

CCSD 89 families:

I recently visited a fifth-grade classroom where students were writing persuasive essays about why the District should eliminate snow days. While they didn't persuade me to change the District's policy on severe weather closings (we still have Illinois weather, after all), I was inspired by the student's main argument: they love learning and, therefore, they want to be in school as often as possible.

When I see this level of enthusiasm for education, it reinforces the importance of the three Superintendent Committees working on the strategic plan, on enrollment, and on finance issues. The students, staff, and community members who volunteered to take part in these discussions are making sure our classrooms remain engaging and accommodating places.

If you are not aware, the Strategic Planning Committee wrapped up its work in November, and presented to the Board in December. The Committee made two main recommendations. First, expanded STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) opportunities. Second, the Committee asked us to increase our focus on helping students communicate effectively, collaborate productively, show empathy, and broaden their understanding of the world around them. The full presentation can be read here: <https://goo.gl/FoCVku>

The Enrollment Committee will meet for the final time this week to examine three proposals: boundary changes, grade-level centers, and moving fifth grade to Glen Crest Middle School. The Enrollment Committee is expected to make a recommendation to the Board of Education during an open meeting at 8 a.m. February 4. The Board could take action on that recommendation as soon as the February 13 Board meeting. Our administrators have been working out the details of all three plans so that once the Enrollment Committee makes a recommendation, we can communicate the potential impact as quickly as possible.

The third committee, Finance, will begin meeting in February. They will be looking for ways to continue delivering great education with the most efficient use of resources.

You can read more about all of these committees at:  
[http://www.ccsd89.org/pages/CCSD\\_89/Superintendent\\_Committees](http://www.ccsd89.org/pages/CCSD_89/Superintendent_Committees)

Although these committees would seem to have a diverse set of tasks, I believe they have the same mission. They are all working to create a learning environment so empowering that students feel they can't miss a day – even if it means one less trip down the sledding hill.

I hope your new year is off to a great start. Thank you for all that you do to support learning for life.

Here are some more important reminders:

|                           |                                     |                               |                                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Board of Education</b> | <b>Superintendent</b>               | <b>Arbor View School</b>      | <b>Westfield School</b>           |
| Jeff Hume                 | Emily K. Tammaru, Ed.D.             | David Bruno, Ed.D., Principal | Stacey Hewick, Principal          |
| Tim Jedlicka              | <b>Assistant Superintendent</b>     | <b>Briar Glen School</b>      | <b>Glen Crest Middle School</b>   |
| Michael Nelson            | <b>for Learning</b>                 | Mitch Dubinsky, Principal     | Kim Price, Principal              |
| Haydee Núñez              | Robert Langman, Ed.D.               | <b>Park View School</b>       | John Batiste, Assistant Principal |
| Scott Pope                | <b>Assistant Superintendent</b>     | Barb Peterson, Principal      |                                   |
| Beth Powers               | <b>for Finance &amp; Operations</b> |                               |                                   |
| Giselle Sandi-Tapia, PhD  | Maureen A. Jones, CSBO              |                               |                                   |

### **School will start earlier in 2017-18**

In December, the Board of Education approved the calendar for the 2017-18 school year. The start to the school year was moved up by three school days, in order to align with the change to the calendar of Glenbard South High School. The approved CCSD 89 calendar can be viewed [here](#).

Students will start the 2017-18 school year on Wednesday, August 16, 2017. The last day of the 2017-18 school year would be May 22, 2018, if no emergency days are used. You can read more about the change [here](#).

### **MAP scores sent home**

You should have received a letter and your students' Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) scores on Friday, January 20. These scores are used to measure academic progress through the year for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. This is the second time students have taken MAP tests this year, and the results will help teachers adjust instruction. More information is available on the back of the MAP scores or [here](#).

### **Preschool registration opens January 26**

Registration for the 2017-18 CCSD 89 preschool will open on January 26. The program, located at Arbor View School, features developmentally appropriate curriculum delivered by early childhood educators. There will be limited openings for 3- and 4-year-old children who live in the CCSD 89 boundaries.

To start the preschool registration process, call Jaclyn Ackerman at (630) 469-5505 and request a pre-enrollment packet. Registration will be held on 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. January 26 at Arbor View School.

### **Registration: February 27 for new and kindergarten, April 5 for returning students**

We've been receiving some questions about when general registration opens. Registration will open on February 27 for students who will be new to the District, or starting kindergarten in 2017-18. Registration for returning students will open April 5. More information is available [here](#).

### **Winter weather reminders: dress warm, update contact information**

Hopefully, you received a call from the District last week as part of our test of the District's 'call-out' phone notification system. If you did not receive a call, please contact your school secretary to make sure they have the most current contact information.

Please have your student dressed for cold weather these next few weeks. During these cold days, students will continue to go outside for recess. Also, there is always the chance that an emergency could cause students to stand outside for an extended time.

### **Board of Education updates**

A summary of the Dec. 19 Board meeting can be read here: <https://goo.gl/k7qngm>

At the Dec. 19 meeting, the Board of Education heard about financial projections. The District expects to have deficits through Fiscal Year 2022. See the full report here: <https://goo.gl/ZrBSBD>

A summary of the Jan. 9 Board meeting can be read here: <https://goo.gl/OYweQc>

On Jan. 9, the Board heard from Assistant Superintendent Bob Langman, and Glen Crest teachers Maureen Joiner and Monica Shekar about the curriculum work this is in progress. The report can be found here: <https://goo.gl/ujkUR9>

### **Upcoming events**

January 25: Final Enrollment Committee meeting

February 4: Board of Education meeting, 8 a.m.

February 6: Preschool screening at Arbor View

February 13: Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.

February 20: No school – President’s Day

Thank you for all you do to support learning for life!

Sincerely,



Dr. Emily K. Tammaru

Superintendent

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