



District 308 awarded for its “green” initiatives

District named a Green Cleaning Award recipient

Only two districts in the nation were recognized for their green cleaning efforts and District 308 was one of them. The district received the honorable mention for green cleaning from the American Schools and Universities Magazine for the use of environmentally-friendly cleaning products and initiatives.

In 2004, the district’s janitorial product distributor introduced several green cleaning products to the district. These Green Seal-certified products use chemicals that are safe, have no affect on allergies or asthma, and don’t harm indoor air quality. Other district cleaning initiatives use less water, eliminate waste, and use recycled paper products.

Employees, students and visitors all are made aware of the importance of these initiatives. Custodial employees are trained twice a year and regularly tested and graded on their work. Staff members and students are encouraged to wash their hands often and decals are posted on the buildings to let visitors know the district is “green.”

The district is also currently testing a few green floor finishes and strippers as well as trash can liners that would disintegrate in less than two years in a landfill.

Bednarcik J.H. earns the ENERGY STAR

District 308’s Bednarcik Junior High School earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) See [Green](#) on page 2.

Old Traugher finds new life in school/community partnership

What was old is new again as the former Traugher Junior High School on Franklin Street opens its doors to a few new tenants.

Since closing as a student attendance center in June 2008, the building has been used to house a number of district programs; with the intention of moving the district’s administrative center into the building as well as offering space to various community organizations.

Although the determination was made that the remodeling necessary to transform the space into the district’s administrative center was not cost-effective the community partnership concept remained.

“The joining of school and community programs into a joint facility is right in line with the district’s mission of doing what is best for students through a unique partnership of students, staff, families and the community,” said Superintendent Dr. David Behlow.

Currently, the district houses its copy center, Hands-on-Science program, and technology services in the building. A recent agreement with the Village of Oswego will allow a portion of the building to be used as a senior center. Additionally, other community groups are working on developing rental agreements with the school district—making the district’s vision of creating a school and community center a reality.

The following eight individuals turned in nominating petitions for the April 7, 2009 school board election:



David Behrens, Lynn Cullick, Mike Scaramuzzi, Sue Bertrand,
Eric Strong, Paul Hoekstra, Julie L. Mueller, and Laurie Pasteris



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prestigious ENERGY STAR, due to efforts to improve the building's energy performance, reduce its annual energy bills, and prevent greenhouse gas emissions.

This national symbol for superior energy efficiency and environmental protection demonstrates the district's commitment to environmental stewardship while also lowering energy costs. ENERGY STAR Commercial buildings that rate in the top 25 percent of facilities in the nation for energy efficiency may qualify for the ENERGY STAR. ENERGY STAR buildings use an average of 40 percent less energy



than typical buildings and also release 35 percent less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Bednarcik Junior High School earned the ENERGY STAR primarily due to the mechanical engineering of the HVAC system. In addition, the efforts of staff to be energy conscious greatly assisted in the effort.

EPA's national energy performance rating system provides a 1-100 scale to assess how efficiently a building uses energy relative to similar buildings nationwide. A building that scores a rating of 75 or higher is eligible for ENERGY STAR. Bednarcik scored an impressive rating of 89.

During its February meetings, the District 308 Board of Education:

- Approved an addendum to the district's Improvement Plan to include Response to Intervention information.
- Approved the first phase of staffing by adding seven full-time equivalent teachers to the 2009-10 budget.
- Approved an agreement with the Village of Oswego allowing portions of the former Traugher Junior High School on Franklin St. to be used as a Senior Center.
- Approved AT&T as the district's cellular phone provider for the approximately 177 district cell phone users.
- Approved HR Imaging as the district's student picture provider (K-11) and Lifetouch as the senior picture and sports/dance photographers.
- Adopted the Creative Curriculum, 4th Ed., for preschool students. Grants will cover the \$123,000 three-yr. cost.
- Approved a Drivers' Education fee increase to \$200.

Click the BoardDocs link on www.oswego308.org to access additional Board of Education meeting information.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

- Mar. 02 Growth Committee
6 a.m. / Administration Center
- Mar. 09 Curriculum Committee
5:45 p.m. / Oswego East H.S.

Finance Committee
5:45 p.m. / Oswego East H.S.

Board of Education Meeting
7:00 p.m. / Oswego East H.S.
- Mar. 10 Policy Committee
6:00 a.m. / Administration Center

Spring Break: March 23-27

