

# The Champion

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## U.S. Space Camp

By Cornell Glass

Eighth Grader, Calvin Center School

**O**n December 26, 2009, I took my first trip to Huntsville to attend the U.S. Space Camp with chaperone, Mr. Greg Jackson, and former classmate, Jhared Jackson.

While at Space Camp, we learned about early space crafts and how they improved over time. We also did two missions, involving launching an orbiter into outer space and retuning it back to Earth.

We worked together as teams using problem solving skills. Among all the space-related activities, my favorite was the 1/6th Gravity Chair. This simulator gives you an experience of what it feels like to walk on the moon. It was a lot of fun to be able to participate in all the activities! In the evening, we socialized with the other students from all parts of the United States, even from New Zealand!

Graduation ceremony was held on New Year's Day and all the parents attended the graduation. I received a certificate and pins for special events held during the week. This was a wonderful experience! I plan to attend again and enroll in the next higher level known as Aviation Challenge.



## ISEL Aids Reading Success

Illinois Snapshots of Early Literacy (ISEL) is a versatile, classroom-based reading assessment measure used in all LRC schools that offers universal screening, diagnostic reading inventory, progress monitoring and pre/post assessment for evaluation & continuous improvement for the literacy program.

ISEL is based on scientific research and best practices in early literacy instruction. Designed to meet NCLB standards and aligned to State and National Literacy Standards, ISEL has been approved by a National Panel of Independent Experts and is a highly predictive validity for students' reading success. The results are quick and flexible.

### Superintendent's Message

## New Education Initiative Launched in LRC

### Adventist Education reaching New Landmark

We are grateful for the recent action taken by the leadership of our conference. It is one that wholly embraces our mission as a church and recognizes the evangelistic ministry of Adventist Education— to rightly train such an army of youth.



On behalf of the students, parents, and educators in our eight schools, thank you for the conference-wide education initiative that all churches in our conference support Adventist Education in a financially fair constituency system that recognizes all of us as stewards of our children.

An awesome responsibility indeed; yet, one to which dedicated, trained, and qualified educators in our conference commit their lives and profession. Our focused mission is to prepare champions for Jesus. And I wish you could hear some of the testimonies of our faculty and students in their daily experiences. You will be proud, and grateful to God as I am. In this issue of *The Champion*, we will provide a glimpse of the blessings of Christ-centered education for the children of Lake Region.

Dr. Ruth Horton  
Superintendent of Education

## AIMSweb Shows Progress with Online Monitoring

A three-tier Progress Monitoring System utilized in grades 3 - 8, AIMSweb is based on direct, frequent, and continuous student assessment. Results are reported to students, parents, teachers and administrators via a web-based data management and reporting system for the purpose of determining response to instruction.

# The Champion

Go Therefore and Teach, Every Child Excelling Every Day

## Hope for a Troubled World

By: Juanita Martin, Ed.D., Principal

They've had some exciting times over the last two weeks as the students worked together to give a troubled world hope and peace through the Holy Words of Jesus Christ our Savior. The students of PWA wanted their evangelism series to be blessed with the Holy Spirit so the student body packed their gear and headed for a spiritual retreat at their own, Camp Wagner, September 23–25, 2009.

The student evangelistic effort began officially on October 4th with a community Health Fair that was to be held at the school later that day. Along with the students of PWA and the area pathfinder clubs, the youth paraded through the streets of the city of Inkster distributing tracks, flyers and other information concerning the PWA Community Fair and their up-coming student evangelistic crusade, "Hope For A Trouble World."

We were blessed by having four youth to be convicted and to give their hearts to Christ. The students are now in a baptismal class being conducted by the Bible teacher, Elder Roscoe Gray. From the success of the series, the students have decided that this theme should continue to be at the forefront of our campus' outreach program. Students are now producing their own internet radio program, "Youthful Spirits" seen at [www.peterson-warren.net](http://www.peterson-warren.net), Friday at 7 p.m. Small children can also listen to "Just Us," a children's story.



## Years of Planting Recognized

By Bettye Scott, Principal

With many former students present, Dorethia Martin was honored on November 28, 2009, for 41 years of service as preschool teacher at Chicago SDA School during the CSDA School Alumni weekend celebration held at Shiloh SDA Church.

It was interesting to note the generations who have come under her tutelage. Many parents brought their children to receive the same nurture and care they had received. Mrs. Martin is quick to remind all, "Most times, I walked about two miles each way, in rain, sleet or snow so that the school would be opened to receive children by 6:30 a.m." Whether working full or part-time, Mrs. Martin was never late and very rarely absent for her appointed duties.

The large mahogany Book Clock with a plaque inset presented to Ms. Martin and engraved with the proverb, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it," was an appropriate reminder of her decades of planting and pruning living seeds.



## Ongoing Professional Development



Educators in Lake Region Conference participate in ongoing professional development annually through various avenues including academic coursework, three annual conference-wide Institutes, and biweekly webinars. Webinar topics include "Children who Learn Differently," Jesus the Light of the Curriculum, Responding to School Crises, Pathways Implementation: Integrated Language Arts, The Technology Arm of Teaching, Student Artistic Expression, Living in Your Prosperity, Classroom Management that Works and many more. Educators find these opportunities for professional growth richly rewarding.

# Mizpah School Embraces Study Island

By Carl Bandy, Principal



In August 2009, Mizpah school in Gary, Indiana, acquired Study Island, a web-based tutoring, enrichment and assessment program. This program uses individual state standards and presents questions in a standardized format. Students have twenty-four hour access and study using test or game modes, which they really enjoy. Students receive immediate test results comparing them to their class at Mizpah and to students in their grade within the state. Additionally, parents and teachers receive automatic email updates on students' work. Teachers assign and monitor student work in the classroom and provide immediate instruction as needed. Students also work from home. In four months, some students have improved their math achievement by four grade levels. Every student has made significant improvement in each of their subject areas. Teacher workload is decreased as a result allowing teachers to focus on individual students' needs. We thank God for making these types of technology available to us.

## ...Of Strainers and Screwdrivers

By Marie Desty, Principal

What do strainers, cake-mixer whisks, ratchet wrenches, screw drivers, can openers, and a tool box have in common?

They were props for a staff worship at Sharon Junior Academy. Each staff member selected an item from the tool box and gave a brief explanation of its regular usage. They then created an analogy of that tool's use to our Christian life and how it relates to the teaching arena.

**Mrs. Hughes' cake-mixer whisk:** Used to blend and mix cake ingredients for a smooth batter and ultimately a delicious cake. Mrs. Hughes compared that mixing action to the fact that sometimes we have difficulty blending with each other because of our differences, or personalities, however, it is what God expects of us.

**Mrs. Jenkins' ratchet:** This is used to tighten or loosen bolts of car wheels. God needs to tighten and loosen some of our habits to fit us for his kingdom.

**Ms. Nedd's screwdriver:** Another tool used to tighten or loosen – not car bolts, but screws. This tool is used on a much smaller scale than the ratchet. God has to get to those nooks and crannies of our lives – the hidden sins unseen to the public.

**Mr. Musonda's strainer:** Used to sift out the unwanted particles in our food. God uses situations to strain out, or weed out the undesirables in our lives.



**Ms. Desty's can opener:** Used to open cans. Once the can is opened, the contents must be used. Sometimes God places people in our lives for specific reasons – to expose some hidden qualities - and we must not push or turn them away. Once we've been exposed to these people, we find special abilities that must be used for God's glory.

*The tool box represents the church, while the variety of tools stands for the various gifts, talents, and peoples that make up the church.*

*Focus text: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7*

## A Long Awaited Computer Lab

By Lynnette Jefferson, Principal

In a fast moving demonstration of God's power to overcome obstacles, the computer technology situation at South Suburban School was transformed from a few computers with unreliable internet access in each classroom to a full-functioning computer lab with 16 stations for students, two printers, and a teacher station.

With the help of two teachers brazen request to the school board, donation of flat screen monitors, and three students from DeVry Institute who needed to complete a senior project of setting up a computer lab for a school, prayers were answered.

Six hundred hours of free labor later, the computer lab was completed in one and a half months. Not only did the DeVry students fulfill the requirements of the class, providing



the lab with the best equipment and software solutions that the school's small budget could afford, they even resolved classroom computer and school internet connectivity issues, and equipped the lab with remote viewing.

The DeVry students also wrote and printed a manual that outlines everything that was done for the lab and contains illustrated directions for tasks the teachers may need to perform. The lab was dedicated on Thursday, November 12, 2009.

The students at South Suburban SDA Christian School have had another opportunity to see an awesome demonstration of God's interest in and ability to supply all our needs.



**Dr. Ruth Horton, Superintendent**

Lake Region Conference Department of Education

8517 S. State Street | Chicago, IL 60619

(773) 846-2661 (773) 846-5309 fax

[rhorton@lakeregionsda.org](mailto:rhorton@lakeregionsda.org)

[www.lakeregionsda.org](http://www.lakeregionsda.org)

[creatives@jerryrossdesign.com](mailto:creatives@jerryrossdesign.com)