkma04@comcast.net), Lisa Meyer (lisameyer@comcast.net), and Christine Werking (dwerking@comcast.net) are gearing up for our annual career day on April 28th. They are always looking for interesting speakers to talk with the classes - so please get in touch with one of them if you are willing to present.

The Variety Show is not far behind - scheduled for May 5th. Tryouts will be held in February. Many hands are needed to put together this very energetic, homespun show of our students talents - Co-chairs Nili Wronski and Margaret Sinn-Pong would be delighted to hear from you!

It is hard to believe that over 5 months of school have gone by and we are now beginning the process of putting in place our PTO Committee for 2006-2007. Anne Williams will be chairing the nominating committee this year. We hope to have a few new positions offered next year and many of the same positions from this year. A complete list of all positions will be going home to all families through backpack express in the next few weeks. Please look them over and consider getting involved for next year. There are many different levels of involvement from which to choose. It is a great way to stay informed and participate in this fabulous community we live in.

Thank you,
Eileen Noren
Eileenor@aol.com

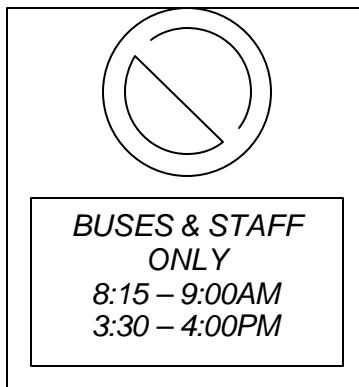
Anne Williams
annewilliams3@sbcglobal.net

SAFETY REMINDER!

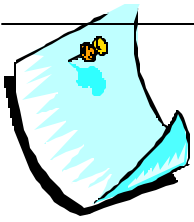
There are signs posted at our entrance prohibiting cars to enter during our pick up and drop off times. It is imperative that we have the cooperation of everyone to ensure everyone's safety!

Safe areas for drop off and pick up include:

**The south parking lot
West side of Hunter Road
Illinois Road**



PLEASE HELP US KEEP EVERYONE SAFE!



Office News

Dr. Cathy Rosen, Principal

Elizabeth Schuering, Asst. Principal

Dear Highcrest Families,

Upon returning from winter break we found ourselves very reflective. In looking back on the first half of the year we are so pleased and proud of the progress our students and staff have made. Informal assessment shows that our change to Block Scheduling has allowed students to delve deeper into content, develop high quality projects, attempt more enriching curricular content, and has limited the interruptions when conducting research and group work. The staff is continuing to evaluate all aspects of this schedule as we begin to make plans for next year.

The addition of a third lunch period has proven to be another great change. Parents, staff, and students have all commented on the lunchtime being quieter, less stressful, and more relaxed. The list of positive changes goes on and on including:

- Addition of 2 - 6th grade classrooms to lower class size
- Addition of our Broadcast Studio and coinciding club
- On-going "growth" and popularity of our outdoor classroom
- Addition of the game room two days a week during recess

The remainder of the year is filled with more concerts, end of quarter performances, art displays, field trips, assemblies, and new learning experiences.

Stay tuned for all the other great happenings!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosen

Ms. Schuering

It's not too late to purchase a Highcrest Yearbook!!!

Please submit a check for \$20.00 per book made payable to the Highcrest PTO. Include your child's name and homeroom teacher's name on your check.





From the Superintendent's Desk

Dr. Glenn "Max" McGee

"Dad, please hurry home and help me study for finals!" implored Joey's urgent voicemail last Thursday. That's not a message a parent hears very often, so I called back right away and found out why. "Come home and rescue me from Mother!" he pleaded. Yes, Mom was on homework duty for the evening while I had a meeting, and Jan had our sophomore Joe re-enacting scenes from the *Merchant of Venice* so he would remember key scenes for his exam. This technique was a heck of a lot more engaging, albeit infinitely more miserable and mortifying than my standard "make note cards and study them" review method, given that like most 15 year-olds he is convinced the whole world is watching him at every moment of every day. Truth be told though, Jan's approach was a lot more effective. With the exception of Portia's "quality of mercy" speech, which he used to avoid being grounded for a Saturday afternoon, he had not found Shakespeare particularly relevant or moving, but Jan's methods worked pretty well as he ended up "acing" the final and adding A + to his gentleman's B.

This little episode was a powerful reminder for me on a couple of levels. As an educator, I know that there are always ways to reach every child, but the trick is having the persistence, time and insight into finding the right one. "If they don't learn the way we teach, then we have to teach the way they learn," is not just a platitude, it is a mission that we all have in District 39. Sometimes, though, we need your help in identifying how

our students learn best. As you review your children's semester grades and Iowa Test results, please let us know if we can do something differently to help your "leader of tomorrow" be successful.

Speaking of Iowa Tests, if you have a child in third through seventh grade, you will soon be receiving his or her individual report. At first glance, the numbers may be perplexing, but to help you make sense of them, we have put together a brief slide presentation, which we will be sharing in early February. If you cannot attend or cannot wait, the presentation is under Hot Topics on our district website (www.wilmette39.org). It describes what the results mean as well as what they do not mean. For example, we clarify how to use grade equivalents (GE) to check yearly progress (we hope to see at least one year's growth in grade equivalents) and not as guidance for an instructional level. Yes, we have many sixth grade math students with a GE of 13. That does not mean that they are ready for vector calculus or AP Trig next week, but if you look at last year's GE score, you should see a GE of 12 or lower indicating they made at least a year's growth in a year's time.

But I digress. The other level of insight was about parenting. Finding time for traditional parent involvement is often a mighty challenge for us as we both have full-time jobs and then some. Although we write our share of checks for various events and have a refrigerator with enough cookie dough containers from the orchestra fundraiser to give Mrs. Field's some

Continued on page 5...



Library Media Center Volunteers Needed

We are trying a new schedule at the Library Media Center! Come any time you can between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Call or email Martha Blood if you would like to volunteer, 251-3549 or Deblood 60091 @ AOL.com.

Thank you so much to the following parents who volunteered during November and December/05:

**Susan Barry, Amy Weller, Kate Johnston-Legg, Patty Weiner,
Linda Olson, Stephanie Foye, Lisa Printen, Kim O'Donoghue,
Joellen Varga, Cathy Foschi, Pam Lurie, F. Biglari Jasemi and
Lynda Al-Najjar.**

Is your child having a Bar/Bat Mitzvah while in District 39?

If so, please let us know so we can keep a list and hopefully avoid date conflicts. Current sixth grade families can contact Teri Merens at Buckswin03@aol.com. Current fifth grade families can contact Gail Adler at Gail_Adler@TJX.com.

We look forward to hearing from you!

...From the Superintendent's Desk *(continued)*

serious competition, we know "parent involvement" means a lot more. As much as we would like to participate in the life of Joe's school, the great extent of our involvement is making sure that he has his homework done, is prepared for tests and participates in class. Our insight is that parent involvement is really about parent interaction, first and foremost with our own students and then if schedules allow, with our homerooms, schools and district. We keep rediscovering that the time we spend talking with Joe about school has a lot more impact on his success than a cool computer or even a quiet place to study. As we start the new year and new semester, please resolve to make some extra time for talking with your children, keeping them up to date with their assignments and listening to them. As for studying for tests, the method you use to help them is up to you, but for now, I am a believer in Jan's "active interaction" and am thinking that if I can just link solving crimes on CSI to solving geometry proofs, Joe will be on the Honor Roll.

For your children,
Max McGee



Happy Birthday to your Highcrest student!

We'd like to invite you to commemorate this special day by purchasing a book for the Highcrest Resource Center. Your contribution will add to the richness and variety of our school library and will be enjoyed by the students for years to come.

To make a donation and purchase a Birthday Book, fill out the form below, attach a check made payable to the Highcrest PTO and return to the Birthday Book basket in the school office. The average cost of a new library bound book is \$22.

After your donation form and check have been received, around the time of your child's birthday, your child will be notified via their homeroom teacher to go to the Resource Center to select their book. A personalized bookplate with the message you choose will be placed inside.

Thank you for making a lasting donation to our school library!

Sincerely,

Stacy Hawks (shawks@kraft.com)

Julie Bode (julielbode@yahoo.com)

Birthday Book Program Form

Child's name _____

Birth date _____

Home
Address _____

Teacher's
name _____

Personal message for
bookplate _____

Please make the check payable to the Highcrest PTO and return to the decorated box in the school office

The Highcrest School Store



The School Store is a busy place these days.....we are trying to sell some new items, so come and see what we have! We are also looking for a few more volunteers to fill in empty time slots in the next few months. Please e-mail us if you are able to work any of the following times:

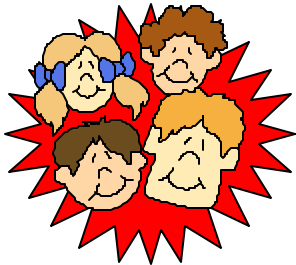
Tuesday, Feb 7th Tuesday, Feb 28th Tuesday, March 21st Thursday, March 23rd

The School Store will continue to sell Assignment Notebooks throughout the school year at the cost of \$6 each. If a 5th grade student needs to replace a lost calculator, they can purchase one in the school office for \$15 each.

Do you like working the School Store? Would you be interested in running the School Store next year with a couple of friends? It is a fun position on the Highcrest PTO Board, and we would be happy to talk to you about the job.

Come see us in the Highcrest School Store.....and happy shopping!

Mimi Dray mdrayvwpto@aol.com
Melissa Sloan msloanarts@comcast.net



Youth Connection To Host 6th Grade TGIF

Youth Connection's Annual 6th Grade TGIF at Highcrest Middle School will be held on Friday, February 10th from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Admission is \$5.00. The event will feature a DJ, open gym, activities, and games. Pizza and snacks will be available for sale. **Youth Connection is seeking approximately 20 parent chaperones for this event, and the time frame for volunteers will be 7:00 to 9:00.** Please call Bonnie Groner at 847-254-2224 if you can volunteer.

March Madness returns. Youth Connection will host its second March Madness party at WJHS on March 17th. Further details will follow this month.

Highcrest Variety Show 2006

**Do you have a skill, sing, dance, act or just like to be on stage?
WE WANT YOU!!!**

The Highcrest Variety show is holding "previews" in the Highcrest Auditorium on Friday Feb. 10th, Monday Feb. 13th and Thurs. Feb. 16th from 3:50pm to 6:30pm. This year's theme is "Napoleon Dynamite". Get together with your friends and figure out what you'd like to do. Decide to do a solo act or just say you'd like to work on the show and we'll find a place for you. Due to time limitations some acts may have to be combined.

There will be announcements during lunchtimes on Monday January 30th about the signups to be in the show. You can sign up for a preview timeslot at lunch on Feb 7,8, and 9th.

For more information contact Nili Wronski, at niliyelin@aol.com or Margaret Sinn-Pong at m.sinn@sbcglobal.net



PASS 39 Announcements

The Adoption Discussion Group aims to provide support, education, and networking for adoptive parents. Meetings are every other month on the third Thursday evening from 7-8:30pm. Meetings are facilitated by Rebecca Nelson, Ph.D. Our next meeting is February 16th and is held at the Mikaelian Education Center (MEC: 615 Locust Rd. just south of Regina High School). Questions? Please contact Dr. Nelson at (847) 729-4293 or email: rinelson@comcast.net. This group is sponsored by the Wilmette School District PASS39 and is open to all area parents touched by adoption including Wilmette, Glenview, Northfield, Northbrook, Evanston, Skokie, and Chicago. Hope to see you there.

PASS39 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING; Tuesday, February 21st at 5:15pm at the MEC, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette. Join Dr. Ray Lechner, Administrator of Student and Special Services and District 39 parents for a monthly discussion of District 39 Special Education programs and PASS39 events. Questions? email us at pass39@wilmette39.org



KIDS ARE KEY FUNDRAISER

A quick reminder that we are still collecting money for the Kids are Key Fundraiser and will continue to do so until the end of the school year. Lost your donation card & envelope? E-mail bashields121@aol.com and we'll gladly get you another one.

To date, we have collected over \$27,000, with more than 300 Highcrest families participating. That is amazing! Remember, these monies fund all of the wonderful enrichment programs that our children enjoy throughout the year. So, get on board and help out, if you can!

Again, a big thank you to all who have already donated. It is due to the thoughtful and generous response of parents like you that make Highcrest the incredible school that it is.

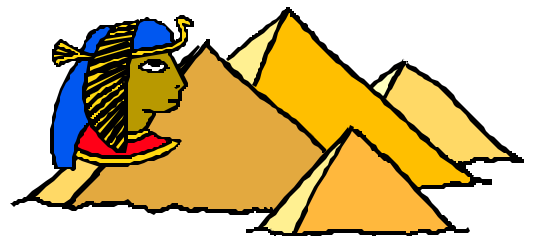
6th Grade Enrichment Programs

By Margaret Flanagan and Mary Alice Lyon

January 30 thru February 3 - Poetry Workshops in each classroom with Poet, Bill Buckzinsky

February 7 & 10 - Field Trips to Field Museum's Ancient Egypt exhibit

February 13 - Assembly with Solar System Ambassador, Mark Schneider



CLUBS!

Winter Clubs are Underway!

By: Lori Mulhern and Emily Woodrow

We had a tremendous response to the 16 Winter Clubs offered by our own Highcrest teachers. Our kids will be participating in everything from Red Cross Babysitting to Broadcasting. Thanks to all our Highcrest families for supporting these great Clubs. We tried a couple of new things this session in an attempt to improve the registration process. First, we used a lottery to fill rosters where demand exceeded space. Additionally, we offered confirmation for your child's club on the Highcrest website. Both improvements seemed to work well.

The Winter Session will complete our Clubs for this year. The session ends during the week of March 20th. All Clubs will be complete BEFORE we leave for spring break. Broadcasting will be the only club continuing for a third session. Response to this Club continues to be strong and a third session will allow another 30 kids to participate. More details on the registration for Spring Broadcasting will be coming in March.

West Africa comes to Highcrest During Black History Month!!

Friday, February 24th during Period 7 or 8 (depends on your class)

An exciting enrichment activity is coming to our school sponsored by the District 39 Educational Foundation

In honor of past superintendent, Sam Mikaelian, the Foundation will sponsor a West African Music Festival. The children will take a dynamic tour of West African music, culture, geography, and traditions with the **Jaliya Ensemble** and members of the **Holy Goat Percussion Ensemble**.

Students will be introduced to numerous West African instruments including the Kora- a 24 stringed West African Harp, and the djembe and talking drums. This group will have the kids singing and dancing to the exciting stories and rhythms of West Africa.

This enrichment program is the first part of the Sam Mikaelian Fine Arts Event. See page 14 of the Highcrest Hawk for details about the Foundation's spring event featuring the Holy Goat Percussion Ensemble accompanied by the Jubilate Children's Choir!



District 39 Educational Foundation Certificate of Appreciation

Honor a special teacher, administrator, friend or family member for **Valentine's Day** through a donation to the District 39 Educational Foundation. Your donation will be acknowledged with a beautiful, personalized Certificate of Appreciation sent to the honoree.

The Foundation promotes educational innovation and excellence in District 39 schools through:

- Gripp Grants to educators, students, and community members
- The Sam Mikaelian Fine Arts Fund which brings free fine arts events to all citizens of District 39

A Certificate of Appreciation is a great way to honor a special person while supporting the Foundation.

Send the following information with your donation (no minimum amount) to:
District 39 Educational Foundation, Certificate of Appreciation, 615 Locust Rd.,
Wilmette, IL 60091

Honoree's Name _____

Address _____

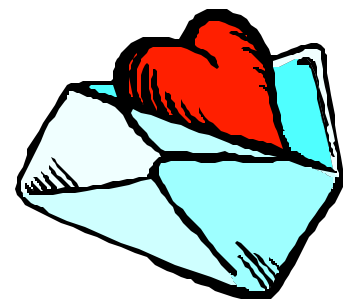
School (if applicable) _____

Donor's Name _____

Donor's Phone _____

Message

Questions??
Contact Jane Donaldson Bliamptis
jldonaldson@mindspring.com



Don't Miss It!
 The Sam Mikaelian Fine Arts Event
 Saturday, April 22nd
 Featuring:
 The Jubilate Children's Choir and Holy Goat Percussion
 Tickets free to Wilmette residents

On April 22nd, the renowned Jubilate Children's Choir will partner with The Holy Goat Ensemble a West African percussion troupe, for the Sam Mikaelian Fine Arts Event. This concert promises to get you and your family singing and dancing to the exciting rhythms of West Africa!

Tickets for this exciting event are free, but they must be requested in advance. You can submit your request by mail or in person to the Mikaelian Education Center at 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, anytime before noon, March 24, 2006. A lottery will be held if requests for tickets exceed available seating

Please remember to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope so your ticket can be mailed back to you. To offer the greatest opportunity to all, ticket requests will be limited to **5** per household. If tickets remain following the lottery, requests for additional tickets will be honored on a first-come, first-serve basis through the Educational Foundation telephone, 853-3939.

District 39 residents and employees are invited to attend; school age children and their families from every school in Wilmette are welcome!

Please fill out the form below to receive your complimentary tickets.

Number of tickets requested (up to 5) _____

Indicate performance preference by checking the box:

	2:00 PM	4:30 PM	No preference
1 st choice			

Name _____

Address _____

Contact me by (phone and/or email) _____

- Ticket deadline is **noon, Friday, March 24, 2006.**

Mail request to MEC, Attention: Tickets, 615 Locust Rd., Wilmette 60091

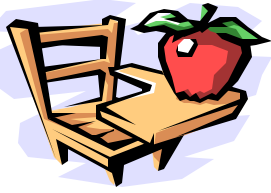
The District 39 Educational Foundation sponsors complimentary cultural arts events for the community through our Sam Mikaelian Fine Arts Fund. This special endowment was created in 1998 in honor of the retiring superintendent's 31 years of exceptional service to the District.

**HIGHCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH MENU
FEBRUARY 2006**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 GREEK SALAD ROLL SOUP DESSERT	2 PIZZA SALAD SOUP DESSERT	3 BREAKFAST BURRITOS MINI BAGEL FRUIT FROZEN YOGURT
6 HOT DOGS CHIPS VEGGIES DESSERT	7 B-B-Q WINGS TATER TOTS VEGGIES DESSERT	8 SPAGHETTI MEATBALLS SALAD ROLL DESSERT	9 PIZZA SALAD SOUP ITALIAN ICE	10 GRILLED CHEESE SOUP SALAD DESSERT
13 CORN DOGS CHIPS SALAD DESSERT	14 LUNCH IN RED BAGELS SOUP SALAD DESSERT	15 CHICKEN NUGGETS TATER TOTS VEGGIES DESSERT	16 PIZZA SALAD SOUP DESSERT	17 NO SCHOOL INSTITUTTE DAY
20 NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS DAY	21 FISH STICKS CORN SALAD DESSERT	22 TACOS/ TRIMMINGS FRUIT FROZEN YOGURT	23 PIZZA SALAD SOUP ITALIAN ICE	24 BLT SOUP CHIPS DESSERT
27 EGG ROLLS SOUP RICE MANDARIN ORANGES COOKIES	28 HAMBURGER FRIES VEGGIES DESSERT			

LUNCHES ARE \$2.35 FOR STUDENTS WITH MILK INCLUDED

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY



PEC 2005-2006
Parent Education Consortium of the North Shore

The North Shore Parent Education Consortium (PEC) develops, coordinates and produces educational programs for all New Trier Township parents. PEC is comprised of representatives from the community and parent/teacher organizations who, in partnership with The Book Stall at Chestnut Court in Winnetka, offer programs on relevant and timely parenting topics through joint planning and shared resources. PEC acts as a centralized source of information on parent resources/programs that promote stronger schools, family and community life.

February 1, “Aging Parents 101: Help for the Sandwich Generation Workshop,” 9:30 a.m.-12:20 p.m., Winnetka Park District Community Room, 540 Hibbard Road. This workshop will help you save time and energy as you lovingly give your parents the support they need. Topics covered will include: The signs that a parent needs more assistance, when and how to intervene, local and national resources, caregiver survival tips, information on legal, financial, and medical issues. Registration 847/446-7384. The \$20 fee includes refreshments and materials. Sponsored by FAN and the North Shore Senior Center.

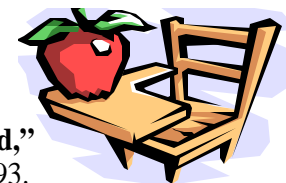
February 5, “Parents’ Book Discussion Group: *Best Friends, Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children*,” 3:00-4:00 p.m., Wilmette Public Library Youth Program Room, 1242 Wilmette Avenue. Why are children so mean to each other? Why is it so important to them to be popular? How can they be so loyal to their friends one moment and so treacherous the next? A parents’ book discussion group is launching at the Wilmette Public Library and will start with this sensitive and practical guide to raising children written by Michael Thompson and Catherine O’Neill Grace. Sign up by calling 847-256-6945.

February 6 “Raising Resilient Children,” 7:00-9:00 p.m., Washburne Little Theatre, 515 Hibbard Road, Winnetka. Author of twenty texts including the bestselling parenting book *Raising Resilient Children*, Sam Goldstein, Ph.D. will discuss his work and answer questions on nurturing resilience and achieving balance, confidence and hopefulness in children. Presented by Crow Island Elementary School in partnership with the Winnetka Central PTA, and sponsored by The Book Stall.

February 6, “Core Values in Everyday Life,” 9:45 – 11:15 a.m., Gorton Community Center, Room 1861, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, 60045. Rae Kyriazis will discuss the way clear core values empower each of us and our families, and how they create clarity about what works and what doesn’t in social situations. Many people talk about core values but putting them into practice daily is not as easy or clear. This presentation will be extremely practical and immediately applicable for every participant ... with a few “ah ha” moments along the way. Registration 847/295-9075 or email LEAD9075@aol.com

February 11, “Parent University,” Keynote Session by Dr. Bruce Colston: “Seven Principles of Highly Effective Parenting,” 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Gorton Community Center, 400 E. Illinois Road, Lake Forest, 60045. Participants attending the 10th annual LEAD Parent University will have an opportunity to listen to a keynote speaker and attend workshops designed to give parents insights into a variety of issues. The cost is \$25 in advance and includes the keynote, workshops, and a continental breakfast. Registration, 847/295-9075, fax 847/295-9076, email LEAD9075@aol.com

...Continued on page 17...



February 15, “Healthy Body Image and Healthy Eating for Your Athlete and Your Child,” 12:45 - 2:30 p.m., Room C234, New Trier High School, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, 60093. Speaker is Monique Ryan, MS, RD, LDN, H/FI. Sponsored by FAN www.fan-ntts.org

February 21, “Investigate New Therapy Options,” 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., New Trier High School Campus, Building C, Board Room C234, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, 60093. Looking for new ways to support your traditional occupational, physical and speech therapy? Come and listen to representatives providing information on various therapies like Biofeedback, Hippo (Horse), Animal-Assisted, Nutrition, Art, Music and Drama. Space is limited. To ensure a seat, please **RSVP** to Karen Noonan, NSSD Director of Programs at 847-831-5100 extension 210 by February 15, 2006.

February 22, “Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls Workshop,” 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m., The Carlisle, Lombard Salon, 435 E. Butterfield Road, Lombard, 60148. Administrators, teachers, and parents will spend the day with Rachel Simmons, *New York Times* best-selling author, to examine the hidden culture of cruelty in the lives of young girls, and the toxic combination of aggressive bullying, the Internet, jealousy, rumors, and cliques. Registration: 847-223-3400, ext. 230. Fee for the day is \$150. Sponsored by Lake County Educational Services.

March 6, “The Latest Information on Drugs Being Abused by Youth,” 9:45 – 11:15 a.m., Gorton Community Center, Room 1861, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, 60045. Officer Baker will teach parents about new and existing drugs, including dangerous inhalants (huffing), that our local youth are experimenting with now. Become familiar with the vocabulary, the paraphernalia, and the effects in order to keep your kids safe. You will find out where to go, what to do, or what to say if you suspect your child or a friend’s child might be experimenting. Q & A session to follow. Registration, 847/295-9075, fax 847/295-9076, email LEAD9075@aol.com

March 13, “Teacher Initiative Grants In Use!” 7:00 p.m., Skokie Community Room, Skokie School, 520 Glendale Avenue, Winnetka, 60093. Hear teacher representatives from each Winnetka school discuss academic programs they have developed using teacher initiative grants from the Winnetka Public Schools Foundation. Find out how these initiatives are unfolding in the classroom and enhancing learning. Co-sponsored by the Winnetka Central PTA and Winnetka Public Schools.

March 15, “What I’ve Learned about Raising Kids and Teaching Kids,” 12:45 - 2:30 p.m., Room C234, New Trier High School, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, 60093. Words of wisdom from retiring Winnetka Superintendent Becky van der Bogert. Sponsored by FAN, www.fan-ntts.org

April 10, “Fostering Self Reliance: for 8th through 12th grade parents,” 9:45 – 11:15 a.m., Gorton Community Center, Room 1861, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, 60045. It is important to teach young people to learn how to handle challenges effectively before they leave home. Parents will explore tips with Alice White, L.C.S.W., B.C.D., for helping older adolescents become more capable of managing their own lives NOW. This workshop will provide specific strategies to help their children feel more competent and prepared for the real world. Registration, 847/295-9075, fax 847/295-9076, email LEAD9075@aol.com

Questions? Contact Deb Guy at dgguy@comcast.net

Want to Read a Great Tale???



**Come to the Scholastic Book Fair
at Highcrest**

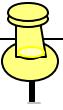
When: Tuesday, February 14th, 8am-4pm and 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Wednesday, February 15th, 8am-4pm and 6:30- 8:30pm
Thursday, February 16th, 8am-4pm

Where: Highcrest Library Media Center

Why: It's fun, you'll find great books and a portion of each sale benefits all sorts of fun programs at Highcrest.

Come participate in the Book Jam on Wednesday night.

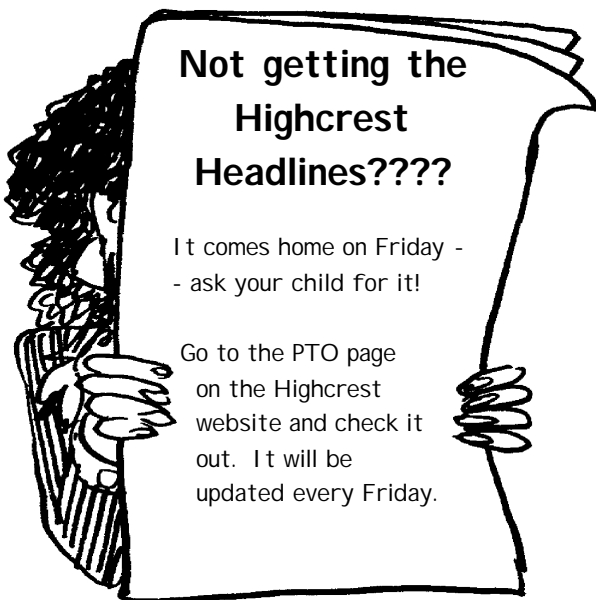
Remember to check out the Teacher Wish List and consider making a purchase for the classroom.




CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- 1 PTO Meeting - 9:15 am
- 9 Grade 5 Solo/Ensemble Recital - 7:30 pm
- 10 Youth Connection Dance - Grade 6 - 7:30 pm
- 13 Grade 6 Solo/Ensemble Recital - 7:30 pm
- 14 Book Fair - 8:00 to 4:00 pm and 6:30 to 8:30
- 15 Book Fair - 8:00 to 4:00 pm and 6:30 to 8:30
with Poetry Café from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
- 16 Book Fair - 8:00 to 4:00
- 17 NO SCHOOL - Institute Day
- 20 NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
- 27 Grade 5 - 8 Band Concert - 7:30 pm
- 28 Grade 5 - 8 Orchestra Concert - 7:30 pm



HIGHCREST HAWK
A Publication of the Highcrest Middle School PTO 

Submit articles to
highcresthawk@yahoo.com

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Look for the "Hawk" on-line or copies
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