



The Eagle's View

A Newsletter of the Nazareth Area School District

Summer 2006

District-Wide Art Show: *A Nazareth Tradition*

One of the only district-wide art shows in the area, Nazareth includes artwork from grades K-12 and a variety of art mediums. Nazareth has followed this tradition for over 35 years. The show was open from 7:30-3 and 6-9 PM May 17th to the 19th in the high school gymnasium. A number of students of all ages, parents, faculty, administrators, artists, and community members attended the art show to support Nazareth's young artists. A diversity of mediums such as architectural drawing, CAD drawing, graphic arts, animation, fashion design, ceramics, mosaic, non-loom fibers, metalwork, painting, photography, paper maché, collage, and printing were represented.

Many teachers brought their classes to view the show. Other classes participated in critiques and discussions. One English teacher had her class view the artwork and relate it to different works of literature; she found that her students made unique connections between their peers' work and their reading.

Each year a team of artists comes into the show to judge the work. This year, the elementary and middle school art teachers did the judging. Awards are given for both full portfolios of work and individual pieces. The individual pieces are judged on quality criteria such as best use of the medium, creativity, concept, technicality, experimentation and presentation.

The high school students did more than display their choice artwork; they used the Art Show as an opportunity to express themselves and convey messages by manipulating their space. Students who attended the show also benefitted from this learning experience. Hopefully, their background in the world of creative expression has been broadened.



NASD 2006 Community Survey Summary Result Report

In late February 2006, 12,111 questionnaires were distributed to all households in the Nazareth Area School District. As of the end of March cut-off, 2,287 responses had been received by the processor. This 19% participation rate is considered good for the process and complexity of this survey. This report shows the results of the survey in the same format as the original questionnaire for context. All results (unless noted) are shown as a percent of those responding on that particular item. If multiple responses were permitted the total will add to more than 100%. Other small deviations are attributable to rounding. Due to space restrictions, this newsletter only contains excerpts from the report. For complete results please visit the District website at www.nazarethasd.k12.pa.us.

Background Information

The NASD Community in which I live is:

Bushkill Township	30.9%	Nazareth Borough	18.8%
Lower Nazareth Township	23.3%	Stockerton Borough	2.5%
Upper Nazareth Township	19.7%	Tatamy Borough	4.4%

The current status of children in my household is:

One or more is now a student in the Nazareth Area schools	40.8%
They are too young to attend Nazareth Area schools	6.5%
They were once, no longer students in Nazareth Area schools	25.0%
They are home schooled or attend schools other than NASD schools	3.2%
There are no children in my household	22.9%

Demographic Information

My age: (Percent is of total respondents, non-response was less than 6%)

Under 30: 3%, 30 - 49: 48%, 50 - 65: 29%, Over 65: 14%

Number of years I have lived in Nazareth Area: (Non-response was < 8%)

5 or less: 18%, 6 through 14: 19%, 15 or more: 55%

Communication Methods

From which of the sources below do you currently get MOST of your information about Nazareth schools?

Daily Newspaper	46.7%
Weekly Newspaper	23.0%
Publications/fliers sent home	29.9%
Classlines System	4.0%
PTA Newsletters/meetings	6.8%
School personnel	6.4%
Children attending the schools	19.2%
Neighbors and friends	20.4%
School or District Website	9.4%
Other source (written in)	4.4%

Check below the sources from which you would prefer to get most of your information.

Daily Newspaper	37.1%
Weekly Newspaper	19.2%
School publications/fliers	46.3%
Classlines System	4.5%
PTA Newsletters/meetings	5.2%
School personnel	6.7%
Children attending schools	9.7%
Neighbors and friends	4.4%
School or District Website	21.2%
Other source (written in)	6.0%

Communication & Education

	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly Agree</u>
The school district communicates important information on a timely basis.	3	13	28	49	7
The school district encourages community input.	5	16	31	42	7
School Board members and Administrators are accessible to the community.	6	18	40	33	4
There are adequate opportunities for community members to be involved in school district matters.	4	16	34	41	6
Overall, I am satisfied with the amount of information I get from NASD	6	21	27	42	5
All students are provided with educational programs that are appropriate to their learning needs.	4	12	23	50	11
NASD is doing a good job of teaching the understanding and acceptance of people from diverse backgrounds and with different capabilities.	4	11	30	45	10
NASD is successfully teaching students appropriate social behavior & skills.	5	15	27	44	9
NASD students are well prepared to meet the challenges of the future.	3	9	25	51	12
Overall, I am satisfied that the school district is doing a good job of educating the children of our community.	2	8	20	57	13

Strategic Plan Goals

How aware are you of this goal? | How much progress has been made?

Not at all Heard of it Very Aware | Very Little Some A lot done

Use "best practice" in standards-based curriculum, instruction, assessment, and pupil support programs.

47	28	11	12	33	7
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Ensure proficient levels of performance or above on standards for all students which meet or exceed benchmarks designated by NCLB for adequate yearly progress (AYP).

34	33	19	10	35	12
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Develop and enhance student character.

38	32	16	16	33	8
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Utilize technology as an administrative and instructional tool.

31	35	19	9	36	13
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Involve and partner with parents, the community, and business on district initiatives, programs, and planning.

37	35	13	20	32	6
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Employ a variety of communication tools and procedures to increase and expand communication within the district and broad educational community.

42	33	11	18	31	7
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Provide a quality educational program while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

29	38	19	15	36	9
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Survey Report (cont'd)

General Concerns for the Future

Which three of the issues listed below do you expect to be the greatest challenges facing Nazareth Area schools in the next five to ten years? (Over 75% selected at least one... the rankings are weighted)

Accommodating increasing enrollment	1st
Responsible use of funds	2nd
Dealing with <u>all</u> children's classroom needs	3rd
Maintaining a challenging curriculum	4th
Bullying, violence -> a safe environment	5th
Hiring competent staff	6th
Updating physical facilities	7th
Substance abuse	8th
Using technology in effective ways	9th
Alternative education systems	10th
Other (<i>Fewer than 2% wrote varied concerns</i>)	

Future Educational Emphasis

Compared to current levels, how much emphasis in the future should NASD place on developing students' skills/capabilities in the following areas?

	<u>Much Less</u>	<u>Less</u>	<u>About the Same</u>	<u>More</u>	<u>Much More</u>
English knowledge and skills (<i>reading, writing, speaking and listening..</i>)	0	1	31	43	26
Math knowledge and skills	0	0	34	42	24
Physical and biological sciences	0	2	47	37	14
Social studies (<i>history, government, geography, etc..</i>)	0	2	56	29	12
World language skills (<i>languages other than English</i>)	2	7	47	31	13
Fine arts (<i>e.g. music, art, chorus..</i>)	2	7	58	24	10
Athletics (<i>interscholastic and/or intramural</i>)	4	9	66	17	4
Interest clubs (<i>e.g. language, outdoors, games...</i>)	2	6	61	26	5
Individual performances (<i>e.g. drama, debate, academic games, etc..</i>)	2	5	63	24	6

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT RIGHTS - The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parent and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

- The right to review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.**
Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- The right to request the amendment of a student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.**
Parents or eligible students may ask the Nazareth Area School District to amend a record believed to be inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District does not amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.**
One example which permits disclosure without consent is to disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including clerical staff, health or medical staff, and law enforcement unit personnel); a person on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks). A school official has a legitimate education interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

- The right to refuse the designation of any or all the categories of directory information.**

The District is permitted by law to disclose directory information without the written consent of the parent or eligible student. The parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to permit the disclosures of any or all directory information if a written refusal is forwarded to the building principal no later than September 15th of the current school year. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. "Directory information" may be disclosed without consent unless the parent or eligible student requests that the information not be disclosed. "Directory information" includes the student's name, address, telephone number; date and place of birth; program; dates of attendance; participation in recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, certificates, and awards received; and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education.**

A parent or an eligible student may file a complaint concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Additionally, Section 4155 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), 20 U.S.C. § 7165m as amended by the NCLB, requires the transfer of disciplinary records, with respect to a suspension or expulsion, by the school district, to any private, or public elementary school or secondary school for any student who is enrolled or seeks, intends, or is instructed to enroll, on a full- or part-time basis.

Section 9528 of the ESEA, 20 U.S.C. § 7908, as amended by the NCLB, and 10 U.S.C. 503, as amended by § 544 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Pub.L.No. 107-107), require the school district to:

- give military recruiters the same access to secondary school students as provided to postsecondary institutions or to prospective employers; and
- provide students' names, addresses, and telephone listings to military recruiters, when requested, unless a parent has opted out of providing such information. (Military Recruiter Guidance is on FPCO Website.)

Thank You For Your Service, NASD Retirees!

It takes many different people with many different talents to make a school district successful. This year we are losing to retirement some of the fine people who have done their part to serve the next generation. On behalf of all of the lives who have been touched by their service...thank you!



Jan Betz, Instrumental Music Teacher

- 37 years in NASD
- Taught at all three elementary schools
- Taught grades 4 through 6



Joyce Black, Elementary Teacher

- 40 years in NASD
- Taught at Lower Nazareth Elementary School
- Taught grades 1 through 4 and Social Studies



Melissa Davis, Principal

- 32 years in education, 17 in Nazareth
- Taught at Bushkill, and served as principal at Shafer
- Has taught reading, gifted, high school English/drama, and grades K-6



Eileen Faust, Elementary Teacher

- 32 years in NASD
- Taught at Lower Nazareth Elementary School
- Has taught grades 1 through 4



Rod Fogel, Art Teacher

- Taught over 36 years in NASD
- Taught at Bushkill Elementary School
- Has taught art and coached boys basketball



Ernest Getz, Custodian

- Worked 17 years in NASD
- Worked at Shafer Elementary, Bushkill Elementary, and the High School



Marion Gillner, Custodian

- Worked 15 years in NASD
- Worked at the Middle School and the High School
- Was also a lead custodian



Barbara Hallet, Secretary

- Worked for NASD for 8 years
- Worked in the Business Office
- Was also a bookkeeper/tax clerk



Nancy Herman, Head Cook

- Worked for NASD for over 30 years
- Worked at the Whitfield School, High School, & Shafer
- Also held positions in the Food Service Office, and as a cashier and preparer



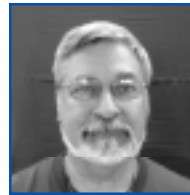
Linda Kalapick, Elementary Teacher

- Taught for 29 years in NASD
- Has taught at Lower Nazareth and Shafer
- Taught 4th grade



JoAnn Krouse, Kitchen Manager

- Worked for 26 years in NASD
- Spent her entire career at the High School
- Also worked as a helper/cashier and assistant cook



Gary Lazo, Physics Teacher

- Taught for 31 years
- During his time in NASD, taught at the High School
- Has also taught Physical Science, Earth Science, Computer Programming, and Math



Jane Marshall, Art Teacher

- Taught for 35 years in NASD
- Taught at Shafer, Bushkill, and Lower Nazareth
- Taught grades K through 6



Francine Thompson, Mathematics Teacher

- Has taught for 28 years
- While in NASD, she taught at the Junior High and the High School
- Taught Math for her entire career



Diane Werkheiser, Study Skills

- Taught 34 years in NASD
- Taught at the Middle School and the High School
- Has also taught Developmental and Remedial Reading