March 22, 2018

CCSD 89 families:

If you follow CCSD 89 on social media, you probably noticed that last week was #LovePublicEducation Week. In stories and photos, our staff put a spotlight on the educational adventures that are happening each day in our public education classrooms.

I saw students coding, singing a cappella, creating 3-D prototypes, learning about refraction by making rainbows, and developing reading skills. In the same week, our Special Olympics basketball team earned a silver medal while developing confidence, learning skills, and making friends. These are incredible opportunities provided in a public-education setting.

The week also reminded me of the parts of public education that are not as visible, but just as impactful. Our staff is always working to close the learning gaps for all students. CCSD 89 provides mental health and emotional support to young learners who are struggling. They raise the bar for students who meet expectations. The list goes on and on.

While there will always be challenges, public education continues to be a community bedrock, where every student can find an opportunity to grow and learn. We are so appreciative of what you have helped us provide to the students who live here. Soon, we will be asking you to join a conversation about what you value in CCSD 89. The Superintendent Finance Committee has recommended to the Board of Education that CCSD 89 begin a community dialog about how we can address the district’s financial challenges while maintaining our high standards for education. We want to know what you value in your public school district. You can find out more in the Board notes section at the bottom of this email.

Here are some other important reminders:

**Look for snapcode in mail**

By now, many of you should have received a letter from the district with the “snapcode” you will use when 2018-19 registration opens at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 4. Letters were sent to homes of returning students beginning the week of March 12. A dark blue 2018-19 registration button will be activated on the District’s registration page (www.ccsd89.org/register) at that time. It’s important to hold onto this letter because anyone who loses their snapcode will need to come in to the district office to prove residency. If you do not receive a snapcode letter by Tuesday, March 27, you will need to call the district office to set up a time to prove residency. More information: [https://goo.gl/bHBkxX](https://goo.gl/bHBkxX)
Summer school enrichment opportunities available
Community Consolidated School District 89 is once again partnering with Butterfield Park District to provide an enrichment-focused learning experience opportunity for our students and families this summer. The summer-enrichment program is for students in kindergarten through fifth grades, and will be held at Westfield Elementary school. The program begins Monday, June 18, 2018, and will be held every Monday through Thursday (no school on Wednesday, July 4th) until Thursday, July 5, 2018. Find out more here: https://goo.gl/unptPc

Help us support Make-A-Wish
You may see some of our staff wearing jeans this week in support of the CCSD 89 fundraiser for Make-A-Wish. Our goal is to once again raise $5,000 to help grant the wishes of families dealing with severe illness. We have several families in our district who have benefitted from the program. You can learn more about how to donate and see one CCSD 89 family’s story here: https://goo.gl/EaCaMS

Glen Crest girls basketball: undefeated champs!
Congratulations to the eighth-grade girls basketball team! The team wrapped up its second consecutive undefeated season with a conference championship. The girls won 19 of 22 games by 15 points or more. Clearly, they are fantastic basketball players, but they’re even better students. Read more about these outstanding young women: https://goo.gl/2XA7oB

Congrats to Special Olympics basketball team
Congratulations to our Glen Crest unified Special Olympics basketball team for earning a silver medal in the first state tournament they have competed in. The unified team mixes traditional Special Olympic athletes with peer buddies. This year’s team showed athletic excellence and great sportsmanship. Read more here: https://goo.gl/4y8e5M

Thank you for supporting PEP fundraiser!
I’d like to thank all the families that stopped by PDQ in Wheaton on March 6 to support our fundraiser for the PEP Foundation. There were lines of CCSD 89 families in the restaurant all day and we were able to donate $675 to PEP! The Partnership for Educational Progress (PEP) Foundation has awarded more than 440 teacher grants worth more than $240,000. More information is available at www.thepepfoundation.org.

Briar Glen “Rocks the PARCC test!”
Many of your students may be in the middle of PARCC testing. Thank you for helping them get good rest and a good meal to start their day. If they need some more inspiration, have them check out the fun video our Briar Glen staff made after school called “Rock the PARCC test”: https://youtu.be/1t8X0J4LdJ8
Board updates
On March 19, the Board of Education heard a presentation from two community members who served on the Superintendent’s Finance Committee. Mike Lullo and Steve Neurauter spoke about the committee’s process and what the committee learned about the district’s fiscal history. The committee recommended broader engagement to expand the discussion about what the community values and wants from their schools. You can see their presentation here: https://goo.gl/T68qEF

You can read a summary of the March board meeting here: https://goo.gl/KScVXS

The board will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 16, at the Administration Center, 22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn. All meetings are open to the public. Full agendas and minutes for all Board meetings can be found at www.ccsd89.org/board

Upcoming events
March 23: Student half-day (morning attendance)
March 26-30: Spring break
April 4: Registration opens for 2018-19 school year
April 11: Mid-term
April 16: Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.
April 19: Student half day (morning attendance)

Thank you for supporting learning for life in CCSD 89!

Sincerely,

Emily K. Tammaru
Superintendent

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