

## **Middle School Transition Activities Planned**

On March 21, 2011, the District 301 Board of Education approved the reorganization of middle schools into grade level centers. Beginning with the 2012 – 2013 school year, all 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will attend Prairie Knolls Middle School, and all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will attend Central Middle School. The realignment has a minimal effect on student boundaries and brings all Central students together by grade level from 6<sup>th</sup> grade until graduation. This change also addresses the discrepancy in building enrollments and offers a long-term solution to balancing grade levels with no adverse effect on class size. The proximity of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade center to Central High School provides numerous possibilities for shared programs and provides space for future program opportunities.

In order to help make this transition as smooth as possible for the students and parents, special events will be hosted during the second semester of the school year. Student visits and open house events will occur this spring. Some of these events, including school visits, will occur during the school day, and an evening open house for parents is also being planned. All district 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, as well as 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, will have the opportunity to visit Prairie Knolls Middle School and all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will visit Central Middle School. School newsletters and other communications will be made available to parents with specific details about upcoming transition events. Please contact PKMS Principal Theresa Kolkebeck, 847-717-8100, or CMS Principal Lloyd Stover, 847-464-6000, with any questions.