



Betsy Ross

Anne Sullivan

The Schools of Prospect Heights District 23

Douglas McArthur

May 19, 2014

Dear Families of District 23,

The Prospect Heights District 23 Board of Education and the Prospect Heights Education Association (PHEA) signed an agreement for the last two years of the 2011-2015 contract on May 14 at the Board of Education meeting held at MacArthur Middle School. Both parties are pleased to have the negotiation process completed.



The PHEA ratified the contract on May 1 with 86 percent of the membership voting in favor of the terms of the agreement for the final two years of the contract. For 2013-2014, certified staff will receive a 1.3 percent increase on the base of the current salary schedule. Step increases on the current salary schedule range from 2.44 percent to 3.82 percent. Non-certified staff will receive 2 percent on the base of the current contract schedule. Step increases on the current contract salary schedule for noncertified staff are approximately 2 percent. Certified and noncertified staff on longevity will receive 2 percent on their base salary plus any longevity increases that would occur due to years of service.

In the last year of the contract, certified and non-certified staff will receive raises of 4.5 percent based on the 2013-2014 salary. Certified staff and non-certified staff on longevity will receive a 2 percent increase on their total salary. The agreement also calls for retroactive pay for the 2013-2014 school year.

In addition, both parties agreed the traditional salary schedule would not exist for contracts negotiated in the future. The Board of Education and the PHEA will form a committee by July 8, 2014, to begin work on an alternative method to deliver salaries and wages. Each month, the committee will report their progress to the Board of Education in a joint statement. The committee's findings, suggestions, and recommendations on potential models to deliver salaries and wages will be presented at the December 10, 2014, District 23 School Board meeting.

Sincerely, Mari-Lynn Peters Prospect Heights School District 23 Board of Education President

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Administration

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Dr. Don Angelaccio Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

847/870-5551

Luann Kolstad Business Manager 847/870-5552

Carolyn Ranieri Director of Technology 847/870-5555

Chrystyna Sroka Special Education Coordinator 847/870-5580

Ron DeGeorge Maintenance Supervisor 847/870-5581

Employee Awards

A t the end of each school year, the Board of Education recognizes four benchmarks of service to the District and honors retirees. In 2014, we salute the following dedicated individuals for their important contributions to the success of our schools.

Ő

35 Years: LuAnn Casurella, Michele Henry

- 25 Years: Pam Garceau, Pam Lilly, Tara MacTavish
- **20 Years:** Athena Kalaras, Tammy Kaspari, Michelle Kutcher, Rachel Matthews, Lisa Wright
- 10 Years: Kristen Bearwald, Debra Crask, Amy Mailloux, Andre Poisson, Carolyn Ranieri, Lora Robertson •

Retirees

This year District 23 honors eight very special people whose combined service totals 163 years! We will be forever grateful for the positive impact you have made on the staff and students. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

- 🎽 Noreen Artar, Sullivan TPI Teacher, 18 years
- 🔰 Linda Brimm, MacArthur TPI Teacher, 21 years
- 🕉 Rhonda Douroux, Eisenhower Program Assistant, 6 years
- **Lois Glick,** Sullivan TPI Teacher, 14 years
- **Dolores Glover,** Accounts Payable, 27 years
- 🏈 Michele Henry, Ross Teacher, 35 years
- Barbara Mestling, MacArthur Social Worker, 23 years
- Dara Saunders, Eisenhower ESL Teacher, 19 years •







Eisenhower School Spotlight

On April 25th, students from our first grade classes participated in a special Arbor Day ceremony with the Prospect Heights Park District, Public Works Department, and Mayor Helmer. Lead by first grade teacher, Dara Saunders, students read a poem about trees and the important role they play in all of our lives. With family and friends nearby, the children wore their wonderfully adorned "tree hats" and made us all feel the wonder of a new generation growing up with new trees. After all, it's a wonderful place for a child and a tree to grow.





March Madness Celebration

Monday, March 17 marked the 3rd annual March Madness Celebration at Betsy Ross School. This event pits a team of staff members representing the 2nd grade students against a team of staff members representing the 3rd grade students in a friendly game of basketball. Throughout the school year, Betsy Ross students are continually working hard to demonstrate the school "star values" of respect, responsibility, and safety. Staff members then host monthly celebrations to honor our hard working students. Our March Madness Celebration is just one example of these celebrations.

Jump Rope for Heart Event ►

Ross students raised money for a fantastic cause, the American Heart Association, by getting pledges and participating in our annual Jump Rope for Heart event. This year, we raised a record \$5,300 for this wonderful cause.



Mrs. Souri's Class ► Visits Nursing Home

Thanks to Mrs. Souri's dedication, she was awarded an "Intergenerational Connections Grant" from the Illinois Education Association. With the grant, she was able to provide her students a chance to visit a local nursing home to put smiles on the faces of some local senior citizens. During their three visits, Mrs. Souri's class sang songs, performed plays, recited poetry, and conversed with the residents. These experiences were truly rewarding for all involved!

> Betsy Ross Bulldogs



Prospect Heights Young Artists' Reception

On Monday, March 10, District 23 students, families, teachers, and community members gathered to celebrate our phenomenal students and their artistic abilities. Our district art teachers joined the Prospect Heights Public Library in hosting the Prospect Heights Young Artists' Reception, where the public could view the many work samples created by our students.

Battle of the Books ►

Once again this year, Ross students will be participating in a Battle of the Books competition as a part of their library media center activities. The 2nd grade competition took place during the month of March and concluded with a final battle on March 11. In the end, it was Alex, Timothy, Steve, Natalia, and Lucas from Mrs. Bennett's class that took home the honor of winning. Our 3rd grade competition will be coming up in April.







◄ We Are Silent Day

On April 17 we participated in the national We Are Silent Day where students were silent to support a cause. They were silent for 30 minutes to support ending hunger, bullying, and child labor or to support education for all. Each student wore a sticker to show what he/she supported. During the 30 minute time, students made posters or wrote about what they were supporting. It was a great experience to think about others and their needs.

Buddy Foundation ► Community Service Project

The fifth grade organized a service project for the Buddy Foundation. We collected 6 boxes of items for the shelter and \$109. The students who brought in donations got to hang their pet's photo on the Sullivan Pet Wall of Fame.





Beyond the Three R's

By Dr. Don Angelaccio, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

District 23 purchased a software subscription for use during the school year to provide intervention and remediation in math and literacy to at-risk students. In its first year of implementation, the Odyssey-Compass Learning software has proven to be an engaging and effective tool to help our students. Because we now own the license for this software, we are excited to be able to share this resource with parents to use over the summer with their children!!!

We know how difficult it can be to find fun and engaging activities to fill those rainy summer days and to keep students' minds engaged in math and reading while on "break." The Odyssey-Compass Learning program uses individual student MAP test data from this spring and creates a customized "learning path" for the student comprised of tutorials, practice, games, and quizzes.

If parents use this tool to provide structured learning a few times each week, current research indicates that this results in a dramatic decrease in learning loss over the summer. Parents can rest assured that the software has

identified areas of strength and need for practice in math and literacy, and customized the selection of activities for their child.

This software tool is available

the software has For more information, p **CODYSSEX**® by Compass**Learning**®

Curriculum Corner

to all District 23 families at NO COST. Log-in information, specific to each child, will be sent home with report cards. Parents were invited, but not required, to attend a training session in June, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm, in the MacArthur computer lab, to learn the basics of the program and how to support their child over the summer.

For more information, parents can speak with their child's

principal or contact the office of the Assistant Superintendent. We look forward to helping parents help their children make this summer a fun, safe, and productive time. •

Is your child registered for the 2014-2015 school year?

Having your child's current paperwork on file with the District is an important first step in starting off the school year on the right foot. Registering your child for school before June 1 allows accurate data for your child and family to be created and also ensures that you receive pertinent information in a timely manner. On-time registration helps the District accurately plan for transportation needs, schedule Extended Day Programs (EDP),

make classroom assignments, and ensure that the optimal number of classroom sections are created at each grade level. In addition, when registering, parents have the opportunity to join the PTO and get involved in school activities.

Registration for the 2014-2015 school year opened on April 1. Late registration opportunities are available throughout May as the buildings work to have all families registered by June 1.

Payment is accepted online with no processing charges. You also may choose to pay later by cash or check.

If you need assistance with registration, please do not hesitate to contact your child's building secretary for assistance.

Do not delay; register today! •



Moving forward with Teaching, Learning, and Technology

A new chapter in the history of District 23 began on April 14 with the launch of the Teaching, Learning and Technology Committee (TLT). Parents, community members, Board Members, teachers, technology experts, administrators, and students came together to discuss the important role technology will play in enhancing the teaching and learning that occurs in all District 23 classrooms now and in the future.

While the stakeholders defined the need to keep teaching and learning as the primary focus, their goal was to identify fiscally responsible ways in which technology can enhance and add value to the learning process. The technology that has become so much a part of our daily existence will continue to play a central role in the future lives of our students and community.

The committee is committed to conducting a thorough investigation into the digital shifts necessary to ensure that engaging and innovative instruction is provided for students and the communication and connections with parents and community are enhanced. This also includes continually examining and maintaining the facilities and infrastructure required to support digital learning.

The Teaching, Learning and Technology committee has much to accomplish over the next few years but is moving forward to prepare our students for a digital future. •



The Teaching, Learning and Technology Committee meets to discuss the role of technology in the classrooms now and in the future.



uann Kolstad, District 23 Business Manager, was invited to lead a session on the District's geothermal project at a recent Green Symposium. Educators and professionals from around the State gathered at Stevenson High School on Friday, April 18, to discuss how sustainability initiatives and green facility management can thrive in educational settings.

"We believe all children should learn in green schools in this generation," said Jenny Wiedower of the U.S. Green Building Council who sponsored the event. "We're looking for the most actionable, scalable, and most transformative ways that we can improve school buildings so all students have access to a healthier learning environment."

District 23 set a strong example with their ongoing geothermal heating and cooling project. Kolstad explained that when the District's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems reached the end of their useful lives, the School Board faced a tough decision. Cost estimates to replace those mechanical systems topped \$5 million while adding air conditioning to all three building would have increased that total by another \$3.5 million.

Instead, the School Board chose to go the green, geothermal route for a total cost of \$6.2 million.

"It replaced every single mechanical system in the building," Kolstad said. "We've been told we're going to have minimal maintenance for at least 20 years."

District 23's geothermal system includes more than 150 bore holes dug 500 feet into the earth. Water is transported in through a closed loop system. Feeder pipes then bring the water into each classroom and the earth's natural cool temperatures and heat are used to provide the desired temperature in the buildings.

Kolstad reports that the District used only 383 therms of gas in January 2014 compared to 8,215 therms in the same month last year.

"It can range from 40 to 70 percent in savings," Kolstad said. "It's very dynamic and reacts very quickly to the change in temperatures. It's adaptable to the changing educational environment."

Josh Marder of Eco-Solar joined Kolstad at the presentation and also spoke of the benefits of solar and geothermal energy.

"These systems do cost quite a bit of money and there is sticker shock," Marder said. "But it's a long-term investment. You're saving money every day. Eventually you get to a pay-back date where the system is making money for your school or home."

William P. Caputo Scholarship Winner

ichael L. Fuerst has been selected as this year's recipient of the William P. Caputo Scholarship. A 2010 District 23 graduate, Michael will receive \$1,000 toward his college education at Princeton University where he plans to study Electrical Engineering and play NCAA Division I Volleyball.

In his young life, Michael has amassed an impressive resume of achievements, awards, and accolades. He graduates from Hersey High School with a weighted GPA of 5.51. He is a National Honor Society member, Illinois State Scholar, Spanish Honor Society member, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Merit Commended Scholar, and was on the "A" Honor Roll all semesters. But to truly understand Mike's excellence as a student, it is necessary to look beyond the test scores and grade-point averages. What emerges is the picture of a scholar in the making. As his teachers will attest, "what distinguishes Mike from his peers is that he is motivated by the pursuit of academic inquiry more than any consequent recognition" and revels in challenging material. Mike has taken eight AP classes. His perfect score of 5 on the AP US History exam was attained by only the top 10 percent of all advanced-placement students taking the test. Not only does this reflect his ability to grasp high-level concepts but it also measures his academic proficiency when compared to even the best students across the country.

The passion that fuels Mike's academic pursuits is evident in his athletic aims. He has played varsity

basketball since sophomore year and varsity volleyball all four years and was selected as captain of both teams as a junior. He also earned all-conference and all-area recognition in both sports as a junior.

Mike has been involved with Student Council for the past three years and was elected president this school year. He was selected as Student Class Rep for Homecoming 2012 and was on Homecoming Court in 2013.

He is a member of the Principal Selection Committee and was the Robert J. Hannon Leadership Award Recipient. Also known for his community outreach, Michael cofounded the "Super Buddies" program which pairs high school students with special-needs students outside the school. He is part of his church mission team that travels to provide assistance to needy communities.

Besides being an outstanding student, athlete, leader, and volunteer, Michael is an exceptional person. His teachers view him as representing the best of his graduating class. "It is easy to recognize but difficult to quantify the respect he has earned from his teachers and peers. Michael inspires the admiration of all who know him, and for good reason: He is humble and modest; he is affable and approachable; he is upbeat and positive. Of all the honors and accolades Michael has earned in his four years at Hersey High School, this unbounded respect of others seems to be the highest tribute." Congratulations, Michael.

Update on Community Conversations

he Board of Education is committed to actively involving the community in dialogue that reflects many different voices and viewpoints. These ongoing conversations are

a way to establish common ground on issues that affect the District as it continues to plan appropriately for the future.

During the month of April, District 23 participated in three community engagement events held at the Prospect Heights Library, Indian Trails Library, and the Arlington Heights Memorial Library. These evening events provided a forum to share District 23 goals and achievement results and to foster communication for engaging the community.

To further support community engagement, the District is launching a new website in July. The new design is intended to offer opportunities for District 23 to expand and extend the level of communication with the community beyond a mere listing of events and information.

Geothermal Heating and Cooling Project Update

Tt's time to gear up for summer construction! Over spring break, Lasbestos abatement projects were completed at both Betsy Ross and Anne Sullivan schools. Universal Asbestos Removal Inc. completed the work at Sullivan and Valor Technologies performed the work at Ross. The District's asbestos consultant, United Analytical Services, coordinated, supervised, and oversaw the legal requirements for both projects.

Richmond Electric also began the work on the new electrical service at Betsy Ross School. Once the boilers are turned off in May, F.E. Moran will start decommissioning and preparing for their removal.

The plan to move all items in the building is being coordinated and will be completed by Sunday, June 8, so that the contractors can hit the ground running. Construction schedules continue to be modified and adjusted so that work will be completed in time for school to open in August.

The conversion to geothermal at Eisenhower School will take place next summer.

Upcoming Events

June 4
June 6 Last full day of student attendance and
last day of Kindergarten (regular schedule)
June 11 Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
July 9Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
August 13Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
August 18 No School, Teacher Institute Day
August 19 No School, Teacher Institute Day
August 20First day of Classes (full day of attendance)
August 27First day of Kindergarten & Early Childhood
September 1 No School, Labor Day
September 10Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM
September 25 No School
October 8Board of Education Meeting, 7 PM

October 13 No School, Columbus Day •

Thank You to All the **District 23 Volunteers!**

olunteers are the lifeblood of our schools, Without their help, many programs, events, and enrichment activities would not be possible. All those who give their time make District 23 a great place for a child to grow. As the school year draws to a close, the administration and staff of District 23 would like to acknowledge the valuable contributions of all of our volunteers.

If you would like the opportunity to volunteer, please contact the Superintendent's office at (847) 870-3850.



chool Scene The Schools of Prospect Heights District 23

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SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Deb Wilson, Ed.D.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Don Angelaccio

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mari-Lynn Peters, President Jeff Bowes, Vice President Judi Zimmerman, Secretary Martha Olsen Carol Botwinski David Hess Jim Bednar

DISTRICT WEB SITE www.d23.org

Eisenhower Elementary School (847) 870-3875

Betsy Ross Elementary School (847) 870-3868

(847) 870-3865

Sullivan Elementary School MacArthur Middle School (847) 870-3879

Congratulations, Class of 2014!

By providing diverse opportunities in academics, fine arts, and athletics, we strive to guide the students who travel the hallways of our schools on a path to becoming lifelong learners and leaders. District 23 is a better place because of the outstanding contributions of these young people. The six students highlighted here represent the true heart and soul of our District through their varied accomplishments and special memories of their time with us. As you move on to high school, we wish all our graduates continued success.





Joaquin Herin

ttitude is everything," says Joaquin Herin. And he certainly lives that philosophy. In fact, it's Joaquin's good-natured demeanor that his teachers have come to recognize and admire. Always pleasant to talk with, Joaquin rarely lets a day go by without

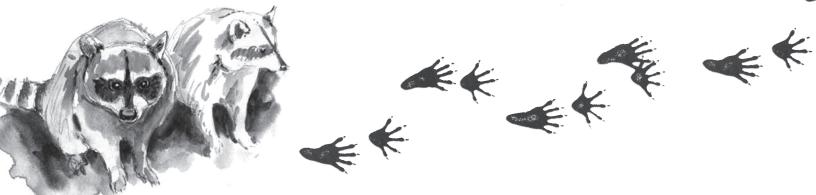
greeting those he encounters with a friendly hello followed by a unique explanation of something that has caught his attention. He has many diverse interests. "I really like math and social studies. I love learning about history, too." Joaquin has a passion for antique cars; his favorite is the Model T. He takes private lessons for the bass and acoustic guitar and is quite busy with his pets that include a brood of chickens. At Mac, he is on the volleyball team and is a member of the choir. His teachers are continually impressed with his profoundly amazing classroom etiquette and his ability to be highly engaging no matter what topic is taught or discussed. Productive, appropriate, responsible, and respectful, Joaquin embodies the tenets of Mac's PARR Program. On weekends, Joaquin enjoys hanging out with a buddy but on school nights, he's busy with his "head in a book". This summer, he will take a woodworking class at Wheeling High School and attend choir camp at the University of Illinois. In the fall, he will take part in the AVID program, a college prep system. He also would like to be in the jazz band at Wheeling. After college, Joaquin is looking to pursue a career as a mechanic or a teacher. For right now, he has some advice for incoming sixth graders. "It may seem tough but push on and find what you want to do." Keep that positive outlook, Joaquin, and success is yours! •



Emily Kyle

eet one of MacArthur's best - Emily Kyle! Once you do, you'll know that you are in the company of a smart and confident teen who is kind, respectful, cooperative, creative, and cheerful. Her teachers find her to be a pleasure to have in

class with the potential to succeed in everything she does. Emily's dedication to her schoolwork earned her a place in the MacArthur Honor Society. She also has been involved in Volleyball, Poms, Track, and Choir. Emily has great memories of her nine years in District 23. She especially loved field trips. "They are all sort of fun; the classes are interesting, too, and the teachers are all so nice and helpful. In a way I'm going to miss Mac, but it's time for me to leave." Emily's teachers will miss her smile, pleasant attitude, and unwavering work ethic. She plans to attend some camps this summer at Hersey before she starts school there in the fall. She is looking forward to performing in Show Choir and running Track in the spring. She also is trying out for poms. Emily's long-term goals include following in her cousin's footsteps and attending Notre Dame University to study engineering or product design. She already has some great "ideas about inventions". With a good education to back her up, she'll be bringing her concepts for new products to the marketplace in no time. For all those students who would like to succeed at Mac, Emily has some advice for you. "Try to do your best and always do your homework. You learn from doing your homework." •



MacArthur Class of 2014



Jennifer Lam

Exceeding expectations is what Jennifer Lam does both in and out of the classroom. Her teachers say her internal drive encourages her to seek out knowledge through as many avenues as possible. The high standards she sets for herself inspire those

around her to follow her lead. Dedication to schoolwork earned Jennifer a place in the Honor Society all three of her years at Mac. Her methods are basic but very effective especially when you apply the consistency and balance that Jennifer does. "I always do homework and study for tests." In addition to enjoying a successful academic career, Jennifer also leads an active extracurricular life. Over the past three years, she has been involved in Track, Yearbook Club, Orchestra, and Bowling Club. Outside of school, she takes Taekwondo and piano lessons. Any spare time she has is spent hanging out with friends, listening to music, and reading books. This summer, she will attend two orchestra camps at Wheeling High School. In the fall, she is looking forward to being a Wildcats cheerleader during the football season and, of course, playing cello in the orchestra. Jennifer believes in the power of a positive attitude. She is a serious student but she also knows how to have fun. Her sense of humor combined with her humble demeanor and strong work ethic have served her well throughout her years in District 23. "I just have fun. I like making new friends. I smile all the time and I laugh a lot." •



Kelly Miller

I f anyone embodies the qualities of the finest District 23 has to offer, it is most certainly Kelly Miller. While at MacArthur, she has been involved in many extracurricular activities. Kelly plays the cello in the Orchestra and Serenading Strings. She also has taken private

piano lessons for the last eight years. Her athleticism shines through in the sports teams she has been a member of including Cross Country, Basketball, and Track. She also finds time to be involved in Student Senate. Even with all this on her plate, Kelly manages to excel in her academic classes and is a member of the Honor Society. "My favorite subjects are social studies and reading. I like realistic fiction." Her teachers and peers describe Kelly as someone who is respectful, cooperative, kind, funny, and always willing to lend a helping hand. While she has enjoyed her nine year in District 23, especially performing and spending the day at Great America, she is ready to move on to Hersey High School. "I'm looking forward to the new opportunities and participating in different clubs, probably Debate and SOS, and I'd love to do Cross Country and Track." Kelly has found an excellent role model in her brother. "I look up to my older brother. He always tries to be the best he can be and that's what I want to do, too."It was while he was looking at colleges that Kelly set a future goal for herself. "I would like to go to Harvard Law School. I want to be a lawyer." Kelly's determination has made her a luminary at MacArthur and will, without a doubt, help her shine at Hersey, and at Harvard, as well.





MacArthur Middle School held a "send off" parade in front of the school for the four wrestlers that

in front of the school for the four wrestlers that qualified for the IESA State Wrestling Tournament. The boys did a great job and represented MacArthur well in their actions both on and off the mat!



MacArthur Class of 2014



Patrycia Tomaszkiewicz

ho is a MACnificent Marauder? Patrycia Tomaszkiewicz, that's who. An outstanding student with a kind heart, Patrycia has dedicated herself to doing well in school. She takes great pride in putting forth her best effort on her schoolwork. This

dedication earned Patrycia a place in the Honor Society in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Her teachers say she is polite, respectful, and honest and will go out of her way to do things for others. Patrycia has been active in extracurricular activities throughout her years at Mac. She has been a member of the Choir for three years and played on the seventh- and eighth-grade volleyball teams. Patrycia also is on a park district volleyball team outside of school and she recently began taking private guitar lessons. When she has some down time, she likes to spend it watching TV or reading a good mystery. She has wonderful memories of her eight years in District 23. She recalls being a little anxious about starting school at MacArthur. "I thought it would be scary but when I met new kids, it was really fun!" She really enjoyed the field trips especially rock climbing in seventh grade. Patrycia will miss the teachers at Mac but is looking forward to attending Hersey High in the fall where she hopes to play volleyball and water polo. Looking ahead to college, Patrycia would like to study law. In the meantime, she will be following the philosophy that got her where she is today: "Try your best and always have fun." •



Jovanny Trujillo

The best way to describe Jovanny Trujillo's involvement at MacArthur Middle School is as a leader. Day in and day out, Jovanny's positive demeanor lights up every classroom he enters. His ready smile and everpresent enthusiasm make him some-

one others naturally want to be around. He is the kind of person who always finds the good in every situation. Consequently, it is not unusual for his classmates who have questions to seek him out for answers. Not only does Jovanny work well with his peers, but he also builds positive relationships with them outside the classroom. He is not afraid to meet new friends and he is attentive to the ideas of others. His teachers view him as the type of student who thrives both academically and socially. He is open-minded and respectful and asks inquiry-based questions if he needs more clarification. A consistently high achiever, Jovanny demonstrates a strong determination and work ethic both in and out of the classroom. His excellent academic grades go beyond the expected norms. In addition to being in the Honor Society all three years at Mac, he is a member of the school's Basketball team. The trust Jovanny inspires in his teachers and his peers has made him an outstanding student leader. As he takes these special qualities on to high school, all indications are that Jovanny is headed for even greater success.

IPA Student Recognition ►

Sonja Stasiuk and Chris Sable were nominated by their teachers to receive the IPA Outstanding Student Award for their performance both in the classroom and in the community.





R-Word Week

The MacArthur Middle School Youth Activation Committee performed skits to "spread the word to end the word" for MacArthur and Sullivan students.