



NORTH TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NT SPIRIT

Vincent J. Vecchiarella
Superintendent of Schools

SUMMER 2008

Class of 2008

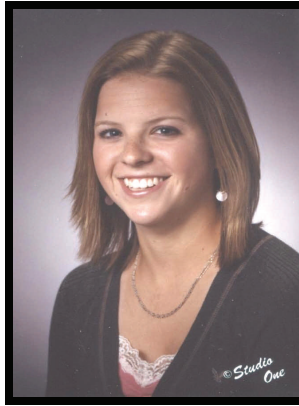


Valedictorian—Caroline Sorensen

Caroline is Events Coordinator for Amnesty International and Secretary of the American Former Soviet Union Club. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Drama Club, Hot Dog Committee and Science Olympiad. Caroline was president of the Animal Club, a member of Future Business Leaders of America, belongs to Niagara County 4H, and was a member of American Quarter Horses Association & Palomino Horse Breeders Association. She also volunteered at Equi*Star Therapeutic Riding Center and Lazy H Horse Sales and also with Big Brothers & Big Sisters.

Caroline received the Frederick Douglass & Susan B. Anthony Awards in Social Studies from the University of Rochester.

Caroline will attend Sweetbriar College in Virginia for Physics and Equine Science.



Salutatorian—Jessica Utzig

Jessica is enrolled in the Allied Health Program at DeGraff Hospital, was captain of the JV Soccer team and played on the Varsity Soccer team, Varsity Lacrosse, and Varsity Golf teams. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Chess Club, Hot Dog Committee and Jazz Ensemble. Jessica is a Peer Tutor and a Spelling Tutor at Meadow Elementary School. She is also a Project Linus volunteer and belongs to the North Tonawanda Ski Club.

Jessica has received the Baush & Lomb Honorary Science Award. She was selected as an Exchange Club of the Tonawandas Youth of the Month and received the Player of the Game Award for NT Lacrosse.

Jessica plans to attend SUNY-Buffalo as a Pharmacy major.

TOP 10 STUDENTS

Caroline A. Sorensen

Jessica L. Utzig

Jessica D. Brant

Shawn M. Hoffman

Keith C. Bogdan

Ryan C. Boyle

Joshua C. Maziarz

Kristin M. Mulligan

Jayson D. Clark

Amber Repaskey

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATION CLASS OF 2008



Ramzi	Abialmouna	Adam	Burns	Jonathan	Dziadaszek	James	Hogan
Sara	Accardi	Jacqueline	Burns	Gerald	Dzik	Ryan	Hogan
Michael	Adams	Chrisopher	Buscaglia	Kathleen	Elenfeldt	Lindsay	Hojnowski
Mark	Alessandra	Steven	Busch	Cailey	Enright	Leigh	Holloway
Shaimaa	Aljibouri	Kelsey	Callari	Anthony	Ferlito	Ryan	Houghton
Christina	Anderson	Matthew	Camarre	Eric	Fetterman	Rexford	Howard
Karlee	Anderson	Erica	Campas	Patrick	Fetzer	Julia	Hy
Michelle	Ando	Rebecca	Caple	Danielle	Fiala	Mitchell	Jaccarino
Joseph	Angelhow	Bethany	Cardinale	Sydney	Forster	Kyle	James
Zachariah	Anthony	Andrew	Carll	Arielle	Frankenberger	Ethan	Janzen
Randy	Archer	Aurelia	Catland	Kenneth	Franz	Jack	Jenkins
Ashley	Artieri	Alyssa	Cederman	Jaclyn	Frasier	Nathan	Joachimi
Stephen	Ashley	Jonathan	Chiaravalle	Jenna	Fretthold	Derek	Jusko
Courtney	Bachellor	Tiffany	Chisler	Kaitlin	Fritz	Zachary	Kabalan
Tom	Barnes	Jennifer	Cilip	Joshua	Furler	Jeffrey	Kam
Joseph	Barrett	Leanne	Ciovacco	Steven	Garbus	Kristine	Kam
Brittany	Barton	Elizabeth	Clark	Stephanie	Garrett	Matthew	Kanaley
Heather	Beardsley	Jayson	Clark	Kayla	Gatas	Tanya	Karnuth
Michael	Beardsley	Michael	Clarke	Stephanie	Gisel	Jacob	Kaufman
Stephanie	Beaton	Corey	Conklin	Alicia	Glaser	Kaleigh	Kazial
Kelly	Beattie	Eric	Conlan	Ryan	Glatz	Adam	Kibat
Thomas	Bemisderfer	Justen	Cornett	Courtney	Glick	Emily	Kielaszek
Matthew	Black	Stephen	Corson	Larissa	Gmeinder	Mary Ellen	King
Arthur	Blessing	Hillary	Costigan	Alyssa	Golding	Emily	Kraft
Keith	Bogdan	Zachary	Crowe	David	Gollhardt	Jennifer	Kramer
Joshua	Bonvissuto	Michael	Cruz	Matthew	Gondek	Anthony	Krug
Joshua	Booth	Gregory	Cudney	Justin	Gonka	Jacqueline	Krzeminski
Kevin	Border	Patrick	Cummings	Zachary	Grawe	Kayla	Kumm
Stephanie	Bordonaro	Jason	Curry	Nicole	Green	Paul	Kuriscak
Bryan	Bors	Jessica	Curto	Anthony	Greene	Andrew	Kurzdorfer
Rebecca	Bostad	Malia	D'Arcy	Casey	Grichen	Christel	La Croix
Ryan	Boyle, Jr.	Adam	Dallmann	Jamie	Guerra	Rose	Landroche
Ashley	Bradley	Jessica	Dashnaw	Ashley	Habermehl	Jonathan	Lattanzio
Samantha	Brannan	Michael	Deeb	Joshua	Hakes	Heidi	Lee
Justin	Brandt	Nicholas	Del Gobbo	Alicia	Hansen	Carol	Lewis, Jr.
Derrik	Brant	Karen	Dennis	Molly	Harding	Bethany	Licht
Jessica	Brant	David	Di Virgilio	Vincent	Harris	Ashley	Liebrich
Andrew	Braun	Kimberly	Dibble	Bryant	Hathaway	Claire	Littenberg
Casey	Braunscheidel	Andrew	Dickinson	Ryan	Hawkins	Nicholas	Lo Cicero
Gregory	Brick	Melissa	Dietrich	Deborah	Hayes	Brandon	Locke
Molly	Brick	Joseph	Diminuco	Michelle	Hempel	Rachel	Lonczak
Jennifer	Brock	Martin	Doty	Amanda	Herrmann	Jessica	Loper
Shelbey	Brohman	Michael	Dowell	Joseph	Hewitt	Sara	Mac Donald
Stephen	Brown II	Derrek	Drass	James	Higgins	Amber	Maier
Samantha	Burkett	Catherine	Duquin	Caitlyn	Hochreiter	Teresita	Maluping
Nicole	Burley	Jonathan	Dziadaszek	Shawn	Hoffman	Melanie	Mancuso



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATION CLASS OF 2008



Cory Masterman	Crystal Peace	James Seymour	Kelsey Urban
Joshua Maziarz	Crystal Pellegrino	Thomas Shelby	Leah Urtel
Daniel Mc Carthy	Nathan Perillo	Marcie Shreve	Brittany Usiak
Jeffrey Mc Cowen	Alexander Pichette	Joseph Sidoni	Jessica Utzig
Nicole Mc Daniel	Lindsay Pierce	Robert Simmeth	Douglas Vaillancourt
Ryan Mc Daniel	Ashley Polichette	Edward Sinka	Ashley Van Curan
Katie Mc Farland	Dustin Prescott	Andrew Siradas	Crystal Van Curan
Bryan Mc Gowan	Shannon Previte	Michael Skillington	Adam Van Hise
Emily Metcalf	Bryan Proch	Nathan Skomski	Lisa Van Hise
Nicolas Miano	David Puscheck	Victor Smith	Jaclyn Van Voorhees
Johnathon Miles	Tracy Pyrak	Amber Smyth	Camilo Vargas
Erin Milette	David Ragsdale	Sean Smyth	William Victor
Laura Miranda	Patrick Rees	Scott Snyder	Jared Voelker
Gabrielle Mittiga	Heather Regester	Vladimir Sokolov	Eduard Vorobey
Vincent Modica	Amber Repasky	Caroline Sorensen	Eric Wackenheim
Erica Moeller	Christopher Riexinger	Johanna Spaeth	Michael Wallak
Jillian Molina	Jacob Riggs	Katelyn Steiner	Jennifer Wasilewski
Curtis Monaco	Kaitlyn Riggs	Corey Stewart	Nicholas Wells
Rachael Mondoux	Kelsey Riley	Michele Stitt	Ashleigh Wesolowski
Crystal Moran	Robert Robel	Shawna Stolzenburg	Alexa Wiech
April Morris	Amanda Roberts	Samantha Straccamore	Stephanie Wiechec
Krystal Muff	Matthew Rog	Shannon Sweeney	Christopher Wilson, Jr.
Sara Mullen	Jacob Root	Gregory Sztorc	Aaron Wixner
Sarah Mullett	Aaron Roy	Ryan Szukala	Janice Wojciechowski
Kristin Mulligan	Nicole Rua	Matthew Tafelski	Marisa Wokersien
Kathryn Nelson-Porter	Christopher Rudolph	Patrick Tasner	Kyle Woods
Ashley Nestark	Brennan Runge	Robert Tasner	AnnaMarie Wozniak
Kristie Newman	Jared Russell	Mark Tate	Kari Wrazin
Daniel Newton	Techelle Russell	Thomas Territo	Richard Yager
Alyssa Noker	Benjamin Rydzik	Justin Tomasino	Amy Young
Jacob Nolan	Ian Ryskalczyk	Kyle Tomczak	Christine Young
Nicole Norris	Kaylee Sarratori	Marvin Tooke, III	Sarah Yurek
Bonnie O'Brien	Beth Sarzyniak	Eric Trayer	Christina Zaleski
Jennifer O'Connor	Danielle Sass	David Turner	Derek Zimmerman
Megally O'Donnell	Caroline Schinaman	Gregory Turski	Katsiaryna Zagrobelny
Jason Ohar	Allegra Schmidt	Megan Tuzzo	Serena Zagrobelny
Edward Ordian	John Schneider	Molly Tyrrell	Katsiaryna Zinouchyk
Courtney Oswald	Tyler Schnell	Valentin Ukharkin	
Zhala Othman	Jodi Schosek		
Hilary Pangrazi	Andrew Schrutt		
Sarah Paradowski	Stephanie Schul		
Crystal Park	Andrew Schultz		
Nicholas Parris	Kayel Schwandt		
Olga Patsyukevich	Justin Scott		
Jonathan Pawarski	Brianna Sepulveda		





Elementary School News

Gilmore School

R.I.F. at Gilmore School

On April 9th and 10th, Gilmore School participated in its third and last R.I.F. distribution of the year! R.I.F. is an acronym for Reading Is Fundamental (or "Reading is Fun", as the students refer to it!), the oldest and largest children's and family non-profit literacy organization in the U.S. This government supported program started in 1966 by founder Margaret C. McNamara, who believed that every child is entitled to books and reading material. R.I.F. has grown over the years and now serves 4.5 million children nation-wide. Gilmore School was fortunate to be able to participate in this program,



in large part due to the efforts of the students, parents, teachers and staff of the school who support the Home School Association, which in turn provides mandated financial support for this program as well. Each school year, the children at Gilmore are given the opportunity on three separate occasions, to select from hundreds of brand new and wonderful books. Each "distribution" allows the children to select a book of their choice to read and enjoy. The books range from picture books and easy readers to "classics" and recent, newly published titles. The children are even getting a taste of "graphix" novels, which are the up and coming craze in children's literature.

It is not uncommon to hear children asking "when is the next R.I.F.?" For further information on this program or to check out the wonderful learning and fun site for all pre-school and elementary school-aged children, go to www.rif.org.



Gilmore/NT Work Together

Gilmore School was in the gardening business a few weeks ago. Through donations from Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Herman of North Tonawanda, former Gilmore School math teacher, MaryAnn Chiarello, and the North Tonawanda Parks Department, each child and staff member of Gilmore School planted an annual flower in a plot of land near Memorial Park.

The garden, located across the campus of Gilmore School at the end of 12th Avenue, was offered to us by

the Parks Department. Mr. and Mrs. Herman gave us an extremely generous donation of 17 perennial flowers. In addition, Mrs. Chiarello donated a hosta to honor her late husband and former Gilmore School Principal, James Chiarello, while the Parks Department provided enough annuals to make the garden a beautiful masterpiece. Over the summer the Parks Department will water and weed our garden so it stays beautiful all season. The Parks Department also donated some strategically



placed rocks, thanks to the supervision of Patricia Coia (5th grade teacher) and Patricia Montaldi (kindergarten teacher), in the center of our garden.

It was definitely a community coming together to make this school project successful. Gilmore School Principal, Patrick Holesko, feels this project is ideal. "Not only has it brought several entities together, but it has taught our students to appreciate and respect our environment as well."

Special Riviera Theater Field Trip

READ ON and ON and ON. That is just what students at Gilmore Elementary did. A reading challenge was issued and the kindergartners thru sixth graders collectively read more than 13,500 books by April 2008. The children were treated to a movie and a tour of the historic Riviera Theater. Congratulations to all these voracious readers and many more exciting reading adventures to all. Special thanks to the director and staff of the Riviera Theater for valuing literacy and sponsoring this school wide field trip.



Fit and Fun

It is no secret that in today's society more and more of our children are dealing with weight issues. It is essential that we as a community encourage our students to make healthier choices and to promote a well-rounded learning experience.

Gilmore School had the wonderful opportunity to participate in a Fit & Fun Program offered by the Healthy Community Alliance. This school-wide event was a great way to promote healthy eating habits and increase our students' activity level.

Our program started with a Healthy Halloween Festival this past October. We then headed into a 3-week healthy eating sticker program for 3rd and 4th graders. The cafeteria offered salads and healthy snack options, which the children earned stickers if they made healthy choices. These stickers then turned into prizes.

Kindergarten and 1st grade students had an assembly that included a healthy story and taste testing of a variety of nutritious snacks. The older students had the chance to be part of a raffle by earning fitness bucks. The physical education teacher gave these bucks for completed minutes of activity. After 3 weeks of working for the bucks the students gathered for the raffle. Many students walked away with wonderful athletic equipment. With such great response from the students, teachers, and families, Gilmore is striving to continue a healthy program for our students.





Spruce School



SPRUCE SIXTH GRADERS RECEIVE LESSON IN PATRIOTISM

Yearly, Mr. Burns' social studies students take time from learning about ancient civilizations to create Veterans' Day cards that he hand delivers to the patients in the Veterans Administration Hospital in Buffalo and to several area nursing homes. However, in September he had learned that one of his students has parents who are presently stationed in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Ashley Guiher brought in her parent's address and the cards were immediately mailed. After the cards' long journey to Iraq, Ashley received an e-mail from her parents reporting to her that the heart felt cards arrived and everyone in their squadron was pleased with the sincerity of each card. As a token of gratitude, the 3rd Squadron, 17th U.S. Cavalry unit gave the sixth grade class an American flag that was flown during a combat mission in the vicinity of Baghdad, Iraq on November 23, 2007. The flag, a certificate of authenticity, a video of the troops and a letter from Ashley's dad and step mom hang proudly in the sixth grade hallway.

Recycling

Students from Mrs. Otis' 2nd Grade class gathered knowledge about the needs of recycling and saving the environment while putting recycled products to use by constructing these "extreme robots".



National Dental Month

National Dental Month came to the Kindergarten classes at Spruce Elementary School recently with a visit from Wendy Diaz, Dental Hygienist. She talked to the children about good habits to take proper care of their teeth. The children learned about healthy foods and what a dentist wears in the office, such as a mask, gloves and glasses.



Showing off some of the dental equipment are, from left, Jenelle Martin, Ms. Diaz, Dominic Parsons, Hunter Ohar and Abriana Pickett, who are dressed as dentists.

Stone Soup

Kindergarten students in Deborah Dexheimer's class were busy recently learning how to follow directions and sequencing after reading Stone Soup by Ann McGovern. After making out a shopping list and putting all the ingredients together, the class put their stone into the water and began brewing their own pot of vegetable soup. Putting



some of the vegetables in the soup pot are, from left, Gregory McDole, Evelyn Crowe, Taylor Ringler, Elizabeth Ambrusko, holding the ladle, Evan Bolsover and Emily Hooley.

Art Work

Dawn Gianadda, Spruce Art Teacher, worked on a project with our 6th grade students following Gustav Klimt's Patterned Art Work Creations. Student work adorns the Spruce hallways and doesn't seem "elementary" at all!



Ohio School



Pictured above: Kristin Prohaska, Kirsten Ferree

"Wanted Readers" Program

Howdy, Y'all! Ohio Elementary rounded up readers with a rollicking Old West theme. Throughout the month of February the little book rustlers were caught reading in their classrooms by school deputies, enjoyed time in the library that was transformed into a ranch, as well as enjoyed Western themed activities in the classrooms, music, and physical education classes. The Ohio hallways were lined with posters created in computer class by students who used computers to place their photos onto a "Wanted Reader" poster.

Kristin Prohaska, a real live cowgirl, also entertained students with her skills on the violin and played the country fiddle. Kirsten Ferree, one of the students, joined Kristin on stage and performed with her violin as well. Fifth and Sixth grade students who participated in a gifted and enrichment theatre arts group treated Ohio students to a comical play based on the Wanted Reader's theme.

Our month came to a close on February 29th with a country western dress-up day and a day of reading around the campfire. Many of our great teachers worked together to celebrate and encourage a love for reading in our little cowpokes. We encourage everyone to lasso some time, settle back, and read at your homestead.



Meadow School



Classroom Economy

For the last two cycles, the children in Mrs. Reading's Second Grade at Meadow were actively involved with a year-long economy unit in which they earned credits and debits. This activity was cross-curricular in that students earned credits for being at school. They earned bonuses for good behavior, extra effort on their work, showing good character and being responsible. Debits were earned when students broke the rules or did not come to school prepared. At the end of each 2 cycle pay period, the students added up their credits and subtracted their debits to calculate their total earnings. They were then issued a paycheck for that amount which they endorsed and cashed at the Reading Bank. For the first pay period Miss Movalli, our student teacher, was the banker, but soon the children held this job. The children were given "Reading Money" which they used to purchase items at the class store. This is their favorite part! Shop, Shop, Shop!



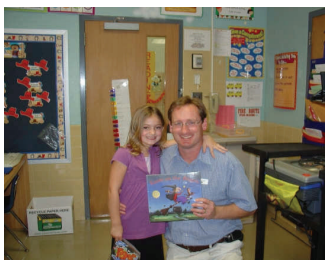
As students shopped, they used shopping logs to keep track of what they were spending. Our student consumers recorded each item, specified the quantity and then calculated the total cost to determine the amount they owed.

The log was then taken to the cashier to be double checked and then used as the shopper's receipt.

Through this unit, the children learned many real-world concepts. They noticed that they could not afford all the objects in the store. They learned about saving up for an item as well as supply and demand. They quickly saw the benefit of doing their job well to earn money for the items they wanted.

Mystery Readers

Students in Mrs. Heather Haynes' second grade class at Meadow School were treated each week to a visit by a Mystery Reader. Mystery Readers included parents, older siblings, grandparents, relatives, and other special people. Mystery Readers visited Mrs. Haynes' classroom on Monday afternoons and read a picture book aloud to the class. The readers were asked to write five clues ahead of time so that the class had a chance to guess who the Mystery Reader would be. The children always looked forward to these special visits.



Pictured is Mr. David Guido with his daughter Julia

Daily 5

Mrs. Reading's second grade class at Meadow School worked hard in literacy by using the Daily 5. This is where students read to themselves, read to someone, listen to reading, write and work with words every day. The children did a fantastic job using the new work board to keep track of their work. They also learned how to choose "just right" books.

Posters helped them remember to think about how a book feels. Too hard like pedaling up hill, too easy like coasting down hill, or just right like a nice ride without many bumps.

Levels of Classification

Students in Mrs. Ellman's science classes learned a mnemonic device to recall the Levels of Classification. The mnemonic device is: King Phillip came over for grape soda. The "K" stands for Kingdom. The "P" stands for phylum. The "C" stands for class. The "O", "F", "G" and "S" stand for: class, order, family, genus and species, consecutively. Students later created their own King Phillip crowns, enjoyed a grape soda, and drew a poster to represent this mnemonic device all in the name of learning. Learning at Meadow is both educational and fun!!



Pictured are Adam Fahs, LouAnn Durfey, Emma Royer

Earth Day

On Tuesday, April 22, 2008 Meadow students, families and staff celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up the grounds around the school. While enjoying the beautiful weather, classes went outside during the school day and picked up garbage as they learned about the importance of caring for our world.

The families, students and staff met again in the evening to finish the clean-up, weed the flower beds and then plant bushes that will attract butterflies and other insects which are good for our environment.

The evening concluded with all the participants enjoying dinner provided by the Meadow Home School Association. The day was a tribute in honor of Earth Day and a Family Appreciation Day for all the support our families, students, and staff provide to our wonderful school.

Drake School



Pictured are Elizabeth, Grace and Colin Croop

Variety Club Telethon

In late February, Drake School raised money for the Variety Club Telethon, to honor 3rd grader Grace Croop, who was the celebrity child for this year's telethon. The students purchased paper hearts for \$.25, which were then used to decorate the Drake halls!

Close to \$300 was raised to help the Variety Club!

Jane Goodall Institute

Mrs. Smith's fifth grade class at Drake School read about the wonderful works of Jane Goodall in their reading series. Through the Jane Goodall Institute website, the students discovered that they could donate money for a chimp guardianship. The students in the class raised \$100 by doing various chores at home. The guardianship will help twin baby chimps, Golden and Glitta!

Peer Club

The fifth grade Peer Club at Drake School collected candy and small toys during the month of March. They used these donations to fill close to 30 Easter baskets. The baskets were donated to St. Luke's Mission of Mercy in Buffalo. The students really enjoyed filling the baskets and helping others!



Pictured are Meghan Pelligrino and Alicia Lorich



We Have Talent!



**ON A COLD AND
STORMY EVENING...**

Miss Maple, a dowager with a reputation for "clever" weekend parties, invites a group of detective writers to eerie Ravenswood Manor on Turkey Island where they are to impersonate their fictional characters. The hostess has arranged all sorts of amusing incidents: a mysterious voice on the radio, a menacing face at the window, a mad killer on the loose. Who is that body in the wine cellar anyway? Why do little figurines keep toppling from the mantle? Then a real murder takes place, and Miss Maple is outraged. She offers an immense reward to the "detective" who can bring the killer to justice. And what an assortment of zany would-be sleuths! When they're not busy tripping over clues, they trip over each other...

The North Tonawanda High School Drama Club presented their second student directed play in April. The two act production of *The Butler Did It* was directed by Joseph Hewitt, a Senior, and was another success for the active high school club. Rousing performances were given by Molly Harding, Shannon McMahon, Sarah Yurek, Xavier Riley, Jeff Burruano, Derek Lowden, Jake Perkins, Sydney Forster, Daniel Torres, and Cristina Burruano.



Mr. Vallas has announced that the Fall musical is **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.** Auditions will be held the second week of school in September. Come out and join one of the finest production companies.



CINDERELLA KIDS

The sixth graders at Spruce Elementary School presented the musical, Disney's "Cinderella Kids," this past June 2008.

With four shows over a two-day span, students practiced for this show since the winter months. This culmination project was partly funded by the Orleans-Niagara BOCES, the Remember Ryan Grant Fund, and the Spruce Home School Organization.

Hiring professional sound quality, along with selecting a most successful student casting brought to you by the Spruce staff, the production was led by Mrs. Christine Vallas, Music Teacher.

The productions resulted in "standing room only" for all of its productions as the show was a major hit! Students were fabulous in creating all aspects of the show, from main character representations to stage crew staff. We are very proud of our student accomplishments.

Music and Lyrics by
Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jeffry
Livingston

Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by
Marcy Heisler

Music Adapted and Arranged by
Bryan Louiselle

Based on the Screenplay by
Ken Anderson and Homer Brightman

Directed by: Mrs. Christine Vallas



★ In October a grant was awarded to Gilmore and Meadow elementary schools to fund a creative project entitled **Welcome to New Orleans...the Home of Miss Katrina a Musical Tribute of Tragedy and Triumph**. Various percussion “color” instruments were purchased to be used in the creation of a new work for elementary band. The fifth and sixth grade band students along with their music teacher, April Carere, composed a multi-movement piece for

percussion and band that re-created hurricane Katrina. Classroom and special area teachers assisted in this collaborative project which helped the students learn about the unique city of New Orleans, the tragic impact of hurricanes and the triumph of the American Spirit. The “world premier” of **Miss Katrina** was performed at the spring concert.

★ NTHS students were published in the NCCC About Place publication. Joshua Maziarz won 2nd place and Andrew Stradas

Honorable Mention. An awards ceremony was held in April. Congrats!!

★ Craig Shells, who was a 6th grader at Spruce Elementary School, was awarded a prize package for Mrs. Licht’s classroom, his former teacher, through the Expo Company classroom Makeover contest. Craig’s winning essay helped to get him a monetary prize and a digital mimeography board for Mrs. Licht’s classroom, where students will be able

to interact through digital writing. Congratulations to Craig and Mrs. Licht! This goes to show you the power of writing and sharing your work with others!

★ Students from Spruce Elementary School made a generous donation to “Pennies for Patients” recently. The children presented the donation to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at a NTCSD board meeting in March. They raised over \$2,000.

Computer Skills Department News

All students in North Tonawanda City School District had an exciting year learning and enhancing their computer skills! We are very proud of all the great work that was produced. Don’t let these newly learned skills fall by the wayside over the summer. Your child can continue learning during the summer and have fun doing it.

The Computer Skills Department would like to introduce you to:

Internet4Classrooms at:

<http://www.internet4classrooms.com>.

- ◇ This database is full of free Internet resources that can help improve your child’s understanding of his/her school curriculum, as well as sharpen his/her computer skills while learning. These skill builders link you to interactive sites that will help your child learn in a way that is fun and interesting.

Get grade level help at: http://www.internet4classrooms.com/grade_level_help.htm

Search by subject at: <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/kl2links.htm>

Practice Modules at: <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/on-line.htm>

- ◇ Check out on-line technology tutorials to learn how to use programs such as PowerPoint, Word, Excel, Inspiration, Kidspiration and more. These are a few of the programs that your child used during the school year.

For Parents: With summer upon us, the Computer Skills Department would like to provide you with some tips on what to do with all those great photos you are taking.

- **Picasa** helps you easily organize all the photos on your computer.
- Using **Picasa** lets you edit, add effects, and share your photos.
- **Picasa** is a free download from GOOGLE. Go to www.google.com; click on more; go to Photos; click on **Picasa** and follow simple on-screen directions.

Want to do more? Try **Photo Story 3**.

- ◇ **Photo Story 3** helps you create a slideshow from your photos.
- ◇ Using **Photo Story 3** lets you add text, music, voice-overs and special effects to your slideshow.
- ◇ **Photo Story 3** is a free download.