



MOLLOY MEMOS

NILES TOWNSHIP
DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL
EDUCATION

8701 MENARD AVENUE
MORTON GROVE, IL
60053

V: 847-966-8600
F: 847-965-9760

www.ntdse.org

NEWS FROM THE BUILDING

Happy New Year and Welcome Back to School! I hope that you had a wonderful holiday and that 2012 is off to a great start!

Although the weather outside feels more like April than it does January, we know that we are in the middle of another Chicago winter. That means snow and cold outside and happy, busy students inside!

The start of 2012 saw some additions to our Molloy staff. We are delighted to welcome Alex Budimir to Molloy as he assumes the role of building engineer and to Anita Filip and Stephanie Lesnik who have joined our staff as teaching assistants. We also have a number of interns and student

teachers working with us this semester and we hope that they find their time at the Molloy Center to be productive and exciting!

IEP progress reports will be sent home this week. Progress reports are completed four times during the year and provide parents and students with information on how students are progressing on their IEP goals. If your child recently had an IEP meeting, the progress report would have been given to you at the IEP meeting. If your child has an IEP meeting within the next month, you will receive the progress report at the time of the IEP meeting. Please review the progress reports and, as al-

ways, if you have any questions regarding your child's IEP, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

We wish to thank everyone who made a donation to either the Niles Township Food Pantry or who sent a winter coat for distribution to the Salvation Army. We had an overwhelming response from our staff and families and we are grateful to everyone who helped us share the holidays with our community.

As a reminder, community activities continue during the winter months. Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately to participate in these activities.

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EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR

Despite the calendar reading early January, our thoughts are firmly focused on the summer as we finalize plans for Extended School Year (ESY).

This year, ESY will be held from June 20–July 20, 2012

ESY hours will be 8:50–1:30 with our half-day early childhood students attending from either 8:50–11:00 or from 11:20–1:30.

ESY registration packets will be sent to parents in late February. We ask that you

promptly complete the registration packet and return it to school so that we can accurately plan for the students.

More information on ESY will be distributed as plans become finalized.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Transportation:

Kathy Gavin, Director ext. 1114
Patty Kontos, Secretary ext. 1111
Positive Connections 847-676-8680
District 68 Transportation: 847-676-9000
Septran: 847-392-1252
District 72 Transportation: 847-929-1050

Molloy Education Center Office: 847-966-8600

Michael A. Meyers, Principal ext. 1109
Linda Pusateri, Principal's Secretary ext. 1100
Patty Kontos, Secretary ext. 1111
Tarin Kendrick, Executive Director ext. 1102

In the event of a student absence, please contact the Molloy Center School Office and the appropriate bus company for your child.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January:

Monday, Jan. 16
Monday, Jan. 23
Thursday, Jan. 26

February:

Friday, Feb. 17
Monday, Feb. 20
Tuesday, Feb. 21—
Friday, Mar. 16
Thursday, Feb. 23
Monday, Feb. 27

NO SCHOOL
Early Release—Students dismiss
at 1:50 p.m.
NTDSE Governing Board—7pm

NO SCHOOL
NO SCHOOL

IAA Test Administration
NTDSE Governing Board—7pm

Early Release—Students dismiss
at 1:50 p.m.

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Each year, throughout the State of Illinois, students in grades 3-8 and 11 participate in one of two mandated state assessments.

Students in Project ABLE will complete the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) while students in LIFE Skills and Project CLASS will complete the Illinois Alternate Assessment (IAA). Both assessments are designed to measure students' mastery of grade level academic skills.

The ISAT is a paper-pencil assessment that covers the areas of reading, math and science. Based on a student's IEP, various accommodations can be used to assist the student tak-

ing the test. Accommodations might include: allowing extra time, having a staff member read the questions to the student, helping the student fill in the answer sheet, and administering the assessment in smaller units of time.

The IAA is an individually administered assessment that assesses the amount of assistance a student needs in order to correctly answer a question. Accommodations that can be used for the IAA include the use of voice output devices, enlarged materials, and frequent breaks.

Specific accommodations for each of the assessments are determined by

each student's IEP.

The ISAT will be administered from March 5–16 and the IAA will be administered between February 21–March 16.

More information on the assessment process will be provided closer to the testing dates. For additional information on state assessments, please visit the website for the Illinois State Board of Education—<http://www.isbe.net>

