

# Haworth Public School

*Welcome Back !!!*

September 2010

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Warren Sutnick, President - Donna Weintraub, Vice President  
Jacqueline Guenego - George Kipel - Karen Leddy  
Anna Reduce - Stacey Rosenfeld

## ADMINISTRATION

Paul Arilotta, Superintendent / Principal  
Deborah B. Jancek, Assistant Principal

### *Message from Warren Sutnick*

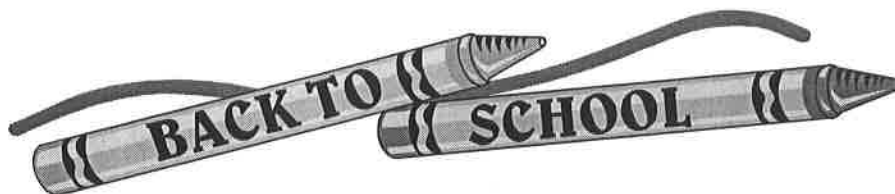
#### *Haworth Board of Education President*

Welcome back to what promises to be an exciting and educationally enriching year for our students. This has been a particularly busy and productive summer for the Board of Education and Administration. We are very proud that, for the first time in three years, our school will begin the year with a full-time permanent administrative team of Superintendent/Principal, Dr. Paul Arilotta, and our new Assistant Principal, Ms. Deborah Jancek. Their combined educational experience, philosophy and professionalism will surely enhance our school. In addition, the School Board welcomes its newest member, Mrs. Stacey Rosenfeld.

After the community supported the school budget during one of the most difficult economic times in our history, the Board and Administration continued to work to find creative ways of maximizing our educational dollars. To that end, we are now sharing our Business Administrative services with the Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest, saving our district approximately \$40,000. We are also in the process of researching and interviewing alternative energy providers with the goal of creating a more energy-efficient facility with cost savings.

Finally, this summer we improved the entrance to our building by installing a concrete walkway from the sidewalk of Valley Road to the main entrance of the school. We know that this will provide safe access to the building for our students and their families.

Welcome back! We look forward to a rewarding school year.



## WELCOME BACK NOTE FROM DR. ARILOTTA

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back! I hope everyone enjoyed the summer break and is ready for a great school year. As you return, you will notice exterior improvements as the school experienced a “facelift” over the summer. The gymnasium façade, fire escapes and doors received a new coat of paint, and the grounds have been landscaped. The custodial staff is putting the finishing touches on the interior, and the teachers have been busily preparing their rooms to welcome the children on September 7th. New concrete walks have been installed and, thanks to the Mayor and Council, the outdoor basketball courts have been repaved.

In addition to the cosmetic changes, we are pleased to welcome four new staff members to the Haworth School community. Deborah B. Jancek, Assistant Principal, Jason Rauschberg, Fourth Grade Teacher, Grace Kim, Art Teacher, and Nicole Carnicelli, Science Teacher, join the Haworth School’s excellent teaching and support staff (*see picture below*). Please join us in extending them a warm welcome.

The success of our children depends upon our strong bond with the Home and School Association. Mrs. Dina O’Donnell, President, and the Executive Committee of the HHSA will continue the tradition of supporting the school in a number of important programs. Look for the HHSA newsletter, which will be arriving in the mail soon.

Recently, school districts around the county experienced great pain and difficulty as they struggled to maintain quality programs in the face of economic adversity. Many districts reduced staff and cut programs and services to children. Here, a number of positions were eliminated, and several long-term colleagues will not return. They will be missed; we thank them for their service to our children.

At the polls last April, the community re-elected Mrs. Donna Weintraub and elected Ms. Jacqueline Guenego and Ms. Karen Leddy to the Board of Education. Mrs. Stacey Rosenfeld was selected by the Board of Education to fill the vacancy created when Mrs. Marilyn Coats-Thomas was elected to the NVRHS Board of Education. We wish all three new members well as they assume their roles and extend our sincere thanks to Mrs. Coats-Thomas and Mrs. Marie Malajian for their service to the Haworth School. Also, thanks to all of you who supported the school budget as the district struggled to maintain educational excellence.

My first year at Haworth School has been challenging, yet satisfying and pleasant. In addition to the fiscal challenges, the rhetoric that received much media attention admonishing public employees, especially teachers, for ineffectiveness and inefficiency, has been divisive. I am proud of the staff of the Haworth School for their willingness and ability to focus on excellence in light of the criticism. I feel blessed to work with such a wonderful group of men and women who serve the community at such a high level and appreciate the continued support of the Board of Education. I look forward to a successful school year.

### MEET HAWORTH SCHOOL’S NEW STAFF MEMBERS !

(From Left to Right) →

Mrs. Nicole Carnicelli, Science Teacher  
Mr. Jason Rauschberg, Fourth Grade Teacher  
Ms. Deborah B. Jancek, Assistant Principal  
Mrs. Grace Kim, Art Teacher



## **Haworth Introduces an Innovative Math Program**

During the most recent school year, the second grade team implemented an online math homework program entitled IXL Math, which is now an integral component of the second grade experience. The IXL pilot program is an example of a teacher-initiated action research project that addressed a curricular area within the second grade. The program offers students differentiated homework tasks aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Math Standards.

IXL enables teachers to differentiate each math homework assignment to meet the needs of their learners. Students are assigned different homework tasks depending on their need to review, practice, or extend the classroom learning. In addition to decreasing the use of paper worksheets, the technology piece of this program allows staff to monitor student's progress online. The parents play a vital role in the collaborative process, as the IXL pilot program relies heavily on the support, feedback, and monitoring of the program at home. Due to the positive response to the program, its applications to other academic grades is being explored.

### **New Law: 2% Property Tax Levy Cap for 2011**

In July, Governor Chris Christie signed legislation capping annual property tax increases for 2011 at 2%.

The measure reduces the current threshold on real estate taxes, which are the prime funding source for schools and local governments.

Under Cap 2.0, voters may approve over-cap expenditures by a simple majority. The previous law required approval of such ballot questions by 60% of voters.

### **Improving School Climate for Academic and Life Success:**

#### **A Project at The Center for Applied Psychology at Rutgers University**

Near the end of the past academic year, the Haworth Public School community participated in the Improving School Climate for Academic and Life Success Survey, under the direction and guidance of Maurice J. Elias, Ph.D., of Rutgers University. The assessment yields data that provides school leaders with the tools and skills required to develop and sustain a positive school climate that fosters both academic achievement and development of the whole child. Both students and faculty participated in the survey.

The results of the survey have recently been received and are in the process of being carefully analyzed. Upon thorough analysis, and in consultation with Dr. Elias, a committee will be established and tasked with making recommendations regarding the systemic changes needed to support a safe, civil and healthy learning environment which best promotes the academic, social-emotional and character development for all Haworth students.

During the next few months, the committee will be setting goals and objectives designed to improve the overall school climate at Haworth Public School.

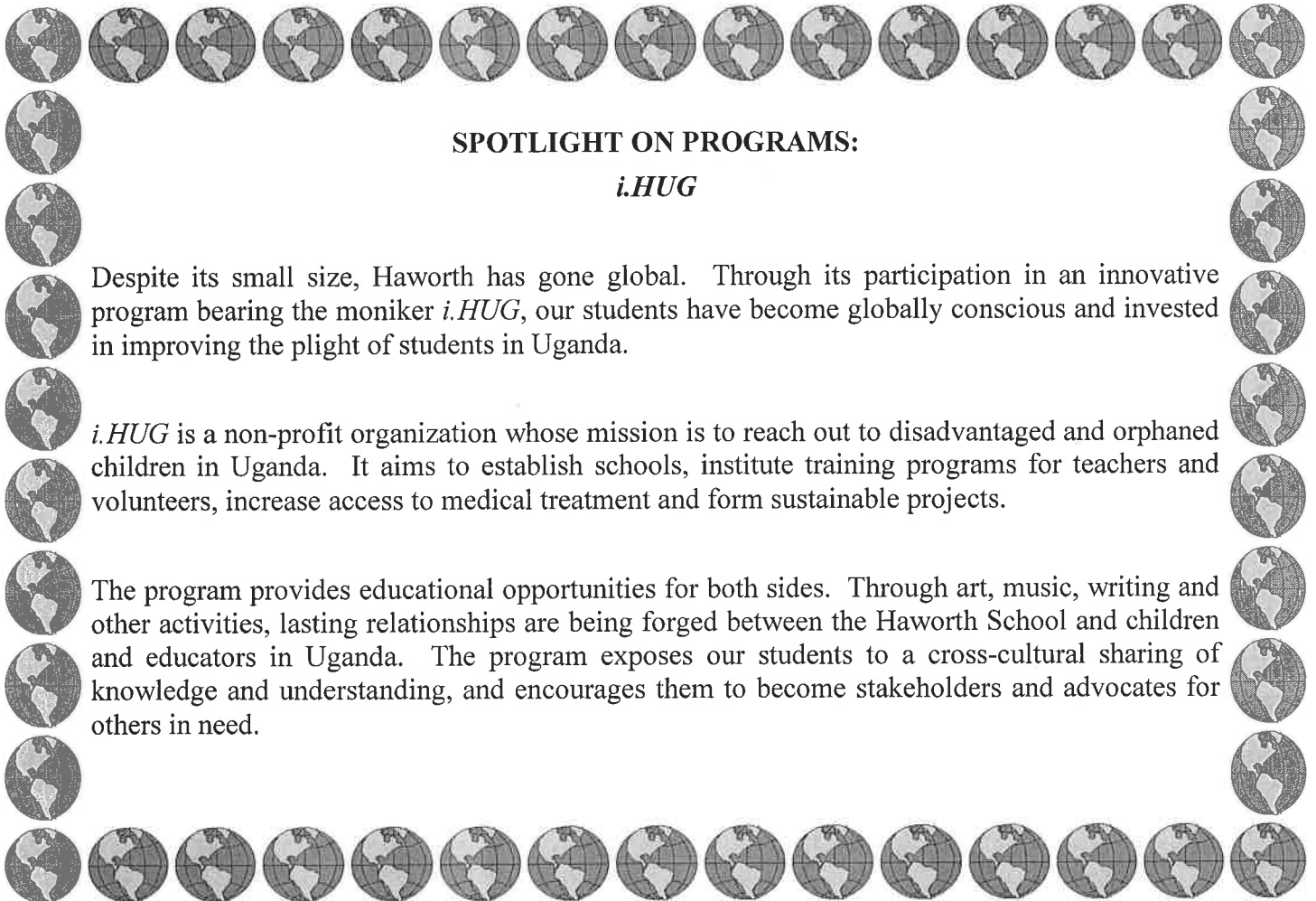


### Board of Education Ethics Workshop and Retreat

Members of the Haworth Board of Education, together with Superintendent Paul Arilotta, attended an Ethics Workshop sponsored by the New Jersey School Boards Association.

The purpose of the workshop was to review the Code of Ethics by which each member is bound, to examine members' ethical responsibilities and to discuss common areas of concern. The training session was led by an NJSBA Ethics Professional, who emphasized above all else, the absolute state requirement of confidentiality. She reiterated throughout the training that Board Members are prohibited from discussing all matters pertaining to the school with members of the community or staff.

Haworth Board of Education members also attended a summer retreat during which they participated in team building exercises, reviewed the work of their committees and participated in a study designed to allow them to relate to one another effectively and efficiently.



### SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAMS:

#### *i.HUG*

Despite its small size, Haworth has gone global. Through its participation in an innovative program bearing the moniker *i.HUG*, our students have become globally conscious and invested in improving the plight of students in Uganda.

*i.HUG* is a non-profit organization whose mission is to reach out to disadvantaged and orphaned children in Uganda. It aims to establish schools, institute training programs for teachers and volunteers, increase access to medical treatment and form sustainable projects.

The program provides educational opportunities for both sides. Through art, music, writing and other activities, lasting relationships are being forged between the Haworth School and children and educators in Uganda. The program exposes our students to a cross-cultural sharing of knowledge and understanding, and encourages them to become stakeholders and advocates for others in need.

Haworth Sets a New Standard in the Northern Valley  
for Shared Services

The current economic climate dictates the need for great fiscal responsibility. In that spirit, the Haworth Public School District is setting a new standard in the Northern Valley for sharing professional services and, in turn, saving money.

Specifically, Haworth has entered into a shared services agreement with the Northern Valley High School District to provide entire Business Administration operations, custodial maintenance oversight, and budgeting, Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable support.

This arrangement provides Haworth with access to the services of a fully-staffed business office, while saving considerable monies for the district. A similar arrangement has been entered for technology and infrastructure trouble-shooting.



**NORTHERN VALLEY SHARED SERVICES STAFF**

**Patricia Jackson** has been an employee of Northern Valley Regional High School District for 11 years. Pat holds a Bachelors' Degree in Accounting and is the Payroll Accountant for all District employees including Region III, and more recently, the Norwood and Haworth School Districts. Pat is a dedicated, conscientious worker who handles all phases of payroll, pension and taxes.

**Gloria Chavarriaga** has been with Northern Valley Regional High School District for 7 years. Gloria has worked in the position of System Support Operator within the Data Processing Department where her responsibilities included maintaining the student information system, NJSMART data, and the automated telephone system. Her position has grown to include responsibilities within the Business Office. She is a flexible, detail oriented worker, proficient in Excel and other applications. For Haworth, Gloria's responsibilities will be cash receipts and employee benefits.

**Patricia De Riso** has been an employee of Northern Valley Regional High School District for 20 years. Pat has worked in the Business Office as an Assistant Business Administrator. In addition, she supervises the Data Processing Department as the District Data Coordinator of the student information system. She holds a Bachelors' Degree in Business Administration/Finance and completed requirements for School Business Administrator and earned certification. She also holds a Masters' Degree in Business Management/Information Systems. For the Haworth School District, Pat will assume the responsibilities of the Business Administrator.



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MEETINGS:**

Work Session: September 21, 2010

Action Session: September 28, 2010

Work Session: October 19, 2010

Action Session: October 26, 2010

Work Session: November 23, 2010

Action Session: November 30, 2010

Work/Action Session: December 21, 2010

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

SEPT. 7: First Day of School


SEPT. 9 & 10: SCHOOL CLOSED (Rosh Hashanah)

SEPT. 20: Back to School Night, Grades 6, 7 & 8

SEPT. 23: Back to School Night, Grades K-5

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Haworth Public School  
205 Valley Road  
Haworth, NJ 07641  
*"Excellence in Education"*



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