

District 89 families:

In more ways than one, the calendar is reminding us that now is a time to be grateful. Of course, we're less than two weeks from Thanksgiving. But you might not know that today is School Board Members Day, as well as the beginning of American Education Week.

I am thankful for our school board members - residents who volunteer to engage in the serious conversations that will guide our District to the future. On School Board Members Day, we salute their commitment to supporting our students with their time, wisdom, and passion. Thank you, Mike Nelson, Beth Powers, Jeff Hume, Tim Jedlicka, Haydee Núñez, Scott Pope, and Dr. Giselle Sandi-Tapia.

I am thankful for our educators, who have a tireless devotion to your students. American Education Week is a celebration of public schools and of the individuals who are making sure every student receives a quality education. Throughout CCSD 89, our teachers and educational support staff are focused on empowering students to reach their full potential academically and socially.

Finally, I am thankful for you, our CCSD 89 families. I'm so fortunate to be part of a District where families are engaged partners in the educational process. You encourage learning, help with homework, share at parent-teacher conferences, volunteer in classrooms, lead fundraisers, and so much more. You make this a true learning community. Your contributions are important and they are valued. Thank you for all that you share with us.

Here are some more important reminders:

Provide feedback through 5Essentials survey

Our District is always striving to advance the educational experience, and feedback is essential to that process. Starting Wednesday, CCSD 89 families are invited to share their thoughts through 5Essentials, a survey that all Illinois public schools use to gather feedback from students, parents, and employees.

The free survey is voluntary and anonymous. The survey asks users to evaluate the school's performance in several areas, including preparation and communication. We're hoping that before December 2, all our families will take a few minutes to complete a survey for each school their children attend.

On Wednesday, you will be able to go directly to the survey at: illinois.5-essentials.org/2016/ A link to the survey will also be posted prominently on the [District's 5Essentials webpage](#).

Superintendent committee documents available online

Last month, I told you about the three Superintendent Committees that are studying essential issues in this District: Strategic Planning, Enrollment, and Finance. I will continue to update you on these committees, and

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

you can follow their progress on the new [Superintendent Committees page](#) on our website. We will continue to post documents and minutes from these committees on this page.

State report cards show high student achievement

The state has released the annual school report cards, which are filled with crucial information about all Illinois schools. Once, again these report cards show that CCSD 89 students score consistently and significantly above national averages in several key areas, including math and language arts achievement. A quick summary of the District data can be found [here](#) and more detailed information is available [here](#).

Help families in need with gift card donation

Did you know that nearly one in seven CCSD 89 families are getting by on limited means? By partnering with Parent-Teacher Councils, CCSD 89 schools will once again be collecting gift cards to give to local families in need. The school's social workers coordinate the efforts to collect \$10-\$25 gift cards for Aldi, Jewel, and Walmart. The cards are distributed to families at holidays and during times of crisis. If you would like to donate, please drop a card at your neighborhood school before December 9.

Congratulations, Glen Crest teacher Rich Stachon!

I hope you will join me in congratulating Glen Crest Middle School teacher Rich Stachon, who was named Illinois Middle School/Junior High Art Educator of the Year. The award is presented annually by the Illinois Art Education Association to one teacher who has shown exemplary service, contributions, and achievements in art education. Read more about this incredible teacher: <https://goo.gl/3LIZSI>

Upcoming events

November 21: Board of Education meeting
November 22: Evening conferences for elementary schools
November 23-25: No school (Thanksgiving break)
December 6: District 89 Winter Chorus Concert
December 8: Glen Crest Winter Concert
December 13: District 89 Winter Chorus Concert

I hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday. Thank you for supporting learning for life in CCSD 89!

Sincerely,



Dr. Emily K. Tammaru
Superintendent

Board of Education

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Tim Jedlicka
Michael Nelson
Haydee Núñez
Scott Pope
Beth Powers
Giselle Sandi-Tapia, PhD

Superintendent

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Park View School

Barb Peterson, Principal

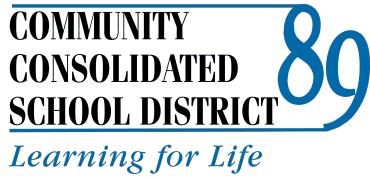
Westfield School

Stacey Hewick, Principal

Glen Crest Middle School

Kim Price, Principal

John Batiste, Assistant Principal



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