

## **News Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Reading Specialist Tapped to Lead Central**

DES PLAINES, IL (February 6, 2006) - A reading specialist, parent teacher organization leader and referendum organizer, Janice S. Rashid, has been named the next instructional leader of Central School. Rashid's appointment by the School District 62 Board of Education will fill the vacancy that will occur July 1, 2006 due to the retirement of current principal, Robert Kaszniak.

Rashid currently serves as a reading specialist in Northbrook/Glenview District 30, a K - 5 elementary school district, located in Glenview, IL. As a member of the Enrichment Support Team, Rashid has been instrumental in restructuring and revitalizing the reading improvement program. New identification instruments and procedures for advanced readers have been developed based on current research on early childhood and elementary literacy development. She serves as the district representative to the Literacy Advisory Board at North Cook Intermediate Center. As the district representative, Rashid has coordinated the Reading First program within the district for the past two years. She wrote the Reading

First grants, and organized the selection and distribution of professional books on literacy.

Rashid began her teaching career in 1988 as a sixth grade teacher in Maternity BVM Catholic School in Chicago, where she founded an after-school gymnastics program. From 1999 - 2003, she worked as a preschool teacher for the Skokie Park District and later as a reading specialist for Fairview School District 72 in Skokie.

Rashid has presented staff workshops focused on Best Reading Practices, Reading First, Guided Reading and How to Pass A Referendum. She has also hosted Parent Literacy evenings.

Active in her children's education and school, Rashid has served on several PTA Committees and the Executive Board. She has chaired fundraising efforts, new student programs and two years ago served as the co-chair of the successful tax rate referendum for Fairview School District 72.

Rashid is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Administration and Supervision from Loyola University. Her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction, as well as her bachelor's degree in Psychology and teaching certification, was also earned from Loyola.

Rashid was the winner of the 2004 Raymond Neyrinck Award for Outstanding Volunteerism presented by District 72. She has also received numerous academic awards.

While an undergraduate student, Rashid was a member of the Psi Chi National Honors Society, listed to the Dean's List and a student in the Honors Program. Rashid is a member of the following organizations:

- Phi Delta Kappa
- Illinois Principals Association
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- International and Suburban Council Illinois Reading Associations
- Literacy Advisory Board, North Cook Immediate Service Center

"Central School is an outstanding elementary school, where I am committed to a positive and nurturing school climate that celebrates high academic achievement," commented Rashid. "I believe my strong academic background, instructional leadership abilities, communication skills and success leading staff and parent groups will serve me well as Central School's Principal."

Rashid will receive an annual compensation of \$76,000. She and her husband, Jim, are the parents of a daughter and three sons, ages 9 -17. They reside in Skokie, IL.

Central School is a K - 5 building housing 234 students with 24 staff members. Community Consolidated School District 62 educates over 4,700 students in eleven K-8 schools. 673 certified and support staff work together to educate the district's children.