

## New Teacher Certification Process Has Begun

*February 15, 2000 marked the beginning of a new era for Illinois teachers. On that date the new three-tiered certification system and professional development requirements established by recent legislation began. Although the ISBE disseminated these new requirements through newspapers, other publications and its web site, you may still have some concerns about the certification process and the way you will be affected by the changes.*

### Exchange Requirement – Standard and Master Certificates

**T**he law requires persons who register their current certificates after February 15, 2000, to exchange their early childhood, elementary, high school and special certificates for equivalent five-year Standard certificates. Individuals with certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards will exchange their current certificates for a 10-year Master certificate. Persons who exchange their certificates are not required to pass any examinations and they are obligated only to pay the \$25 five-year registration fee for Standard (\$50 for 10-year) certificates. Standard and Master certificates will be renewable under the new Certificate Renewal Process.

### Protection of Rights

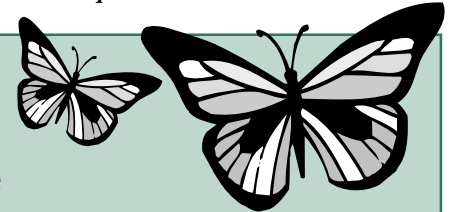
Teachers will not lose any rights during the exchange; new certificates will bear the same endorsements listed on former certificates, and they will be qualified to teach the same subjects they were qualified to teach before the exchange. Anyone holding an approval in an area of Special Education, English as a Second Language or Bilingual Education will still hold the approval after the exchange.

### Special Certificate Exchange Option

Teachers currently holding Special certificates, however, will have a onetime opportunity to exchange that certificate for two five-year Standard certificates, an elementary and a secondary certificate, each endorsed in the same area as the former certificate. If they choose

not to opt for two certificates, they may exchange the expiring certificate for a single Special certificate endorsed in the same subject they held before. The two-certificate option will allow teachers to expand their teaching areas beyond the endorsement(s) placed on the certificates during the exchange; they may do so by taking only enough credit hours to meet the requirements for the new subject endorsement. In keeping the single Special certificate, the teacher's only means of qualifying in a new subject is to meet the requirements for a new certificate. *Continued on p. 4...*

### Painted Lady Butterflies Now Available



Each year, West 40 brings the life cycle of the butterfly into classrooms through Painted Lady Butterfly kits. All West 40 schools are invited to purchase these kits, which include three to five butterfly larvae in a vial with nutrients. Order forms for the butterflies were mailed to schools in February. The price per kit is \$13.95. The supplier guarantees at least three butterflies will develop per kit, and the late April pick-up date assures that students will observe the entire metamorphosis before the end of the school year.

Companion grade level activity kits with 12-25 activities are also available for \$3 per packet. To purchase kits, please indicate the grade level on the order form which was recently sent to schools. West 40 must receive orders by April 7.

Teachers will also need to build a flight cage for emerging butterflies. Building instructions are included with each order.

Painted Lady kits must be picked up from West 40 on Thursday, April 27, 9:00 AM to noon. For more information call Doug Dirks at 708/447-6070.

## Educators Accolades

**C**ongratulations to: Teachers from Lyons Township High School—French teacher **Donna Czarnecki**, who was selected as one of three master teachers in Illinois by the Educational Technology Board at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Lyons Township High School Student Assistance Coordinator **Linda Dunne**, who received the Community Education Award from the Illinois Directors of Student Activities for her many and varied efforts which include work for Snowball, Red Ribbon Week, Parent University, Life Seminars, and others;

Four Lyons Township High School Language Arts teachers who presented at the National Council of Teachers of English annual convention in Denver: **Brad Anderson**, **Jane Campbell**, **Katie Maguire**, and **Angela Gutierrez**.

Teachers from Ridgewood High School – **Walter Glogowski** earned National Board Certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards. Walter is one of only 53 teachers in the state who received National Board Certification in 1999; **Bob Lupo**, curriculum coordinator, earned his Ph.D. in

Curriculum and Instruction from Northern Illinois University; **Barry Weisberg**, Technology Education Teacher attended a workshop at the NASA Glenn Research Center at Lewis Park. Only 25 teachers from 1000 applicants were selected to

attend. He is also speaking at the Wisconsin Technology Education Association State Conference in March.

Educators, e-mail your accolades to Kay Poyner Brown at [kpoynerb@w-cook.k12.il.us](mailto:kpoynerb@w-cook.k12.il.us) or fax to 708/447-6732. ❖

### Save These Dates for West 40 Events

**March 22** Circle of Courage Series: Larry K. Brendtro, presenter

**May 3** Writing Talent Search Awards Ceremony

**August 16** IASA/West 40 Superintendents' Breakfast

**November 28** Maximizing Learning for Low Achieving Students Conference

## West Cook Technology Award Winners

The year 2000 Larry Stilgebauer Awards recognized innovative and effective uses of technology by individuals, schools, and school districts. Criteria for the award included the innovative use of technology to address the Illinois Learning Standards. The awards were presented on February 24 at the annual Role of Technology Conference in St. Charles. The award was named after an area educator. Congratulations, West Cook Technology Award winners:

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

**Sr. Rosemary La Flaur**, St. Mary's School, Exemplary Award.

**Janet Barnstable**, District 97, Percy Julian Junior High School, Exemplary Award.

**Barbara Dunn**, District 208, Riverside | Brookfield High School, Certificate of Merit.

**Gene Hanes**, District 209, Proviso West High School, Certificate of Merit.

**Charles Lovelace**, District 234, Ridgewoods High School, Certificate of Merit.

**Ruth Miller**, District 92.5, Westchester Intermediate School, Certificate of Merit.

### SCHOOL AWARDS

District 209, **Proviso East High School**, Exemplary Award.

District 401, **Elm Middle School**, Exemplary Award.

District 86, **Union Ridge School**, Certificate of Merit.

District 97, **William Beye School**, Certificate of Merit.

### DISTRICT AWARDS

District 96, **Riverside Public School District**, Exemplary Award.

District 97, **Oak Park Public Schools**, Exemplary Award.

District 107, **Pleasantdale School District**, Certificate of Merit.

District 209, **Proviso Township High School**, Certificate of Merit.

District 212, **Leyden Township High School**, Certificate of Merit.

## Meet the West 40 Staff

### Doug Dirks, Math and Science Consultant



**T**eacher, researcher, scientist, environmentalist—Dr. Doug Dirks brings a commitment and love of his areas of expertise to his role as West 40's mathematics and science consultant. His background is diverse and multifaceted. A math teacher in Silicon Valley, physics teacher at the University of Illinois lab school, researcher, computer training developer, and even a religious educator, Doug's quest for knowledge has traveled many roads.

In his twelfth year at West 40, Doug works with school districts to support school improvement efforts in math and science, both on-site or through West 40 initiatives and professional development courses. Currently, he is helping build awareness of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) supported middle school mathematics curricula, in line with the Illinois Learning Standards. Analyzing new materials, reports, textbooks and booklets are all part of the effort. Other initiatives

include working on professional development for K-5 math teachers in content areas of the Learning Standards. He is lining up trainers now to begin these West 40 Professional Development classes in summer. Doug will also roll out training for middle school math initiatives in summer. He not only stays on top of all of the latest ISBE math and science initiatives, but works with schools to disseminate the information and implement learning activities.

Doug develops and implements the math and science curriculum for professional development courses offered at West 40. He creates the courses, finds presenters and networks with schools and other service centers. He also works on numerous other projects. A recent one was DASI (Data Analysis for School Improvement), software which allowed schools to compare their IGAP data with schools of similar size, EAV, and socio-

economic status of students. Currently, he is looking to build a collection of services for select schools in West 40's service area.

Each year, he helps coordinate the Math Olympiad, which brings gifted students from many schools together in friendly competition.

Doug earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in math at California State University at Fresno. He began his career as a math and science teacher in Silicon Valley, California, then came to the University of Illinois and earned a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction. A teacher at University High School, he also spent a year as a researcher in science education. He worked as a religious educator, then was employed with a

computer based training firm that developed specialized software and hardware for companies. While pursuing a return to public education, he successfully applied to work at West 40.

Doug and his wife, Dorothy, also an educator, have three grown children. The couple's recent move to a new house is spurring another project: restoring the lawn to its original native woodland. This project mirrors Doug's long-standing interest in ecology. The couple also collects antiques, primarily furniture.

**For current math and science information and assistance, don't hesitate to contact Doug Dirks at 708/447-6070 or via e-mail at [ddirks@w-cook.k12.il.us](mailto:ddirks@w-cook.k12.il.us)**

## West 40 Web site Improved

West 40's Web site [www.w-cook.k12.il.us](http://www.w-cook.k12.il.us) has been updated and improved to provide you with the latest news and information. Professional Development and Administrators' Academy courses, descriptions, times, dates and openings are listed, as is a printable registration form. You'll also find Circle of Courage dates and content, WestWinds newsletters and Staff Development Program catalogs in downloadable PDF format, dates to remember, ISAT information, links to West 40 staff e-mail addresses, information on the Governing Board, links to other important educational Web sites, and more. Next time you're surfing the web, be sure to bookmark West 40's Web site for news you can use.

## New Certification Process Has Begun *Continued*

### Special Certificates in Special Education

Standard Special certificates endorsed in Special Education areas will be valid for teaching children with disabilities from pre-kindergarten through age twenty-one. Anyone with a Special certificate choosing to exchange for elementary and secondary certificates endorsed in their area of Special Education will be similarly protected. The elementary certificate will be endorsed for teaching children with disabilities from pre-kindergarten through grade nine and the secondary certificate will be valid for teaching from grade six through age twenty-one, giving the same rights to the teacher as the single Standard Special certificate.

### Registration Process

Most teachers are registered for the current year and will not register again until their current registration expires. The exchange of certificates will not go into effect for them until they register on July 1, 2000, 2001 or 2002. Teachers who are not registered for the current year, however, will exchange their certificates immediately upon registration after February 15, 2000.

Regional Superintendents may collect registration fees in advance for the 2000-2001 school year; however, they will be unable to enter the fees into the State system until July 1, 2000. Regional superintendents will enter into the State Teacher Certification Information System all data concerning employment. For this reason, it is important that registration forms be completed accurately. The data will be used to comply with federal and state reporting requirements.

### Initial Certificates

Candidates completing approved teacher education programs and passing basic skill and subject matter tests will be issued an Initial Certificate that is good for four years of teaching and cannot be renewed. After successfully completing four years of teaching and passing the appropriate testing requirements, the teacher will qualify for a Standard Certificate. ❖

*(Reprinted, with additions, from ISBE Superintendent's Bulletin 2000A-04)*

## West 40 Starts On-Line "Info-Xchange"

Educators can now subscribe to a new West 40 list serve dedicated to sharing information on curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development and school improvement. To join, send Doug Dirks or Kay Poyner Brown an e-mail with your e-mail address. Contact Kay at [kpoynerb@w-cook.k12.il.us](mailto:kpoynerb@w-cook.k12.il.us) or Doug at [ddirks@w-cook.k12.il.us](mailto:ddirks@w-cook.k12.il.us).

## Teacher of the Year Will Speak

*Kevin Murphy, Lyons Township Physics and Astronomy teacher, and the 2000 Illinois Teacher of the Year is scheduling speaking engagements at no charge. Kevin teaches students in grades 11 and 12 and has taught for thirteen years. If you wish to have Kevin participate in an inservice, make a conference presentation, or conduct a workshop, call Kathy Giampapa at 708/579-6409.*

## West 40 Governing Board

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Lyons Township High School

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**Charles Klingsporn**  
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Administrative Agent  
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