



# Chagrin Falls Schools



## **NEWS from the CHAGRIN FALLS SCHOOLS**

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### **HIGH SCHOOL**

Chagrin Falls resident Dr. John Fung, a liver transplant surgeon from the Cleveland Clinic, spent Tuesday afternoon speaking to Mrs. Lisa Salyers' Chagrin Falls High School Senior Biology classes about the schooling involved in becoming a surgeon and the history of organ transplant. Dr. Fung showed a variety of movie clips from surgeries including kidney transplants and also answered a variety of questions the students had about organ transplant and general surgery questions.

### **INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

Students got a lesson in slimy science when COSI, Columbus' Science Center, recently brought its traveling science program "It's Simply Chemistry" to the Intermediate School. Students explored chemistry through simple experiments designed to introduce new science principles. The day began with a 45-minute assembly introducing the student body to how chemistry affects their everyday lives. The COSI demonstrator was a "chemistry detective" who solved mysteries by identifying acids and bases, determined unknown substances and decoded an invisible message. The assembly was followed by hands-on activity sessions during which the students made their very own COSI Super Slime, created endothermic and exothermic reactions, and learned to identify unknown substances using chemistry. The COSI On Wheels visit is made possible thanks to a grant from P.T.O. A huge thank you goes to the COSI coordinators, Mrs. Mariann Kvacek and Mrs. Ginny Lehman, as well to all of the parent volunteers that helped make this a fun and educational day.

### **Chagrin Teacher Travels To Japan**

Mrs. Lori Guerrini, library media specialist at Chagrin Falls High School and Middle School, recently returned from a three- week study travel program in Japan. Mrs. Guerrini was able to travel to Japan on a grant received from the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program (JFMF). The purpose of the JFMF Teacher Program is to provide an opportunity for American teachers to experience Japan's public education system and culture on a first hand basis resulting in the sharing of educational ideas and cultural values.

During her stay in Japan, Mrs. Guerrini spent time in Tokyo, Kamakura and Hiroshima. While in Tokyo, she and 199 other JFMF educators from across the United States attended several seminars. The seminars were about the Japanese educational

system, government, economy and culture. Many of the seminar speakers were recipients of Fulbright scholarships and received their graduate and doctoral degrees in the U.S. Mrs. Guerrini noted one such outstanding speaker, Dr. Kuniko Inoguchi, who is a current member of the Japanese Diet (House of Representatives). “I felt like I was a student of Japanese society. I was learning from prominent people in their respective professional fields.”

Another outstanding session Mrs. Guerrini attended was about peace education in Japan. “It was a particularly profound session because one of the speakers, Mr. Keiji Matsushima, was an actual survivor of the bombing of Hiroshima.”

In addition to the educational presentations, Mrs. Guerrini said she and her new teacher friends had time in the evenings to explore Tokyo. “Our schedules were tight, but we tried to get as much out of each day as possible, so we took advantage of any free time to mingle with the locals and experience the culture.”

After a week in Tokyo, the group of 200 educators was divided into smaller groups of 20 and sent to cities throughout Japan to focus on visiting K-12 schools and teacher education programs at universities. Mrs. Guerrini spent the next week in Hiroshima.

“Hiroshima is a vibrant city of 1.2 million people,” stated Guerrini. “Visiting the atomic bomb peace memorial was an unforgettable experience.”

“I had a lot of fun visiting an elementary, junior high and high school in Hiroshima. The kids were excited to have us in their classrooms.” Each school was well prepared to host 20 American teacher visitors. The elementary school even had a whole school assembly, about 450 kids, to welcome the teachers. The language barrier existed between the American teachers and Japanese students, but it was not as difficult to communicate as Mrs. Guerrini thought. “In Japanese junior high and high schools, English is a required course. I had a great time in English classes. The teachers included me in their lesson so the kids had a chance to talk with me and practice their English.”

The third and final week of the trip was spent back in Tokyo attending additional sessions and learning about the other educators’ experiences in various Japanese cities.

Now back in Chagrin Falls, Mrs. Guerrini will be sharing what she had learned with students, staff and the community. “I plan to create a display in the high school library of Japanese books, artifacts and the many pictures I took. I will be including a Japanese poetry lesson into a middle school library class and going into U.S. History and Foods classes to collaboratively teach lessons.”

For Mrs. Guerrini, this was an experience of a lifetime.