

- ON-LINE WITH 109 -

A Newsletter for the New Millennium

INDIAN SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #109 COMMUNITY
 Bridgeview School • Brodnicki School • Lyle School/E.C.C. • Player Primary Center • Wilkins School

INDIAN SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT #109 RECEIVES ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MODEL SCHOOL DISTRICT STATUS



Two key elements of effective education include engaged learning and guided instruction. These elements are present in the classrooms of District #109. Pictured above are Mrs. Roark (left) and Mrs. Mailloux's (right) kindergarten classes demonstrating these techniques.

At the beginning of the school year, District #109 was notified by the Illinois State Board of Education that it had achieved Model School status. This is a great honor for District #109 as we are the first school district in the state to achieve this high recognition.

Model School status has been given to District #109 by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Office of Educational Services to recognize the teaching strategies and approaches that our teachers are implementing to educate our children. Teachers from other school districts are invited to visit and observe these promising structures and practices. It is the hope of the State Board of Education that visiting teachers will bring back to their home schools and students the eminently replicable and adaptable instructional frameworks being employed.

Under the direction of our Curriculum Director, Mrs. Kay Dugan, District #109 has provided our staff with meaningful, data-driven professional development to promote the scientifically research-based methodology identified through such organizations as the National Reading Panel and the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. As a result, our teachers are amongst the best prepared to ensure student success. District #109 recognizes that cultivating and capturing the expertise of our teachers is our best asset.

District #109 is very proud of this honor. However, this award is not a milestone to be achieved and then rested upon. We are continually working to improve ourselves so that we remain one of the best school districts in the state that comprehensively meets the needs of all of its children.

CURRICULUM ADOPTION K-8 MATHEMATICS PROGRAM

The charge of the mathematics committee was to investigate instructional materials for an exemplary K-8 mathematics program. The committee was not seeking to simply replicate past practice, or choose an easy-to-implement program, but to select one that would take our students beyond merely doing mathematics to thinking mathematically.

In order to make informed decisions, the committee began its work in October, 2002, by investigating the results from the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and reading excerpts from *The Teaching Gap*, an insightful book about mathematics best practices. In February, 2003, after months of sampling the top three programs and conducting staff surveys, the committee recommended that the Board of Education adopt SRA Mathematics for grades K-5, Glencoe Mathematics for grades 7 and 8, and SRA/Glencoe for grade 6.

We applaud the teachers who served on this committee and recognize the diligence of others who participated in the evaluation procedure. Their feedback not only provided valuable information in the selection process, but also identified the professional development needs of our staff. As a result, SRA/Glencoe consultants worked with our teachers last spring and again in June and August to ensure a seamless transition into the new program.

SUMMER SCHOOL SHINES IN 109

The Indian Springs School District #109 Summer School Program, which included elementary, junior high, and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, served almost 300 students during the summer of 2003. Beginning on July 21st and concluding on August 15th, the programs provided students with 90 hours of additional instruction in reading and writing. Transportation (for the elementary and junior high school programs) and nutritious snacks were provided to students at no cost. Teachers participating in the program received 30 hours of professional development in Best Reading Practices. Parents surveyed at the end of the four-week program reported that the summer school program had a positive impact on their child's attitude towards reading and writing. The successful summer learning experience provided students with an early academic start to a new school year.

EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS: NURTURING ACHIEVEMENT VALUES

There are over two dozen television programs that are either set in schools or feature school-age children. In nearly every one of these shows, educators are stereotyped as ineffectual, and parents are portrayed as largely clueless regarding their children's activities. These harmful messages, and the fact that peer culture absorbs, reflects, and amplifies these messages, can make life very difficult for parents and educators trying to instill an appreciation of learning in young minds.

What can parents do to establish a climate for scholarship at home and in school? Parents have a tremendous opportunity to nurture achievement values by actively contradicting the dumbing down messages sent by some in the media and peer culture.

- Expect your children to do their best.
- Doing their best does not mean that a student needs to be the best over everyone else, but rather his or her own personal best.
- Model the virtues and habits of mind you value, such as persistence, hard work, reliability, and reading.
- Help your child understand the true meaning of hero...that the real heroes are those who work hard and make the world a better place.
- Inoculate your child against the negative messages about academic excellence. Just as we immunize our children against various childhood illnesses, we should do the same for the inevitable assaults on their minds.

Encouraging children to take pride in academic talent can be a tough job when television and other forms of mass media run contrary to any positive messages. However, we urge you to continue your advocacy efforts. Together, we can learn about the success that can be achieved when the home, the school, and the community work in partnership to create a society that celebrates the acquisition of knowledge. The Education World website: <http://db.educationworld.com> provides parents with a comprehensive list of positive, exemplary television programs for children of all ages.



Ms. Bryan's summer kindergarten class practices new vocabulary words.

FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT . . .

As all of you are aware, the school year started for District #109 on August 26th. Our first day ran very smoothly and all of our schools are off to a great start.

This summer, we did a great deal of renovation work to several of our schools. Wilkins School received a new fire alarm system and all of the exterior doors were replaced. The old doors were rusting through and no longer were protecting the inside of the building from the outside elements. We also painted the outside of Wilkins. At the Brodnicki School, we replaced several of the exterior doors and painted the remaining doors. Both schools look very nice.

The Brodnicki School also received new student desks and chairs. Next year, we will be replacing the remaining outdated student furniture at Wilkins School. When that replacement is completed, all of the student desks and chairs will have been replaced in the entire district. Two years ago, we replaced the student furniture at Lyle and Player Schools. Last year, we replaced the Bridgeview School student desks and chairs.

All of our schools have also had their phone systems updated to accommodate voice mail. This service was added to

our existing system so that we can better accommodate parents' telephone calls to our teachers and other support staff.

Consistent with our continuing mission to provide the best possible education for your children, we are constantly updating our curriculum. I am happy to report to you that School District #109 was recently recognized as an Illinois State Board of Education Model School District. We are the first and only school district in the state, so far, to receive this honor. This designation means that school districts will be visiting us so that they can model our procedures and strategies and implement them in their own districts, so as to better improve their own schools. This is a very prestigious and high honor for District #109.

Other programs that we will be working on this year include implementing the Illinois Math Standards into our curriculum and updating our Language Arts Program. We will also be reviewing new kindergarten through eighth grade Social Science Programs to be implemented during the next school year. We have also expanded our District Band Program in an effort to improve student participation and performance. Now, all band students will be rehearsing either before or after school

with the entire band. Previously, students were either pulled from classes, or in the case of the elementary band, practicing only with those students from their school. Our elementary band has students from all of the elementary schools, so this presented the problem of having the entire band rehearse together. With our new arrangement, this problem has been resolved.

Your Board of Education is absolutely and completely committed to providing a superior education for children. Our class sizes remain low, as does the student/teacher ratio in our District. We also plan to continue remodeling some of our District's original buildings to make them more comfortable and attractive for both our students and our community.

This year has proven to be an exciting one as we continue to expand the opportunities we offer our students. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make School District #109 the best that it can be.

Respectfully,

Dr. Jon Nebor
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS

Gary Lewis, our District #109 Board of Education President, was recently appointed Chairman of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), South-Cook Division. This appointment is a great honor for Mr. Lewis and adds to the stature of Indian Springs School District #109. Congratulations, Mr. Lewis!

SUPPORTING DISTRICT #109

At the January 21, 2003 meeting of our Board of Education, School District #109 was presented with a check for \$200,000 from the Village of Justice pertaining to the Hartz Tax Increment Financing (TIF) project off of Archer Avenue. The money received will be utilized to benefit the students in our district's attendance area. The Board of Education is very appreciative of this generous gift and would like to thank Mayor Melvin Van Allen and the Justice Village Trustees for their support of our local school system.



Members of the Board of Education appreciatively accept village gift. Pictured left to right: Pamela Madonia, James Duffek (Vice-President), Mayor Melvin Van Allen, Gary Lewis (President), Kathy Svoboda (Village Clerk), Deborah Barnish, Jean Derting, and James Loughlin (Secretary).

DISTRICT #109 MENTORS AND MENTEES PREPARE FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The State of Illinois recently established a new law (effective January 1, 2004) requiring all public school districts to implement a New Teacher Mentor Program in order to most appropriately introduce new teachers to their schools/school districts, have someone assigned to new teachers for them to easily access answers to general questions, and to basically get the school year off to a positive and comfortable start. District #109 is proud to say that we have had this program in place for three years and it has proven to be quite beneficial to our new teachers, our school district as a whole, and, most importantly, our district's students.

On Friday, August 22, 2003, just prior to the start of our new school year, 27 new staff members (mentees) to the district came together for the first time to meet with their mentors, the experienced teachers to which they are assigned. The mentors' objective is to assist the new teachers throughout their first year at their prospective buildings. This gathering was hosted in Wilkins School's library.

This school year's mentees and mentors (respectively) are as follows: Laurel Anderson - Linda Collins (Wilkins / Lyle / Player Elementary Schools), Robyn Carlson - Missy Baglarz (Wilkins Elementary School), Rose Chalil - Kim Dryier (Player / Brodnicki Elementary Schools), Elizabeth Connaughton - Michelle Meyer (Wilkins Elementary School), Angelyn Ehorn - Nancy Parra (Wilkins Elementary School), Julie Escamilla - Kim Dryier (Lyle / Wilkins Elementary Schools), Julie Gabrys - Pam Kulovitz (Wilkins Elementary School), Rita Gutkowski - Bob Kulovitz (Wilkins Junior High School), Kristy Kleckauskas - Lisa Bryjak (Wilkins Junior High School), Shanthi Kumar - Barbara Bestwina (Lyle Elementary School), Elizabeth McCormick - Rasa Jacobs (Wilkins Junior High

School), Dawn McRoberts - Bill Kraus (Wilkins Junior High School), Andrea Moen - Angie Condos (Lyle Elementary School), Patricia Monahan - Crystal Skoczylas (Lyle Elementary School), Michael Murphy - Joe Kuffel (Wilkins Junior High School), Jenell Murray - Mary Krejca (Wilkins Elementary School), John O'Connor - John Kaufman (Wilkins Junior High School), Melissa Perez - Carrie Linares (Brodnicki Elementary School), Michelle Rennie - Maria Bellino-Cariel (Wilkins Junior High School), Sue Ellen Roberts - Angie Condos (Lyle Elementary School), Anna Marie Romano - Kathleen Bordelon (Lyle Elementary School), Vicky Roumeliotis - Sarah Waddell (Wilkins Junior High School), Rebecca Schlachter - Erica Morack (Wilkins Junior High School), Katie Sperlak - Joyce Ongstad (Wilkins Junior High School), Darlene Srmek - Charlotte Brown (Brodnicki Elementary School), Linda Sturgeon - Natalie Vargas (Wilkins Junior High School), and Melissa Vanderveer - Teresa McEntee (Wilkins Elementary School). It is important to mention that following the date of the mentor/mentee meeting, an additional teacher was hired and also assigned a mentor: Tina Stejskal - Janet Young (Lyle Elementary School).



District #109's Teacher Mentor and Mentee Meeting

RECOGNITION OF TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCY STATUS

Eighteen staff members were presented with Level IV Technology Certification Awards at our recent August 25th teacher institute. This award represents the successful completion of four different and distinct levels of technology training. The recipients have demonstrated their technology proficiency by incorporating a sustained technological learning environment in the classroom for our district's students.

District #109 congratulates the following 18 staff members on their recent accomplishment. From Brodnicki School: Kathleen Loeffler, Michelle Villalobos, and Andrea London; from Lyle School: Heath Brosseau, Kathleen Bordelon, Michelle Stanton, Christina Casper, and Lori Regep; from Wilkins Elementary School: Missy Baglarz, Donna Roark, and Gina Zuehls; from Player School: Jean Draves and



Level IV Technology Recipients

Melissa Jankowicz; from Bridgeview School: Debbie Brazitis, Aimee Walsh, Diane Stark, and Darla McKiernan; and from Wilkins Junior High School: Erica Morack.

DISTRICT #109 PARTICIPATES IN THE JUSTICE PATRIOT PARADE

School District #109 participated in the Village of Justice Patriot Parade on Sunday morning, July 20, 2003, which stepped off from Wilkins School and ended at Commissioners Park. Our participation included a district float and our junior high school band on a mobile stage. Several District #109 students, parents, and staff members worked together to help make this event the success it was. The weather cooperated with us and fun was had by all!



The District #109 Float stands proud during the Village of Justice Patriot Parade.



The Wilkins Junior High School Band, supported by a mobile performance stage, represents the Indian Springs School District during the Village of Justice Patriot Parade.

DISTRICT #109 WELCOMES NEW FULL-TIME STAFF MEMBERS

The start of the 2003-2004 school year welcomed two administrators, two social workers, two speech assistants, and 25 certified teachers into the friendly confines of Indian Springs School District #109. With the addition of these 31 new staff members, we look forward to a great year.

Kimberly Dryier, our district's Special Education Director, received her Masters Degree from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelors Degree from St. Joseph's College. Neil Chance, Principal at Wilkins Elementary School, received his Masters Degree and Bachelors Degree from Eastern Illinois University. Melissa Perez, Social Worker at Brodnicki School, received her Masters Degree and Bachelors Degree from the University of Illinois/Urbana. Anna Marie Romano, Social Worker at Lyle and Player Schools, received a Masters Degree from Aurora University and a Bachelors Degree from Illinois State University. Rose Chalil, Speech Assistant at Brodnicki and Player Schools, received a Bachelors Degree from St. Xavier University. Julie Escamilla, Speech Assistant at Lyle School, Wilkins Elementary School, and Wilkins Junior High School, received her Bachelors Degree from the University of Iowa.

Our district's 25 new certified teachers include the following:

Patricia Monahan, Lyle School's Third Grade Teacher, graduated from Knox College. Jenell Murray, Wilkins Elementary School's Third Grade Teacher, graduated from St. Xavier University. Michael Murphy, Wilkins Junior High School's Social Studies Teacher, graduated from Eastern Illinois University.

Rebecca Schlachter, Wilkins Junior High School's Social Studies Teacher, graduated from Lewis University with both her Masters and Bachelors Degrees. Laurel Anderson, District #109's Art Teacher for Player School, Wilkins Elementary School, and Lyle School, graduated from Knox College. Darlene Srmek, Brodnicki School's Second Grade Teacher, graduated from Western Illinois University. Melissa Vanderveer, Wilkins Elementary School's First Grade Teacher, graduated from St. Francis College. Robyn Carlson, Wilkins Elementary School's Fourth Grade Teacher, graduated from Western Illinois University. Dawn McRoberts, Wilkins Junior High School's Latin/French Teacher, graduated from Monmouth College. Rita Gutkowski, Wilkins Junior High School's Computer Technology Teacher, received her Masters Degree from Loyola University and her Bachelors Degree from St. Xavier University. Vicky Roumeliotis, Wilkins Junior High School's Mathematics Teacher, graduated from Loyola University. Kristy Kleckauskas, Wilkins Junior High School's Language Arts Teacher, graduated from the University of Illinois/Urbana. Shanthi Kumar, Lyle School's Bilingual Teacher, graduated from Bangalore University. Michelle Rennie, Wilkins Junior High School's Science Teacher, graduated with her Masters Degree from St. Xavier University and received her Bachelors Degree from St. Xavier University as well. Katie Sperlak, Wilkins Junior High School's Seventh Grade Special Education Resource Teacher, graduated from MacMurray College. Andrea Moen, Lyle School's General Music Teacher, graduated from Hamline University in Minnesota. Elizabeth McCormick,

Wilkins Junior High School's Spanish Teacher, received her Masters and Bachelors Degrees from Dominican University. Julie Gabrys, Wilkins Elementary School's Third Grade Teacher, graduated from Carthage College. Angelyn Ehorn, Wilkins Elementary School's Reading Teacher, graduated from the University of Illinois/Urbana with both her Masters and Bachelors Degrees. Sue Ellen Roberts, Lyle School's General Music Teacher, graduated from DePaul University. Elizabeth Connaughton, Wilkins Elementary School's Third Grade Teacher, received her Masters Degree from the University of Southern Connecticut and her Bachelors Degree from the University of Dallas/Texas. Linda Sturgeon, Wilkins Junior High School's Social Studies Teacher, received her Masters Degree from Aurora University and her Bachelors Degree from Lindenwood University in Missouri. John O'Connor, Wilkins Junior High School's Special Education Co-Teacher, graduated from Lewis University with his Masters Degree and received his Bachelors Degree from St. Xavier University. Tina Stejskal, Lyle School's Sixth Grade Teacher, graduated from Illinois State University. Last, but certainly not least, Dawn Marren, Brodnicki School's Special Education Teacher, graduated from Northern Illinois University.

All of the above individuals were introduced to one another at our initial teacher institute. We welcome them all to the district and wish them a successful and productive school year!

RECOGNITION OF TEN, TWENTY, AND THIRTY-YEAR EMPLOYEES

Twelve of our District #109 staff members were recognized during this school year's first teacher institute for reaching their tenth, twentieth, or thirtieth year with our school system. Those who have served our community's children for 10 years include: Celeste Couch (Wilkins Junior High School), Miriam Royer (Wilkins Elementary School), Andrea Maslan (Lyle School), Pat Fojtik (Wilkins School), Mary Ellen Nawara (Wilkins Elementary School), Sue Murphy (Wilkins Elementary School), and Bea Osbourne (Brodnicki School). Two individuals met the twenty-year mark: Mel Black (Wilkins Junior High School) and Dennis Hermosillo (Brodnicki School). Our thirty-year members include: Terry Botsis (Brodnicki School), Annette Grogan (Brodnicki School), and Richard Szponder (Wilkins Junior High School).

As a sign of appreciation, the ten-year members received a School

District #109 coffee mug, the twenty-year members received a golden apple or wood, engraved pen, and the thirty-year members were issued a miniature, personalized, wooden schoolhouse. We congratulate all of these employees and are very much appreciative of their hard work and dedication.



Twenty-Year District #109 Employees: Mel Black (not pictured: Dennis Hermosillo)



Ten-Year District #109 Employees (from left to right): Mary Ellen Nawara, Pat Fojtik, Andrea Maslan, Miriam Royer, and Celeste Couch (not pictured: Sue Murphy and Bea Osbourne)



Thirty-Year District #109 Employees (from left to right): Richard Szponder, Annette Grogan, and Terry Botsis

— — — EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER NEWS — — —

Indian Springs School District #109 has had an Early Childhood Center for all district students at Lyle School for over 15 years. The Center offers a variety of programs for infants and children, ages 0 to 4. The programs are based on the philosophy that each child has the potential to succeed. All programs focus on the social, emotional, cognitive, and physiological needs of the child. Parents are the most important teachers in a child's life, and the Center stresses working with parents as partners during these critical years in each child's development. There are five programs for children 3-5 years of age.

First, our district houses the Head Start Program. Head Start is a federal program, which offers a quality early childhood program with no cost to families. Eligibility is determined by the income guidelines set by the Department of Health and Human Services. District #109 has space for 51 students to attend and bus transportation is provided. A second program, which is funded by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), is our Pre-School Enrichment Program (PEP). This is an enrichment program which gives children additional support so they can be successful at the kindergarten level. Many of our students who are in need of language experiences find this to be very beneficial to them. This program operates four days per week for three hours per day. A third program offered by our school district is the Early Childhood Special Education Program. This program is also funded by ISBE and was developed as an intervention program for children that have special needs. Eligibility is determined by screenings at our local special education cooperative. The program meets five days per week for two-and-a-half hours per session. Our district also offers a full-time Day Care Program at the Center. Offered to children of working parents and operating year-round, this program is in session five days per week, from 6:30 am. through 6:00 pm. The fifth program is the Families Matter/Successful Beginnings

Program, which is an early intervention program for parents and children from birth to age 5. The focus is geared toward providing parents with information and experiences that will enhance their child's environment and provide a working partnership between families and their local schools. Families gain knowledge and skills in child rearing practices, health care, educational growth, and positive adult/child interactions.

Our newest program is our Infant Massage Program. Parents learn how to gently massage their infants to help develop a bond as well as promote circulation of the blood and lymphatic systems, relaxation of the muscles, and relief of pain. This is special time the parent spends one-to-one with their child where he/she gains an increased sense of acceptance, respect, and trust for the parent.

Lyle Early Childhood Center offers free developmental screenings. These screenings evaluate fine and gross motor skills, speech and language, vision, and hearing. It is through these screenings that the Center can help the parent determine a program that would meet the needs of his/her child.

Education should encompass the entire child. The programs offered in District #109 do this very thing. Our quality Early Childhood Programs pave the way to successful children in elementary school, high school, and college.



Debbie Tonika (Teacher Aide) and Teresa Thomas (Parent) work on number recognition with students at the Early Childhood Center.

ANNUAL FACULTY HOCKEY GAME FUNDRAISER

Last spring, Lyle and Brodnicki Schools participated in the Annual Faculty Hockey Game Fundraiser, sponsored by the Bridgeview Sports Club. For the past four years, this has been a fun-filled event for a good cause. This year's goodwill games were no exception.

Enthusiasm and school spirit ran high as the two schools faced off in friendly competition. Admission to the event was one dollar and a can good. The can goods were donated to the local food pantry and the money collected served as a fundraiser for the participating schools. The Hockey Club donated t-shirts to the players and a trophy was awarded to each school.

The students especially enjoyed the evening, as they caught a glimpse of their teachers in a non-traditional role. A fun-filled

evening of family entertainment was another positive by-product of this event. Aside from other reasons, this event's popularity and success can be attributed to its strong commitment and bond between local communities and their schools. Indian Springs School District #109, Bridgeview, Justice, and Hickory Hills are all equally committed to strengthening our bond with one another, with the central focus being on our youth. All of us share a vision that student success is critical to our shared future. Look for this event to continue as we work together to educate the whole child, and have some fun along the way.



District #109 staff members participate in the 2003 Goodwill Fundraiser.

FROM THE PERSONNEL OFFICE . . .

District #109 is an equal opportunity employer. The district employs 354 workers. Of these, 200 are certified and 154 are classified employees. A large percentage of our employees reside within the communities of Bridgeview, Justice, and Hickory Hills.

Applications for employment are available at the District Office or may be requested by phone at (708) 496-8700, through the mail, or by e-mail at lkensik@isd109.org. All applications are kept on file for a minimum of one year. Prospective employees may indicate on their application their desire for full, part-time, or substitute status. Our District

Web Page can also be accessed for up-to-date information regarding all employment opportunities at www.isd109.org.

For more information about District #109, please call our main telephone line: (708) 496-8700.

NEW VOICE MAIL SYSTEM AT ALL SCHOOLS

As of the start of this school year, each teacher and administrator at all of our schools has been equipped with a voice mailbox system. District #109 initiated this system in order to provide for another means of communication between your home and school.

During normal operating hours of each school day, all calls from outside the school will go directly to the school secretary. As in the past, the secretary will assist the caller in every way possible. If a message for a staff member is most appropriately handled by patching the caller into the voice mail system, the secretary and the caller will have that option. If a call comes in outside the normal operating hours of the school day, the caller will be sent directly to the general voice messaging system, which will provide prompts in order to access a particular staff member's voice mailbox. All callers are discouraged from leaving time-sensitive or emergency messages on this new system, since message retrieval may not be immediate.

Effective communication between home and school is a key ingredient to the successful education of our students, your children. We hope you'll find this new voice messaging system to be as beneficial as we anticipate it to be.

DONATIONS FOR HEART MONITORS

Wilkins Junior High School, as well as School District #109, would like to thank the following organizations for their generous donations toward the purchase of heart monitors to be used as educational devices during our physical education (PE) classes:

Justice Public Library	New City Window Cleaning
Justice Chamber of Commerce	Anagnos Door Company, Inc.
TechniCraft	ASAP Fabrication, Inc.
Merry Maids	Betcher Landscaping & Lawn Care
Fraternal Order of Police	

Students will wear the heart monitors during regular activities, weight training, cardiovascular equipment training, and our running program. They will learn how to monitor their heart rates and how to stay within their target heart zones during activity. This is the second year we will be focusing on teaching our students how to become Fit for Life. Our new PE uniforms emphasize this theme. Thank you, again, to all those organizations that donated to help purchase these monitors. We are grateful for your assistance and support.



Artworks Club Members (left to right): Barb Miklajczyk, Amanda Carlstrom, Ashley Neri, Stacy Clarida, Tony Cabrel, Kaeli Winberg, and Krystal Hernandez.

ARTWORKS CLUB CREATES SCHOOL MURAL

The Wilkins Junior High School Artworks Club recently put their artistic talent to work on the vestibule wall just outside the north gymnasium. The mural displays a colorful picture of a Viking, the Wilkins Junior High School Mascot. The Artworks Club members, pictured here in the midst of their hard work, and their sponsor, Mrs. Linda Collins (Wilkins Junior High School Art Teacher), spent several hours turning their vision into a true masterpiece. District #109 and Wilkins Junior High School are appreciative of the way this mural has brought the school's entrance way to life. Great work!

FREE TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOPS FOR MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

During the 2003-2004 school year, Indian Springs School District #109 will be offering technology and computer workshops to adults living in our school district community. These workshops will be free of charge. The workshops are designed to introduce our community members to the operation of computers.

All of the following technology / computer workshops will be held at:

WILKINS SCHOOL COMPUTER LAB

Located at: 80th Street & 82nd Avenue (Justice, Illinois 60458)

Workshop	Date	Time
Introduction to Computers	Sat., 11/15/03	9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.
Introduction to Word 2000 Part I	Sat., 1/10/04	9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.
Introduction to Word 2000 Part II	Sat., 2/14/04	9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.
Introduction to Power Point	Sat., 3/13/04	9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.
Introduction to Transferring Graphics & Fun w/ Pictures	Sat., 4/24/04	9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Community members interested in enrolling in any of these workshops are requested to contact Mr. John Botsis, Director of Information Technology, at (708) 496-8700. These are hands-on experiences and are limited to 25 participants per session.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6 & 7, 2003:	Parent/Teacher Conferences - Report Cards Issued
November 11, 2003:	Veterans Day (No Student Attendance)
November 27 & 28, 2003:	Thanksgiving Day Observance (No Student Attendance)
December 22, 2003 - January 5, 2004:	Winter Break (No Student Attendance)
January 19, 2004:	Martin Luther King's Birthday (No Student Attendance)
January 30, 2004:	Report Cards Issued
February 12, 2004:	Lincoln's Birthday (No Student Attendance)
March 1, 2004:	Casmir Pulaski Day (No Student Attendance)

The spring edition of our ON-LINE WITH 109 NEWSLETTER is scheduled for March, 2004.