

District 89 Students and Staff Return to Improved and Enhanced Schools

District 89 students and staff members are settling into an exciting 2009-10 school year. The energy and enthusiasm in the schools is contagious, and all of the students are off to an excellent start to this new school year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the District 89 community once again for their support of the 2008 bond referendum that financed the school improvement projects. Because of the support of the District 89 community, students and staff returned to their schools to find the following improvements:

Technology Infrastructure: High speed fiber optic connections are now available to all classrooms and improved connectivity will allow for high speed transmission of multi-media data.

Life Safety: Asbestos abatement projects were completed, and sprinkler systems, exit lighting and emergency lighting were installed.

Improved Security: A new entrance has been constructed at Westfield Elementary School, and security cameras and other

security improvements were installed district-wide.

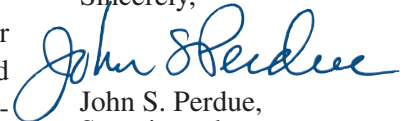
Building Improvements: Tuck pointing, window replacements, roof replacements, ceiling and lighting improvements and parking lot resurfacing projects were completed district-wide.

Mechanical, electrical and plumbing: Classrooms now have upgraded electrical systems, and students at Arbor View, Park View, Westfield and Glen Crest will now enjoy a climate-controlled set-

ting due to the installation of air conditioning at those schools. Briar Glen, District 89's newest school, was already air conditioned.

Thank you for your commitment to the students of Community Consolidated School District 89, and thank you for supporting our mission of *Learning for Life*.

Sincerely,



John S. Perdue,
Superintendent



Inside this issue:

District 89 Students and Staff Return to Improved and Enhanced Schools.....	1
Fall Curriculum Nights Offer Community Members an Opportunity to View Building Improvements.....	1
Board of Education Continues to Examine Enrollment and Finance Issues.....	2
District 89 to Receive Special Education Funds through ARRA.....	2
School, Family and Community Partnership Plans Coming to all District 89 Schools in 2009-10.....	3
We Want to Hear From You!.....	3
School Supply Program Benefits Kids in Districts 89 and 41.....	3
District 89 Says Farewell to Two Principals and Other Valued Staff.....	4

Fall Curriculum Nights Offer Community Members an Opportunity to View Building Improvements

Parents and other community members are invited to tour District 89 schools during Fall Curriculum Nights at each building. Come and see the finished projects that were made possible by the support of the District 89 community!

- Arbor View: Monday, Sept. 21, 6:30-8:00 PM
- Briar Glen: Thursday, Sept. 17, 6:30-8:00 PM
- Park View: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30-8:00 PM
- Westfield: Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6:30-8:00 PM
- Glen Crest: 6th Grade: Thursday, Sept. 24, 7:00-9:00 PM
- Glen Crest: 7th-8th Grade: Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:00-9:00 PM

Board of Education Continues to Examine Enrollment and Finance Issues

District 89 and the Board of Education continue to address declining enrollments and financial issues. The Board and Administration have listened to many parent concerns regarding the prospect of the paired schools model. While this idea, generated from the Enrollment Study Group, originally addressed providing more balance to class sizes and sections, it does not now fully address our declining enrollment and how this corresponds to the District budget. *Therefore, the paired schools model has been abandoned as a viable solution.*

However, the District has implemented an administrative transfer policy for new enrolling students where class sections in a home school will be closed due to capacity limits. These students may be transferred to other schools where class openings remain. While this policy will help to balance student population across the district, it will not eliminate the problem of overall enrollment decline and the subsequent negative effects on the equity of educational services, staffing, and budgets. District 89 loses approximately 45 students per year (or approximately 471 students in the last ten years). The District will continue to monitor this decline on a building and district-wide basis. Maintaining neighborhood elementary schools is a community desire that the District has acknowledged. However, a sustained decline in students will ultimately result in difficult, long-term decisions regarding the number of elementary schools the District can support.

Due to a loss of approximately \$1.2 million in revenue from the Consumer Price Index school funding calculation and the decline in general state funding, the District's financial outlook has not improved. This will impact the 2010-11 budget year for our District as well as for other Illinois public school Districts. Efforts to minimize the impact on student programs represent significant challenges. District 89 has operated very efficiently and has few places to trim expenses.

The District continues to reduce its budget as well as explore several of the ideas suggested from a community forum held last spring. Operating without an Education Fund rate increase since 1986, the District has contained costs, outsourced non-instructional services, and achieved several operational efficiencies. Still, rising expenses for energy, instructional materials and programs, insurance, and payroll have outpaced revenue over the long term. Some necessary educational programs have been limited (i.e. technology) due to restricted budget growth.

The District continues to use a planned deficit spending approach while minimizing expenses where possible so as not to severely impact or reduce educational programs. Based on input from the community forum, the Board of Education and community want a long term remedy for the District's financial future. The Board has made no decision on a course of action regarding financial concerns and continues to study various tax increase scenarios. In the months ahead, the Board of Education will deliberate these options in concert with the economy, local and state funding, and the mission of providing a world class education for District 89 students.

District 89 to Receive Special Education Funds through ARRA

The *American Recovery & Reinvestment Act* (ARRA) of 2009 provides federal stimulus funds to states and other municipal entities. While much of this stimulus money is being channeled directly to states, some funds are being dispersed to public school districts based on qualifying criteria. District 89 does not qualify for any stimulus funds in the federal entitlement programs such as Title I, but the District is expected to receive approximately \$450,000 to help fund special education programs.

"The ARRA funds provide District 89 with a one-time opportunity to enhance the services it provides to its special needs

population," said Peggy King, Director of Special Education for District 89. "Through this program, we will be able to better serve our students by supplying them and their teachers with additional tools that will help them be successful in their classrooms."

Since the funds are temporary stimulus revenue, District 89 plans to spend the funds on technology hardware and software, as well as on professional development for special education staff. "While we wait for the receipt of these funds, we will continue to plan for the most appropriate funding strategy that will maximize opportunities for students," said Superintendent Dr. John S. Perdue.

District 89 Says Farewell to Two Principals and Other Valued Staff

At an employee retirement luncheon held in the spring, District 89 bid farewell to Arbor View Principal Kevin Diehl and Glen Crest Principal Dr. Scott Stevens. Diehl served as Arbor View's principal for 22 years, and Stevens served as Glen Crest Middle School's principal for 15 years. Taking over as principal at Glen Crest is Todd Schrage, who had been the school's assistant principal for 10 years. Prior to becoming Glen Crest's Assistant Principal, Schrage taught 6th and 7th grade science at Glen Crest and 4th grade at Arbor View. Taking on the role as principal at Arbor View is David Bruno, who has worked as Glen Crest's Dean of Students and as a Glen Crest special education teacher.

Pictured with Superintendent Dr. John Perdue are:
 (top) Cindy Halik, Karen Bean, Kevin Diehl, Douglas Marier and Dr. Scott Stevens.
 (front) Barbara Allord, Margaret Kaye Schultz, Shirley Zeigler and Ann Jendryk.

Also leaving District 89 at the end of the 2008-09 school year were:

Barbara Allord	Science	Glen Crest
Karen Bean	ELL	Briar Glen
Kathlyne Casiello	Special Education	Briar Glen
Cindy Bilek Halik	Guidance	Glen Crest
Ann Jendryk	1 st Grade	Briar Glen
Douglas Marier	Orchestra	Glen Crest
Margaret Kaye Schultz	Library Media Specialist	Arbor View
Shirley Zeigler	Home School	Park View



District 89 wishes our departing employees the very best, and also welcomes many new staff members to an exciting 2009-10 school year!

www.ccsd89.org

**COMMUNITY
 CONSOLIDATED
 SCHOOL DISTRICT** **89**

Learning for Life

22W600 Butterfield Road

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

630.469.8900

ECRWSS
 RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
 WHEATON, IL 60187

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Wheaton, IL
 Permit #007