



LYON @ BLOW NEWS

*News and Views from
the Students and Staff of
Lyon @ Blow*

Issue No. 1

Fall 2009



Ground-Breaking. 6th Grade Science Teacher, Michael Haas shakes hands with Lyon@Blow Principal, Ingrid Iskali on the day that St. Louis Greening and Lyon students installed gardens on the school grounds. Mr. Haas has used the gardens as a “living laboratory” to help his Sixth Grade Science students explore botany, ecology, and to help foster team spirit. Students were there every step of the way as they plotted out the gardens, moved soil, planted vegetables from seed, watered, weeded and observed the growth. Students were also there to sample the “fruit of their labor” in the form of delicious salads!

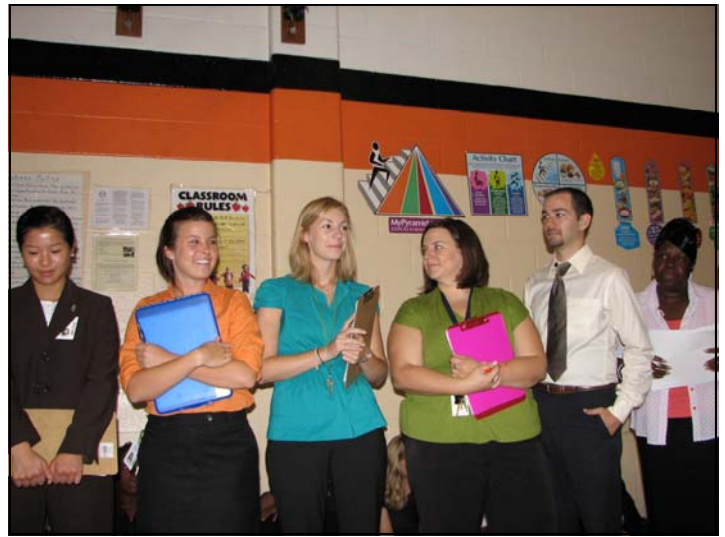


Front entrance to Lyon @ Blow, one of the oldest buildings in the St. Louis Public Schools system, recently undated with central air-conditioning, wireless Internet, student computer labs, and new, state-of-the-art computers on the desks of every home room and related arts teacher in the building.

DAY ONE



August 20, 2009, the first day for students of the 2009-2010 school year, Principal Iskali introduces her staff to students and parents gathered for a school wide assembly in the gymnasium.



From left to right. Ms. So, Ms. Norris, Ms. Rains, Ms. Encalade, Mr. Ginter, and Mrs. Hayes, lined up to Principal Iskali's left for the early morning introductions.



Guardian at the Gates. SLPS School Safety Officer Strong offers a reassuring smile on the first day of school as he welcomes students through the entrance to the facility he is assigned to safeguard. Officer Strong works tirelessly throughout the day, patrolling the halls and grounds, helping students and staff, and staying late into the afternoon to make certain that all the students and teachers are safely on their way home.



Center stage. Ms. Mickles offers a winning smile in time for the first breakfast served at the school. Ms. Mickles is in charge of the school's In-school Suspension Room, part of a program designed to keep children learning in school even when they sometimes experience difficulty behaving in the classroom. In the background, left is Ms. Blake, Physical Education Teacher. To the right is Ms. Robinson, in charge of the school cafeteria.



Ms. McCord helps students in the lunchroom on Day One.



Welcome to Kindergarten at Lyon @ Blow. Mrs. Price, center left, welcomes children to St. Louis Public Schools and her Kindergarten Classroom. Mrs. Downey, Reading Specialist, helped out in Mrs. Price's room on the first day.



Mrs. Williams' First Grade classroom on opening day.



Ms. Whitfield's Second Grade Classroom.



Mr. Reinstein's Fourth Grade Classroom.



Ms. McCord's Third and Fourth Grade Classroom. Veteran Elementary School Teacher, Tracy McCord has her classroom divided into many distinctive spaces and learning centers. On the first day of class, she takes time to listen to her students and answer questions in a corner of the classroom devoted exactly to that: speaking and listening.

Ms. Budde's Fifth Graders.



Veteran teachers, Ms. Whitfield and Mrs. Williams, greet students in the cafeteria at breakfast time on the first day of school.



Mr. Haas, 6th Grade Science, has his Sixth Grade Home Room students on their feet on Day One, involved with investigations at various stations in his classroom.



Ms. Norris addresses her Sixth Grade Home Room Students. Ms. Norris teaches Sixth Grade Communication Arts.



Ms. So has her Sixth Grade Home Room students engage in a dialogue on opening day. Ms. So teaches Sixth Grade Mathematics.



Left: Ms. Rains' Seventh Grade Home Room. Ms. Rains teaches Spanish. **Right.** Ms. Encalade's Seventh Grade Home Room. Ms. Encalade (not pictured) teaches Social Studies and is the Seventh Grade Team Leader.



Mr. Ginter, 7th and 8th Grade Science Teacher, asks his Home Room students to introduce themselves to one another.



Ms. Luckett's 8th Grade Home Room. Ms. Luckett teaches Comm Arts.



Mr. Stewart's 8th Grade Home Room. Math Time!



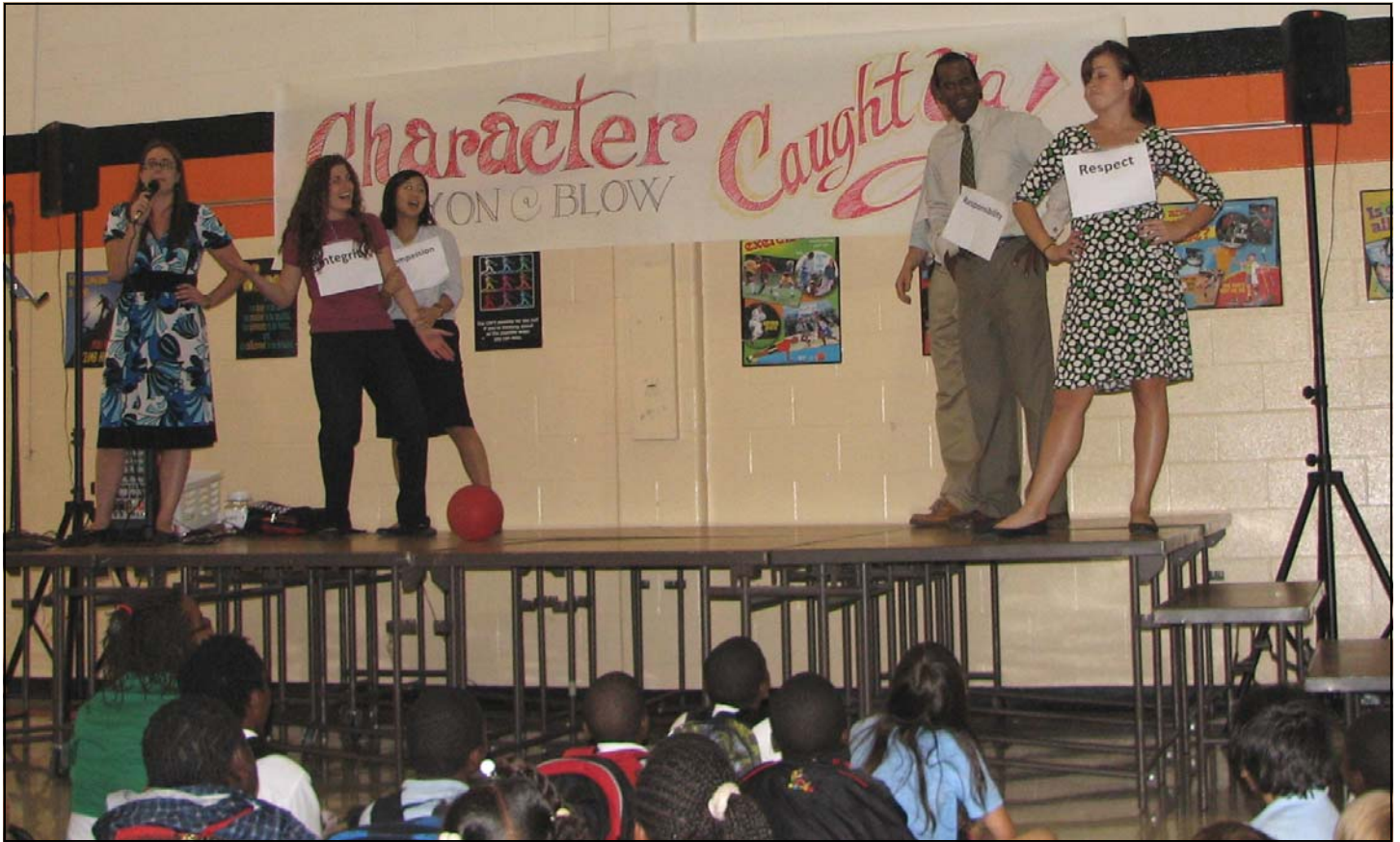
Veteran Teacher, Mr. Reinstein, speaks to parents who brought their children to Lyon @ Blow on the first day of school.



Insert: Principal Iskali talks to a parent; Mr. Stewart reports to the Cafeteria; Ms. Luckett and Mr. Gilmore confer with Ms. Bryant.

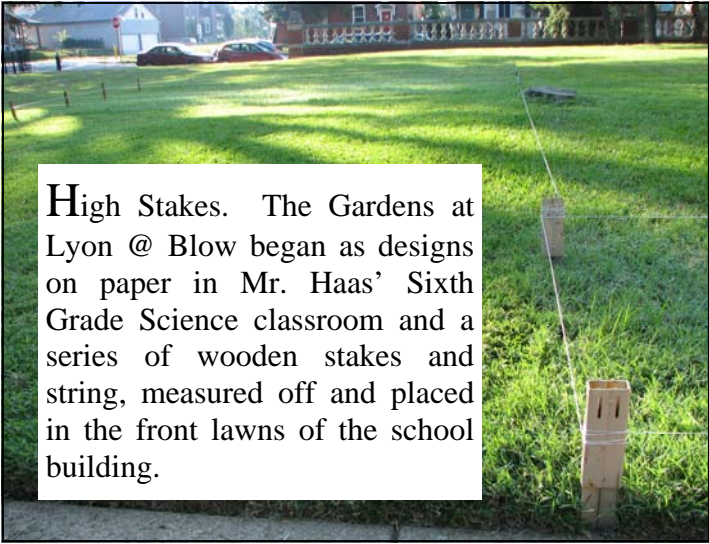
Character — Lyon @ Blow

Following the first day of school, it didn't take long for Lyon@Blow Staff to put together a great assembly for the student body. Building on ideas developed during the teacher's Professional Development Days, Ms. Haringa and Ms. Budde launch The Five Pillars of Character Assembly. Faculty members performed skits to demonstrate the wrong and the right way to display character. Staff presented skits on Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Perseverance and Compassion. Students learned more about "Shouts Outs" and "Caught Ya's," school-wide incentives to reward and celebrate positive student behavior. The students had a lot of laughs and learned more about good character too!



Right: Communication Arts skills serve Ms. Norris well as she performs in several skits at the Character Assembly. **Above:** Compassion is the key in the vignette that leaves the mean-spirited Mr. Gilmore out in the cold for making fun of Mrs. Deleon.

High Stakes. The Gardens at Lyon @ Blow began as designs on paper in Mr. Haas' Sixth Grade Science classroom and a series of wooden stakes and string, measured off and placed in the front lawns of the school building.



Next came plenty of hard work, hauling wheel barrows of soil to the garden boxes. Everyone pitched in.



After several weeks of watering and weeding, the seeds spouted. By mid September, nature had worked its miracle and the gardens were thriving. Congratulations to Mr. Haas and the Sixth Graders for making the garden a reality.



Assistant Principal, Mr. Green.



Read 180 Teacher, Mrs. Ward, surrounded by her students.



Mr. Gilmore, Special Education Resource Teacher, checks District Email on a new Dell 760 computer, one of 25 machines assigned to Teachers at by SLPS Technology this fall.



In the READ 180 classroom, students read in various centers. Right: Reading with computer headsets or sprawled on a sofa.



Mrs. Deleon, Art and Mr. Phoenix, Computer Literacy.



Veteran Related Arts Teachers: Mrs. Deleon, Art; Mr. Clark, Music; Ms. Blake, Physical Education.



Ms. Budde and some of her Fifth Grade boys at lunchtime.



A student stands in for a picture with his teacher, 7th Grade Team Leader and Social Studies Teacher, Ms. Encalade.



One of the soldiers at the assembly hands our lanyards and pencils to the students. Not a single student was missed.



Military leaders assigned to historic Jefferson Barracks, south of St. Louis, addressed the student body at a school assembly.



Our Principal, Ms. Iskali. Her day begins early in the morning and ends long after everyone in the building has gone. She has great plans for the school. Lyon @ Blow News will do its best to chronicle events and activities in future issues. We apologize to any staff members or classrooms we missed this round. Look for your pictures here next issue along with artwork, features, stories, and news articles by students. Look for Classroom Spotlights, too, articles highlighting particular lessons, projects, and other activities occurring in the classroom. Until next time.

