

DISTRICT UPDATE

Fall 2011

The Community Newsletter of Chicago Ridge
School District 127 ½

CHICAGO RIDGE PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT 127 ½
Building a future for children™



Welcome to New Staff

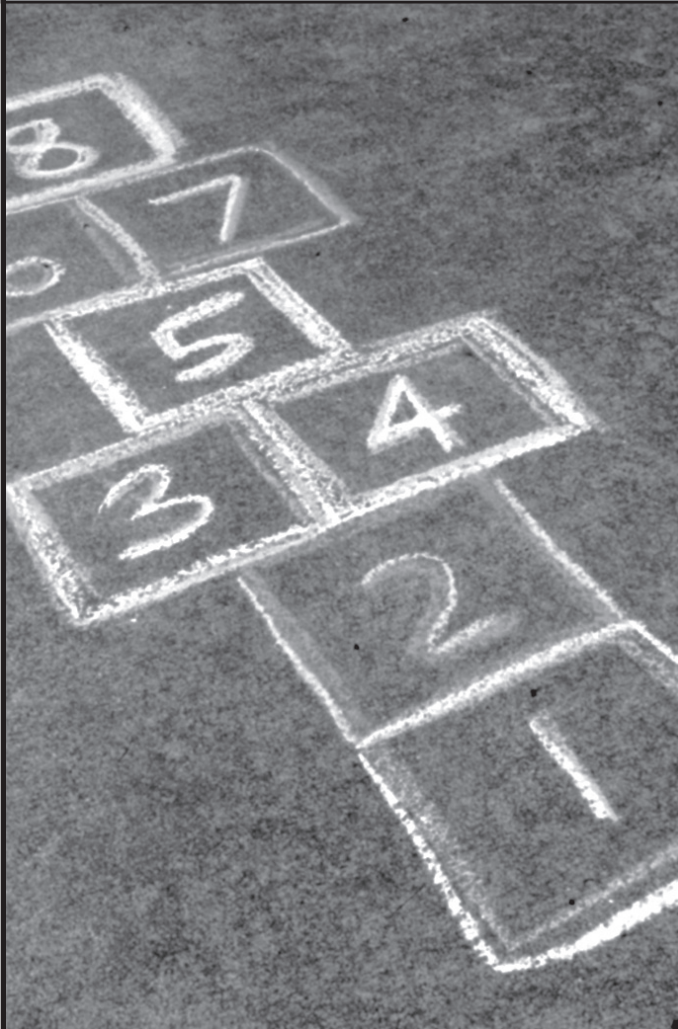


Finley Jr. High School welcomed
Ms. Kerry Pecho, Paraprofessional,
Ms. Jacyn Leonard, Special Education Teacher,
Ms. Warda Zayed, Bilingual Teacher,
Ms. Renee Mills, Paraprofessional,
Mr. Andrew Peil, 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher.

Ridge Central welcomed
Dana Hovel, Paraprofessional,
Karie Clarke, Clerical Aide,
Aidan Wagner, Paraprofessional,
Stephanie Daujatas, Paraprofessional,
Katie Zimmerman, Reading Teacher,
Melanie Sell, Paraprofessional,
Camille Graham, Paraprofessional,
Megan Demas, Special Education Teacher,
Javier Castillo, Paraprofessional,
Eileen Glynn, Paraprofessional,
April Laurencell, Paraprofessional,
Yuvia Chacon, Special Education Secretary.



Ridge Lawn welcomed
Caitlin Crivellone, Paraprofessional,
Sheila Naughton, Secretary,
Amal Daradi, Bilingual Teacher,
Illiana Elayan, Co-Teacher,
Sylvia Hammad, Paraprofessional



Structured Recess

In response to elementary students receiving more physical education time and participation in activities, *Structured Recess* has been implemented at Ridge Central and Ridge Lawn. With funding from the Model Community Grant, the physical education teachers have designed *Structured Recess* activities for the students.

All of the students have received lessons that support the activities. The students have been very excited to participate in the following: *Peaceful Playground* activities, Running Bases, 4 Square, Kickball, Track, Paddle Ball, Bowling, Jump Rope, Hula Hoops, Tether Ball, Bean Bags, Football, Soccer Ball, Basketball, Hopscotch, Ultimate Frisbee, Walking Club, Wii programs such as dancing and sports and Zumba, as well as many other activities.

The philosophy of the *Structured Recess* is to increase physical activity for students and work cooperatively following the Character Education themes. The goal is also to reduce inappropriate behavior at recess and have students make good choices for activities and interaction at recess time.

Homework Committee



In an effort to study homework policies and research effective homework assignments, the district is forming a homework committee which will involve staff members and parents or guardians. Any parent or guardian, who is interested in attending meetings and working on the committee, may contact Dr. Kleinaitis, at the district office.

Financial Update



In September 2011 the district issued bonds in order to refund the outstanding Series 2002 Bonds which were voted improvements to school buildings by referendum in election year 2002. In May 2011, the district received a rating upgrade of one notch from "A" to "AA-" by Standard & Poors, who cited the district's sound financial operations, strong cash reserves and moderate net debt burden, among other factors. This upgrade, along with market conditions, allowed the refunding to occur at interest rates ranging from 2.5% to 4%. The Series 2002 Bonds had interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 5.25%. This resulted in a total net present value of savings equal to \$695,072 or 9.8%. The district will save approximately \$80,000 annually beginning in levy year 2011 and continuing through the levy year 2020. To the individual taxpayer, this savings equates to approximately \$0.04/per \$100 of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV).



Emergency Closing of School



Should the need occur, school closing announcements are broadcast on several radio and television stations. Included among those are: WGN 720, WBBM News Radio 780, and WGN TV to name a few. You may also check closings by going to www.emergencyclosingcenter.com Additionally, the District utilizes the Alert Now System, which contacts parents through home phones, cell phones, e-mails and text messaging. Please ensure you communicate any changes in home, work, or cellular numbers to all schools your children attend.

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6135 West 108th Street
Chicago Ridge, Illinois 60415

Phone: (708) 636-2000
Fax: (708) 636-0916
Web: www.crsd1275.org

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CAR-RTE SORT
LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
OAK LAWN, IL 60453

Chicago Ridge Board of Education

Edward Moody, *Board President*
Cindy Koschetz, *Board Vice President*
Brian Guerin, *Board Secretary*
Patricia Grow, *Board Member*
Karen Gaylord, *Board Member*
Nancy Salzer, *Board Member*
Bob Gushes, *Board Member*

Dr. Joyce Kleinaitis, *Superintendent*



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DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| November 8, 2011 | School Board Meeting- 6:30 p.m. |
| November 9, 2011 | Early Dismissal for students- 11:30 a.m.
Parent Teacher Conferences - 12:30-3:30 5:00-8:00
Book Fair |
| November 10, 2011 | NO SCHOOL ; Parent Teacher Conferences 8:30-11:30
Book Fair |
| November 11, 2011 | Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL |
| November 18 2011 | Market Day |
| November 23, 2011 | Early Dismissal - 11:30 |
| November 24, 2011 | Happy Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL |
| November 25, 2011 | NO SCHOOL |
| December 8, 2011 | Winter Concert- Finley Jr. High School- 6:30 p.m. |
| December 13, 2011 | School Board Meeting- Ridge Lawn School- 6:30 p.m.
First Quarter Awards Given |
| December 22, 2011 | Winter Break Begins |
| January 4, 2012 | School Resumes |



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