



DISTRICT 57 REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT



Many parents and staff members tell me that these last few weeks of school are the busiest of the year, and I can certainly see why. The spring is filled with plays, concerts, field trips, class projects, field days, graduation activities and much more. It's a hectic time! But as we check these end-of-year traditions off our to-do list, we can take a moment to realize how fortunate the children of this community are to have so many opportunities to learn and grow. I know it's a lot of work to make these things happen, and I want to thank our staff members and parents for all of their efforts and support.

I also thank the community members who supported the District's efforts to receive a zoning variance so that we would not be required to install islands throughout the new Westbrook parking lot. On May 17, the Village Board granted the variance. Everyone who signed petitions and attended meetings played a big role in this. The District also thanks the village trustees who were open to hearing our position. We're grateful that the new parking lot can continue to operate in a safe and efficient manner.

We've had many milestones and accomplishments this school year, including the successful 1:1 Chromebook Pilot Program at Lincoln, which will lead to some exciting changes for students in the fall (see the story in this newsletter). We also piloted new science curriculum that aligns with the national Next Generation Science Standards. The staff has recommended that the School Board approve the implementation of FOSS materials. Teachers involved in the pilot say the curriculum helps students apply concepts they are learning to the real world. We will train staff on the new curriculum over the summer and begin implementing it when the students return to school.

I would like to thank all community members who took part in the District's Community Survey. The feedback was valuable and will be incorporated into our future decision making. Among other things, we learned that 91 percent of respondents agree or strongly agree that they would recommend the District to a friend moving into the area. For detailed survey results, go to this [link](#) on the District website.

Please take a few minutes to read this newsletter and learn about the many special things that have happened recently throughout the District. Best of luck to our eighth-grade graduates! And to our students who will be returning, we look forward to seeing you on Aug. 24 for the first day of the 2016-2017 school year. Have a wonderful summer!

Dr. Elaine Aumiller

Superintendent of Schools, Mount Prospect School District 57

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D57 SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES GO FOR THE GOLD

Fairview and Lincoln students warmed up for their Special Olympics events, along with PE teacher Julie Leeney, on April 17. The District 57 team participated in the Special Olympics Spring Games for the North and Northwest suburbs, held at Prospect High School. The District is proud of these student athletes and thanks their families and the many community members who came out to cheer them on. Special recognition goes to the staff members who volunteered their time and to Fairview instructional assistant Lisa Johnson for coordinating the District's involvement in this special day. (Photo by Jenny McGoan, District 57.)



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

DISTRICT MAKING TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS WHEN AND WHERE THEY NEED IT

Much of the work that takes place in today's classrooms requires students to have regular and easy access to computers throughout the school day. With this 21st-Century model of learning, it's no longer sufficient for students to make scheduled weekly trips to a computer lab. That's why District 57 is making technology more readily available to students and their teachers.

At Lincoln, this means the exciting launch of a 1:1 computer ratio program for all seventh and eighth graders next school year. The students will receive their own Chromebook computers to use at school and bring home in the evenings. This year's 1:1 pilot with a team of eighth graders was a huge success, according to Lincoln principal Jason Kaiz. "Having 1:1 technology for students has opened the possibility for teachers to expand learning by guaranteeing online opportunities in the classroom as well as continuing the online learning outside of the school day," he explains. Teachers have been receiving professional development to help them incorporate the Chromebooks into lesson plans. Parents whose students will use Chromebooks starting next fall will receive detailed information closer to the rollout.

The schools also are enhancing technology availability by maximizing connectivity in the buildings so that large groups of students can simultaneously work online while in their classrooms. This summer, classrooms at Lions Park and Westbrook will receive their own Internet access points. Currently, access points are located in the hallways and only allow for a limited number of computers to be online at one time. Fairview and Lincoln received expanded access last summer, and Trevor Hope, District 57 director of technology, says teachers have been very positive about the changes.

The Administration Building also will receive technology infrastructure upgrades over the summer. Improved wireless access will be installed, and a temperature-controlled server room will be built in the basement. The server, which covers the entire District, currently sits next to the building's boiler, and this can lead to temperature and moisture issues.



FUNDING THE TECH ENHANCEMENTS

How is District 57 paying for new Chromebooks and infrastructure upgrades? Some funding for the new computers comes out of the technology budget. In addition, the District 57 Education Foundation funded computer purchases, using money raised at the Evening for Education Gala. The District thanks the Foundation's members and supporters! The District also received E-Rate funding to help cover the cost of the wireless expansion. E-Rate is a federal program that helps schools and libraries meet the increasing demand for bandwidth.

DISTRICT'S NEW FINANCE HEAD STARTS JULY 1



Adam Parisi, District 57's new assistant superintendent for finance and operations, begins his employment on July 1, replacing Dale Falk, who has accepted a position in Northbrook/Glenview School District 30. Parisi comes to District 57 from Bloomingdale School District 13, where he is chief school business official,

director of finance and district treasurer. "Adam has a solid foundation of experience in education and school business and is well equipped to lead the District's finances during this challenging time in our state. I think he is a great fit for District 57 and Mount Prospect," says Elaine Aumiller, Ed.D., superintendent of schools. She adds that Falk has been an asset to the District during his 11-year tenure and that she thanks him for his service, financial expertise and guidance.



TECH TEAM TRAVELS TO AON FOR HANDS-ON LEARNING

Members of Lincoln's Tech Team took a field trip to Aon Corporation in Lincolnshire, where they spent time with some pros building servers piece by piece, testing them in a server room and learning how the company uses servers to store client data. Club leader Kate Sassatelli, tech integration coach, says it was a great opportunity for the students to explore tech careers and see that technology is important in every field. The Tech Team, which meets monthly during lunch, has 17 members in grades six, seven and eight. (Photo by Kate Sassatelli, District 57.)

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

BOSCH AND FAIRVIEW INSPIRE STUDENTS TO BECOME STEM INNOVATORS, WITH NEW AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Fairview has launched an after-school Science Club designed to inspire the next generation of innovators in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Second through fifth graders met weekly throughout the winter to participate in hands-on activities and experiments, under the direction of teachers Una Durkan and Jeanne Travis and volunteers from the Robert Bosch Tool Corporation in Mount Prospect.

The second- and third-grade club made wooden pinball machines. Travis and the Bosch volunteers helped use the activity to introduce the students to basic physics concepts, as well as the idea of marketing a product. The fourth- and fifth-grade club designed, constructed and tested a balloon-powered jet toy, an activity that showed students how their work in the classroom can apply to the real world, says Durkan.

Lions Park has run a Science Club for the past few years, also utilizing Bosch volunteers, and it has been a popular offering. This year, 36 students participated in the fall and 36 in the spring, according to teachers and club leaders Ashley Bucher and Courtney Voss. Both the Lions Park and Fairview clubs are part of the national A World in Motion® program, which combines the talents of classroom teachers and local industry volunteers to prepare students to become tomorrow's engineers and scientists.

The involvement of Bosch is key, as the company donated the materials and sent 14 employee volunteers to the schools throughout the year. Timothy Szweda, Bosch senior product safety engineer, says the program is valuable for elementary school students, "because it's a fun way for them to learn about science and engineering, and also see that there are interesting careers where they would use the science and math skills they're learning in school."

"As a volunteer, it's rewarding to see how excited the kids are about science and engineering, and it's amazing to see their creativity and teamwork in the design projects," he says. "I am thrilled that there has been so much interest in the Science Club program from the students, parents, teachers and administrators in District 57, and I'm excited to be working with Fairview in addition to Lions Park now."



Members of Fairview's new Science Club created pinball machines, an activity that introduced them to basic physics concepts. (Photo by Jeanne Travis, District 57.)

PE TEACHER BRINGS LACROSSE TO WESTBROOK, WITH HELP FROM HER FORMER STUDENTS

Lincoln sixth graders Sam and Josh visited Westbrook in May to help introduce PE students to the sport of lacrosse, which is growing in popularity. It recently was announced that lacrosse will become an official Illinois High School Association (IHSA) sport in 2018, and

PE teacher Lori Many wanted to familiarize her students with it. So she invited her former students who are lacrosse pros to demonstrate the ins and outs. The children used equipment that Many received from the District 57 Education Foundation after submitting a grant request. The students had a great time learning some new skills that could serve them well later. (Photo by Lori Many, District 57.)



FOSTERING LIFELONG LOVE OF READING WITH ALL-SCHOOL READ-AROUND

Fifth-grade teacher Mark McGovern read to students during Fairview's All-School Read-Around in February. Students enjoyed having some of their favorite books read to them by "mystery staff members." This event is just one example of District 57 schools continuously looking for innovative ways to foster a lifelong love of reading among students of all ages. (Photo by Sara Peterson, District 57.)

GIVING BACK

LINDA FRAHM SCHOLARSHIPS HELP STUDENTS CONTINUE TO LEARN AND GROW OVER THE SUMMER

For the second year, some District 57 students will receive Linda Frahm Scholarships to fund summer opportunities that enrich their learning and development. The scholarships honor the memory of the beloved Lions Park teacher who passed away in 2013. Her colleagues established a fund to support students who want to pursue cultural, academic and athletic activities while they're off school, such as foreign language classes, music or acting workshops and sports camps.

"The scholarship committee really tried to think about how Linda would have wanted to help families," says Lions Park teacher Sara Murphy.

"She was so passionate about giving her own kids and her students opportunities above and beyond."

The scholarships are funded by events that Lions Park staff members hold throughout the school year, such as Love for Linda lunches. The lunches were attended by Linda Frahm's family, staff members from throughout the District, retired teachers and others who expressed an interest in contributing. In addition, the Lions Park PTO donated to the fund.

Murphy says the scholarship committee felt it was important to make the scholarships available to all students whose lives Linda Frahm might have

touched. So students in grades two through eight from all four District 57 schools are eligible. Applications were due in early May, and recipients will be announced at the Lions Park Awards Assembly. Last year, 10 scholarships were given out, helping students with pursuits such as guitar lessons, sleep-away camp and sports.

Murphy says Linda Frahm would be very proud of the scholarship fund that bears her name, because she cared so deeply about all kids having the chance to thrive. "She was always so proud of her own kids and her District 57 kids."



KNOTS OF LOVE GRAND TOTAL = 430 BLANKETS FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS!

Lions Park staff members and the Graver family delivered 430 blankets to Lutheran General's Children's Hospital in March. The blankets were made during Knots of Love, which was organized by Lions Park teachers and held Feb. 9 at Prospect High School. More than 200 community members came out to make blankets for pediatric patients and support Lauren Graver, a Lions Park second grader who is fighting cancer. Principal Kris Gritzammer said Knots of Love was "an excellent reflection of the power of our community and the strength of one little lady."

SPRING MUSICALS RECEIVE RAVE REVIEWS



Lincoln's musical, "Night at the Wax Museum," was April 15 and 16 and featured students in grades six, seven and eight, under the direction of music teacher Leslie Thomas. (Photo by Marni Finder.)

Lions Park fifth graders presented "How to be a Superhero" on March 10. Music teacher Carolyn Story wrote the musical, along with her husband Don. (Photo by Debbie Pavlowski, District 57.)



Fairview fifth graders presented "Adventures of the Barbary Queen" on April 6. The musical was written by Lions Park music teacher Carolyn Story, with additional script by Fairview music teacher Lisa Loeffler (Photo by Chris Trezise, District 57.)