

District 211 honors its National Board Certified Teachers

Eighteen High School District 211 teachers were recognized at the February 10, 2005 Board of Education meeting for their recent completion of the necessary requirements to achieve *National Board Certification* from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Those honored for this distinction were, Sarah Bryant, Schaumburg High School science teacher; Jason Campbell, Schaumburg High School science teacher; Cynthia Dvorak, Schaumburg High School social studies teacher; Robert

Grisanzio, Conant High School social studies teacher; Elizabeth Kahn, Conant High School English district department chair; Jennifer Krause, former Palatine High School English teacher, currently assistant principal at Fremd High School; Kendra Letzel, Schaumburg High School mathematics teacher; Thomas Letzel, Schaumburg High School mathematics/science teacher; Mary Lopez, Schaumburg High School social studies teacher; David Moravek, Conant High School social studies teacher; Stephen Patton, Fremd High School physical education/driver education teacher; Michael Pennisi, Schaumburg High School science teacher; Suzanne Rausch, Conant High School science teacher; Susan Rucks, Schaumburg High School business education department chair; Jennifer Schutte, Schaumburg High School mathematics teacher; Christopher Smith, Palatine High School science teacher; Maribeth Westlund, Schaumburg High School social studies teacher; and Jessica Wienke, Schaumburg High School social studies teacher.

This certification is the highest professional credential in the teaching field. Nationally, only 51 percent of those going through the process achieve certification on the first attempt. In addition, teachers who achieve National Board Certification are qualified to teach in any state, and qualify to become Illinois Master Teachers. This group was among 254 teachers statewide to receive national certification this school year.

"This is an outstanding accomplishment for these teachers," commented Superintendent Roger Thornton. "We are proud to have teachers that have such a strong commitment to educational excellence in District 211; it is a wonderful example of their commitment to our students."

Sarah Bryant

Sarah joined District 211 and Schaumburg High School in 1997 as a science teacher. She is known as a positive role model and brings many talents to the classroom that enhance student learning.

Jason Campbell

Jason has been a District 211 staff member since 2002. He has proven to be confident as a leader in the science department and encouraging in classroom activities and projects.

Cynthia Dvorak

Cindy began her District 211 career in 2000. She is highly organized, and her confident and relaxed teaching style have created an enjoyable learning environment for students.

Robert Grisanzio

Bob joined District 211 and Conant High School in 1985. His well-organized manner and creative teaching style benefits students and staff alike. He provides outstanding leadership in the social studies department.

Elizabeth Kahn

Betsy has been teaching English in District 211 since 1978. As an English department chair, she serves as an excellent resource for new and veteran staff members. She is known as a professional who is committed to student growth and success.

Jennifer Krause

Jen began her District 211 career in 1992 as an English teacher at Palatine High School, and set a standard for excellence in the classroom. Her exceptional leadership skills led to her appointment as assistant principal at Fremd High School in 2004.

Kendra Letzel

Kendra joined District 211 and Schaumburg High School in 2002. She demonstrates creativity and uses various techniques that add to her lessons, keeping students interested and motivated.

Thomas Letzel

Tom has been a science teacher in District 211 since 1995. His teaching strategies and resources help students gain a better understanding of course applications.

Mary Lopez

Mary began her District 211 career in 1995. She maintains high expectations for her students and creates challenging learning activities to sharpen their skills.

David Moravek

Dave has been a District 211 staff member since 2000. He has developed strong relationships in the social studies department and has created a constructive classroom environment that supports student learning.

Stephen Patton

Steve began his District 211 career in 1994. He is student-centered, maintains positive relationships with colleagues, and has a teaching style that incorporates variety into each lesson.



Pictured (left to right) are High School District 211 National Board Certified teachers (seated) Cindy Dvorak, Maribeth Westlund, Jennifer Schutte, Kendra Letzel, Sarah Bryant, and Jessica Wienke; (back row) Sue Rucks, Mary Lopez, Jen Krause, Betsy Kahn, Dave Moravek, Jason Campbell, Bob Grisanzio, Tom Letzel, Mike Pennisi, Chris Smith, and Steve Patton. (not pictured: Suzanne Rausch)

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National Board Certified Teachers (continued)

Michael Pennisi

Mike joined District 211 and Schaumburg High School as a science teacher in 1992. He always is available to assist colleagues on various issues and develops innovative class activities to keep students engaged in the learning process.

Suzanne Rausch

Suzanne has been a science teacher in District 211 since 1984. She is a skilled motivator and shares an excellent rapport with students and colleagues alike.

Susan Rucks

Sue began her District 211 career in 1973. Her insight and vision have helped keep the District's business education curriculum current. Countless teachers and students have benefited from her efforts and expertise.

Jennifer Schutte

Jennifer has been a District 211 staff member since 2000. She is knowledgeable, patient, and has a positive attitude toward her students and the material she teaches.

Christopher Smith

Chris began his District 211 career in 1995. The excitement he displays and the organization he provides in his teaching is exhibited by students' true enthusiasm and quality of work.

Maribeth Westlund

Maribeth has been a teacher in District 211 since 1986. As social studies department chair, she is recognized as a strong leader and encouraging role model.

Jessica Wienke

Jessica joined District 211 and Schaumburg High School in 1998 as a social studies teacher. She is a creative and innovative teacher who demonstrates a strong work ethic and excellent rapport with students and colleagues.

High School District 211 now has 38 teachers that have earned national certification: Palatine High School Science Teacher **David Martin**; Fremd High School, Science Teacher **Mike Bachrodt**, Social Studies Department Chair **Steve Buening**, and Foreign Language Department Chair **Julie Frost**; Conant High School Science Teacher **Philip Winter**; and Schaumburg High School, Mathematics Teachers **Michelle Kolet**, **John Noah**, and **Chris Zickert**, and Physical Education Teacher **Jeanette Pancratz** received certification last year. Palatine High School, English Teacher **Marci Albrecht**, Mathematics Department Chair **David Elliott**, Science Department Chair **Debby Kray**, and Business Education Teacher **Bob Schuetz**; Fremd High School, Dean of Students and Business Education Teacher **Mary Brotsos**; Conant High School Science Teacher **Samantha Dolen**; and Schaumburg High School Mathematics Teacher **Tim Kasper** and Art Teacher **Anita Strader** received certification in 2003. Hoffman Estates High School Science Teacher **Pete Konecki** received National Board Certification in 2002, and retired Schaumburg High School Social Studies Department Chair **Carl Beyer** and Mathematics Department Chair **Jim Breunlin** received certification in 2001. In addition, several faculty members from District 211 schools have taken the in-district course "Seminar for National Board Certification" in preparation for earning Board certification.

District 211 participates in *United Way* campaign

As they have done in the past, High School District 211 employees participated in the United Way/Crusade of Mercy campaign. This year, employees contributed \$32,999, making District 211 one of the largest school district contributors in the Chicago suburban area. Over the past 30 years, High School District 211 employees have contributed more than \$1 million to the United Way campaign.

The following individuals in District 211 buildings assisted in coordinating the district's fundraising efforts in this year's campaign: Palatine High School Assistant Principal **Mike Alther**; William Fremd High School Dean of Students **David Yates**; James B. Conant High School Assistant Principal **John Kane**; Schaumburg High School Assistant Principal **Bonnie Butzke**; Hoffman Estates High School Assistant Principal **Jacquese Gilbert**; Secretary to the Director of

Transportation **Jackie Newman**; Community Relations Coordinator **Tom Petersen**; and Publications Assistant **Sarah Das**.

For the second straight year, Director of Food Service Ruth Jonen presented Director of Transportation Ray Gawron and Transportation Secretary Jackie Newman with a plaque and \$100 for having the highest percentage of participants in this year's United Way campaign. The Transportation Department donated the cash award, courtesy of the Food Service Department, to Clearbrook Plaza.



Illinois State Board of Education recognizes *Those Who Excel* award recipients



Township High School District 211 was represented among the recipients in the Illinois State Board of Education's 2004-2005 *Those Who Excel* education awards program. The State Board annually sponsors the *Those Who Excel* awards to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the state's public and non-public schools.

High School District 211 award-winners are (listed alphabetically):

- Palatine High School Cafeteria Manager **Debbie Madaj** (educational service personnel category)
- Schaumburg High School Technology Coordinator **Bill Myers** (student support personnel category)
- High School District 211's **New Teacher Induction and Mentoring Team** (team category)

- Hoffman Estates High School Mathematics Teacher **Mary Alice Thomas** (classroom teacher category)
- James B. Conant High School Assistant Principal **Jerry Trevino** (school administrator category)
- High School District 211's Board of Education President **Debra Strauss** (school board member category)

"This is an outstanding achievement for these staff members," commented Superintendent Roger Thornton. "This is truly a reflection of the dedication they have for District 211, their schools, and our students."

Award recipients will be honored by the Illinois State Board of Education at the *Those Who Excel* awards banquet on Saturday, April 16, in Decatur. In addition to the state's banquet, the District's *Those Who Excel* award-winners will be recognized by the District 211 Board of Education at a future Board meeting.



District 211 25 Club welcomes 42 new members

The High School District 211 25 Club welcomed 42 new members this year. The club recognizes employees who have given 25 or more years of service to the District. The following is a complete list of 25 Club members. New members are marked with an asterisk (*) next to their name.

Palatine High School

Michele Agee
Michael Aimers
Marci Albrecht
Sara Jane Albrecht
Rosemary Allan*
Roger Basrak
Theresa Bill
Noreen Brady
Ingrid Briody
Kathleen Carroll*
Robert Carroll
Linda Cherney
John Derkits
Lynn Fairlamb
Anita Faust
Denise Florczak
David Freeman
Roderick Gibbs
Nancy Grybash
Sandy Hayden
Anita Hernandez
Raeleen Horn*
Robert Ingraham
Deborah Kray
Anthony Krotz
Karen Ludwigsen
William Ludwigsen*
David Martin
Teri Merickel
Frederick Miller
Edward Molitor
Bernie Ogurek*
Colleen Pagnani
Stephen Pass
Karen Petersen
Joseph Petricca
Linda Pozdro
Susan Quinlan
Maureen Rehusch
Edward Richardson

Mark Shoub*
James Tefft
Mark Wojciechowski

Fremd High School

Kenneth Ahlmann
Mark Anderson
Dwight Aukee
Michael Bachrodt*
Steven Bahn
Donald Balk
Neal Benton
Frank Biskner
Janette Boehm
Kevin Brewner*
Steven Buening
Jerry Cap
Charles Chamberlain
Paul Cleary
Ronald Cregier
Frank Cusenza
Michael Donatucci
Ronald Dowiarz
Jack Drollinger
John Fleck
Angela Gergen*
Gregory Haney
JoAnn Johansen
David Lang*
John Malecki
Joseph Martina
Karen McConnell
Michiko Murakami*
Mark Neiweem
Sally Nord
Carol Plodzien
Paul Reeff*
Barbara Rudock
Joseph Saccomanno
Joseph Samojedny

Henry Sampson
Ray Shoenherr
Thomas Smiley
Gyula Szabo
Donna Testo
Linda Wagner*
Gary Wilson

Conant High School

William Amaruso*
Jane Anderson
Barbara G. Anderson
Frank Benesh
Keith Bundgard*
Hernando Carreno
James Cartwright
Sue Ellen Cleary
Carol Dering
Daniel Detzner
Richard Elke
Patricia Elmen
Diana Flahaven
Shirley Forpe
Allan Goodman*
Diana Johannesen*
Kenneth Johnson
Elizabeth Kahn
John Kern*
William Killinger
Trudy Lane*
Thomas Laskie
Yolanda Metcalf
Jerome Mikrut
Joan Osika
David Pendergast
Richard Peterson
Shirley Putman
JoAnn Rakoczy
Marcie Raymond*
Michael Rusniak
Loring Schroeder
Emma Selvig

Geoffrey Sorensen
Nancy Stires
Pamela Sullivan
Kathleen West
Joan Widok
James Workman*

Schaumburg High School

Michael Betlinski
Kenneth Biggs
Pamela Brokaw
Minnie Brooks
Anthony Capalbo
Tom Cerasani
Sharon Cross
Thomas Egan
Donna Epton
Deborah Finato
Michael Fodor
Thomas Gallagher
Paul Groot*
Irene Hendricks
Stuart Hymen
Allen Iverson
Barbara Kimball
Carole Klein
Karen Kublank
Caryn Leaf*
James Macnider
Jon Macnider
Thomas Mueller
C.W. Myers
David Nierenberg
Janet Pietrini
Mary Kay Prette*
Richard Purgatorio
Joseph Rebeck
Michael Rivera*
Susan Rucks
John Selke
David Sharos*

Gregory Sloan
Jane Solinsky
Karen Spring*
Dawn Steineke
Patricia Steinkellner*
Bob Thorsness
Heidi Tincknell
Gregory Tipps
Douglas Walter
Nancy Wentink
Robert Williams*
Joan Young

Hoffman Estates High School

Michael Batina
Cynthia Beattie*
Wayne Boeckelman
Virginia Boydston
Fred Bryant
Kim Cannon
Nelson Cleary*
Beverly Crane
Catherine Daglas
Maria Diaz
Valrie Doppke
Robert Edwards
Thomas Fidler*
Bruce Garnett
David Gawron*
George Gentes
Alice Georgian
Alan Hausfeld
Frank Hill
Kenneth Johnson
Roger Kalisiak
Cheryl L'Ecuyer
Mary Ann Larforet
Florence LeDuc
Catherine Loh
Stephen Loh
Denise Mack

Karen Niwa
Lawrence Niwa
Margaret Nolan
David Pentz
Robert Phillips
Robin Richards
James Rucks*
Eileen Schur
Lawrence Schwartz*
Gerald Scolire*
Pamela Skinner*
Cynthia Surtz*
Reinhard Taylor
Kathleen Wandro
William Wandro
Jannette Wanner
Kathleen Werderitch
Kenneth Wernert
Koji Yaguchi
Glen Zawacki*

Administration Center

Joseph Becker
Helen Beers
Jeffrey Butzen
William Fink
Joan Froelich*
Pat Glade
Robert Glascott*
Linda Glogowski*
Robert Grimm
Joel Gyurnek
Paul Kuczek
Patricia MacDonald
Connie Masek
Ronnie McCann*
Shirley Mertz
Dwan Pittenger
Otis Price
Nancy Robb*
Dolores Thomas

A r o u n d & A b o u t

Palatine High School

Raeleen Horn (music) is pleased to announce the Palatine High School Symphonic Band was honored to have Vince Gerasole from CBS 2 News Chicago narrate at the March Winds Band Concert held on March 8. The film crew took footage of the band performing an arrangement of the CBS 2 News theme that will be aired prior to an upcoming 5:00 p.m. news report. Also, the Palatine High School band was asked to perform at a Chicago Rush Arena football game on May 1.

Becky Morales (foreign language) and her husband, Antonio, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Viviana Christine, born on December 18, 2004.

Jeff Wardle (mathematics) and his wife, Laura, are excited to announce the birth of their first child. Their son, Jeffrey David Wardle, Jr., was born on February 13, 2005.

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Around & About

William Fremd High School

Steve Buening (social studies) wrote "The Russian Revolution," a 112-page teaching unit for secondary school students. His work has been published by the Choices Education Program, Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University, and is available at www.choices.edu.

Tony Romano (English) is having his book "When the World was Young" published by Harper-Collins Publishing House. The release date is May 2006.

Janet Shanahan (assistant principal secretary) is proud to announce her son, Christopher (FHS class of 1989), was recently promoted to Senior Vice President and Actuary for Scottish Re in Charlotte, NC.

James B. Conant High School

Ken Johnson (science) was nominated to be honored in *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. This is his third consecutive nomination.

Joanne Meyerhoff (student service) is pleased to announce her husband, Jerry, was named Distinguished Alumni of the Year by the University of Illinois at Chicago. He and Joanne were invited to participate in "Light the Flame" at a UIC home basketball game in November.

Joanne also was invited to participate in Educators Week in San Diego, Calif., in February. As part of the event, she visited the Training Depot, Camp Pendleton, and Miramar Air Force Base and learned what training process Marine recruits must participate in. In addition, Joanne was able to attend the Grammy Awards held on February 13, as a guest of her daughter, Julia, who is a sound engineer.

Schaumburg High School

Jim Macnider (physical education) is excited to see his daughter, Nadia (Macnider) Geller (SHS class of 1994), on The Learning Channel's home design program "While You Were Out." She films 15 episodes a year in locations all over the country.

Nancy Sack and Karen Spring (English) were nominated to appear in the publication of *Who's Who in America's Teachers*.

Hoffman Estates High School

Gonz Bullon (special education) and his wife, Katie, welcomed their second son, Brian David, born on February 24, 2005.

Mary Ann Laforet (English) traveled with her husband and son during winter break to Osaka, Japan to visit her daughter, Kristen, who is currently teaching English in Japan for a year. While they were there, they also were able to take in Tokyo Disneyland where it snowed.

Rob Richards (applied technology) was nominated to appear in the 2005 publication of *Who's Who in Education*. This is the second year he has been nominated.

Congratulations to Kimberly (Kobrinetz) Ryon (social studies) on her marriage to Matthew Ryon on December 18, 2004.

Sheryl Saddoris (English as a second language) is proud to announce the birth of her second grandson. Her daughter, Stacey (HEHS class of 1988), and son-in-law, Harold, welcomed Shea Charles Hansen, born on December 9, 2005.

Congratulations to Novaita Sanders (physical education) for her nomination to appear in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Reinhard Taylor and Janette Wanner (foreign language) traveled to New York in February to visit Reinhard's son, Jeff, and his grandson, Hong. They also spent time with Janette's niece, Lily, and nephew, Buck, who attend universities in the area. In addition, they were able to see The Gates in Central Park. Pictures of the park can be seen at <http://www.herrtaylor.org>.

Bobby Walser (applied technology) is proud to announce Hoffman Estates High School received first place at the Chi-Town Tear Down competition. The event was held at McCormick Place during the World of Wheels.

Administration Center

Andrea Budasi (personnel) is happy to announce the arrival of her fourth grandchild. Her son, Chris, and his wife, Stacey, welcomed Reagan Noelle, born on December 17, 2004.

NEWS & NOTES



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Web Site: www.d211.org
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News & Notes is published four times during
the school year for Township High School
District 211 employees and retirees.

Thomas Petersen, *Community Relations Coordinator*
Sarah Das, *Publications Assistant*
Craig Hippensteel, *Publications Technology Specialist*
Dorothy Tarkowski, *Publications Clerk*

 If you have news to share, please complete the district
form online at www.d211.org/newsandnotesform.htm



If you require assistance while visiting
one of our schools, please contact the
principal's office.