

# Memo

**To:** Dr. Michael Robey, Superintendent

**From:** Barbara Dahly

**Cc:** Board of Education

**Date:** July 1, 2012

**RE:** Department Update

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➤ **West Cook Math Initiative Year 2012-2013**

The West Cook Math Initiative (WCMI), a partnership among 11 west Cook County districts to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics in grades 6-9, is offering summer professional development. Sessions began on June 18-20 and will continue on July 25-27 and August 1-3. District 89 teachers from Garfield, Irving, Lincoln and Roosevelt school are participating. The sessions are designed to deepen participants' understanding of the Common Core Standards for Mathematics, prepare for transition to the Common Core Standards, develop participants' content knowledge and provide opportunities to collaborate with other WCMI teachers.

➤ **Proviso Math Articulation Meeting**

A Proviso Math articulation meeting was held on June 12 at the Proviso Math and Science Academy (PMSA) with participants from west Cook County high schools and elementary schools. Administrators and teachers came together to work on mathematics improvement and to seek joint solutions to commonly-held problems involving the preparation for algebra in the middle grades and the teaching of algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades. WCMI will continue to support the articulation between the high schools and elementary schools to improve mathematics teaching and learning, and to prepare for the transition to the Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

➤ **Preschool for All Screening**

A Preschool for All (PFA) screening was scheduled for new students to the program on June 12, 13, and 14. A total of 58 students qualified for the 2012-2013 school year. The next PFA screening will be held on July 23, 24 and 25, with a total of 60 screening appointments. Preschool for All is open to all 3- to 5-year- old students in District 89. It is housed in four buildings - Emerson, Garfield, Irving and Lincoln – and offers half-day sessions at each location. The program serves 20 students per session, for a total of 160 students.

➤ **Induction for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educator (ICE 21) Lead Mentor Training**

Induction for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educator Lead Mentor training will be held at the West 40 Intermediate Service Center on July 16-20. This training is provided by the Illinois State Board of Education addressing the topics of Mentoring 101, the Coaching Cycle, Formative Assessment and Analysis of Student Work and Hot Topics. The goal of the program is to provide districts with high quality training and materials allowing for sustainability and self-sufficiency of in-house training of mentor teachers.