

School District 12 Update

April 12, 2022

*From the Desk of
Dr. Mary Henderson*



Calendar Events

[2021-22 School Year Calendar](#)

[2022-23 School Year Calendar](#)

Regular monthly Board of Education Meeting: Tuesday, April 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Next SMART Day: Wednesday, April 20, 2022

8th grade graduation: Tuesday, May 24

Illinois Department of Public Health [Trend Data](#)

DuPage County Health Department [Data Dashboard](#)

Dear D12 Families,

This time of year is always a wild ride as we continue to emphasize student learning, plan and conduct year-end celebrations, and also engage in planning for the 2022-23 school year. It is particularly exciting to look forward to the return of some treasured activities and launch something new.

COVID Update

Our schools continue to operate safely and without disruption. Please reach out to the health office at your school if your student test positive for the latest guidance and information.

D12 Strategic Plan Highlight

The Board of Education adopted a strategic plan last year, that includes several district goals. Over the next several updates, I will be highlighting a goal and share how we are working toward its achievement. Our first goal is that every student who enters D12 in kindergarten will be reading on grade level at the end of third grade. Why was third grade selected? Research shows that if a student is not reading at grade level by this time, it is far more difficult to close that gap.

Last spring, our Board of Education took action to support the achievement of this goal. Historically our classes were smaller at the K-2 levels and then increased in size beginning at grade 3. Our Board of Education approved the addition of a fourth section at third grade which allows us to keep the class sizes much smaller as we tackle this literacy goal. This is not often done in school districts and is a strong sign of our community's support of student learning.

Our School Improvement Team at Spring Hills Elementary School, comprised of staff members and school administrators, made the decision last summer to begin using the Fountas and Pinnell assessment for all of our students in grades K-5. This assessment is done one-on-one with the teacher and each student. While it is time consuming, the teacher gains very valuable information about each student as a reader and is more effective at targeting instruction for each student.

Our staff at both schools are in the process of shifting to our district's instructional framework for literacy. This framework emphasizes less time teaching to the whole group and increased time for students to receive instruction targeted to their needs in small groups and individually. Additionally, students are provided more time to engage in reading books of their own choosing. By far, the most effective way to become a better reader is to read, read, and then read some more. Giving students the opportunity to choose their text keeps them engaged and motivated to read. In order to support our students having a wide variety of texts from which to choose, each classroom at Spring Hills received an updated classroom library.

Once students finish third grade, reading instruction doesn't end. Our data reflect a need to emphasize reading informational text with our older students, and you will see that explicitly identified in the school improvement plan for Roselle Middle School.

I encourage you to watch or attend the June Board of Education meeting where a student achievement overview will be presented which will highlight the successes, opportunities for growth, and next steps in this goal area.

April Board of Education Meeting

Our regular March meeting will take place Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Highlights on the agenda:

- Reorganization of the Board of Education
- Discussion of ELA and middle school Social Studies curriculum adoptions
- Recognition of the 2020-2021 Return to Learn Team

Do You Know Someone Who is Ready for Kindergarten?

If you have a child who will be attending kindergarten next year or someone with a child, it's time to register! Our staffing is based on enrollment, and it is always better to be hiring in the spring instead of at the end of the summer.

Families with a new student should contact JoAnn Dumelle at 630-529-2091.

Save the Dates!

Each of our schools will be hosting an evening for parents to be able to come into our schools to see classrooms.

April 21: SHS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

April 28: RMS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

District administrators will be in the media centers of each school and are available to talk and answer questions.

Registration for the 2022-23 School Year

Information will be coming out shortly for registration. Additionally, computers and a staff member will be available at each school's Open House to assist you in this process if needed. Please note that fees do NOT need to be paid at this time.

Enjoy the extended weekend with your family!

Sincerely,
Dr. Henderson

