



October 2009

## OH teacher selected as Illinois Teacher of the Year finalist

Ann Rodman is a Family and Consumer Science teacher at Oswego High School. She is also only one of 10 teachers in Illinois to be recognized as a 2009-10 Illinois Teacher of the Year finalist.

This year's nearly 175 nominations were scored based on personal background information, the nominator's recommendation, and letters of recommendation. In addition, nominees answered questions focusing on student success, collaboration, continuous learning, and leadership.

"Good teachers lead their students and themselves to excellence," said State Superintendent of Education Christopher A. Koch. "These 10 Illinois educators reflect the passion and dedication of teachers across the state who strive to make a difference each day and develop successful learners."

The 'Those Who Excel,' program provides the state with an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of these teachers and thank them for their tireless devotion and exemplary skills."



The 2009-10 Illinois Teacher of the Year will be announced during an October 24 banquet in Peoria. The Teacher of the Year represents Illinois at NASA Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, and in the National Teacher of the Year Program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and ING.

## 2009-10 district budget approved

After staff worked to make significant reductions to the tentative budget, the District 308 Board of Education was able to approve a balanced 2009-10 budget, as required by the district's guiding principles.

The approved budget calls for total revenues of \$140,220,929 and expenses of \$140,213,523. The majority of the district's revenues are received through local property taxes; and salaries account for the majority of the district's expenses.

Even though student enrollment increased by about 750 students, the district was still able to balance its budget by reducing maintenance projects, out-of-state travel, field trips, utility costs, paper copies, property insurance premiums, building allowances and the use of substitutes, as well as postponing technology adoptions, freezing administration salaries and negotiating two association contracts.

Per law, the tentative budget was posted August 24 and was on 30-day display. A public hearing on the budget was held prior to the Sept. 28 board meeting.

*The Digital Messenger Web page was visited more than 3,000 times*



*in September. Visit the district Web site and click the Digital Messenger button to view these October not-for-profit fliers:*

- Cyclone Baseball (5th-6th)
- Fox Valley Park District Basketball (K-7th)
- Illinois Heat Volleyball (2nd-5th)
- Little Blessings Enrichment Program (K)
- Mother's & More Resale
- Oswego Fire Department Open House
- Oswego Optimists Youth Appreciation (K-5th)
- Oswego Public Library Programs (PreK-8th)
- Oswegoland Park District Programs (K-5)
- Rush Copley Healthplex Programs (PreK-8)
- Slam Dunks and Smiles Basketball Show

## Paperless progress reports

This school year, District 308's **junior highs and high schools** will utilize the Home Access Center to digitally distribute student progress reports.

Student progress reports will be accessible with the same ease and security you have come to expect when viewing student schedules, grades and assignments. In addition, by instituting this new eco-friendly way for parents to access student progress reports, the district will realize a significant cost savings in terms of paper, postage and time.

Student progress reports will be available on the Home Access Center by visiting our district Web site ([www.oswego308.org](http://www.oswego308.org)) and clicking on the Home Access button on the lower left portion of the screen. September Progress Reports will be available on HOME ACCESS no later than Friday, October 2.

### Please call your child's school if :

- ▶ you need to obtain your User Name and Password
- ▶ you do not have access to a computer and would prefer a student progress report be mailed to you

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Come join the Oswego Foundation for Educational Excellence (OFEE) in support of the children in District 308 by attending The Piano Men—the next exciting production in the foundation's series of events. For further information, please visit the OFEE Web site at [oswegofoundation.org](http://oswegofoundation.org).

### *During its September meetings, the District 308 Board of Education:*

- Held a public hearing on the 2009-10 District 308 budget and approved its adoption.
- Approved Jeffrey Modaff as the principal of the Brokaw Early Learning Center.
- Revised Board Policy 8:120 to allow for online posting of community fliers to reduce the number of paper copies that are distributed to students.
- Updated Board Policy 2:260 concerning the use of genetic information, per state and federal legislation.

*Click the BoardDocs link on [www.oswego308.org](http://www.oswego308.org) to access additional meeting information.*

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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|---------|--|
| Oct. 7  | Oswego Parent Advisory Council<br>7:00 p.m. / District Admin Center  |
| Oct. 13 | BOE Committee of the Whole<br>6:00 p.m. / Oswego East H.S.<br><br>Board of Education Meeting<br>7:00 p.m. / Oswego East H.S. |
| Oct. 26 | Board of Education Meeting<br>7:00 p.m. / Oswego East H.S.   |

