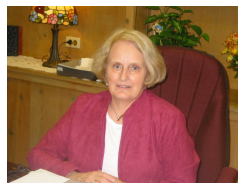


# DWMS Journal



## Daniel Webster Middle School, Waukegan, Illinois Welcome to Mrs. Brixey, Webster's New Principal

### An Interview with Mrs. Brixey



Things are a little different this year at Webster: Mrs. Joan Brixey is our new principal. We

interviewed Mrs. Brixey a few weeks ago and here is what we learned about her:

Mrs. Brixey was born in St. Louis Missouri, and grew up in Popular Bluff Missouri. She has two kids, a daughter who is a pharmacist, a son who's a senior at Northwestern University, has two grandchildren there both girls their names are Emily and Ashley. Mrs. Brixey's hobbies are reading, listening to music, craft fairs, and being with her grandchildren.

She worked at Woodland Middle School in Gurnee, Illinois as a principal. She was also an administrator in Kansas City, Missouri.

We asked her about the school and she said, "I like Webster very much and think that we have great students and a great school."

When we asked Mrs. Brixey what she liked about Webster, she said, "I like the students, the staff, and everybody who helped on the Day of Caring. I like that everyone is friendly. She said this about her first impression about this school, "It was not welcoming, it was dirty. So my goal for the year is to get students tests scores up, and to improve everything. I want to make this a welcoming place.

The United Way is willing to help us make Webster a welcoming place to be. The main focus for Webster is a good curriculum, higher test scores, student advisory committee so that the students have a voice at Webster."

"I think that school dances, free dress code, movie night, and field trips are rewards for the students and in order to have them you have to earn them." "I am very proud of the good decisions students are making."

The newspaper staff would like to welcome Mrs. Brixey to our school.

### A Day of Caring

On August 25, 2006, Webster was given a "Day of Caring" from United Way, Abbott Labs, Mrs. Brixey, students and staff from Webster, and members of our community. Everyone put in time and effort to try and help the school look a little better. It is well on the way. Many people put in time to help us when they could have been doing their job and being paid. They came from Chicago and the surrounding suburbs to help us and donate their time.

As a team, we cleaned, painted, and put in landscaping for our school. We repainted the bathrooms, the rails, and painted the doors. While some were painting, others planted shrubs and flowers and did basic landscaping work. The rest of us were shoveling and carrying the barrels of the mulch. The school is looking much better thanks to the "Day of Caring."

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You can also download a .pdf file of our newspaper on the school web-site.:

[www.waukeganschools.org/webster](http://www.waukeganschools.org/webster)

## A Season Premiere

*Degrassi: The Next Generation*

*Degrassi's* Season 6 premiered on September 28<sup>th</sup>. What exactly is *Degrassi*? *Degrassi* details the lives of many different characters through their challenging high school years. They deal with stuff most teenagers deal with everyday. It is commonly viewed on TheN also known as Noggin.

There are going to be so many twists and turns this season. Sean is coming back. Peter gets a new street racer. Elle gets a new love interest. Darcy turns from a devoted Christian to a not-so-holy lifestyle. Marco starts suffering from a life threatening disease. Dean strikes again with a new victim and spinner takes his first plane ride. It is one of the most widely viewed television shows amongst most teenagers. We give it five stars!

## Weird Facts!

These are just some plain, weird facts:

- The Roman emperor Caligula once made his horse a senator. Now that's what I call a "political statement!!"
- Most babies are born with 250 bones. However, adults typically have only 206 bones in their bodies. Where are the ones they were born with?
- Some species of kangaroo can produce two different types of milk at the same time from adjacent teats to feed both younger and older offspring.
- Antarctica is the only continent where pumpkins can't be grown.
- Pillows tend to gain weight, as they grow older. Up to 25% of the weight of an old pillow is skin flakes.
- A good dairy cow produces about 200,000 glasses of milk in her lifetime.
- The biggest exporter of Brazil nuts is Bolivia.
- Dairy products account for almost 30% (by weight) of all the food consumed in North America.
- The number 57 on a Heinz ketchup bottle represents the number of varieties of pickle the company once had.

From [www.weirdfacts.com](http://www.weirdfacts.com)

## Sixth Grade's First Impressions of Webster

Denise, age 12

Denise attended Glen Flora Elementary School in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She likes the food better than 5h grade food. Her favorite subject is gym. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Acosta because he is fun. She enjoys the computer club after school and she thinks that the homework is harder. She likes to have a locker for privacy.

Denis, age 12

Denis attended Oakdale Elementary School in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. He likes it better than 5h grade food. He would like to join the Webster soccer team this year. Denis thinks that math is harder because of factors and division. He also likes having a locker for privacy. His favorite subject is science. Also his favorite teacher is Mr. Acosta because he is cool and fun.

## The Alchemist and the Black Rose: A Fictional Story

There is a rose so rare only the darkest of all may obtain. Those who try to stop the other at a great battle of such elegance shall be perished into the dark night. This Alchemist is the greatest of all dark magic has been the only living soul to obtain a particular item. They say the person whom shall obtain this object will wield a great power that would allow you to be able to master anything life should throw at you. 1487: The dark ages, has begun and for who have tampered with the evil magic, they have disappeared into the deep realms of the mind. There is only one person able to control this power from this point. The child so young, but yet so wise and has figured out the way to make this ROSE to speak. The person who shall obtain this Rose will wield a great power and shall be called The Alchemist There was a great ruler in

the past named Intu who tried to obtain this great item but failed. His very last words where "I have failed at this one task, but my son shall carry on with my conquest for the ultimate power. As he lie in his bed awake trying to make his life make sense, I am in the darkest part of his mind waiting for him to accept his destiny." To be continued...

## "Shine Your Smile Day" is Coming

We have invited Mobile Dentists/ Smile Programs to our school on December 14, 2006. Mobile Dentists will bring its on-site preventive dental care program here because we know how important good oral health is to our students' overall general health.

Mobile Dentists' team will set up a mini-dental office in our building and will provide, as indicated, dental examinations, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, and check up x-rays. The children



who return completed permission forms may receive some or all of the above

services.

Mobile Dentists provides grants to families who require full financial assistance and subsidizes fees for those who need financial aid. No child is ever turned away by Mobile Dentists/Smile Programs because of financial need.

If you want to see the Mobile Dentists' team, please have your parent fill out the form and return it as soon as possible to your teacher or to the school nurse, Mrs. Washington, R.N. The forms must be turned in by November 28, 2006. For more information, you can call Mrs. Washington at 847-360-5674 or go to the Mobile Dentist website at

[www.mobiledentists.com](http://www.mobiledentists.com).

# Q&A

## What do you know about MySpace.com?

Many of you ask what is MySpace.com. MySpace.com is one of the world's most popular sites. You can think MySpace.com as sort of a drug. You try it because your friends pressure you to, but then you realize it not so bad gives you a thrill, then your addicted, you stay on the site refreshing your page hoping for new comments or messages. After a couple months it loses all of it's thrill but somehow you can't seem to get enough of it.

People think were annoying because all we talk about is MySpace.com. Still you ask, "What's so great about MySpace.com? Something that is really addictive about MySpace.com is editing your profile. Getting new layouts can make you feel better about your self knowing that there is something that is open for the public that would let them know who you are and about you music, movies, and book interests. It also lets you show the world the way you feel and your heroes. By Sarah and Mariah

### Symptoms of MySpace.com addicts

- You refresh you profile every two minutes t check if you have new
- messages, comments,
- You spend hours taking pictures for the perfect picture for your default
- You know the definitions of my space Angles.
- You have seen the MySpace.com movie at least once
- You rearrange your page like every 2 weeks
- You post bulletins asking for comment/picture comments
- You have more than 2000 message in you inbox.
- You know html pretty well
- You have MySpace.com instant messaging downloaded on your computer
- You have blogs on your MySpace.com.

### Here are some safety tips when using MySpace.com

Don't give out your personal information such as:

- Last name
  - Phone number, or your home address
  - Don't add anyone over the age of 21
- Do NOT take inappropriate pictures of yourself  
Don't go out and meet people on MySpace.com  
Get a tracker so you can see who stalks your page

### If you are still asking yourself what is MySpace.com.... it is

**MySpace.com** is a social networking website offering an interactive, user-submitted network of friends, personal profiles, blogs, groups, photos, music, and videos. MySpace also features an internal search engine and an internal email system.

## Poetry Contributions

### The Light

The light was bright  
On a sunny day

The clouds were mad  
Because it was in their way

Oh that wonderful light  
as bright and new

The sun will be happy  
to take a vacation soon

Doesn't any  
body know if  
we will be alright

Will the earth change  
In just one night

But we can all be apart  
of the Bright white light

By Paige

## Original Poetry Wanted

Webster newspaper is back, and we want you to share your poetry. If you have an original poem and want people to read it, submit it to one of the newspaper advisors (Ms. Mlinar-Stephens or Ms. Eder) or put it in their mailbox in the office. You may submit a poem with your name as the author or anonymously. Your poem will not be returned, so make sure you have a copy of your poem. The DWMS Journal staff will determine which poem will be chosen for each issue. The newspaper will only accept and print original poems that you have written. If you have artwork to go with the picture,

please submit it and if we pick your poem we will try to print it.

## New CD Review

Beyoncae's new album, titled B-Day was just released on her birthday. Beyoncae had a special taping for her birthday on BET (Black Entertainment Television). She showed Previews of her new album and the videos that was made. The most common songs everyone knows is *Deja- vu* and *Ring the Alarm*. This CD is better than her previous one. Most people I know say B-Day is awesome. The melodies of the song are fast and have hip-hop beats in *continued, page 4*

**New CD,** *continued from page 3*

them. Beyoncae has done many albums over the years but I think most people like B-Day. She does most songs with her formal partner Jay-Z. It has been a while since Beyoncae has been with the group Destany's child, but her solo CD are better, or so say the people that listen to her music.

**Bullying**

Bullying is the biggest conflict in schools worldwide. Bullying can lead to numerous outcomes like suicide, school shootings, and can cause the victim to become a bully themselves. Many kids here are being bullied by their race, age, height, sexual orientation, etc. It can be avoided, but the only problem is ... *no one is trying to stop it!*

We interviewed a school counselor and a social worker to see what we can do about it. Our first interview was with Mr. Gaiser, the school's counselor.

**Q:** What is your personal opinion on bullying?

**A:** Very common in middle school. It decreases in high school.

**Q:** Do you see a lot of bullying going on?

**A:** TONS!

**Q:** What could a student do to prevent a bully or deal with one?

**A:** Encourage the witnesses to do all they can to stop it.

**Q:** Do you get a lot of cases on bullying?

**A:** Yes! Peer mediation is what we use to stop the problem

**Q:** In your opinion, do you think that the school should do all they can to prevent bullying?

**A:** Yes, of course.

**Q:** Should there be a program for bullying?

**A:** Not at the moment, just peer mediation.

Our second interview was with Mr. Shultz, the school's social worker.

**Q:** What is your personal opinion on bullying?

**A:** Very serious problem, goes unappointed, students are afraid.

**Q:** Do you see a lot of bullying going on?

**A:** I see a little bit, could lead to later causes.

**Q:** What could a student do to prevent a bully or deal with one?

**A:** Do not keep it a secret. Tell a teacher, counselor, or a social worker.

Next month we will continue our reports and interviews about bullying.

**Health Corner**

The Webster Nurse is Mrs. Vanessa Washington. She has been working here for nineteen years. Before that, she worked at Carmen elementary school.



Mrs. Washington said that her job is sometimes difficult, "I like to help the kids, but I don't like to take care of kids that pretend they're sick." She also said she doesn't like it when she has to feed kids, "sometimes kids don't eat breakfast." "There a lot of diabetic students that need a lot of attention ." She said that she likes the new principal because she has really good and helpful ideas for our school. Mrs. Washington also that she would be retiring in three years. Mrs. Washington will be working with the DWMS Journal staff on a monthly column called *Health Corner*.

**Editorials**

Our opinions, and your opinions...

In this section we give you a chance to write in and tell us your opinions on matters related to Webster and its students. The DWMS Journal staff will also contribute to this section.

**Stereotypes**

There is an epidemic at Daniel Webster Middle School! It's called stereotyping. Most people judge on the way

people act or look. It hurts people's feelings! How would you fee if someone calls you a rocker, a homosexual, a poser, a ghetto, etc, etc?

What exactly is the "in" crowd?

Who gets to tell someone whether they're cool or not? Maybe outcasts are popular somewhere else. Have you ever thought about that? Everyone has feelings, believe it or not. *Written by: Gary*

**NEWSPAPER MEETINGS**

The DWMS Journal staff meets every Monday and Tuesday in room 112 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and once a month also on a Friday to finish the newspaper. If you would like to join the newspaper staff, please see Ms. Eder (room 41) or Ms. Mlinar-Stephens (room 112)..

**NEWSPAPER STAFF**

**EIGHTH GRADE REPORTERS**

Gary, Sarah, Janet, Sara, Mariah

**SEVENTH GRADE REPORTERS**

Jacqueline, Mariah, Alexia, Bernice

**SIXTH GRADE REPORTERS**

Positions need to be filled

**FEATURE EDITOR**

John

**PHOTO EDITOR**

Romeo

**MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT**

**EDITORS**

Mariah

**SPORTS EDITOR**

Position needs to be filled

**ADVISORS**

Ms. Eder

Ms. Mlinar-Stephens