



Newsletter

Summer 2007

From the Director's Desk

JRC's remodeling efforts have continued over the course of the past school year. One of our major objectives has been upgrading our "Contract Store" (page 8). We have been attending Gift Fairs in New York and California to find inexpensive but attractive items for our students to purchase and have redesigned our Contract Store to display

them as attractively as possible. Students choose items that they want to purchase, for themselves or for their family members, and pay for them with money or points that they earn by displaying desired behaviors. After the next phase of our remodeling is completed, we will move the Contract Store to our 250 building where it will be located in about

900 square feet of space that will be one of the prime attractions along the 10-foot wide "Reward Street" that will run down the center of the building.

The remodeling and redecoration of our 240 building is now complete. We took down all the colorful prints that had been hanging in the corridors and exchanged



Dr. Matthew Israel, Executive Director, along with Judy Barry, Design Supervisor, and two students (Iggy G. and Ean J.) pose for a photograph among the many new items in our upgraded Contract Store.

Remodeling and Redecoration of

them for some cool green walls, in 5 different shades of green, with occasional happy flower murals. The entryway has a sparkling new floor and a closed and secure reception area (right). Other areas shown in this newsletter include a new waiting area just beyond the reception doors (below right), a typical corridor, a classroom (page 4), the staff lounge, the new "striped" stairwell, the spectacularly beautiful student cafeteria and the waiting area near the rear entrance of the 240 school building (page 3). Most visitors have commented very favorably about the new décor.

JRC has a basketball team! A group of JRC students played their first competitive game against a local public high school (page 6). About 10 staff members attended to cheer for our team. Although we lost by a close score (55 to 50), the students really enjoyed the opportunity to play. We are completing an indoor half-court basketball area as part of our remodeling of the 250 building. It will be ready for use by our students in the near future.

With an influx of new students from New York, Washington, D.C., Virginia and Massachusetts, as well as a new student from Illinois, we have been working on the decoration of our residences. Designers Judy Weber-Israel and Judy Barry continue their wonderful and individualized design of the student bedrooms and living rooms as can be seen in the photos on page 7.

In April, Kent Johnson, founder of Morningside Academy, consulted with JRC on curriculum design and teaching methods (page 5.).

We have started a course in behavioral psychology that we are now offering to about 15 of our students. We want to give the students the ability to look at their own behaviors and life with the tools and understandings of behavioral psychology. Part of the course involves learning to use behavioral principles to control and change one's own behavior. Recently, Professor Richard Malott from Western Michigan University gave a talk to the students (page 5). We are considering training some students on how to do direct-care treatment work at a program such as ours. We plan to expand the number of students who will be participating in this course so that we include all students who can benefit from it.

Matthew Israel, Ph.D.
Executive Director

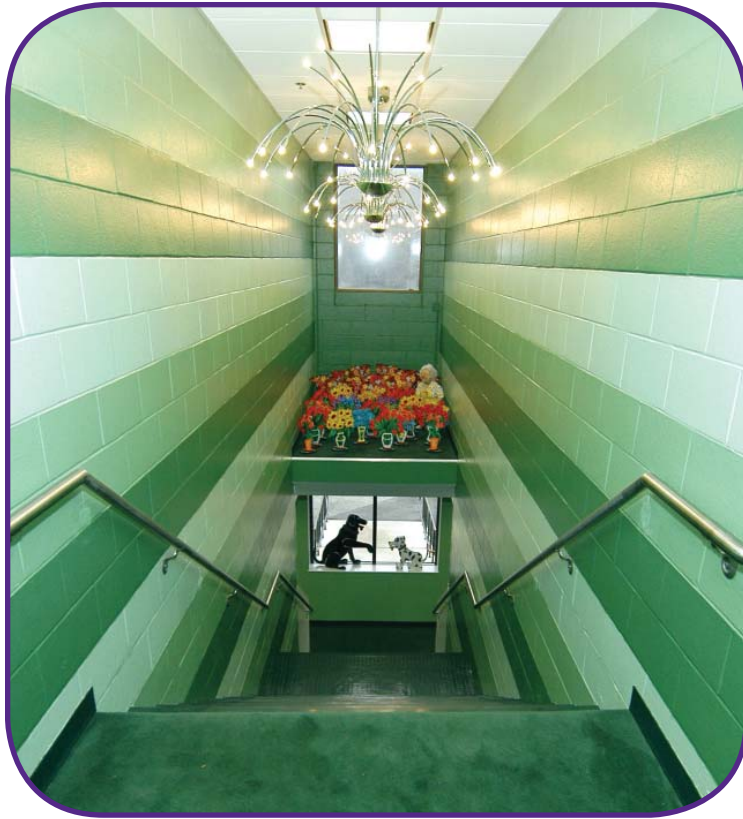


Visitors to the Judge Rotenberg Center first enter through the above reception area with enclosed front desk.



Just beyond the front desk is a waiting area with striking black and white furniture and artwork.

the School Building Continues



The stairway of our 240 school building is painted in varying shades of green stripes!



The student cafeteria has been expanded and now includes a large serving line and salad bar.

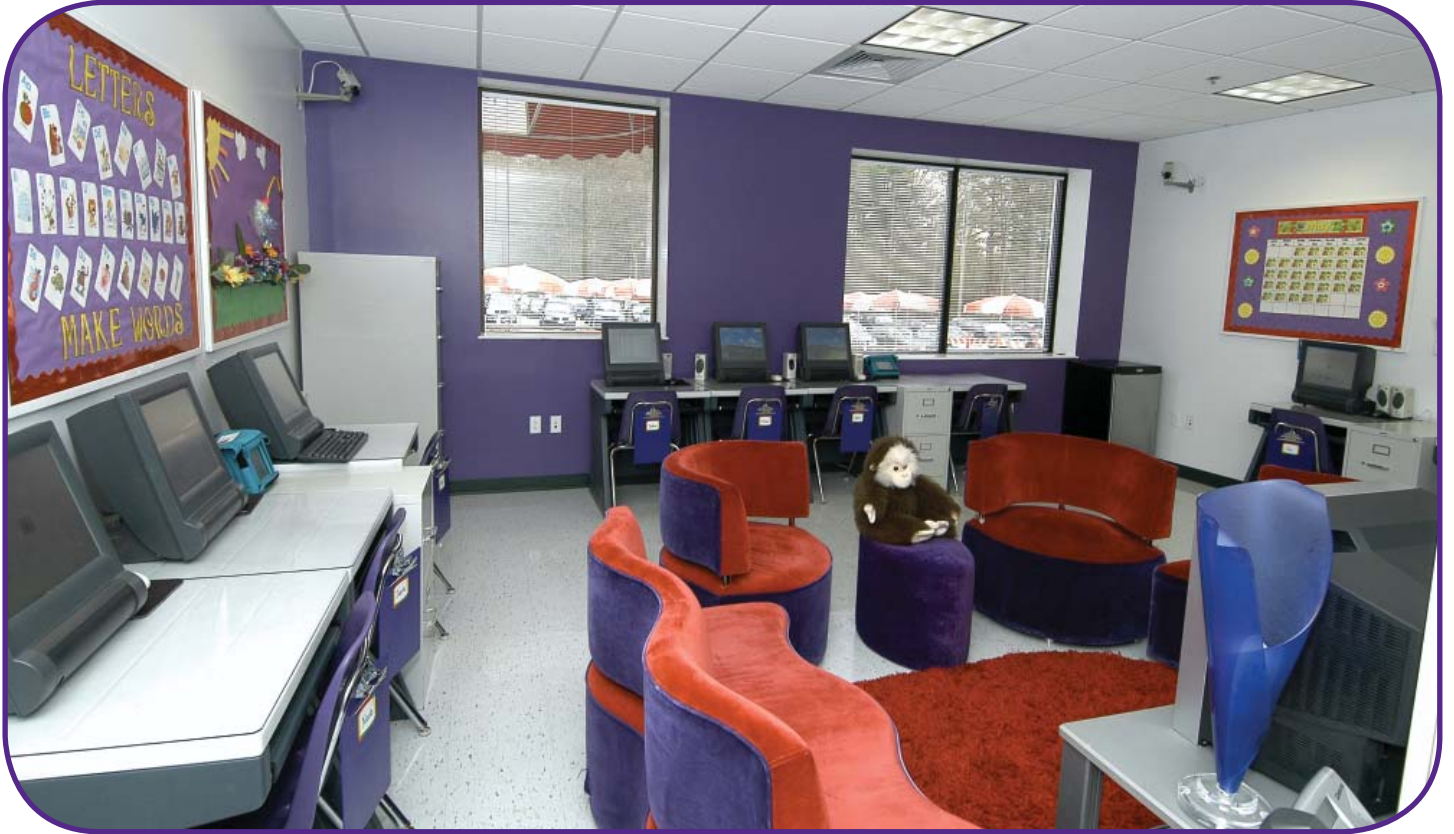


Patrick M. waits in the bus loading area at the back of the school building.



The new staff lounge features vending machines with healthy snacks and a flat panel TV.

School Building Remodeling



This is a typical classroom for our lower-functioning students with a reward area in front of the teacher's desk.

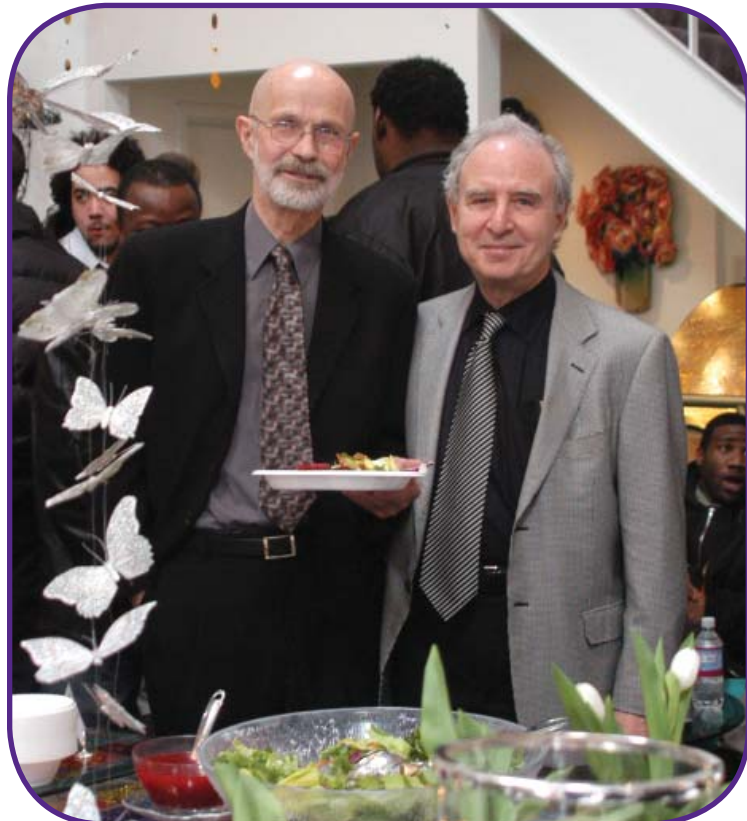


The corridors of the school building have been painted with colorful nature scenes, by Judy Barry, our Design Supervisor.

Visiting Guest Speakers



Dr. Kent Johnson talks to JRC teachers about using Direct Instruction and new curricula to improve student performance.



Professor Richard Malott gave a presentation to a group of students who are taking a course in behavioral psychology.



On April 12th, Howard Lyman (left), author of the books Mad Cowboy and No More Bull, gave a lecture to staff and students about nutrition and the environment. A healthy lunch, prepared by our own Chef Chad Gould (right), followed the presentation.



JRC Basketball Team



Kris A. eyes the opposing defense for weaknesses while setting up the next play.



Dominic D. shoots a difficult lay-up over a player from a local high school and makes the score!



The JRC students show great teamwork as they attempt to block a shot made by the opposition.



A'dron D. looks for a seam in the defense as he prepares to drive to the basket.

Beautifully Furnished Residences



Each of JRC's residences is individually and tastefully decorated with non-institutional furniture. We have recently redecorated rooms in several of our homes including the living room and bedroom in the photos above.

New Items in the Contract Store



Plush toys, games, and books continue to be popular items. Here Diego D. chooses a stuffed animal.



Ryasia A. tries on a heart charm necklace.



A few students model ponchos that are now available in the Contract Store (from left: Iggy G., Ryasia A., and Christina S.).



Jasmine H. has a tough time deciding on a handbag!



Kevin R. chooses a new tie that he has earned for passing his contract.