

## From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Henking/Hoffman Family,

Several years ago, a rather timely and innovational agreement was reached between the Glenview Education Association and the Board of Education of the Glenview Public Schools. Known as the Constitution, this progressive "contract" sought to create a school system emphasizing site based management through consensus decision making.

Contrary to most school system contracts and organizational structures, the Constitution sought to involve teachers and parents in a decision-making process which would help children to be engaged in a comprehensive educational program within a nurturing and supportive environment. So strong was this commitment to involve parents in this process that it was reflected in the language of the Constitution's mission statement which reads: "The Glenview Public Schools in collaboration with the parents and community shall empower children to be responsible learners and decision makers in a changing society."

Specifically, the first of seven principles guiding the efforts of the Constitution states that, "WE RECOGNIZE that the primary educator of all children is the family unit. WE ARE COMMITTED to encourage and provide opportunities for informed and meaningful parental involvement in the District's educational process." In addition to parent conferences, PTA, newsletters, informal contacts, and other means of communication, the Constitution seeks to involve parents in a meaningful way; a way in which your input is valued and utilized to design effective educational programs and practices for our children.

To facilitate this building based decision-making, each elementary attendance area has created and utilized its own Local School Council (LSC). Each Local School Council is composed of four parents who serve staggered 2-year terms (two representing each of our cluster's schools, Henking and Hoffman) elected via a process established by the PTA, four teachers (two representing Hoffman and two representing Henking) elected by the respective faculties and the two principals.

Utilizing the consensus model of decision-making, the LSC annually shall:

- Establish broad goals and expectations for the clusters and/or schools which address both local needs and District objectives, and
- participate in the evaluation of the success of the clusters and/or schools in meeting these goals and expectations.

Based on parental input, your Henking/Hoffman LSC has established the following goal for the 2007-2008 school year:

To develop a Henking/Hoffman Local School Council University to provide helpful parent education opportunities.

Did you know your LSC has been meeting monthly since the beginning of the school year to address this goal? Did you know that significant progress has been made through some genuine collaborative discussion involving parents and teachers?

We are most fortunate to have a committed group of individuals serving on the Henking/Hoffman Local School Council. Their collaborative efforts have made a difference and our LSC enjoys meeting together monthly to help make our cluster the best that it can be.

However, **we need your help.** Some of our parent member's terms will be coming to a close soon, and we are seeking moms and dads who would be willing to serve on our LSC. Your commitment would be to attend monthly meetings throughout the school year over a two year term so that you could provide your input and that of your friends and neighbors to address the ongoing needs of our Henking/Hoffman Schools. Many of the fine instructional programs and curricular events of the past nine years have come to exist because of our strong parental interest and input. **We really do need your help to keep this valuable process and organization running in top form.**

Please stay tuned to future issues of "The Hum" and "The Happenings" for more LSC details or feel free to contact one or more of the following members to answer your questions or to gather their insights:

Yvonne Shu . . . . .	HE Teacher	Samantha Eiseman . . . . .	HO Teacher
Heather Kubit . . . . .	HE Teacher	Katie Czelatdko . . . . .	HO Teacher
Laura Horwitz . . . . .	HE Parent	Jamie O'Connor . . . . .	HO Parent
Cathy Cunningham . . . . .	HE Parent	Cindy Weickert . . . . .	HO Parent
Neal Siegellak . . . . .	HE Principal	Mark Walther . . . . .	HO Principal

Thank you very much for your help and interest!

Sincerely,

Mark Walther, Principal  
Hoffman School

Neal Siegellak, Principal  
Henking School