



# Spotlight on Jennings

Newsletter

Volume 1 ISSUE 3

## Message from the Board of Education

Dear Jennings Staff/Community,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome the newest members for the Jennings School District Board of Educations who were sworn into office on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Joseph Turner**, a Jennings resident for 21 years, had previously served on the Board of Education from 1999-2007. He succeeds Jacqueline Simmons who served on the Board for 19 years.

**John Schlereth**, a Jennings resident for 26 years, succeeds William Coleman who served on the Board for three years. "I have a vested interest in the Jennings School District," said Schlereth.

**Miranda Jones**, President of the Jennings School Board was returned to office by voters. She has lived in the community for more than 10 years and her daughter is a student in the District. "I appreciate the residents of Jennings placing their confidence in me once again as a Board member," said Jones. "I plan to work hard with the Board and the staff to ensure that we continue to be the District of choice for the 3,000 students we serve.

### **Board Meeting Dates:**

***May 19, 2008***

***June 16, 2008***



## Message from Interim Superintendent Clarence Holman

Dear Parents and Staff,

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

This was a year of many individual accomplishments for the students of Jennings School District. It reflects the dedication and commitment of our staff as well as the support and involvement of our parent community.

On May 29, Jennings High School along with JETS will graduate 145 students to begin new and exciting chapters in their lives, which will include higher education and rewarding careers and job opportunities!

While our students bid farewell to another school year on May 30, we look toward next school year, which begins August 18, 2008, with anticipation, a bit of anxiety and much hope.

We also take the time to recognize Mr. Thomas Ousley, Mrs. Cindy Kicielinski, and Mrs. Patricia Winship who will retire after this school year. The District will recognize all three at the May 19 Board of Education meeting.

I wish you a safe and exciting summer.

**Special Tribute**

The Board of Education paid special tribute to former Board member Jackie Simmons at its April 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting. Simmons, who did not seek re-election, received a proclamation from Jennings Mayor Benjamin C. Suthpin. The proclamation presented to Simmons by Board President Miranda Jones highlighted her many accomplishments while serving on the Board.

Simmons was appointed to the Jennings School Board in October 1991, was elected to the Jennings Board in April 1992, and was re-elected to serve three terms from 1993-1996, 1999- 2002 and 2005-2008.

“As I relinquish my seat, I still intend to have an active presence in the District,” said Simmons. “It has been a wonderful 19 years and I am sure the Board will continue to put students first.”



**Marquita Martin, Valedictorian**

Congratulations to Jennings High School Senior Marquita Martin for being featured in the Suburban Journals’ May 8<sup>th</sup> issue. Marquita earned a 4.0 GPA and has received all A’s throughout high school. She has been named Valedictorian of the 2008 Senior Class. Commencement exercises will be May 29 at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Marquita will attend college at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

**Way to go Marquita!**

**Cool School News**

**FAIRVIEW PRIMARY– Principal, Gerald Thomas**  
**Principal’s Award**

Students at Fairview Primary are ending the year on a successful note. Several students were honored for their good grades and excellent behavior. The following students received certificates from Principal Thomas: Isaiah Jones, Vincel Beckwith, Antoine Shanklin, Sean Smith, Aaron Webb, Andrew Jones, Cayla Sims, Sydney Brownlee, Paris Siggers, Dane Randall and Jasen Ward.

**Cool School News**

**FAIRVIEW INTERMEDIATE – Principal, Penny Parker**  
**Special Honors**

Congratulations to Fairview Intermediate SSD staff for winning the 2008 Ambassadors Award from the Special School District. The following teachers: Anita Phillips, Sharon Austin, Shawna Jones, Erin Brovey, Esther Barbee, Linda Buatte, and Janet Dinwiddie received the honors in recognition of their innovative and engaging teaching. They will be honored at a banquet on June 11<sup>th</sup> at COCA.

**Class Trips**

It’s that time for class trips! The following classes will be going on field trips at the end of May: the 4th grade will be going to the St. Louis Zoo and Forest Park on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The 5th grade will be going to Springfield, Illinois on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The sixth grade will be leaving for Silver Dollar City at 4:30 a.m. on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**GARY GORE ELEMENTARY Principal, Delcina Bland**  
**KANSAS CITY- Here we come!!**

The following students were selected to go to Kansas City, Missouri on May 17<sup>th</sup> for being outstanding students. They are: Nautica Standier, Nisean Rigmaiden, Kailin King, Lenell Anderson, Romel Tanter, Amber Simpson, Mia Manning, Jasmine Townsend, Jayla Brown, Yurriel Merriwether, Breanne Liggins, Tanisha Ravenel, Myah Jackson, Michael Stovall, Dana Buchanan, Chase Britton, Janae Simms, Oshea Smith, Deja Jones and Justin Holmes.

**NORTHVIEW ELEMENTARY Principal, Chanua Ross**  
**“Get ready set go!”**

Northview students were well represented at this year’s Special Olympics. Fourteen students participated in the following: the fifty yard dash, long jump, and softball throw. Fifteen ribbons were brought home by Northview’s Special Olympians. Congratulations to Ja’Von, Demitrious, Kobe, Tia M., Tia H., Lisa, Deshon, Latashiannam, Michael, Amani, Aaliyah, India, Kayla, and Kyler.

**HANRAHAN ELEMENTARY-Principal Curt Wrisberg**  
**Family Fun Night**

Kenneth C. Hanrahan Elementary will hold its annual Family Fun Night on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Ice cream and books will be given to every child during the evening. In addition, multiple games will be available to everyone. This event has always been an enjoyable time for all. However, reading is emphasized throughout the night. We look forward to a great turnout and a fantastic time.

**Field Day**

Field Day will take place on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at Lions Park. Various activities will take place all morning. Lunch will then be provided by Hanrahan's PTO. This is always a wonderful time for our students, parents and teachers. We are certainly looking forward to Field Day!

**WOODLAND ELEMENTARY- Principal Dr. Kathleen**  
**Kurz**

**Muffins with Mom**

Kindergarteners hosted *Muffins with Mom* on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Mothers were treated to a breakfast of muffins, fruit and juice and received handmade placemats from the children. The event was a big hit with the Kindergarten moms, and even a few dads joined in the festivities!

**Class Field Trips**

Woodland classes are venturing out into a variety of field learning venues during the month of May. Teachers are helping students make connections to new learning as they enjoy these interesting experiences.

Class excursions include:

Pre-Kindergarten – Butterfly House

Kindergarten - St. Louis Zoo

First Grade – Missouri Botanical Garden

Third Grade – Science Center

**JENNINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL: Principal T-Herbert**  
**Jeffrey**

**Track Stars**

The Jennings Middle School Warriors have once again proven their commitment to the pursuit of excellence. Our athletic seasons ended on a fantastic note with our team placing first in the Middle School Track finale.

**Jennings Middle Talented Tenth Scholars**

Two of our Talented Tenth Scholars, Darrell Green and David Tate, had the opportunity to travel to our State Capitol and interact with Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. The Governor was honoring one of the last living 'Munchkins' from the classic Wizard of Oz. Our students, along with Mr. Ousley, were also able to take pictures with several Missouri dignitaries. This invitation was extended to students across the state, but our students were the only students who had the honor of being present at the ceremony.

**JENNINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

**Graduation**

Graduating seniors are looking forward to commencement at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on the UMSL campus on Thursday evening, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Seniors will receive tickets (number to be determined) at commencement rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Summer School**

The Summer School Program is for senior high school students, grades 9-12, who need to make up credits in core subject areas. The high school is offering two 13 day sessions, each running Monday through Thursday from 7:45 AM to 12:30 PM. (\*Note: Summer School is not in session on Fridays.)

**Congratulations Yelena**

Congratulations to Yelena Rosado (9<sup>th</sup> grade) for being voted the St. Louis American Freshman Player of the Year! Great Job!!!

**Important Dates To Remember:**

High School Graduation – May 29, 2008 at the  
Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.  
Last Day of School – May 30, 2008.

**Jennings Fact: April 1912**

A loan of \$6,000 was approved to add two rooms to the schoolhouse at Jennings Road and Hord Avenue. The District was then known as St. Louis County District No. 21, Jennings Public School.