

- ON-LINE WITH 109 -

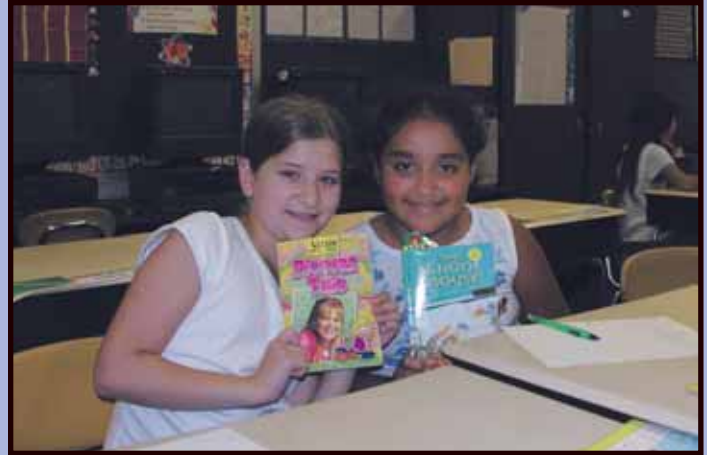
A Newsletter for the New Millennium

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

Welcome Back for the 2005 - 2006 School Year



The halls of Wilkins Junior High are considerably brighter due to the efforts of these three students. A mural depicting life at the Junior High was designed by Agnes (right) and, under the direction of Ms. Linda Collins, Emmanuel (middle) and Eliza (left) helped to create this wonderful work of art.



Serena (left) and Araceli, 4th Grade students at Wilkins Elementary School display two of their favorite books. The girls are looking forward to reading many new authors this year.

From Your Superintendent...

As all of you are aware, the 2005-06 school year started on August 24th for our students. We were able to get off to a great start, and things have gone very smoothly. This past summer, we offered summer school to those students who we felt would benefit most from the programs. Over 175 children participated in our four week program. It is our sincere hope that the skills and knowledge attained by those students during summer school will carry over into their studies this year.

Also, over the summer, we did various construction projects in our buildings. At Brodnicki School, some boiler work was done and new carpeting and tile were installed in the main office area. Lyle School received a new entry way. Now, visitors to the school will be admitted into the foyer area, out of the weather, before being "buzzed" into the building. Previously, people had to wait outside before being able to enter the school. At Wilkins School, the north gymnasium was repainted, a new scoreboard was purchased and installed with the help of the Bridgeview Sports Club, a new mural was added to the stage area, and new wall pads were purchased. We plan to purchase new student desks and chairs for all of our classrooms at Wilkins School next summer. All of our schools will now have new student furniture. As many of you are aware, all of our other schools have received new student desks over the last few years. Additionally, most of our schools' exterior asphalt areas were seal coated and re-stripped. During the summer

of 2006, we are planning on resurfacing the asphalt at Lyle School and the asphalt area on the side of Brodnicki School. The following summer, 2007, we have scheduled renovations to the entire outside area of Wilkins School. New asphalt and landscaping will also be added.

Regarding academics, I am very happy to report that just about all of our district's ISAT scores increased across all grade levels this past year. The children are progressing, and we are very proud of their achievements. Our teachers are dedicated to providing the means for our children to succeed, and we expect our test scores to continue to rise.

Your District #109 Board of Education is absolutely and completely committed to providing a superior education for your children. Our class sizes remain low, as does the student/teacher ratio in our district. We also plan to continue renovating our buildings to make them more attractive and comfortable for our students, staff, and community members.

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

Respectfully,

Dr. Jon W. Nebor

Superintendent

WILKINS SCHOOL RECEIVES MURAL

When Linda Collins, junior high art teacher, retired in May of 2005 she did not kick off her shoes and lay back on her hammock. Instead, Linda spent her summer doing what she does best, creating a beautiful mural in the Wilkins School North Gym recognizing the Junior High School Conference to which Wilkins belongs. Linda climbed up and down scaffolding in order to design, draw, and paint a mural which measures about 20 feet by 18 feet. Each school is recognized by name, mascot, and school colors, all atop a patriotic display of our nation's colors. In the past, Linda has worked with Junior High students to create other murals in the building. However, her work on this mural was supported with friends and family, creating a lasting memory that immediately impresses all who enter the North Gym. "It makes us proud to have such a talented staff member give of her time during the summer to support our students, school, and district. Linda is retired now but will always be remembered whenever we walk into the North Gym," stated Bill Caron, Principal of Wilkins Junior High School.



"POP TOP" CONTEST HUGE SUCCESS

School District #109 participated in a contest with the Village of Bridgeview to collect aluminum "pop tops," an event organized to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charity. The winning classroom (see below) from each school was treated to a pizza party sponsored by the Village of Bridgeview.

WINNING CLASSROOMS:

Bridgeview School – **Mrs. Connie Wojick**
 Brodnicki School – **Mrs. Sandy Poole**
 Lyle Elementary Early Childhood Center – **Ms. Candy Kalisz**
 Player Primary Center – **Mrs. Kathy Linkus**
 Wilkins Elementary School – **Mrs. Michelle Meyer**
 Wilkins Junior High School – **Mrs. Michelle Rennie**



Indian Springs School District #109 School Board Member, Gary Lewis with Claudette Struzik, Clerk at the Village of Bridgeview proudly display the collected pop tops

BRIDGEVIEW LIONS CLUB MAKES DONATION TO DISTRICT #109 SCHOOLS

During the spring of 2005, the Bridgeview Lions Club expressed an interest in making a donation to District #109 in support of the teaching and learning processes that take place for the benefit of the children of our communities. District administrators were asked to create a list of instructional materials that would benefit a variety of students at multiple grade levels. The list was made and the Lions Club provided funds to purchase everything on it. At the September, 2005 meeting of our Board of Education, members of the Bridgeview Lions Club formally presented their donation to the Board; a check for \$2,167.66. District #109 is grateful and very appreciative of this kind and generous donation.



Pictured left to right: James B. Duffek, School Board President, Stacey Ziccardi, School Board Vice-President, Jean Derting, School Board Member, Pamela L. Madonia, School Board Member, Kay Dugan, Director of Curriculum, Ray Jachim, Membership Chairperson of the Bridgeview Lions Club, and Gary D. Lewis, School Board Member

NEW SIDEWALKS FOR BRIDGEVIEW SCHOOL

On Wednesday, September 7, 2005 Mrs. Diane Heimlich from Bridgeview Elementary School presented Mayor Landek and the village trustees with a certificate and thank you cards from the students and community of Bridgeview Elementary School in gratitude of five new sidewalks that the Village of Bridgeview put into place in August. These sidewalks add additional safety for the staff members on duty and for students who walk to and from school. In spring the village will add two additional sidewalks to finalize this project.



Pictured from left to right are: Mayor Steven Landek, Mayor of Bridgeview, Diane Heimlich, Principal of Bridgeview School, Matt Morales, Bridgeview School PTA President, and Gary Lewis, Member of the School Board for Indian Springs School District #109.

RECOGNITION OF TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCY STATUS

Eighteen staff members were presented with Level IV Technology Certification Awards at our recent August 22nd teacher institute. This award represents the successful completion of four 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: Kelly Norton, Jennifer Ahern, Nicole Caldwell, Candice Geschrey, Carole Kuta, Stacey Berchos, Susan Koularis, Suzanne Anderson, and Jeanette Ryan. From Wilkins Elementary: Julie Gabrys, Jenell Jaral, Melissa Vanderveer, Elizabeth Connaughton, Diana Carlson, Robyn Carlson, and Helena Zavala. From Wilkins Junior High School: Jane Miritello, John Kaufman.



NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLBA): REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The federal law entitled the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA) requires us to inform you that parents/guardians may ask for information about the professional qualifications of any teacher that is instructing their child. You may request information regarding the following:

- Whether your child's teacher has met state certification requirements;
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status;
- The bachelors degree major of your child's teacher, any other certifications or degrees held by the teacher, and the subject areas of the certifications or degrees; and
- Whether your child is provided services by teacher aides/paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Indian Springs School District #109 hires and maintains a teaching staff that is appropriately and fully certified. Should you have such requests, please contact our District #109 Personnel Office at (708) 496-8700.

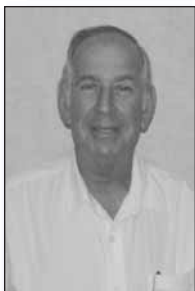


Ms. D'Alexander is pictured with a few members of the Junior High Orchestra. From left to right: Natalia, Jamal, Altaira, Christine D'Alexander, Trenton, and Vince.

NEW ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

Indian Springs School District #109 is pleased to offer a new orchestra program in grades four through eight. Instruments students can choose from in this new program are the violin, viola, violoncello, and string bass. Christine D'Alexander, Orchestra Director, discussed how belonging to a school orchestra can provide a great foundation for children in all aspects of life. "The students are really excited and I'm looking forward to seeing them progress," Ms. D'Alexander recently stated. She is looking forward to forming partnerships and playing opportunities with both the Elementary and Junior High Bands next year.

District #109's Retirees in 2005



Neal Politt

Neal Politt was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"The special friendships I've made at the Administrative Office and the entire District. The challenges, accomplishments have been so enjoyable. The past years in District #109 were more gratifying than all of my previous years."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"My wife and I are relocating to central Florida. We are looking forward to our next chapter, which will be a fun-filled active lifestyle."



Kathy Moranda

Kathy Moranda was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"My greatest satisfaction has been interacting with the students and families. I have touched the lives of many children, and they have touched me and left their marks as well."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"Moving to Wisconsin where I plan to continue teaching – 10 to 15 years if God gives me the opportunity. We will be living near our daughter and her family, and sharing life experiences with them."



Mary Burk

Mrs. Burk retired from Indian Springs School District #109 at the end of the 04-05 school year.



Richard Moline

Richard Moline was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"My greatest satisfaction working for District #109 was working with the teachers, keeping the school clean and safe for the students. They became like a family to me."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"My plans for the future will be to travel, be with my family more, and sub for District #109 when they need me."



Joan Boots

Joan Boots was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"My greatest satisfaction working for District #109 has been meeting a lot of nice people at all the schools I've worked at. I appreciate making a living working for the district."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"My future plans are to enjoy my grandkids, and spend time with my family and travel."



Marilyn Beliveau

Marilyn Beliveau was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"Every now and then a letter comes in from a parent thanking you for being a part of their child's growing experience. These are treasured."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"Travel to places I've only read about will be in my plans. I also see some volunteer work taking up a good portion of my time."



Angie Arana

Angie Arana was recently asked:

What has been your greatest satisfaction working in District #109?

"The most rewarding experience has been working with the children in the pre-school program and to see them grow and develop through the years. I also had the opportunity to work alongside some great educators."

Your future retirement plans may include:

"Enjoying time with my husband, who retired in April, my children and grandchildren and traveling. Also taking the time to smell each and every rose."

DISTRICT 109 MENTORS AND MENTEES MEET AND PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR

The reality of teaching: Applying theoretical knowledge, developing effective instructional strategies, meeting individual student's needs, incorporating changing curriculum frameworks, developing high stakes assessment, integrating emerging technology, and remaining sensitive to societal issues – can be very challenging for new teachers entering the field. District #109 believes that providing our new teachers with an experienced mentor ensures a successful transition into teaching. On Friday, August 19, 2005, thirty-six new staff members (mentees) came together to meet with their mentors for a full day of introduction into District #109's learning community.



District #109's 2005 – 06 Teacher Mentor and Mentee Meeting

The 2005 – 2006 mentees and mentors (respectively) are as follows: Jaelyn Bahm – Marge Couden (Lyle School), Corey Breyne – Michelle Rennie (Wilkins Jr. High School), Kimberly Bush – Robin Polich (Brodnicki School), Christine Butera – Vicky Supalla (Lyle School), Christine D'Alexander – Kristy Kleckauskas (Wilkins Junior High School), Kristin DeGraff – Marian Williams (Lyle School), Kathleen Doherty – Kathleen Anderson (Lyle School), Evelyn Dziallo – Mary Kay Weir (Brodnicki School), Tina Edging – Jurate Vallee (Player Primary Center), Elizabeth Farnesi – Rita Gutkowski (Wilkins Junior High School), Jonathan Grill – Jana Benkowski (Lyle School), Ryan J. Henderson - Sheila Henson (Bridgeview School), Karen Herbeck, - Jeanette Ryan (Brodnicki School), Jill Jensen – Debra Flynn (Bridgeview School), Patricia Karner – Rosanna Patz (Brodnicki School), Courtney Kelly – Mary Giannoulis (Bridgeview School), Patricia Malfeo – Lisa Gaeger (Brodnicki School), Laurel Martin – Leslie Tromski (Wilkins Jr. High School), Paula Moore – Bonnie Szponder (Brodnicki School), Jasmine Munoz – Barb Paolini (Brodnicki School), Debra Ristucci – Connie Wojcik (Bridgeview School), Kathleen Scholten – Rebecca Berry (Brodnicki School), Jennifer Schultz – Carole Kuta (Brodnicki School), Erin Steele – Melissa LaRocco (Player Primary Center), Katie Tallon – Barbara Cebulski (Wilkins Elementary School), Nicole Thurzo – Joyce Ongstad (Wilkins Junior High School), Nathalie Tomakowsky – Rasa Jacobs (Wilkins Junior High School), Kristin Vana – Melissa Vanderveer (Wilkins Elementary), Caroline Wagner – Rebecca Schlachter (Wilkins Junior High School), Jennifer Wawrzyniak – Margie Buczyna (Brodnicki School), Jennifer Webb – Christina Murray (Wilkins Junior High School), Kimberly Weimer – Linda Zander (Brodnicki School), Hilary White – Helena Zavala (Wilkins Elementary School), Vanetta Wiegman – Karen Ward (Wilkins Junior High School), Michelle Wilken – Candice Geschrey (Brodnicki School), Natalie Zapart – Nancy Rockwood (Wilkins Junior High School).

RECOGNITION OF TEN, TWENTY, AND THIRTY-YEAR EMPLOYEES

Eighteen 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: Carol Jayne (Wilkins Elementary and Junior High Schools), Teresa Graziano (Wilkins Elementary School), Betty Nowak (District Office), Joan Zabelka (Bridgeview School), Anita O'Donnell (Lyle School), Clairese Durkovic (Wilkins Elementary School), Lynette Szabla (Brodnicki School), Cheryl Hueneke (Wilkins Elementary and Junior High Schools), Debra Tonika (Lyle School), Diane Janisch (Brodnicki School), and Mary Bahena (Wilkins School). Our twenty-year members include: Mary Kay Weir (Brodnicki School), Christine Miley (Wilkins Junior High School), and Deborah Chaffin (Player Primary Center). Staff members with thirty years of experience include: Sharon Hartz (Bridgeview School), Thomas Weidenhoefer (Learning Support Services, district-wide), Henry Christianson (Wilkins Junior High School), and Pamela Kulovitz (Wilkins Elementary School).



Ten-Year District #109 Employees (from left to right): Clairese Durkovic, Diane Janisch, Lynette Szabla, Teresa Graziano, Carol Jayne, Joan Zabelka, Debra Tonika, Betty Nowak, and Cheryl Hueneke.



Twenty-Year District #109 Employees (from left to right): Deborah Chaffin, Mary Kay Weir, and Christine Miley.



Thirty-Year District #109 Employees (from left to right): Sharon Hartz, Thomas Weidenhoefer, Henry Christianson, Pamela Kulovitz

DISTRICT #109 NEW STAFF MEMBERS.

The start of the 2005 – 2006 school year welcomed thirty-eight new staff members into the District #109 family.

Linda Jeffers, Assistant Business Director, earned her Masters Degree at Northeastern University and her Bachelors Degree from University of Illinois. **Jennifer Schultz**, School Psychologist, received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees from Eastern University. **Paula Moore**, Speech Pathologist at Brodnicki School, received her Masters Degree from Southern Illinois University and her Bachelors Degree from Eastern Illinois University. **Karen Herbeck**, Social Worker at Brodnicki School, earned her Masters Degree at Loyola University and her Bachelors Degree at Benedictine University. **Kathleen Doherty**, Speech Assistant at Lyle School, graduated from Governor State University. **Jasmine Munoz**, Speech Assistant for Player Primary Center, Brodnicki School, and Wilkins Elementary School, graduated from Augustana College. District #109 also welcomes **Linda Neuman** as our new Food Service Director.

Our district's new certified teachers include the following:

Elizabeth Farnesi, Wilkins Junior High School's Art Teacher, graduated from Northern Illinois University. **Christine D'Alexander**, Strings Music Teacher, graduated from DePaul University. **Laurel Martin**, Wilkins Junior High School's Consumer Science Teacher, received her Masters Degree at Western MI University and her Bachelors Degree at the University of Arizona. **Patricia Malfeo**, 5th Grade Teacher at Brodnicki School, graduated from St. Xavier University. **Jill Jensen**, Bridgeview's 6th Grade Teacher, graduated from Lewis University. **Nicole Thurzo**, Wilkins Junior High's Special Education Teacher, graduated from Northern Illinois University. **Kristin DeGraff**, Kindergarten Teacher at Lyle Elementary, graduated from Illinois State University. **Jennifer Wawrzyniak**, Reading Teacher at Brodnicki School graduated from Quincy University. **Patricia Karner**, Brodnicki's Special Education Teacher earned her Masters Degree from Lewis University and her Bachelors Degree from DePaul University. **Evelyn Dziallo**, 6th Grade Teacher at Brodnicki, graduated from Trinity College. **Kimberly Bush**, 4th Grade Teacher at Brodnicki School, graduated from Illinois State University. **Kimberly Weimer**, 5th Grade Teacher at Brodnicki School graduated from Northern Illinois University. **Courtney Kelly**, First Grade Teacher at Bridgeview School, received her Masters Degree from Chicago State University and her Bachelors Degree from St. Mary's College. **Katie Tallon**, Wilkins Elementary School's Kindergarten Teacher, graduated from St. Xavier University. **Kathleen Scholten**, Brodnicki's 6th Grade Teacher, received her Masters Degree from Olivet Nazarene University and her Bachelors Degree from Trinity

College. **Nathalie Tomakowsky**, Wilkins Junior High School's Spanish Teacher, graduated from Olivet Nazarene University. **Michelle Wilken**, Fourth Grade Teacher at Brodnicki, graduated from Governor State University. **Jaclyn Bahm**, First Grade Teacher at Lyle, graduated from Eastern University. **Kristin Vana**, Art Teacher at Lyle School, Wilkins Elementary School, and Player Primary Center, graduated from Augustana College. **Corey Breyne**, Physical Education Teacher at Wilkins Junior High School, earned his Masters and Bachelors Degrees at Aurora University. **Tina Edging**, Player Primary Center's First Grade Replacement Teacher, graduated from Lewis University. **Hilary White**, Physical Education teacher at Wilkins Elementary School, graduated from Albion College. **Caroline Wagner**, Physical Education Teacher at Wilkins Junior High School, graduated from Northern Illinois University. **Jennifer Webb**, Wilkins Junior High School's Science Teacher, graduated from National Louis University. **Christina Butera**, 5/6th Grade Multi-Age Teacher for Lyle School, graduated from University of St. Francis.

Ryan Henderson, Physical Education Replacement Teacher for Bridgeview School, graduated from Eastern Michigan University. **Natalie Zapart**, Wilkins Junior High School's Special Education Teacher, earned her Masters and Bachelors Degrees from DePaul University. **Erin Steele**, First Grade Teacher for Player Primary Center, graduated from St. Xavier University. **Vanetta Wiegman**, Eighth Grade Language Arts Replacement Teacher for Wilkins Junior High School, received her Masters Degree from Dominican University and her Bachelors Degree from St. Xavier University. **Jonathan Grill**, Special Education Teacher for Lyle Elementary, graduated from Northern Illinois University. **Debra Ristucci**, Fourth Grade Teacher for Bridgeview School, earned her Masters Degree at University of St. Francis and her Bachelors Degree at Eastern Illinois University.

We welcome all our new staff members to the district and wish them a most successful and productive school year!



District #109 New Staff Members

INTRODUCING: SENIORTECH

Free Technology Workshops Designed Specifically for the Needs of Senior Citizens in our Community.

During the 2005 – 2006 school year, Indian Springs School District #109 will be offering technology and computer workshops to adults, age 55 and over, living in our school district community. These workshops will be free-of-charge.

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

WILKINS SCHOOL COMPUTER LAB

Located at: 80th Street and 82nd Avenue (Justice, IL 60458)

TITLE OF WORKSHOP	DATE OF WORKSHOP	TIME OF WORKSHOP
Computer Basics – learn the terminology; how to setup a computer; taking care of your computer; overview of various software titles; learn to create and save a letter in Microsoft Word or design a birthday card in Print Shop	Saturday, November 19, 2005	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
The World Wide Web and You – Part 1 Find out all about the Internet – what it is, how to “surf” it, where to find information and how to keep yourself and your family safe while using the Internet	Saturday, January 14, 2006	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
The World Wide Web and You – Part 2 Continue your exploration of the Internet with email and newsgroups. Use online sites to create and send electronic greeting cards. Learn to recognize and avoid spam and other potential dangers.	Saturday, February 25, 2006	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Digital Cameras – It’s a Snap! Participants will learn the terminology of digital photography. We will use digital cameras to take pictures, transfer to a computer, and print. Software will allow us to edit and transform our pictures into works of art. Sites and information about digital photography will be provided.	Saturday, April 1, 2006	9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Community members interested in enrolling in any of these workshops are requested to call Missy Baglarz, Technology Trainer, at (708) 496-8700. The workshops are hands-on and are intended for individuals with little or no computer knowledge. Each session is limited to a maximum of 25 participants.



District #109's 2005 – 06 Teacher Mentor and Mentee Meeting

students at the same time. Teachers came together every day after student dismissal both to analyze student data and to discuss professional reading focusing on teaching fluency. Parents and guardians had an opportunity to visit on Parent Day, where they were able to learn about the summer school program and how to better help their child with reading. Indian Springs Summer School Success was held from July 11 to August 5 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, transportation and nutritional snacks were provided at no additional cost.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2005

The Indian Springs School District #109 Summer School Success Program serviced over 175 students this summer. With a focus on fluency and fun, students and teachers engaged in literacy activities aimed at improving the skills needed for successful reading. Students engaged in Reader’s Theater (a strategy in which the reader must get the message across with his/her voice and without using props, scenery, or costumes), performance poetry, and a variety of oral reading strategies. Intermediate and Junior High students participated in Scholastic’s Read 180 program in which students took part in various literacy centers, including an independent reading center, a guided reading center conducted by a teacher, a listening comprehension center, and a computer software center. Each classroom was team taught thus enabling two teachers to be present and working with

**RESIDENTIAL POSTAL PATRON
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HICKORY HILLS, IL 60457
JUSTICE, IL 60458**

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9 & 10, 2005:	Parent/Teacher Conferences – Report Cards Issued
November 11, 2005:	Veterans Day (No Student Attendance)
November 24 & 25, 2005:	Thanksgiving Day Observance (No Student Attendance)
December 19, 2005 - January 2, 2006:	Winter Break (No Student Attendance)
January 16, 2006	Martin Luther King’s Birthday (No Student Attendance)
January 25, 2006:	End of Second Grading Period
March 6, 2006:	Casmir Pulaski Day (No Student Attendance))

The spring edition of our ON-LINE WITH 109 NEWSLETTER is scheduled for March, 2006.