



## Facilities Study Defines the Needs of Winnetka's Growing School Population

Facilities management is a crucial responsibility for any Board of Education. This is especially true when the schools are older buildings not designed with today's enrollment and curriculum needs in mind. Our School Board oversees the management of five school buildings. Greeley is our oldest school, originally built in 1912 closely followed by Hubbard Woods built in 1915. The Skokie School was originally constructed with citizen donations in 1921. Crow Island was constructed in 1939 and Washburne School was built in 1968 when the middle school became overcrowded. (See "Inside Our Schools" on page 2 for more information about each school building.)

Since 1987, student enrollment in The Winnetka Public Schools has climbed 69% from 1,237 students to the present 2,094 total. The School Board has carefully tracked demographic changes in Winnetka and is increasingly concerned that some of our school buildings cannot adequately serve our rapidly expanding student population. Right now, the effects of enrollment growth are experienced significantly at Greeley and Washburne Schools. So that the best possible solutions can be identified, the School Board initiated a facilities study to examine the issue closely. Two facilities subcommittees were convened—one for Greeley School and a second subcommittee for Washburne School.

The charge of these subcommittees, composed of teachers, administrators, parents and community members, has been to define the needs at each school, brainstorm possible solutions for meeting the needs, establish criteria for weighing options, and present the pros and cons of each option to the School Board. Subcommittee meetings, open to all parents and community members, were held this past

May and throughout the summer months. Both committees presented their findings and suggestions, and tours of each building were conducted to clarify and illustrate the space realities at Greeley and Washburne. The school principals, Dan Schwartz (Washburne) and Susan Hugebeck (Greeley) provided updated information and perspective at the May,



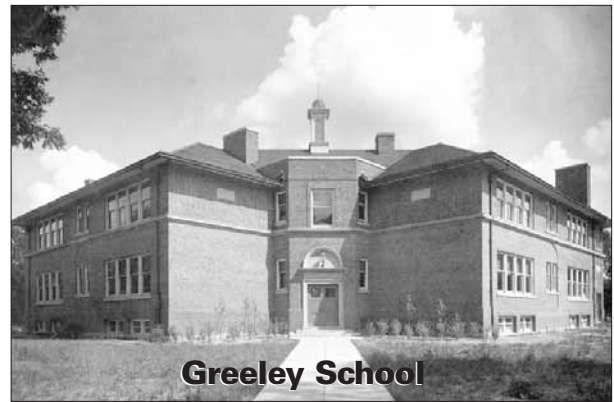
*Principal Dan Schwartz addresses members of the Washburne facilities subcommittee composed of teachers, administrators, parents of current and former students, and community members.*

June, and July School Board Meetings. A School Board decision on the scope of work and, perhaps, the need to request voter support for a referendum will be announced at the October 24th Board of Education meeting.

For more information including detailed background analysis and committee updates, please visit the District's website at [www.winnetka36.org](http://www.winnetka36.org). Click on the "Facilities Review" link and find the facilities overview process, enrollment studies, Building Facts & Figures, and FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions).

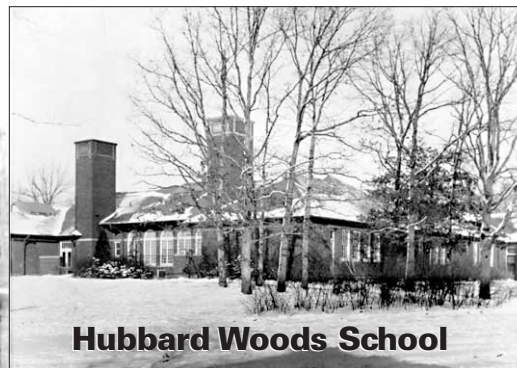
# Inside Our Schools

**Greeley School** marked its 93rd Anniversary this past school year. Our oldest school in the district built in 1912 was named for a highly regarded Winnetka citizen, Samuel S. Greeley, who encouraged the community to build the school. The school originally housed children from Kindergarten – 5th grade. At that time older children attended Horace Mann School then located on the site of the Winnetka Post Office. Two additions to Greeley School in 1921 and 1954 helped meet the needs of a growing population. A third addition completed in 1968 included the present Resource Center. A Greeley School facilities sub-committee is currently studying how best to accommodate the needs of its school population in its aging structure.



• Happy 90th to **Hubbard Woods School!** Built in 1915, Hubbard Woods was named after Gilbert Hubbard who arrived in Winnetka in 1871. This school has the unusual distinction of being the only currently used school building that accommodated a

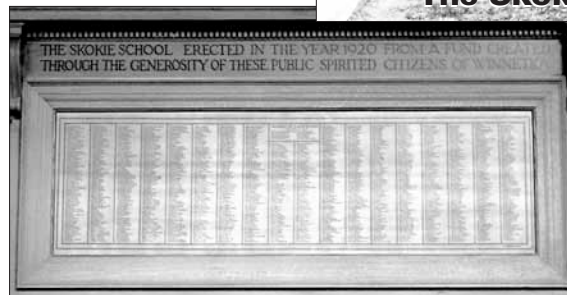
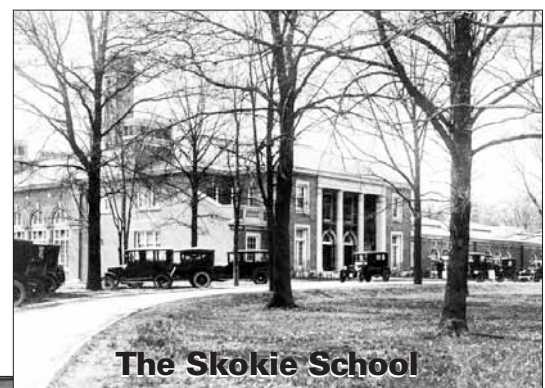
*Built in 1892, Columbia School (below) was the predecessor to Hubbard Woods School.*



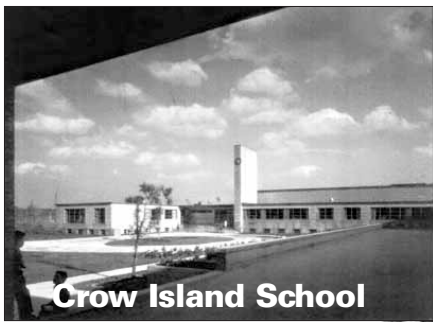
Kindergarten through 8th grade student population in its earliest years. Building additions and renovations in 1918/1921, 1925, and 1930 filled out the wings. In 1991 the former gymnasium was converted to a Library Resource Center and a

new gymnasium was added to the south side of the school. In the late 1990s a large scale renovation provided additional classrooms and instructional spaces.

• **The Skokie School** will mark its 85th Anniversary this year. This building's unique and interesting history tells us that the initial building was paid for by donations generously provided by Winnetka citizens. Initially, Skokie School housed 5th & 6th grades. Building additions and major renovations in 1926, 1928, 1929, 1954, and 1963 responded to the need for additional space. In 1978, due to declining enrollment, Skokie School was closed, but certainly not forgotten. The community's deep interest and affection for this particular school building was again evidenced in the formation of the Skokie School Foundation ([http://www.winnetkahistory.org/gazette/organizations/skokie\\_school\\_foundation.htm](http://www.winnetkahistory.org/gazette/organizations/skokie_school_foundation.htm)) whose mission was to save Skokie School from demolition. True to the predictions of enrollment growth, Skokie School was reopened in 1998 for sixth grade students after extensive renovation. In the fall of 2000, Skokie School welcomed all 5th grade students after further building renovation that continues today.



*A plaque at Skokie School lists the more than 700 Winnetka citizens who generously funded the school's construction in 1920.*



**Crow Island School**

*Built in 1940, Crow Island School has been praised as growing even more significant as time and use prove its beauty and workability.*

• **Crow Island School** turned 65 this past school year. Its unique and award-winning design configuration has allowed Crow Island to absorb numerous enrollment increases over the years. An addition to the building in 1955 created six additional classrooms and the subsequent renovation of the lower level in 1975 created the current Library Resource Center. Among the many honors that Crow Island School has received is the

American Institute of Architects 25-Year Award honoring structures widely recognized to be of special significance and broad influence. Crow Island was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1990. Visitors to the building will want to view the "Philosophy in Brick Exhibit" that tells the story of Crow Island's significant history within the context of Winnetka's history and world events.



• **Washburne School**, named after our renowned Superintendent Carleton Washburne, opened in 1969 and was designed as a junior high school to house grades 6, 7, and 8. At that time each wing served a single grade level. By 1986, the school's layout had been reshaped by a middle school philosophy, a child-centered approach to education that meets the needs of 10 to 14 year olds and complements the progressive teaching of the elementary schools. Growing enrollment, an increased need for student support services, and additional programmatic offerings in keeping with our goals for a world-class educational program have challenged Washburne School's access to much needed physical space. As a measure to gain classroom space, the 6th graders returned to the re-opened Skokie School in 1998. Continued enrollment growth has utilized the space gained and so again, Washburne School, which absorbs all the students from the district, is much in need of additional space.

*Washburne School was named after Carleton Washburne, Superintendent of Schools in Winnetka for 24 years.*



**Washburne School**

## Paul Trafton Memorial Library Inaugurated

In May, The Winnetka Public Schools Foundation hosted a reception for the dedication of the Paul Trafton Memorial Library. Housed in the Curriculum Office at Skokie School, this Library contains teaching materials written and used by the late Paul Trafton who had been the District's math consultant until his untimely death last year. Superintendent Becky van der Bogert and Curriculum Coordinator, Julie Pfeffer spoke of Dr. Trafton's contribution

and legacy to The Winnetka Public Schools. These materials were graciously donated by Dr. Trafton's family to District 36 for ongoing use in the math curriculum. They are available to all staff.



*Curriculum Coordinator Julie Pfeffer spoke about Dr. Trafton and the many contributions he made to The Winnetka Public Schools.*



*A plaque commemorates the Paul Trafton Memorial Library, which contains the teaching materials written and utilized by Dr. Trafton.*

# Meet Our New Teachers!

## CROW ISLAND SCHOOL



**Jodi Andel** is a Special Education teacher and she is joining our Pupil Services Team at Crow Island. Jodi's credentials include a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University and a Master of Arts in Learning Disabilities from Northwestern University. Most

recently Jodi has been teaching students with learning needs at the Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth.

**Christian Cigan** is new to Crow Island but not new to teaching. Chris is the newest member of our 4th grade team. Most recently he has been teaching 3rd grade at Orrington School in Evanston. Chris's resume includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from National-Louis University where he is currently working on a Master's degree in Technology.



**Anne Hazelwood** is re-joining the 3rd grade team at Crow Island. Anne was a teacher associate at Crow Island almost seven years ago. Since that time Anne Hazelwood has been teaching 5th grade at Prospect School in Clarendon Hills. Anne has a Bachelor of Arts degree in German from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Arts in Teaching from National-Louis University. We are thrilled to have Anne back with us.



**Kacie O'Connor** is already a familiar face on the 4th grade team at Crow Island School where she filled in last year for a colleague on maternity leave. We were fortunate to have a spot for her on that same grade level team and we are thrilled to have her back with us. Kacie's credentials include a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Indiana University.



**Rosemary Tuma** is a Speech and Language Pathologist and we welcome her to our Pupil Services Team at Crow Island School. Rosemary holds both a Bachelor of Science in Speech Pathology & Audiology and a Master of Science in Speech Pathology from Illinois State University. Most recently Rosemary was teaching in the Highland Park Elementary Schools.



## GREELEY SCHOOL



**Caroline Gu** is a new member of the 1st grade team at Greeley. Caroline has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Michigan and a Master's degree in Childhood Education from St. John's University. Caroline taught for two years

in New York City in kindergarten and 2nd grades. While in NYC, Caroline received the AmeriCorps Education Award—an award given for community service by teaching in high-needs schools in the New York City Public Schools system. Before living in NYC, Caroline worked as a teaching associate at the University of Michigan Child Development Center and at Northwestern University Center for Talent Development.

**Carin Peacock** is teaching 1st grade at Greeley. Carin holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from National-Louis University and is currently finishing her Master's degree in Reading and Language at NLU. Carin was at Greeley School last year as a substitute teacher mostly in 1st grade. Before coming to Greeley, Carin was a learning specialist at Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School in Chicago, and a special education associate at both East Prairie School in Skokie and Rutledge Hall School in Lincolnwood.



## HUBBARD WOODS



**Christopher Basten** is joining the 4th grade team at Hubbard Woods. Chris graduated with a degree in Mass Communications from Western Illinois University and holds advanced certification in computer programming from DePaul University. Recently, Chris completed his Master of

Arts in Teaching degree at National-Louis University. Last year Chris was teaching 3rd grade in the Wilmette Public Schools.



## Meet Our New Teachers, continued



**Julie Coombe** is a new member of our 2nd grade team at Hubbard Woods. Julie grew up in Newport Beach, CA, earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education, Family & Community Services from the University of Oregon and her Master's from NYU in Childhood

Education. While in Oregon, Julie was a juvenile probation officer. Following that experience, Julie served as an international site director for summer camps for children of military and foreign nationals in China, Belgium, and Spain. For the past 2 years Julie has been teaching 2nd & 3rd grades at a New York City Public School.



Hubbard Woods School is delighted to welcome back **Erika Keating** to the 2nd grade team. Erika is from Pennsylvania and she earned her undergraduate degree in art and education from the William Smith College in Geneva, New York.

She continued her education and completed her Master's in Elementary Education from Northwestern University. Erika taught preschool for several years in Brookline, MA, and Chicago. She completed her student teaching at Hubbard Woods two years ago and taught 4th grade last year in the Park Ridge Public Schools.

### THE SKOKIE SCHOOL

**Julia Keach** joins The Skokie School staff as a special education teacher. She received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Butler University, graduating with honors. She began her career as a Teacher Associate with Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSD) and has served as a special education teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and most recently at Old Orchard Junior High School in Skokie.



### WASHBURNE SCHOOL

**Eric Chan** has joined our Kinetic Wellness Department at Washburne School. Eric comes to us from Oak Grove District 68 in Green Oaks. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Illinois University and recently completed his Master of Arts degree at Concordia. In addition to his kinetic wellness credential, Eric is also certified as a lifeguard instructor and in adventure education.



**Ceci Gigliolio**, a graduate of Washburne School, is now returning as a Social Studies teacher. The past two years Ceci was working as a teacher associate at Washburne. This past summer Ceci's interest in Social Studies took her to Mexico where she observed the federal elections. Ceci holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master's degrees from DePaul University. Ceci is also certified as a coach by the U.S. Soccer Coaching Federation and has coached at Loyola Academy and the Glenview Youth Soccer Club.



Bienvenido a (Welcome to) **Marilyn Goldman**, who will be teaching Spanish classes at Washburne School. Marilyn has extensive experience in education, spending the last ten years at Orchard Lake Saint Mary's Prep in Michigan. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from William Smith College and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Maggie Laman** is our new Vocal Music teacher at Washburne School. Maggie is a graduate of the Teaching Fellows Program in the New York City Public Schools where she taught in Queen's Village. She attended The Pre-College Division of The Julliard School, and has degrees from Northwestern University and Queens College. Prior to pursuing a career in education, Maggie toured nationally as an actress and singer.



# Winnetka Proud of Its Many Published Authors and Speakers

A hallmark of The Winnetka Public Schools is our outstanding and dedicated faculty and staff. Our teachers' understanding of and devotion to the progressive education philosophy brought forth by its founders and former superintendent, Carleton Washburne, continues to be evidenced every day in our classrooms.

The Winnetka Public Schools have a rich history and significant record of excellence often noted in history of education courses and textbooks even as far away as Japan. Last year educators from the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Singapore visited our schools and were particularly interested in how our teachers implement our progressive philosophy. Our schools are a model for many school systems throughout the world due in large part to our outstanding teachers. In addition to teaching, our teachers and administrators assume the powerful responsibility to inform best practices in education and collaborate with colleagues around the world. As part of a rich program of professional development, our teachers and administrators are often speakers and panelists at state, national, and international conferences and seminars. In addition, some of our teachers and administrators are published authors.

Recently retired Crow Island Principal **Beth Hebert** just had her second book published. *The Boss of the Whole School* (Teachers College Press, 2006) chronicles the decision-making



*Beth Hebert, former Principal of Crow Island, signing copies of her second book, **The Boss of the Whole School**.*

life of an elementary school principal. The title, suggested by decades of Kindergarten students responding to their teacher's query, "Boys and girls—what does a principal do?" depicts the many decisions a principal is involved in everyday. Dr. Hebert's first book, *The Power of Portfolios* (Jossey-Bass Publishers, 2001) tells the story of the evolution of student portfolios at Crow

Island. This book explains how children assess their own learning through the self reflection process they experience as they compile a collection of their schoolwork.

Hubbard Woods Principal **Maureen Cheever** and teacher **Kate McLellan** collaborated with colleagues around

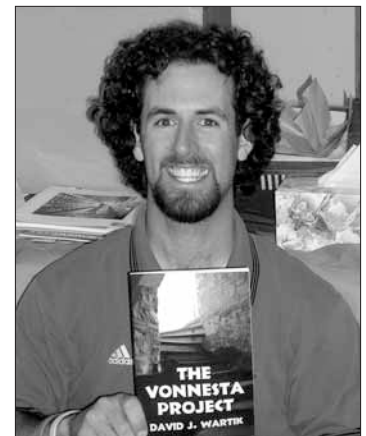


*Hubbard Woods Principal **Maureen Cheever**, and teacher **Kate McLellan** are members of a national steering committee for the **Network of Progressive Educators**.*

the country in writing an article "Symposium Outcomes: Reconstructing the Network of Progressive Educators." It was published in the educational journal *Schools* (Vol. 2, Issue 2, Fall 2005) and documents the conversations and sessions of the "Progressive Education in the 21st Century National Symposium" held in the fall of 2004. A goal of that meeting that included educators from across the country was to reinstitute the Network of Progressive Educators and to renew a national understanding of that philosophy of teaching and learning. Dr. Cheever and Ms. McLellan will represent the Midwest region on a 7-member national steering committee for this group.

Not limited to non-fiction writing, Hubbard Woods fourth grade teacher, **David Wartik**, just published a new

novel. *The Vonnesta Project* (Booklocker.com, 2006) is about a fifth grade boy who finds a secret doorway in his bedroom and is led on a journey of mystery and fantasy as he discovers the secrets of his 125-year-old house. As he wrote *The Vonnesta Project*, Mr. Wartik shared his writing drafts with his students and incorporated their feedback into his writing. Mr. Wartik's 4th



*David Wartik, a fourth grade teacher at Hubbard Woods, authored **The Vonnesta Project**.*

graders were thrilled with this authentic writing project and, in turn, became more invested in their own writing.

Washburne teacher **Joan Berger** had her thoughtfully composed article, "Transforming Writers through Grammar

*continued on next page*

## Authors and Speakers, continued

Study” included in the May, 2006 (Volume 95, Number 5) issue of *English Journal*, a publication of The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This particular journal examines the relationship of theory and research to classroom practice at the high school and middle school levels.

Washburne Principal **Dan Schwartz** has written an article, “A Story of Hope” that has been accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of *Middle Ground*, a publication of the National Middle School Association (NMSA), a widely read resource for those committed to the educational and developmental needs of young adolescents.



*Superintendent Becky van der Bogert (co-editor) and Board member Becky Hurley (chapter author) collaborated on the 2006 publication, **Voices for Democracy: Struggles and Celebrations of Transformational Leaders**.*

In addition to our faculty and Principal authors, our Superintendent and School Board members contribute to the educational literature. Superintendent **Becky van der Bogert** recently co-edited the prestigious 2006 National Society for the Study of Education (NSSE) Yearbook focused on the Superintendency and entitled *Voices for Democracy: Struggles and Celebrations of Transformational Leaders* (University of Chicago Press, 2006). Her previous book,

*Making Sense as A School Leader* (Jossey Bass, 1996) is used in many education leadership courses as a rich resource for school leaders. In consonance with her theme and true to her own democratic voice, Dr. van der Bogert invited Winnetka School Board member, **Becky Hurley**, to contribute a chapter to the 2006 NSSE Yearbook that highlights the important and unique perspective of a school board member. Becky Hurley’s thoughtful chapter entitled “Learning on the Job: The Education of a School Board President in Shared Leadership” is an in-depth examination of the learning curve and dispositions required for this complex and important position in the community. It should be a must-read for any aspiring school board member.

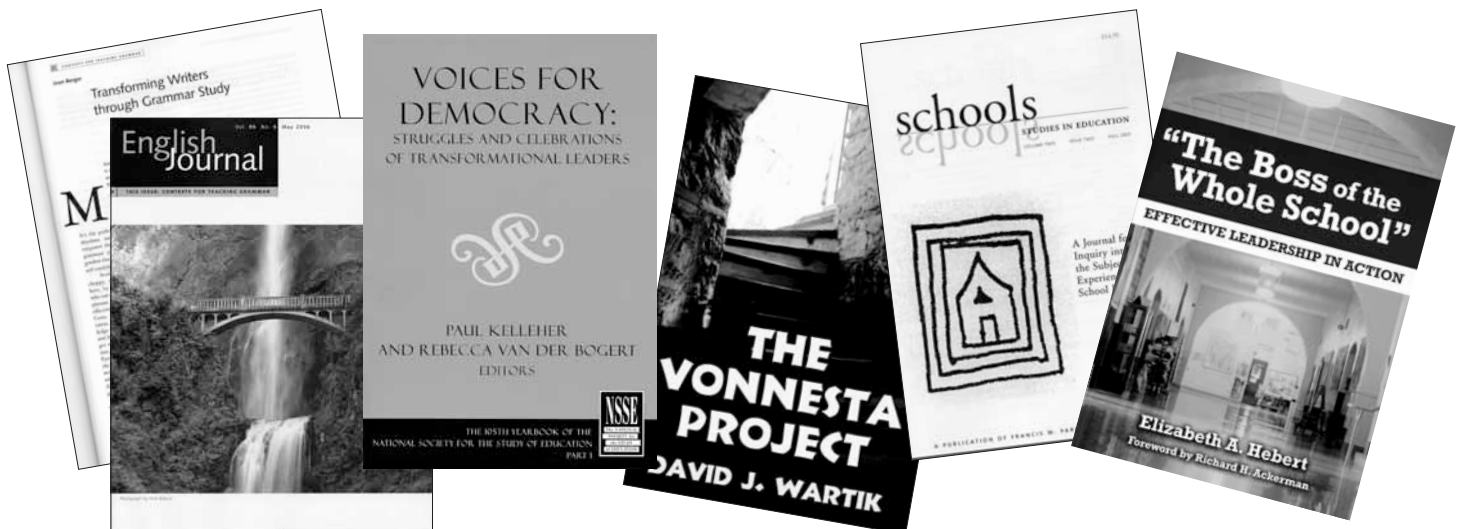
The most important member of our Winnetka Public Schools community is our students. Many of our young writers hold a deep interest and passion for developing their literary skills. **Jeremy Fuller**, recent Washburne School graduate, is now a published poet. His poem, entitled “Lightning” was awarded First Place in the Manningham Trust Poetry Awards—a national poetry competition.



*Jeremy Fuller, recent graduate of Washburne, was awarded First Place in a national poetry competition.*

We extend a hearty congratulations to Jeremy for this significant achievement and to our teachers, administrators, and school board members for their professional accomplishments and contributions. Look for additional stories about our Winnetka Public School faculty and staff as authors and speakers in future issues of *Learners*.

Copies of these books and articles can be borrowed from the District 36 Office located at 1235 Oak Street, Winnetka, Illinois.



# District Dates for Everyone

## SEPTEMBER

### Thursday - 9/21

Facilities Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00-8:30 P.M., Greeley

### Monday - 9/25

Facilities Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00-8:30 P.M., Crow Island

### Tuesday - 9/26

Board of Education Meeting, 7:15 P.M., Skokie

## OCTOBER

### Monday - 10/2

No School

### Wednesday - 10/4

Facilities Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00-8:30 P.M., Washburne

### Monday - 10/9

No School – Columbus Day

### Tuesday - 10/10

Facilities Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00-8:30 P.M., Skokie

### Thursday - 10/12

Facilities Neighborhood Meeting, 7:00-8:30 P.M.,  
Hubbard Woods

### Friday - 10/13

Kindergarten Conference/Reporting Day

### Wednesday - 10/18

Conference/Reporting Day

### Tuesday - 10/24

Board of Education Meeting, 7:15 P.M., Crow Island

## NOVEMBER

### Wednesday - 11/22

Thanksgiving Holiday Early Dismissal, 1:00 P.M.

### Thursday & Friday - 11/23-24

No School – Thanksgiving Holiday

### Tuesday - 11/28

Board of Education Meeting, 7:15 P.M., Greeley

## DECEMBER

### Tuesday - 12/19

Board of Education Meeting, 7:15 P.M., Hubbard Woods

### Friday - 12/22

Winter Vacation Begins - No School

## JANUARY 2007

### Monday - 1/8

Schools Reopen

**Co-Editors: Laura Henzlik & Beth Hebert**

**Newsletter Design: Lyric Kite**

# Learners

WINNETKA SCHOOL DISTRICT 36  
Hubbard Woods  
Crow Island  
Washburne  
Greeley  
Skokie

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