

November 19, 2018

CCSD 89 families:

I would like to again thank everyone who took part in the conversation and engagement around the district's referendum question. We appreciate the community's support and we're pleased the district will be able to continue delivering a high-quality education for all students.

The successful referendum means we will be able to maintain programming and rebuild the district's reserves, but it does not change the district's commitment to fiscal responsibility. It will be our goal to make this referendum last as long as possible. It's natural – especially after a referendum - to see your tax bill and only think about the number, but please don't lose sight of the learning moments your contributions make possible.

Earlier this month, I happened upon one of those incredible opportunities you are a part of creating. I was walking through a school library on my way to a meeting and I was a few minutes early, so I pulled up a chair with four boys who were having an excited conversation about their personal essays.

The fifth-graders were from different backgrounds and had different ability levels. They had written four very different narratives. But each of their stories was genuine and authentic; the details were chosen carefully.

One boy had written about being afraid to go rafting during a family camping trip. When he read the part of the story that was from his sister's perspective, he even shifted his tone of voice.

"I can picture your sister standing in the stream annoyed with you," one of the other boys told the writer.

As they read the stories, the other boys chimed in with feedback: "I love the way you use dialog there." "That metaphor really drove your point home." "I could really feel what you were feeling."

Among a few of the skills these kids were building: perspective, story structure, figurative language, effective communications, word choice. Not to mention: empathy, pride, teamwork, resilience.

This interaction didn't happen by accident. These boys were participating in a well-designed lesson that built on years of excellent instruction from phenomenal teachers. It will be part of the foundation for future learning. That's just one of the empowering experiences this community makes possible each day. We're so thankful for your constant support for CCSD 89 students.

I hope you enjoy a happy and relaxing Thanksgiving break with family and friends.

Here are some important reminders:

Board of Education

Tim Jedlicka
Jay Lerch
Haydee Núñez
Scott Pope
Beth Powers
La Sridhar
Ben Yates

Superintendent

Emily K. Tammaru, Ed.D.
**Assistant Superintendent
for Learning**
Robert Langman, Ed.D.
**Assistant Superintendent
for Finance & Operations**
Maureen A. Jones, CSBO

Arbor View School

David Bruno, Ed.D., Principal
Briar Glen School
Mitch Dubinsky, Principal
Park View School
Barb Peterson, Principal

Westfield School

Stacey Hewick, Principal
Glen Crest Middle School
Kim Price, Principal
John Batiste, Assistant Principal

Help CCSD 89 families in need with gift card donation

Did you know that more than 200 families in our district may be getting by with very limited resources? Thanks to a great partnership with the Parent-Teacher Councils, CCSD 89 schools will be collecting gift cards for families in need. School social workers will be collecting \$10 and \$25 gift cards from Aldi, Jewel, Target, and Walmart to be distributed to families during the holidays. If you would like to donate, please drop a gift card at your school office before Friday, December 14. More information: <https://bit.ly/2DEWOpU>

All schools closed November 21-23

All CCSD 89 schools will be closed from November 21 through November 23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Tuesday, November 20, will be a half day (morning attendance) for CCSD 89 students, and parent-teacher conferences will be held in the afternoon. All schools will open on a regular schedule on Monday, November 26. The district's administrative offices at 22W600 Butterfield Road, will be closed November 22 and November 23.

Severe weather reminder

Our recent snows are a reminder that winter is not far away. It's important for CCSD 89 families to ensure their school has the most current contact information, because the district uses a 'call-out' phone system to notify families of any closings. Calls are sent to phone numbers that guardians have registered. If there is a closing, information will also be posted on the district's website (www.ccsd89.org), Facebook page (facebook.com/CCSD89), and Twitter account ([@CCSD89](https://twitter.com/CCSD89)).

When school is in, parents should send students in clothing appropriate to wear outside. Students will continue to have recess outside as the weather allows.

Video: CCSD 89 students building lifelong fitness habits

In our physical education classes, students are learning more than just rules and sportsmanship. Teachers are using technology to develop fitness habits that will empower kids to build lifelong healthy habits. Check out this video to see how technology can be a powerful motivator and guide in our physical education classes: <https://youtu.be/pX1MEayL0E4>

Giordano's fundraiser

For more than a decade, I have been fortunate to work with an excellent administrative assistant: Jill Coran. Coran, who is retiring in January, helps keep this district running in ways that are often unseen to the public but essential for our operations. One of those ways is organizing the PEP Foundation restaurant fundraisers that our families participate in. In October, the Giordano's fundraiser collected an \$800 for grants that help our students and staff. Thank you to the families who participated, and to Jill for making this happen!

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Board of Education

The Board will meet again at 7 p.m. Monday, November 19, at the District Office, 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

November 19: Elementary evening conferences

November 19: Board of Education meeting

November 20: Morning attendance for students; parent-teacher conferences in afternoon

November 21-23: No school

December 11: Winter orchestra concert, 7 p.m.

December 13: Winter chorus concert, 7 p.m.

December 17: Board of Education meeting

December 18: Winter band concert 7 p.m.

December 21: Mid-term

December 24: Beginning of winter break

Thank you for all you do to support learning for life in CCSD 89!

Sincerely,



Dr. Emily K. Tammaru
Superintendent

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Follow CCSD 89 on Facebook: www.facebook.com/CCSD89

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