

## **CURRICULUM REPORT**

### **I. Institute Day**

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, certified staff members in District #10 participated in a district-wide workshop that was held at all three schools. The workshops focused on the following three areas:

1. Benson: Guided reading instruction with use of leveled books
2. Franzen: Further development of TAG extension materials
3. Peacock: Use and application of Internet search sites for students at the Middle School

The reviews of the workshop indicated that staff members found the sessions to be very helpful. Additional workshops are being planned in the areas of effective reading instruction and guided reading.

### **II. American Education Week**

During the week of November 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, District #10 will celebrate American Education Week. The events include inviting community members to visit our schools during the instructional day. Guests will have the opportunity to view the staff and students interacting within their regular schedule of instructional activities.

### **III. Talented and Gifted Program (TAG)**

A newly updated TAG list of students has been completed for the 2003-2004 school year. All students have been reconsidered for entry into the TAG program through the yearly evaluation process. The process consists of assessments being administered to students during the spring of each school year, with students' grades and teacher evaluation forms being completed in the fall.

During the month of November, parents will be informed of the students recently placed in the Talented level of the TAG program.

Three additional students are being further assessed for possible entry into the Gifted level of the TAG program. District #10's school psychologist completes individual I.Q. tests on each qualifying student.

### **IV. Report Card Committee**

During the 2003-2004 school year, the content and format of the student report cards are being reviewed.

There are three components to the student report card "Adoption" process. The first component is directed by Marcia Tornatore. During

the fall of 2003, her goal is to have each school broadly identify areas of a report card that are important to them.

The second component of the “adoption” process is related to the software needed to produce the report cards. Charles Kapachinski is directing this phase of the “Adoption”. Specifically, Charles is currently analyzing management systems that provide a foundation for accessing the required information to be formatted onto the report cards.

The third component of the Report Card Committee will be to identify and develop a report card to service the needs of each school. Marcia will lead this phase of the committee.

#### **V. District Advisory Committee (DAC)**

By participating in the continual revision of the Technology Plan, DAC members have begun to identify requested technology purchases for the next school year (2004-2005). Charles Kapachinski led the discussion regarding purchases at the DAC meeting held on October 20, 2003.

Over the next couple of months, discussions will continue within the DAC meetings regarding the items to be requested for purchase during the 2004-2005 school year. The emphasis of purchases will be directed towards the replacement/upgrade (life cycle) of existing technology hardware items.

#### **VI. Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)**

In Itasca School District, the program implemented to meet the instructional needs of students with English as a second language in their home is referred to as a Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI). Students are identified for assessment through a “Home Language Survey”. A series of assessments are administered to these students for the purpose of identifying those who meet the designated criteria to be included in the program. Students identified to be served in the TPI program receive instructional assistance for 30-minutes daily.

Instruction is provided by certified teachers who are trained in meeting the educational needs of students who are limited in their use and application of the English language. At this time, District #10 employs two teachers to service these students. Nancy Bernal instructs the identified TPI students at Benson Primary School. Pat Butler works with the TPI students at Franzen Intermediate School and Peacock Middle School. The distribution of schedules is based upon the number of students being served. Two grants from the Illinois State Board of Education provide financial assistance for this program.