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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**OAK LAWN-HOMETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL  
TECH 2010**

**TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION AT STATE CAPITOL MAY 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School, in Oak Lawn, is among more than 100 schools statewide that will participate in the annual *TECH 2010 Students for the Information Age* event on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Illinois State Capitol Building in Springfield.

From approximately 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., students will show the public, and elected members of the Illinois State Senate and the House of Representatives, how technology is being used in the classroom to improve achievement. Computer workstations will be set up in the Capitol Building Rotunda so students can show how technology has helped them with their schoolwork.

Taking part in the demonstrations locally are Brian Kobiernicki and Jacob Allen, eighth grade students, and Laura Ferrell, their teacher. Students will be demonstrating how they used iPod technology on their eighth grade team.

The purpose of *TECH 2010* is to show how Illinois is preparing students to succeed in the Information Age. Students will demonstrate for lawmakers and the public the creative ways technology is being used to enhance and accelerate student achievement in Illinois schools today.

The importance of this event lies in making the public aware of the central role technology has come to play in our school and generating support for its adequate funding.

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Entering the job force without a strong foundation in information-age technology is not an option for today's high school and college graduates. Understanding computers and related tools is a requirement, even for entry-level jobs, and computer literacy is essential for further education and advancement in almost every academic sphere. At the elementary and high school level, technology expands the walls of the traditional classroom, bringing in people and events from all over the globe. Technology captures and holds the attention of this generation of learners far better than textbooks alone. Computers allow for more individualized instruction as teachers, using technology, move from the traditional "sage on the stage" role to becoming "guides on the side", providing students the tools they need to become more active in managing their own learning.

TECH 2010 is a non-for-profit initiative presented by the Illinois Computing Educators (ICE), and is supported by a broad range of education and business organizations. Corporate Platinum Plus partners are: Comcast, CDW-G and Chicago Office Technology Group. Corporate Platinum Partners are: AVerMedia and FTC Publishing.

Without understanding and support of the public and the legislature, adequate public funding for education technology is hard to come by, and without it, Illinois cannot remain competitive in the global economy. Oak Lawn-Hometown Middle School is pleased to support and be a part of *TECH 2010: Students for the Information Age*.

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