

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT**

### **I. Graduation Update**

Graduation plans are being finalized for the ceremony to be held at Lake Park East's Auditorium on Tuesday, June 1, 2004 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

During mid-May, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will nominate ten (10) boys and ten (10) girls for the prestigious Wesley G. Usher Achievement Award. From these lists, staff members will select one male and one female recipient who have exemplified academic and citizenship achievement throughout their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Mayor Gigi Gruber then presents the award at the graduation ceremony to the two outstanding graduates. The two individuals will also be expected to give brief speeches that highlight their experiences in District 10.

The location of the graduation dinner/dance will be the Itasca Country Club. The event will take place on Friday, June 4, 2004 from 6-9:00 p.m. and is open to all 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have successfully met graduation requirements.

As all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students must possess a minimum Grade Point Average of 1.70 out of 4.00 to participate in any graduation function, a grade check will be made to determine graduation eligibility on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Failure to attain this standard removes a student from the graduation ceremony and dinner/dance. They also are ineligible to attend a field trip to Great America scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students in this situation will be required to attend a summer school program of 4 weeks in duration through Lake Park. The course will focus on study skills and organizational habits. A successful completion of the course with Lake Park certification will allow a student to receive his/her 8<sup>th</sup> grade diploma in late summer. As of the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, three (3) students have a cumulative 8<sup>th</sup> grade GPA of less than 1.70.

Community service impacts 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as failure to fulfill the requirement of six (6) community service hours during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year will also prevent a student from participating in graduation functions that include the graduation ceremony. Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to have completed a total of 18 hours spanning their 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years. As of May 7<sup>th</sup> 70% of all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have completed their required community service hours. A final check on the status of service hours will take place on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. On May 7<sup>th</sup> all parents of students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade deficient in community service hours were mailed a reminder of their child's status with a two-week deadline to complete the mandate.

### **II. Parent and student surveys**

Later in May our annual surveys of opinions will be made available to two of the populations from which we desire feedback. The surveys will be analyzed during the summer with results presented to the Board of

Education at the September meeting and to Peacock's families later that month through the *Principal's Newsletter*. This year will mark the first year the surveys will be available on our District 10 Web site.