A Note from the Editor...

I never thought I would receive an email from my superintendent asking me to sit on a “pandemic task force.”

It was mid-March, and I was doing what I am always doing at that time; drowning in essays to grade and praying that spring break would just hurry-up already. When I attended this meeting, there were representatives from all of the public services; local police and fire, the Lake County Health Department, and other school administrators. We discussed the pandemic and at the time, I walked away with the impression that if we just would wash our hands and stay home if we were sick, all would be well. Boy, was I wrong.

Here we are now, and two months later, we’ve shifted how we connect with our students.

LCFT members have become masters at working from home. From Zoom meetings to Google Classroom, from drive by neighborhood parades to weekly food pantry donations, LCFT members are staying actively engaged with their students and their communities in ways we have probably never dreamt of before. The part that is the most impressive is that they are staying connected all while completely revising their curricula and focusing on the social and emotional well being of the students in their care.

As we in the education profession have adjusted to a “new normal,” this issue of the 504 WORD is dedicated to you, our members who have given so much of yourselves to others during this time of crisis.

Stay strong, stay healthy, stay safe.

In unity,
Kelley Regnier, 504 Word Editor
Around Lake County
Around Lake County
Congratulations to our Libertyville/Vernon Hills Council

Libertyville High School and Vernon Hills High School once again earned honors as best high schools in U.S. News & World Report’s Best High Schools rankings. The 2020 rankings were published April 21. The U.S. News Best High Schools rankings include data on more than 24,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. The rankings include all public high schools, as well as selective enrollment and magnet high schools. Schools were ranked on six factors based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

Once again, both District 128 high schools were ranked in the top 1.5% of all U.S. public high schools. Libertyville High School received a ranking of 7th in Illinois, 289th Nationally, and was ranked 163rd for STEM. Vernon Hills High School received a ranking of 15th in Illinois and 349th Nationally.

“We are very proud of our students, teachers and our district,” council President Dennis Duffy said. “The professionalism, dedication and compassion demonstrated by our teachers and staff as they work with their students is admirable.”

LCFT Summer Office Hours

Due to the on-going health crisis, there are no set LCFT office hours for the summer of 2020. If you need to come to the office for any reason, please phone in advance to make sure the office is open.

Have a Safe and Healthy Summer!