



## Maximizing Learning for Low-Achieving Students Conference

### **Differentiated Instruction:**

### **Making a Connection With Every Student**

Tuesday, November 28, 2000 • 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Donald E. Stevens Convention Center, Rosemont

**T**o teach—Inspire. Motivate. Understand. The awesome challenge of creating positive outcomes like these for every student, whether “Gifted,” “At Risk,” “Learning Disabled,” “Challenged” or “ADD” creates a need for continuous reflection and renewal of teachers on the front lines.

Join West 40 for the third annual “**Maximizing Learning for Low Achieving Students Conference—Differentiated Instruction: Making a Connection With Every Student.**” All educators will benefit from this one-day conference, dedicated to reestablishing the joys and rewards of making a connection with every student. Take home strategies that will enhance skills and techniques for reaching every student.

Two keynote presenters will inspire and educate: Through song and personal stories, **Jerry Mills**, educator and Marquette, Michigan singer-songwriter, will share inspiring ideas and strategies to help teachers reach every student. **Patricia Woodin-Weaver**, who developed a self-analysis tool for differentiated instruction, is the coordinator of the Differentiated Instruction Network of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She will present differentiation strategies drawn from her work.

Breakout sessions will focus on the content, process and products components of differentiated instruction and help teachers connect with students at varying readiness levels, learning preferences, and interests.

The final session of the day will provide a synthesis of the day’s learning and a recap of major themes and strategies.

Register now for this important conference. A fee of \$95 per person includes parking and lunch. **Call West 40 at 708/447-6070 for registration information.** ❖

## **TLFC Grant Winners Announced**

In July, the ISBE announced its Technology Literacy Fund Challenge (TLFC) grant recipients. From 467 applicants, 92 grants were awarded. Basically, ISBE awards those proposals that involve an innovative and promising way to capture students’ interest as they work on attaining high academic standards. Chicago schools received 39 grants. Five TLFC grants went to schools in West 40.

The West 40 area grant recipients are:  
**Oak Park Elementary District 97:** \$180,000  
**Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview District 89:** \$180,000  
**Berwyn North High School District 98:** \$135,000  
**Oak Park-River Forest High School District 200:** \$135,000  
And, for a regional grant,  
**Proviso Township High School District 209:** \$225,000.  
Congratulations to all of the latest TLFC recipients. ❖

## **Introducing Superintendents**

*Six school districts/cooperatives in West Cook are welcoming new superintendents. West 40 congratulates the superintendents on their appointments and introduces them to the West 40 family:*

**Randolph Tinder**, Forest Park School District 91;  
**Richard Best**, Lindop School District 92; **Myra C. Sanders**, Westchester School District 92.5; **Douglas Rudig**, Brookfield School District 95; **Gregory Jackson**, Proviso Township High School District 209, and **Robert Giles**, Federation of Districts for Special Education (FDSE).

*Introducing:***Ray Kuper, President,  
West 40 Governing Board**

**T**his month, Superintendent **Ray Kuper** of Union Ridge School District in Norridge will assume an additional role: President of the West 40 Governing Board. He joined the West 40 Governing Board in 1999 and was elected president-elect the same year.

Superintendent Kuper will begin a one-year term of office. His duties as president will include officiating at Board meetings, setting Board agendas and chairing committees. He believes this to be an "interesting and crucial time" for West 40, one in which particular care must be given to assess where West 40 has been, and where it needs to go in the future as the needs of districts become more diverse. He will bring experience gained from 34 years in education to the job.

Seven years ago he assumed the superintendency of Union Ridge. Previously, he served as an administrator and teacher at East Maine District 63 for 18 years, and taught elementary and high school in Chicago.



He earned a BA in teaching (instrumental music major) from Northeastern University, holds a Master's in Music from DePaul and a Doctorate in Educational Administration, Leadership and Policy from Loyola.

Music is his passion. A former music teacher, he plays keyboard, piano and synthesizer. He and Susan, his wife of 32 years and also an educator, enjoy traveling. They have two grown children. Last year, their children became parents for the first time and Susan and Ray are enjoying their new role as grandparents. "This first year of grandparenting has been great fun," Superintendent Kuper remarked.

West 40 welcomes Ray Kuper to the Governing Board leadership as it approaches its fifteenth year of service to West Cook County. ❖

**Save These West 40 Dates****2000**

- September 22** Gifted Coordinators' Meeting
- October 3** Reading Roundtable (also January 23 and March 20, 2001)
- October 4** Speech and Drama Festival Workshop
- October 17** Future of Technology Conference
- November 9** Junior Math Olympiad Coaches' Workshop
- November 28** Maximizing Learning for Low Achieving Students Conference.

**2001**

- January 24** Writing Talent Search Manuscript Deadline
- February 3** Junior Math Olympiad
- February 10** Speech & Drama Festival
- March 2** School Citizen of the Year (SCOTY) Awards

**Future of Technology  
Conference: October 17, 2000**

*Every technology decision-maker in Illinois schools will gain valuable information at West 40's "Future of Technology Conference." Predicting the future is nearly impossible, but through the vision of professionals from many of the most cutting edge tech businesses, educators will gain insight into what is on the horizon in technology—and how schools can benefit and prepare.*

*The Future of Technology Conference will take place on Tuesday, October 17 at Nordic Hills Resort in Itasca, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The morning will be dedicated to representatives from Apple, Intel, Lucent, Compaq, the US Navy and other hi-tech entities who will share their views on the future of technology. An interactive strategy session with these representatives will take place in the afternoon.*

*Strategize and plan how technology and innovations can be used to make learning easier for children. District technologists, superintendents, principals, curriculum coordinators, board members, classroom teachers and other technology decision-makers are invited to this special one-day conference. Schools should send teams of significant technology decision-makers and practitioners. Cost is \$200 per four-member team, or \$65 per person. Deadline for registration is September 27. This conference carries 1.2 CEUs for professional development. For additional information contact Gerry Zeller at 708/447-6070 or [gzeller@w-cook.k12.il.us](mailto:gzeller@w-cook.k12.il.us)*

**Visit the West 40 Web site at [WWW.W-COOK.K12.IL.US](http://WWW.W-COOK.K12.IL.US)**

## What's New With Certificate Renewal?

Illinois began the new Teacher Certificate Renewal process July 1, 2000. Teachers whose certificates expired June 30, 2000 received a new Standard Teaching Certificate, which comes with the renewal requirement of 120 hours of professional development activities. A teacher holding a Standard Certificate must prepare a Certificate Renewal Plan outlining the teacher's plan for professional development activities over the five-year period that the certificate is valid. Professional development activities can be graduate level course work, conference and workshop attendance, and other activities outlined in the law. Activities also may include participation in school improvement efforts, membership on the school's internal review team, supervision of student teachers and other school-based projects. Renewal of certificates is based on successful completion of activities outlined in the teacher's Certificate Renewal Plan.

### Master Teacher Certificates

Teachers who have earned recognition as National Board Certified Teachers through the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards are eligible to exchange their expiring cer-

tificates for Master Teacher Certificates. Master Teacher Certificates carry the same 120 hours of professional development requirement, but have a ten-year period of validity and timeline for completion of the professional development activities.

### Standard Teacher Certificates and the Certificate Renewal Process

The new Certificate Renewal process is operating under interim rules until January 1, 2001.

■ Teachers with the new Standard Certificate may begin accumulating professional development hours in the form of Continuing Education Units (CEUs), Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDUs), or semester hours of graduate credit for any activity ending after July 1, 2000. A teacher participating in such activity should include it in his/her Certificate Renewal Plan and save proof of attendance.

■ A teacher working with an unexpired certificate may

elect to apply early for a Standard Certificate and receive credit for activities completed after July 1, 2000. Applications for early renewal may be submitted to Regional Offices of Education through December 31, 2000. Early application certificates requested during the year 2000 expire June 30, 2005.

■ Each district must form a Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC) to review and approve

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## Fall Professional Development Catalog Offers More Programs Than Ever!

The fall edition of West 40's Professional Development Catalog has arrived at schools. At 40 pages it is the largest catalog West 40 has ever produced, with more than 70 courses, including an abundance of new and exciting programs offering CPUs for professional development. Among the highlights of the catalog are:

### Forum for New

**Educational Leaders:** October 5, 2000

An Administrators' Academy offering that provides collegial support through networking. No fee. Registration deadline: September 21.\*

*New Language Arts programs:*

### Family Literacy-

**Making Reading Fun:** October 18

An ideal introductory family involvement program that involves parents of first through ninth graders with their children's reading. Presenter Ellie Macfarlane is a noted author and former associate director of the Family Literacy Center. \$100 per person. Registration deadline: October 4.\*

**Igniting and Inviting High Levels of Reading Performance and Content Area Achievement for 6-12 Grade Students:** November 1

Improve reading performance through learning how the brain operates. Learn techniques that engage students and help make reading fun. The presenter is Bobb Darnell, reading improvement specialist. \$75 per person. Registration deadline: October 18.\*

*New mathematics offerings geared to a standards-based middle grade mathematics curriculum:*

**Preparing for A Standards-Based Mathematics Curriculum in Grades 5-8:** October 4

This one-day workshop will help school and/or district math teams prepare for the transition to a standards-based curriculum. The presenter is Kathryn Chval, Mathematics Consultant, UIC-MWM. \$65 per person. Registration deadline: September 20.\*

**Grades 5-8 Mathematics Curriculum Showcase:** November 1

Examine and compare new materials based on the National Science Foundation's development of a standards-based mathematics curricula. Five curricula offer a much different view of math instruction

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## Fall Professional Development Catalog... *Continued*

from the traditional textbook approach. The workshop examines the new curricula and how they can be adapted for use. The presenter is Susan Dahl, Education Specialist. \$25 per person. Registration deadline: October 18.\*

*New science and technology courses include:*  
**Introduction to Global Information Systems (GIS) and**

**On-Line Resources:** October 16

Middle and high school teachers will want to learn to use Global Information Systems and On-line resources with their students. Presented by Timothy Nosal, Assoc. Technology Consultant, West 40. \$105 per person. Registration deadline: October 2.\*

**The Future of Technology:** October 17  
A MUST for all persons involved with technology decision making, this conference presents visionaries from Apple, Lucent, Intel, Compaq and other companies. They will share their visions of the future and how schools can benefit. (See article on page 2.) \$200 for district groups of four, or

\$65 per person. Registration deadline: September 27.\*

*Staff Development programs include:*  
**Study Group on Richard Stiggins' Student-Centered Classroom**

**Assessment:** September 20

Join a study group focusing on understanding classroom assessment using the book *Student-Centered Classroom Assessment*. The only charge for the program is the cost of the book (\$50). Lead by Doug Dirks, West 40 Mathematics and Science Consultant. Registration deadline: September 6.\*

To register for these programs, use the registration form in the Professional Development Catalog, or call West 40 at **708/447-6070** for further information.

*\*Registration by the deadline assures participants will receive confirmations and parking passes prior to the program. Registrations will continue to be accepted up until the day before the program on a space-available basis.*

## What's New With Certificate Renewal *Continued*

Certificate Renewal Plans and professional development activities.

■ The Teacher Recertification Board and the Illinois State Board of Education plan to have Certificate Renewal Manuals available October 1, 2000 for LPDC use. Manuals will include forms for preparing Certificate Renewal Plans and for submitting completed activities for approval. Once the Certificate Renewal Manuals are published, training for the LPDCs will be available.

■ The LPDCs may begin accepting Certificate Renewal Plans November 1, 2000.

■ The LPDC must approve a teacher's Certificate Renewal Plan in order for the teacher to receive credit for any activity begun after January 1, 2001.

■ Activities taking place after January 1, 2001 must have been delivered by an approved Professional Development Provider to be approved. It is anticipated that all Intermediate Service Centers, Regional Offices of Education, and accredited universities and colleges will be approved providers.

A teacher's professional development activities must address one or more of four purposes:

1. *Improve the teacher's knowledge and skill in his/her area of certification (subject area or grade level).*
2. *Develop the teacher's knowledge or skill in one or more of the five areas of statewide priority: reading, mathematics, technology, standards and assessment, or special education.*
3. *Develop the teacher's knowledge and skill in areas identified by his/her school's School Improvement Plan.*
4. *Expand the teacher's knowledge and skills into an additional teaching area, additional certification, endorsement, or an advanced degree in the field of education.*

**The complete Certification Renewal Rules, a detailed explanation of the interim regulations, and the final procedures are available at the ISBE website, [www.isbe.state.il.us](http://www.isbe.state.il.us), or by calling the toll-free Certification Renewal Hotline at 1-866-CEU-CPDU (1-866-238-2738).**

## West 40 Governing Board

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