

EXCEL★

BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PUBLISHED FOR RESIDENTS AND NEIGHBORS OF DISTRICT 87

SPRING/SUMMER 2001

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visit us online at www.district87.org

Our District website contains links to each of our ten schools, District news & publications, student videos, student newspapers and class projects, Board Policies, job openings, calendars, and much more!

What a year!

BHS students recognized as nation's best in academics, community service, and theatre

Drama Club one of nation's best high school programs

BHS to perform at the American High School Theatre Festival in Scotland



When our nation's top theatre programs meet in Edinburgh, Scotland next year for the American High School Theatre Festival (AHSTF), Bloomington High School will be among them.

BHS is one of just 32 high schools chosen to represent the United States at the AHSTF during the fall of 2002. Members of the school's **Drama Club** will perform at the festival's Fringe Festival, the most prestigious arts festival in the world.

The AHSTF's Board of Advisors, comprised of U.S. college theatre professionals, received over 480 nominations. The list was further narrowed down to seventy-nine as a result of an extensive application process.

The top 32 high school programs were identified based on their most recent bodies of work, awards, community involvement, philosophies, and recommendations.★

Student chosen to design new engineering college

Recent Bloomington High School graduate Joy Poisel receives scholarship worth \$170,000



projects and research, and principles of business and entrepreneurship.

Joy Poisel has been hand-picked to participate in the "Olin Partners," a 30-member international student group that will take part in designing the first new engineering college in the U.S. in more than 40 years. The Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Needham, Mass. will open to students in the fall of 2002. Olin's emphasis will include rigorous preparation in engineering and science, team-based design, communication, independent

Chicago Tribune's top student is BHS' Hutmacher

Hutmacher is second BHS student in four years to receive top honors



She scored a 1580 (of a possible 1600) on her SAT. She graduated 1st in her class of 309. She's first chair (clarinet) in band. And as a member of BHS' Science Olympiad, Worldwide Youth in Engineering and Speech teams, she's won more than two dozen state and regional awards.

These accomplishments, and many more, led to **Lisa Hutmacher** being named Chicago Tribune's "Student of the Year" in the 16th annual Chicago Tribune Illinois High School All-State Academic Team competition. Hutmacher heads the Tribune's 10-member team, described to be "some of the brightest and most well-rounded high school seniors in Illinois." Each will receive a scholarship worth \$2,000 from the Chicago Tribune Foundation.

According to the paper, the team was selected by a panel of 36 state-wide educators, parents, and business leaders on the basis of academic performance, extracurricular participation, community service, and a 500-word essay.

This Northwestern University bound neuroscience major is the second BHS student in four years to receive "Student of the Year" honors from the Tribune. Jenni Harms was awarded this honor in 1997.★

Beginning in the fall 2001, Poisel and other members of the Olin Partners, will work with faculty to help design the college's curriculum, which will incorporate entrepreneurial thinking and best educational practices from around the globe. She will also work with the dean of student life to help develop student activities and governance. Eighty additional students will join the Olin Partners in the fall 2002 to form the inaugural Class of 2006. Poisel will receive a scholarship worth \$170,000 covering the entire Olin Partner Program year and the subsequent four years of undergraduate study. Poisel was also offered a full scholarship at Milwaukee's College of Engineering. <www.olin.edu>★

"What a Year!" continued on page 3

Parent survey returns favorable results



Dr. Robert S. Nielsen,

Superintendent of Schools

This past February, members of District 87's Citizens' Advisory Council, along with researchers from Illinois State University, conducted a "Parent Satisfaction Survey."

This random survey included over 660 phone interviews and represented roughly 430 students, or 8% of our student population. A response rate of 50% was received.

When comparing this data to the results 1996's parent survey, gains were recorded in the quality of teaching, safety within our schools, comfort level of visiting parents, and satisfaction with computer instruction.

District 87 will use the results of this survey to further improve the quality of our educational programs.

	<u>Poor</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>No opinion</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
How would you rate the quality of teaching?	0.0%	3.0%	13.0%	42.0%	41.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Are you satisfied with the computer instruction?	6.0%	12.0%	19.0%	29.1%	34.5%	4.7%	14.0%
Grading standards							
Too tough:	7.0%		7.0%		80.7%	1.6%	3.0%
Too easy:		7.0%					
Do you approve of the rules at your child's school?	3.3%	3.3%	5.8%	26.0%	59.1%	0.5%	1.6%
How safe do you think your child feels at school?	1.0%	1.0%	10.0%	26.0%	61.0%	0.0%	1.0%
How well do you say your child's school enforces discipline?	4.5%	3.7%	8.8%	21.9%	50.7%	1.9%	7.9%
Level of comfort expressing concerns or opinions to staff	3.7%	2.3%	6.5%	17.4%	67.7%	0.9%	0.9%
How welcome do you feel at your child's school?	2.8%	1.6%	5.3%	17.9%	70.2%	0.2%	0.5%
How well do District 87 Schools prepare students for after high school?	2.3%	2.3%	13.3%	23.7%	34.2%	5.1%	17.7%
How well do District 87 Schools do in preparing students for employment after high school?	1.6%	1.6%	14.2%	21.6%	24.9%	11.4%	22.8%
How safe do you think your child feels on the bus?	7.0%	3.0%	13.0%	32.9%	44.1%	0.5%	0.2%
How wisely does District 87 use your tax dollars?	2.0%	3.0%	23.0%	39.0%	18.0%	4.0%	12.0%

Would you be willing to pay more taxes to improve education?

Yes: 77.0% No: 15.0% No opinion: 3.0% Don't know: 5.0%

Should computers at school be made available to students outside of the school day?

Yes: 74.7% No: 15.8% No opinion: 4.7% Don't know: 3.5%

Do(es) your student(s) have access to computers away from school?

Yes: 87.0% No: 11.9% Don't know: 0.0%

Does your child have access to the Internet away from school?

Yes: 74.7% No: 20.9% Don't know: 1.9%

Do you favor having a school uniform at your child's school?

Yes: 41.9% No: 40.7% No opinion: 5.1% Don't know: 1.2%

Do you favor random drug testing for students in extra curricular activities in the:

High School?	Yes: 70.5%	No: 15.1%	No opinion: 5.6%	Don't know: 7.0%
Junior High?	Yes: 61.4%	No: 20.7%	No opinion: 5.8%	Don't know: 10.0%
Grade school?	Yes: 34.0%	No: 52.8%	No opinion: 5.1%	Don't know: 6.0%

Are you satisfied with the fundraising procedures at your child's school?

Yes: 71.6% No: 15.3% No opinion: 8.6% Don't know: 2.8%

Does your child receive tutoring NOT provided by District 87?

Yes: 7.7% No: 90.0% Don't know: 0.0%

EXCEL★

Bloomington Public Schools, District 87 • Spring 2001

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EXCEL is published three times a year as a way to inform residents on the many programs, achievements, and topics concerning the educational opportunities available to our students within Bloomington Public Schools, District 87.

All correspondence should be sent to EXCEL, 300 E. Monroe Street, Bloomington, IL 61701. Phone inquiries or comments should be directed to the District office at 309-827-6031.

E-mail may be forwarded to: excel@district87.org

Visit our district website at: www.district87.org

BACK ISSUES ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE ONLINE:

Find the last four issues of the EXCEL at www.district87.org/pr

Education...our investment in the future.

What a Year! (continued from page 1)

District 87 is earning quite a reputation...



Artwork flies high

Samantha Brown's portrait painting was chosen to represent the state of Illinois on the "Youth Art Month" flag and poster. This eighth grader's artwork was presented at the National Art Education Conference in New York City and the flag was flown over Washington, DC.

In addition, the portrait paintings of **Brian Alexander, Matt Walsh, and Alayna Gallagher** were selected to represent Illinois on the annual "Youth Art Month" poster.

Raiders shine at State

Bloomington High School's Science Olympiad Team took 1st place by winning five events at Urbana's regional competition. The team advanced to state, where they placed 8th from a field of thirty.

BAVC student, Kristen Fleming placed 1st in Sales Demonstration and 5th in Apparel and Accessories during the Development Council for Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) state conference. Based on her performance, she qualified for the National DECA Conference where she was the sole student to represent Central Illinois.

Lindsey Reu broke a school record in the 300 hurdles (45.00) on her way to a 2nd place finish at State.

The **Boys' Tennis Team**, consisting of only one senior, finished 9th at State.

Yale Fillingham's school record of 1:43.85 in the 200-meter freestyle earned an 8th place finish at the State Swim Meet. Diver, **Tony Bray** also broke a school record on his way to a 25th place finish.

Wrestlers, Seth Livingston placed 2nd in the state wrestling meet's 275 lb. weight class and **Greg Callahan** earned 4th place in the 215 lb. weight class.

BJHS wrestlers 6th

Four place at State; twelve qualify
Individual champions included: **Tyler Johnson** 65 lb. State Champ **Brett Robbins** 95 lb. State Champ **Steve Robbins** 126 lb. Third place **Erik Miller** 167 lb. Fifth place
Members who qualified for State: **Adalberto Cornejo, James Casali, Jacob Casali, Ben Gartner, Justin Hale, Troy Clark, Gianni Ontiveros, and Shane Schubbe.**

Volleyball's Elite Eight

BJHS 6/7th grade team finishes 21-1
Members of the team included: **Hilary Alexander, Bonnie Bertram, Beth Current, Jenny Enata, Regina Feagin, Alayna Gallagher, Abby Gandhi, Katie Giesel, Cassie Kirk, Sara Larsen, Kristin Petrinc, Jessica Sandoval, Amie Smith, Christina Soinski, and Katie Varney.**

Girls' Track places 3rd

BJHS Track earns 41 State medals

Forty-one medals were awarded to athletes placing in the top eight. A list of BJHS athletes earning State Championships – to those earning 5th place are listed below:



BJHS Knights are the 8AA State Champs!

Team compiles a perfect 26-0 record

BJHS' 8th grade basketball team won the IESA Class 8AA State Championship on February 15 by beating Quincy 59-40, finishing a perfect 26-0 season. Over the course of two years, they compiled a record of 47-1. Members of the team included: **Steven Brown, Dylan Cook, Nate Dudley, Dodie Dunson, Brandon Holtz, Brent Holtz, Alex Rich, Delano Robinson, Ryan Strebing, Eric Trower, and Wesley Ware.**

7th grade girls' 4 X 100 relay (**Venus Black, Robin Grant, Jennifer Matthews, and Beth Current**), State Champions

7th grade girls' 1600 meter **Mackenzie Clemens** (broke State Record), Second place

8th grade boys' 400 meter, **Francois Bellamy** Second place

8th grade girls' 4 x 200 meter relay (**Jenni Cook, Amber Scott, Alex Clark, and Brie Ford**), Third place

7th grade girls' Shot Put **Krystin Baker**, and 7th grade boys' 4 x 100 meter relay, (**Garrett Huff, Chris Jameson, Shaffer Sallades, and Warren McCauley**), Fourth place

8th grade girls 4 x 100 meter relay (**Grace Everman, Tiffany Thompson, Hilary Thurmond, and Brittany Bryant**) and 7th grade girls 4 x 400 meter relay (**Venus Black, Kelli Elsenpeter, Christina Soinski, Mackenzie Clemens and alternate Kristin Campbell**) Fifth place

Governor Ryan picks BHS

BHS one of just six schools chosen for "International Career Academy."

Bloomington High School has been chosen by Governor George Ryan as one of just six Illinois high schools to participate in the "International Career Academy", an exciting new initiative proposed by Ryan and launched by the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in partnership with the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The program is designed to introduce highly motivated and interested students who are considering advanced study and/or a career in the international arena, an opportunity to begin their study and experience while in high school. Schools were chosen to participate based on the quality and caliber of students and academic programs.

Program summary:

Four students will attend two-week long summer sessions at the end of their sophomore and junior years. The sessions will cover critical dimensions for understanding global economic interdependence, such as recent world history, language and customs, micro and macroeconomics models, and world geography. The program will culminate with a possible study abroad internship.

Nicholas Epperson, Michael Hovar, Mark Lienhart, Heah Maurer, Jessica Poisel, and Linda Vuong are candidates for the program.

Other participating schools include: Carbondale Community H.S., Glenbrook South H.S., Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy, University Laboratory H.S./Urbana, and Jones Academic College Prep (Chicago). ★

She's got spirit!

Student receives two national awards for community service



Allison "Ali" Harms, a recent graduate of **Bloomington High School**, has been selected to receive two prestigious national awards based on her commitment towards community service. Harms received a scholarship worth \$10,000 from the Toyota Community Scholars Program. This program recognizes students who, in their "Drive to Make a Difference," have distinguished themselves as leaders, not only in the classroom, but also through their commitment and dedication to

community service. Harms was one of only 100 high school seniors – from a national applicant pool of 12,000 – to receive this honored award.

Harms was also named a Distinguished Finalist in the 2001 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, where she was one of only seven students from the state of Illinois to be named Finalist. Nationwide, nearly 23,000 high school and middle level students were considered for awards. Fellow classmate **Matt Kiesewetter's** volunteerism was acknowledged by way of an Honorable Mention. ★

Constructing 1st place

Bloomington Area Vocational Center (BAVC) students place first in national competition

The **Bloomington-Normal Home Builders Association Student Chapter** at the **Bloomington Area Vocational Center (BAVC)** recently took 1st place in a construction management competition held at the International Builder's Show in Atlanta, Georgia. Teacher, **Mark Anderson** accompanied a team of five students to the competition. These students represented the BAVC Drafting Occupations and Construction Trades programs. Participants includ-

ed: **Chad Frankeberger (BHS), Shaunna McKuhen (BHS), Jason Knuth (BHS), Daniel Kelley (CCHS) and Jon Miller (LeRoy HS).**

The team took 1st place in the high school division. In addition, they placed 7th out of a field of 17 overall. That field included both two-year, post-secondary institutions and high school level programs. This trip was sponsored by the B/N Home Builders Assoc. ★

Bilingual and ESL classes prepare students for America's classroom

Non-English languages spoken within District 87

Language	# of students
Bengali (Bengal)	3
Bosnian	1
Cantonese (China)	3
Farsi (Persian)	2
German	1
Gujarati (India)	4
Hindi (India)	2
Japanese	1
Marathi (India)	4
Oriya (India)	3
Pilipino (Tagalog)	3
Russian	3
Serbian	1
Sinhalese (Sri Lanka)	1
Spanish	115
Tamil (S. India/Sri Lanka)	8
Telugu (India)	8
Turkish	2
Vietnamese	1
19 languages	166 students

Telugu, Bengali, Marathi, Farsi, and Gujarati. These may seem like the languages from far away lands. They're not. They're just a few of the many languages spoken by residents of McLean County and by students in District 87 Schools.

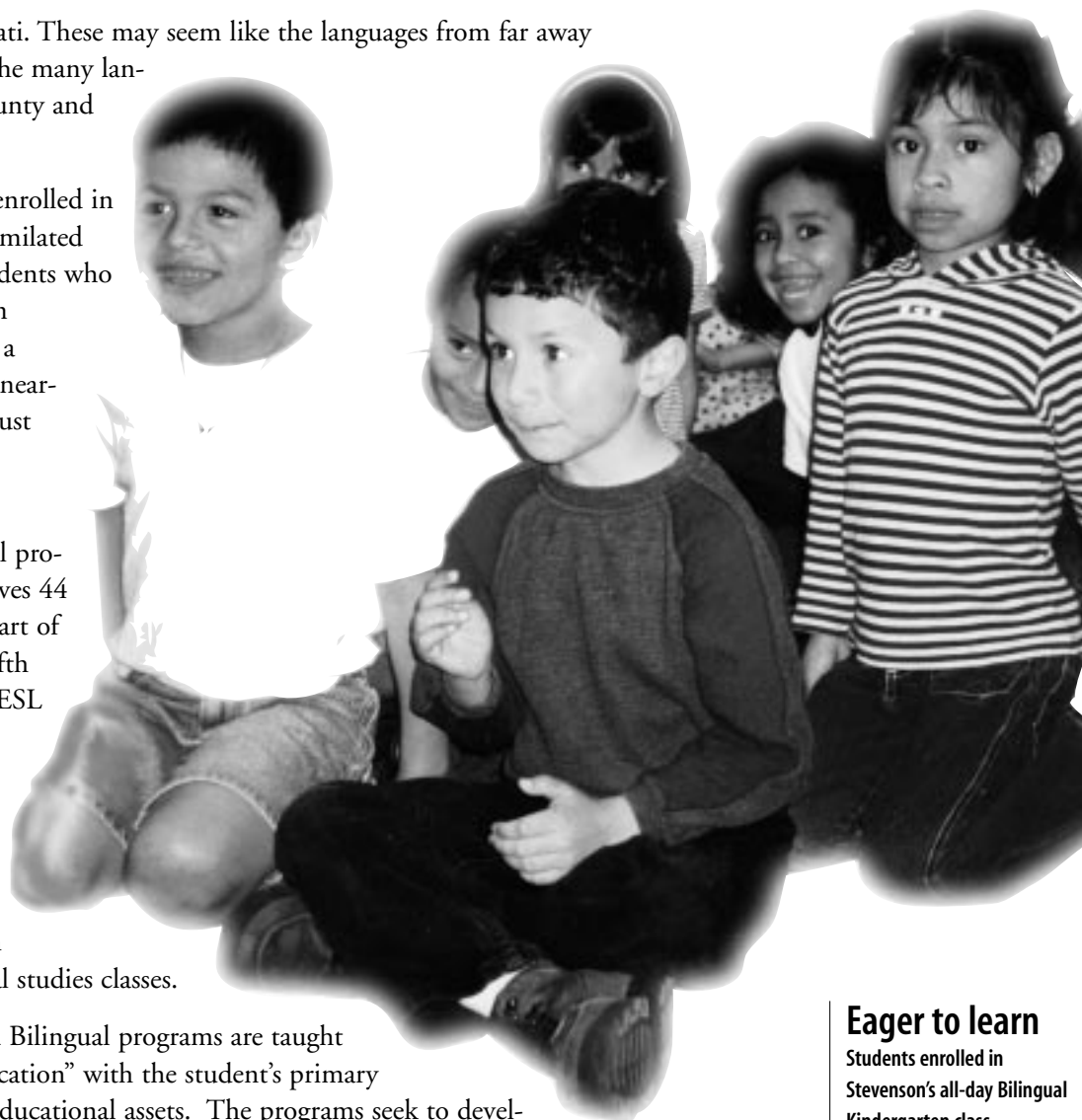
Approximately 170 bilingual students are enrolled in our schools. While most students have assimilated into regular classrooms, the nearly 114 students who are not proficient in English are enrolled in either the District's Bilingual or English as a Second Language (ESL) programs. This is nearly double the students who were enrolled just two years ago.

Stevenson Elementary School is home to the District's elementary ESL and Bilingual programs. The school's Bilingual program serves 44 students in grades Kindergarten through part of second grade. Around 35 third through fifth grade students are enrolled in the school's ESL program.

At Bloomington Junior High, the school's ESL program contains twenty non-English students, while Bloomington High School enrolls 12. Students at both BJHS and BHS attend daily ESL classes in addition to regular math, science and social studies classes.

Students enrolled in the District's ESL and Bilingual programs are taught the approach of "transitional bilingual education" with the student's primary language and culture being recognized as educational assets. The programs seek to develop necessary proficiency in English in order to provide students with access to the regular educational program. For instance, all-day kindergarteners at Stevenson School attend regular classes during the morning and bilingual classes in the afternoon.

Bilingual programs are not new to education. The nation's first state to adopt a bilingual education program was Ohio in 1839 as a result of an increasing immigrant population. Enrollment surveys at the turn of the 20th century estimated that at least 600,000, or 4% of the nation's primary school students were receiving bilingual education. Today, a smaller percentage of the nation's students are enrolled in Spanish-English programs.



Eager to learn

Students enrolled in Stevenson's all-day Bilingual Kindergarten class enthusiastically test their knowledge of the English alphabet during flash card relay races.

These kindergarteners will have a full year of formal English instruction under their belts by the time they reach first grade.

Alumni Update... in the arts

Just how strong are the arts in District 87? See for yourself. Below is a partial list of BHS graduates (sampling of last names B-C only!) who have chosen careers in the arts.

Pam Costa '94 is employed as a web developer at Apple Computer's® corporate headquarters.

Carol Fosher Chase (a.k.a. Kate Charles) '68 is the author of several highly acclaimed mystery novels. Her most recent book, *Cruel Habitations*, was released in May by Little, Brown, and Co.

Karen (Castricher) Skeels '90 is a producer with J Films® in Los Angeles. The company's debut feature film, *Spanish Moss* has just completed production and is currently seeking a distributor. <www.jfilmsinc.com>

Tim Bradstreet '85 is an illustrator who has achieved cult-like status in the underground comic genre. His artwork has appeared on the covers of all major comic book publishers, including DC Comics® and Marvel®. Bradstreet is currently involved in a number of projects, including work as a conceptual designer for the motion picture, *Blade 2*. <timbradstreet.com>

Lauren Beeman '84 is an art director for Hallmark Cards®.

John Bernstein '81 is a producer with Broadcast DVD® in Santa Monica. Bernstein travels to all the major international film festivals to interview and photograph famous directors and actors for the interactive DVD publication, *FilmFest*. <broadcastdvd.com>

Source: BHS Alumni Directory and noted web sites.

If you are interested in contributing information about a graduate of BHS, or a former student in District 87, please send your news to: Excel, c/o Bloomington Public Schools, 300 E. Monroe Street, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Did you know?

Interesting facts about the people of District 87



Visiting Poets and Authors

Irish poet, John O'Leary visited Oakland School to read "The Scarecrow's Coat." Schools throughout District 87 received visits from several authors this year, including: Steven Kellogg, Susan Kirby, and Jim Aylesworth. And with the help of technology, all 5th graders participated in a simultaneous, online chat with Andrew Clements.

The City of Bloomington's popular Corn on the Curb project includes artwork from a District 87 school. This year, **BJHS** student volunteers created, "Corn-ea; Ears looking at you!" It is currently located on the southeast corner of the Old Courthouse. Last year, **Stevenson** students created, "Candy Corn."

Based on its exemplary status, **BHS** and **BJHS** were chosen to host five educators from the United Kingdom as part of the Teachers International Professional Programme (TIPD). The program is designed as a professional development and exchange program between the British Council of the British Embassy, the Office of the Governor of Illinois, and the Illinois State Board of Higher Education. While in District 87, the group observed **BHS'** academically talented services and the teaching and leadership styles at **BJHS**.

Seventh grader, Chad Russell received an award for Outstanding Soloist in Jazz Band at the Performing Arts Consultants Music Festival in St. Charles, Missouri.

Oakland teacher, Janenne Scott was nominated for Disney's American Teacher Award by former student, **Christine Snyder**. Snyder's letter of recommendation impressed Disney executives enough that they included it in the book, "Thank You Teacher: letters celebrating extraordinary teachers."



Jumping for your heart

Approximately 120 third, fourth, and fifth grade students at Washington School raised \$10,700 towards the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart" fundraiser. Additionally, third graders at Stevenson School raised nearly \$1,000.

BJHS eighth grader, **Laura Colee** was recognized by the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) as one of only fourteen students from across the state to receive a 2001 Scholar Attitude Award.

Sheridan's Phyllis Pederson was nominated for the Centrillio Girl Scouts of McLean Co. Educator's Award. Phyllis' name was inadvertently excluded from the last Excel.

BJHS teachers, **Diane Cinkovich** and **Carol Jackson** received a \$2,000 technology grant from Family PC Magazine.

Board of Education member, Janella Cooley received the YWCA's "Women of Distinction" honor in the category of "Volunterism." **Food Service Director, Connie Mueller** was nominated under the category of "Education."

BHS seniors, **Rachel Homeny** and **Jason Difani** were awarded Illinois Principal's Association Student Recognitions for the Corn Belt Region.

Every classroom in District 87 currently has at least 6 network connections. Since 1997, over 45 miles of network wiring has been installed by the District's Maintenance Dept.

With the addition of 425 computers this summer, the district's total number of networked stations will be more than 1,800. This will result in 1 networked computer per every 3 students. National experts say schools should aim for having at least 1 computer for every 5 students.

District 87 now offers an online calendar of school events broken down by building and departments. Check back in the fall to keep current on all school, fine arts, athletic, and Board of Education events.

We've got milk! Students in District 87 are great milk drinkers. Collectively, our 5,700 students drink a daily average of: **3,299 half pints of 1% chocolate milk; 1,194 half pints of 1% white milk; and 157 half pints of skim milk for a total of 4,650 half pints of milk per day!** Also, **2,456 orange juice servings are requested per day.**

BHS' Boys' Tennis Team continued its regional dominance by winning its 26th straight Sectional title.

Eighth graders at BJHS raised \$791 from fellow students and teachers for the Home Sweet Home Mission.

District 87s Board Policy Manual may be accessed through the District's web site. Log onto www.district87.org/esc/boardpolicy for both Microsoft Word and web formats of all District Policies and proposed Board Policy revisions.

Student **Emily DeBord** has been selected to represent **BHS** at Girls' State. **Janet Sutter** is the alternate.

Sixth grade student, **Jessica Hart** started a school-wide campaign at **BJHS** to raise money for victims of India's earthquake. Over \$300 was donated to the Indian Government.

The following **BHS** students enrolled at the **Bloomington Area Vocational Center** were inducted into the Vocational-Technical Honor Society: Administrative Office Technology, **Gina Givens**; Business Information Processing, **Benjamin Davis, Chris Phillips, Marc Poirier, and Jason Schultz**; Child Care, **Lindsey Payton and Erica Rhodes**; Cosmetology, **Kristi Kemerling, Amber Nussbaum and Natalia Powers**; Drafting Occupations, **Mike Current**; Graphic Arts, **Adam Gartner**; Health Occupations, **Ashley Hunt, Jordan Mucci, Laura Schwartz, and Ethelinde Vaught**; Interrelated Cooperative Education, **Adela Aza**; Marketing & Management, **Lindsey Arnold and Steve Crouch**; Small Engine Technology, **Bradley Morris**.

Members of the **District's Maintenance Workers Union** presented two workshops at Heartland Community College's recent Diversity Days. One workshop explored the effects of wearing uniforms in he workplace. Presenters included: **Tim Dawson, Tom Givens, Jeff Langhoff, Rob Penn, Tim Schenkel, and Joan Travis**. Additionally, the workshop, "Making Connections" used Systems Theory principles and students' artistic abilities to present a model of their work environments to show how our district is connected. Presenters included: **Troy Fulks, Michael Hiter, Brad Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Bob Kirk, Scott Peifer, and Vince Schenk**.

The Corn Belt Coin Club and D&G Coins of Normal sponsored a contest to choose a design for Illinois' new quarter. Of the more than 200 local entries received, only three were chosen and submitted to the Governor's Office for



Bent students know their P's & Q's

Bent School's "Restaurant Days" began four years ago by the school's PTO to promote and showcase student dining etiquette. Cloth napkins, real silverware, and dining music all enhance the experience.

review. **Jacob Snodgrass, Heather Conger, and Ryan Toliver** are all students at **Stevenson School**.

Heidi Hayward, a fifth grader at **Stevenson School**, won this year's local D.A.R.E. essay contest. **Washington School's Katilynn Kelly** came in second. A total of 600 entries were submitted.

BHS' WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering) garnered 3rd place at the WYSE Academic Challenge Regional competition.

Amy Smith received "Best of Show" for her ceramic sculpture "Voice" at the BHS Fine Arts Festival. **Rob Thomas** was awarded the Terrence Lore Smith Writer's Scholarship and **Rebecca Hamlin's** painting, "Aurora" was chosen for the school's permanent art collection.

The vehicle built by **Michael Steinberg and Mike Swanson** won first place for distance at the local "All High School Solar RaceCar Competition."

BHS' LifeSmarts Team advanced to the state finals. Representing BHS were: **John Dropf, Matt Koch, Rachael Nelle, Angela Wunder, and David Witt**.

Two teams represented the Twin Cities during DestiNation Imagination's State Finals – both were from **Bent School**.★



Irving's involved parents

Irving School offers a variety of monthly workshops for parents on topics such as conflict resolution, math & reading strategies, and "The Magic of Parenting." A "Stress Reduction" workshop featured nutrition tips and massages by chiropractor, Dr. Susan Mitchell.

Honoring our retirees

Staff represents a combined 400 years of loyal service

 Ken Brumley Industrial Technology 32 years of service Taught at: Bloomington Area Vocational Center, BHS. Total teaching experience: 32 years	 Loren Connour Custodian Centennial and Stevenson Schools 17 years of service	 Alice Eichholz 1st Grade 23 years of service Taught at: Stevenson Elementary School Total teaching experience: 31 years	 Dick File Mathematics 34 years of service Taught at: Bloomington Junior High School Total teaching experience: 34 years	 Greg Freeman Science 32 years of service Taught at: Bloomington Junior High School Total teaching experience: 34 years
 Rose Harms Home Economics 29 years of service Taught at: Bloomington Junior High School Total teaching experience: 33 years	 Don Melican Principal 28 years of service Sheridan School Educational career: 34 years	 Karl Passmore Maintenance 17 years of service	 Beverly Raber Special Education 34 years of service Taught at: Irving, Sheridan, Bent, & Washington Schools. Total teaching experience: 35 years	 Jacqueline Remmers Special Education 20 years of service Taught at: Sheridan Elementary School Total teaching experience: 31 years
 Millie Scott Special Education 40 years of service Taught at: Edwards, Oakland, Raymond, Bent, and Sheridan Schools Total teaching experience: 42 years	 Robert Spahn Physical Education 34 years of service Taught at: Bloomington High School Total teaching experience: 34 years	 Howard Tepper Special Education 29 years of service Taught at: Bent, Irving, and Sheridan Schools Total teaching experience: 34 years	 Terry Tosh 32 years of service Taught at: Bloomington Area Vocational Center, BJHS, Irving and Sheridan Schools Total teaching experience: 32 years	

BHS seniors continue academic careers

Colleges, Universities, & Armed Forces

Augustana College
Ashley Smith*

Bethel College
Henry Dick

Blackburn College
Chip Agnew

Bradley University
Jonathan Earley and Rebecca Hamlin*

Cincinnati Bible College
Jenna Parker

The Citadel
Thomas Anderson

College of DuPage
Austin Curtis, Mike Rudicil and Kory Williams

College of St. Benedict
Claire Callahan

Columbia College, Chicago
Gina Brown

Columbia University, NYC
Tyler Neal*

Deaconess College of Nursing
Stephanie Ramirez and Holly Yoder

DePaul University
Deanna Diaz*

Eastern Illinois University
Matt Kindermann, Bryan Raines and Jennifer Stoeber

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, MA
Joy Poisel*#

Hawaii Pacific University
Marcus Sullivan

Heartland Community College
Jeffrey Adam, Stephanie Augstin, Matthew Bateman, Sbeidi Bustamante, Renika Coleman, Blake Cottrell,

Brett Custer, Sarah Darnall, Erica Davis, Michael Dennis, Brian Ekis, Nicholas Embry, Dustin Ford, Tyler Gilliam, Victor Guerrero, Lauren Handley, Charles Hepner, Sean Hudson, Jill Karl, Chris Meller, Kristin Montgomery, Joshua Payne, Tara Peterson, Stacy Phillips, Steven Priller, Jason Repaal, Michelle Schreiber, Alisa Schubbe, Jason Schultz, Justin Schultz, Amy Scott, Safrena Sherrod, Amanda Siss, Marcus Smith, Melissa Tompkins, Dominique Valdes, Ethelinde Vaught, Misty Ware and Misty Wilburn.

Illinois Central College
Mike Barr, Chad Frankeburger, Tisha Gunn, and Brett Juris

Illinois State University
Jeff Adams, Lindsey Arnold, Josh Bland*, Sam Chiles, Mary Lou Crosier, Steve Crouch, Scott Glaser, Michael Glass, Melissa Graves, Melissa Kelly, Sheena Kemp, Matt Kiesewetter*#, Dan Lehman, Christine Maeker, Matt Noonan, Sean O'Rourke, Emily Rasmus, Nicole Shelton, Veronica Solomon, Eric Strand, Danielle Tomevi*, Jon VanDorn, Megan Ward and Evan Young

Illinois Wesleyan University
Diane Arnold*, Sarah Evans*, Rachel Homeny*##, Brad Jameson, Stephanie Koets,

Rachel Lighthall*
Indiana University/Purdue
Katie Hughes

Lincoln Christian College
Barbara Enata*

Lincoln Technical Institute
Ramone Harris

Luther College
Allison Meier*

Miami University
Keri Detrick, Matt Havens* and Brian Hill*

Millikin University
Susan Tindall*

Monmouth College
Michael Current*

Northern Illinois University
Carmen Fike, Seth Livingston, Joe Ritacco, Eric Shoger, and Dominic Vercellino*

Northwestern University
Lisa Hutmacher*#

Parkland College
Rachael Beavers, Stephen Berger, Chantel Stuart, and Felicia Thomas

Purdue University
David Bock

St. Ambrose University
Jason Kelley

San Diego Mesa College
Jason Moore

Southern Illinois University
Lisa Curry, Eric Fortune, Zachary Goad, Eric Haberer*, Sara Insel, Ryan Kelly, Kristen Stege, Rob Thomas, and Erin VanMeter

Southern Illinois University/Edwardsville
Christine Danowski*, Laura Harken*, and Kristin Stege

Southwest Missouri State
Ashley Hunt

Truman State University
Lisa Farrington

United States Army
Belita Blasingame, Stephanie Harris, and Joshua Walbert

United States Marine Corps
Brian Watkins

University of Evansville
Jessica Jetton*

University of Illinois C/U
Shaki Alliu, Chelsea Brooks, Chris Cox*, Jason Difani*#, Amy Hanson*, Natalia Powers, Lindsey Reu*#, Neeva Sandhu*#, Sarah Schmelig*, and Josh Thornton*

University of Missouri
Jane Wallace

University of Northern Iowa
Sarah Laube

University of Tampa
Kelley Smith

Vanderbilt University
Ali Harms*

Western Illinois University
D.J. Bagwell and Nick Powell

William Raney Harper College
Dion Brown

Wisconsin Wilderness Campus/PBU
Abigail Schlagel

Yale University
Kyle Hilgendorf

This list was compiled from the final transcript forms turned into the BHS Guidance Office as of June 4, 2001.

Some college choices may have changed since this date. The names of sixteen students whose

college choice was yet to be determined were not included.

* Illinois State Scholar
#Valedictorian (GPA cutoff of 5.56825/5.0)
##Salutatorian (GPA cutoff of 5.52279/5.0)

Scholarship recipients

Anne P. Bekermeier Memorial Scholarships
Rachel Lighthall

Augustana College
Ashley Smith

B.N.G.S.A
Kelley Smith

Chemical Industry Council of IL High Schools Scholarship Award
Lisa Hutmacher

The Center for Book Culture/Dalkey Archive Press Summer H.S. Internship
Lindsey Arnold

Chicago Tribune Foundation
Lisa Hutmacher

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering "Olin Partner" Scholarship
Joy Poisel

General Assembly Scholarship
Lindsey Reu

Heartland Community College Foundation Scholarship
Christine Zvonar

Illinois State University
Matt Kiesewetter (Presidential Scholarship) and Danielle Tomevi (Provost Scholarship)

Illinois Wesleyan University
Rachel Homeny

Irene Gamsky Scholarship
(Awarded annually to former Irving School students) Joshua Kirk, Kelley Smith and

Shaunna McKuhen

Mason's Lodge #43
Rachel Homeny

Miami University Helen W. Waldvogel Scholarship
Matt Havens

Michael Neal Scholarship
Lindsey Reu

NAASP Principal's Leadership Award
Lindsey Reu

National Merit Corporation
Lisa Hutmacher

Papa John's Scholarship Program
Kristin Stege

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards
Ali Harms, Distinguished Finalist and Matthew Kiesewetter, Honorable Mention

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship
Lisa Hutmacher

Robert Frank Scholarship
Matt Havens and Lindsey Reu

Rosemary Dustman Scholarship
Rachel Lighthall

St. Ambrose University
Jason Kelley (Academic, Art, and Football Scholarships)

Sam Walton Community Scholarship
Rachel Lighthall

Southern Illinois University
Eric Haberer

SIU-Edwardsville
Laura Harken (Dean's and Campus Residence Honors Scholarship) and Christine Danowski (Academic

Scholarship)
State Farm Insurance Companies Foundation
Lisa Hutmacher and Ashley Smith

Toyota Community Scholars Program
Ali Harms

University of Missouri Non-Resident Scholars Award
Jane Wallace

University of Tampa Presidential Scholarship
Kelley Smith

Western Illinois University
D.J. Bagwell (Football)

William R. O'Neal Scholarship
Matt Havens

The following graduates will be continuing their athletic careers in college:

Lindsey Arnold, D.J. Bagwell, Mike Barr, Dion Brown, Mike Current, Eric Haberer, Kyle Hilgendorf, Brian Hill, Ashley Hunt, Brett Juris, Alex Lininger, Seth Livingston, Tyler Neal, Jessica Jetton, Jason Kelley, Bryan Raines, Lindsey Reu, Mike Rudicil, Pete Stone, Joshua Thorton, and Kory Williams.

Approximately \$500,000 in scholarships was awarded to graduates

30 students were Honor Graduates of BHS (straight A average)

46 students received the President's Education Award

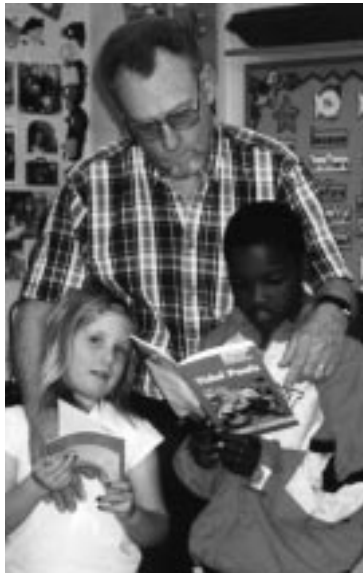
1 student was named a National Merit Scholar; 3 were named Commended Scholars

A day in the life of an elementary principal

Band-aids, hugs, and discipline is all in a day's work

As principal of Sheridan Elementary School, Don Melican wears many hats throughout a typical school day. But there's one in particular you won't find him wearing.

"You can't wear that Cubs hat in here," he ordered a parent during a visit to the school. "You're going to have to throw it in the garbage." The parent chuckles, immediately removes his hat and begins talking with Don.



These day-to-day exchanges exemplify Don Melican's sense of humor and caring personality. An educator for 34 years and principal of Sheridan School since 1984, Don possesses the wonderful gift of making everyone who enters his school feel appreciated and special.

In a day that begins around 7:30 a.m. and ends roughly ten hours later, Don Melican has successfully played the role of administrator, manager, caretaker, cheerleader, disciplinarian, mentor, and facilitator to a staff of 60 and a student body



numbering 560. This feat is often accomplished by lunchtime.

Although each day tends to be different, one task that Don always finds time to schedule is his classroom visits. Students of all ages are eager to see Don visit their classroom, evident in the way they flock to him and call out his name as he enters their rooms. Don returns this mutual respect by returning hugs and compliments to students, all while addressing each by their first name. Don's certainly had a lot of names to remember over the years.

"I had both of her grandparents, her mother and uncles and now her — that's three generations," he recalls after seeing one particular child.

After visiting each classroom, he's back to the office to tend to a myriad of responsibilities including addressing staff concerns and student disciplinary problems, returning e-mail and telephone messages, celebrating student birthdays, chatting with staff members during their lunch break, and tending to playground scrapes and bruises.

And when 3:00 p.m. rolls around, it's time to make sure all kindergarten through fifth grade students are properly lined up and ready to board their appropriate bus. Although it may be the end of the school day for students, Don heads back to the office to tend to unfinished business and prepare for the challenges of a new day.



Don Melican retired as principal of Sheridan School at the end of the 2000-2001 school year. Although his presence at Sheridan School has spanned three generations, his influence will undoubtedly be remembered for years to come. ★

Principal job duties

Counter-clockwise from left: Don's daily classroom visits are enjoyed by students of all ages; lunchtime is spent tending to playground bumps and bruises; and administrative duties are interrupted to hear a story read by a kindergarten student. At the end of the day, Don takes the time to chat with students while he makes sure all board their assigned bus.

Whatever happened to...

- Laura Buchanan '95**
Medical Student, West Virginia University.
- Jeffrey McCuen '79**
V.P. of Sales & Marketing; Sungard Data Systems, Inc. Atlanta
- Pete Wofford '77**
Journalist, Travel & Leisure Magazine.
- Steve Busick '59**
Network Technician, Nintendo. WA
- Nathan Breen '92**
Attorney, Chicago
- Kathleen Butler '72**
Law Professor, Thomas Cooley Law School, MI
- Sister Antona (Betty Ebo) '41**
Franciscan nun. (Accompanied Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during Selma's Freedom March.) Cleveland
- Cris Jones '79**
Supervisor, Prof. Baseball Umpire Corp. CO
- Hollis Zortman '85**
Engineer, Boeing Aircraft. Kansas
- Dr. Lucy (Nelson) Wisdom '91**
Southern Illinois School of Medicine.
- Erik Wenum '80**
Specialist, Montana Dept. of Fish Wildlife & Parks
- Ryan Schau '94**
Professional Football Player. Philadelphia
- Joel Vanderwaal '71**
Captain, Northwest Airlines. MN
- Dana Scott '93**
Elementary Teacher. Houston
- Ryan Christensen '86**
Special Agent. U.S. Dept. of State. DC

**All your
classmates —
together
again.**

Introducing the 1st BHS Alumni Directory

Arrangements have been made with the Bernard Harris Company to publish BHS alumni directories on a regular basis. The first edition includes information on over 13,000 living graduates — with graduation dates ranging from 1933 to 2000.

To order a copy,
call (800) 877-6554; or email:
inquiry@bcharrispub.com

Staff members celebrate anniversaries

40 years

Millie Scott

35 years

Janet Gundy, Dick Mishler, Garrett Scott, Connie Schnebly, and Robert Schoppe

30 years

Barb Aikin, Richard Bremner, Judy Duvall, Linda Hanfland, Mary Ann Hunt, Janette Joyce, Diane Scherr, and Lois Teague

25 years

Carole Kalmes, Nancy Miller, Burlene Nickel, Bruce Parrish, and Darrel Wilson

20 years

Molly Achord, John Armstrong, Kathy Comer, Linda Doenitz, Joann Ferguson, Spencer Gore, Miriam Koons, Allene Laesch, Kay Lohmeyer,

Linda Mattingly, Laurie Powell-Fuller, Jacqueline Remmers, Nancy Scott, James Shaw, Jay Smithson, and Connie Wylie

15 years

Rita Buczyna, Jean Buss, Marsha DeMay, Joanne Dorneden, Jami Foley, Sue Guderjan, Sue Hardy, Kathryn Johnson, Ted Monninger, Gail Rixstine, Sandra Roseman, Bonnie Ross, Annette Rush, Mary Shanahan, and Patricia Yoggerst

10 years

Charlene Bigger, Theresa Collner, Debbie Darrow, Josephine Fryer, Nancy Genseal, Pam Gorges, Terry Harris, Carol Jackson, Cheryl Myers, Cathy Rinehart, Ted Schmitz, Carolyn Shoger, Joan Travis, and Bill Weber.

5 years

Anne Besler, Margaret Blakeman, Paula Chestney, Herlinda Dutton, Thelma Ellis, Doug Fillmore, Janet Gelsthorpe, Doris Harris, Cecilia Hursey, Sandra Ireland, Marlene Landstrom, Colin Manahan, Denise Myatt, Amy Oberts, Scott Peifer, John Penn, Dr. Steve Poznic, Cristal Puckett, Cathy Roberts, Tim Schenkel, Michael Schultz, Dr. Joann Walters, Darcy Weatherley, Idella Webb, Diane Wickenhauser, Matt Willey, Rita Wise, and Connie Young ★

"Children need all school workers.

A person is not 'just' a janitor,
not 'just' a custodian.

They're partners in education.

We need each other to make this work."

— Rev. Jesse Jackson

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Kathy Havens, Vice President
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res00ilq@gte.net
Janella Cooley (term expires 11/14/01)
janellac@aol.com
Keith Davis
John Dirks (term begins 11/14/01)
Cheryl Jackson
jwjrun@davesworld.net
Janet Smith
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fax: (309) 827-5717

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Dr. JoAnn Ellis-Walters
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Academically Talented Services
Phone: 827-6031 • Fax: 827-5717
waltersj@district87.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

SARAH E. RAYMOND SCHOOL OF EARLY EDUCATION

1402 W. Olive Street
Phone: 827-0308 • Fax: 829-2574
www.district87.org/Raymond
Rich Stempinski - Principal
stempinskir@district87.org

ELEMENTARY K-5

BENT SCHOOL

904 N. Roosevelt Avenue
Phone: 828-4315 • Fax: 828-3587
www.district87.org/Bent
Vickie Slagell - Principal
slagellv@district87.org

IRVING SCHOOL

602 W. Jackson
Phone: 827-8091 • Fax: 829-2295
www.district87.org/Irving
Dr. Mary Kay Scharf - Principal
scharfm@district87.org

OAKLAND SCHOOL

1605 E. Oakland Street
Phone: 662-4302 • Fax: 663-4385
www.district87.org/Oakland
Larry Jones - Principal
jonesl@district87.org

SHERIDAN SCHOOL

1403 W. Walnut Street
Phone: 828-2359 • Fax: 829-3209
www.district87.org/Sheridan
Jim Cooper - Principal (effective 8/01)
cooperj@district87.org

STEVENSON SCHOOL

2106 Arrowhead Drive
Phone: 663-2351 • Fax: 827-3613
www.district87.org/Stevenson
Paul O'Brian - Principal
obrianp@district87.org
Kathy Hines Jackson - Asst. Principal
jacksonk@district87.org (effective 8/01)

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

1201 E. Washington Street
Phone: 829-7034 • Fax: 829-1207
www.district87.org/Washington
Jeff Lockenvitz - Principal
lockenvitzj@district87.org

MIDDLE SCHOOL 6-8

BLOOMINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

901 N. Colton Avenue
Phone: 827-0086 • Fax: 829-0084
www.district87.org/bjhs

Dr. Susan Silvey - Principal
silveys@district87.org
Hal Montville - Asst. Principal
montvilleh@district87.org
James Shaw - Asst. Principal
shawj@district87.org

HIGH SCHOOL 9-12

BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

1202 E. Locust Street
Phone: 828-5201 • Fax: 829-0178
www.bhs87.org

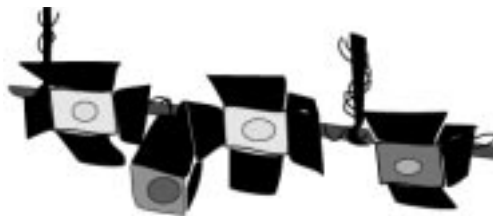
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Cindy Helmers - Associate Principal
helmersc@district87.org
Tawn Foltz - Dean of Students
foltzt@district87.org
Todd Koehl - Dean of Students
koehlt@district87.org
Tim Moore - Dean of Students
mooret@district87.org

BLOOMINGTON AREA VOCATIONAL CENTER

1202 E. Locust Street
Phone: 829-8671 • Fax: 828-3546
www.district87.org/avc
Dr. Steve Poznic - Director
poznic@district87.org

VISIT US AT: WWW.DISTRICT87.ORG

SPOTLIGHT ON: Food Service Staff



Look what's cooking

District's Food Service staff serves up more than just daily breakfast and lunch

Imagine preparing and serving over 5,000 meals by noon each day. Now imagine accomplishing this while simultaneously running a successful catering business.

Serving up the facts...

By participating in the USDA's National Food Lunch program, District 87 received just under one million dollars in federal funding last year.

All entrees served by the district's Food Service department meet the USDA's dietary guidelines.

Daily breakfast has been available at every school since 1996.

Elementary students may choose between five separate entrees at lunch and three separate entrees at breakfast.

District 87 is a founding member of the Northern Illinois Purchasing Cooperative which represents 32 districts. Our membership gives us more purchasing power, resulting in higher quality at lower prices.

While the State requires that at least one employee at each site receive a Health and Sanitation Certificate, an outstanding 80% of staff have voluntarily completed certification.

The District's **Food Service Department**, employing about 70 workers, does much more than just prepare and serve two-thirds of our students' daily meals. In addition to enrolling in regular staff development workshops and attending various food service conferences, they find time to take extra steps towards making our cafeterias fun places to gather and dine. During special monthly promotions like "Luau Days," Dr. Seuss' Birthday, and baseball's "Opening Day," you'll find them decorating and dressing the part. During "Reading is Fun Week," some employees even take the time to read to students during lunch.

Did you know that parents, guardians and family members are always welcome in our schools for breakfast and lunch? A phone call to the school's office prior to your visit is all that is necessary. ★



Stevenson students like their green eggs and ham! The District's Food Service staff offered a special breakfast entree at each elementary school in celebration of Dr. Seuss' Birthday on March 2.



BHS students are offered eight to ten entree choices each day during lunch – plus, they can choose additional items from the a la carte menu.

Our Mission

The Bloomington Public Schools accepts as its responsibility the learning success for all students in an effective school climate characterized by:

- ✓ well defined priorities for teaching and learning;
- ✓ a building-based education program;
- ✓ a business-like atmosphere with learning as the important business;
- ✓ an environment with explicit standards for behavior where discipline, when required, is administered quickly and fairly;
- ✓ parental involvement in the life of the schools;
- ✓ community/business support of and involvement in the life of the schools;
- ✓ a neat, attractive and well-maintained physical environment that serves the educational programs and community needs; and
- ✓ quality teachers

2001-2002 Goals:

Through innovations in curriculum, assessment techniques and training of our professional staff, all students will be challenged to reach their full potential.

- ✓ We will continue to provide an educational environment that promotes respect for, and an appreciation of diversity among students, staff and the community.
- ✓ All students will read proficiently at each grade level as evaluated using District assessments
- ✓ All students will communicate clearly both verbally and in written form at each grade level as evaluated using District assessments.
- ✓ All students will acquire the mathematical skills and concepts at each grade level, as evaluated using District assessments, to ensure their successful completion of algebra and geometry by the end of tenth grade.
- ✓ We will recruit, retain, train, support and recognize an outstanding diverse teaching staff, support staff and administration that reflects the student population of Bloomington Public Schools District 87.