

CCSD 89 families:

I would like to take this time to express my appreciation for the many people who came to a meeting or contacted me during our ongoing enrollment conversation. As you likely know, the Board of Education and District administrators have agreed to slow down the process for changing boundaries. There will be no boundary changes for the 2017-18 school year. We plan to reinstitute the Enrollment Committee and continue exploring options to better balance building capacity and enrollment in the 2018-19 school year.

Two things stand out for me from this process. First, even though necessary change can be difficult, I'm glad we can all work together to find the best long-term solution. Second, it is exciting to be part of a community that is so invested in their schools. Our schools draw their strength from their families and neighborhoods – and our students benefit from that passion.

We have more challenges ahead. Last week, the Board heard a presentation on the updated financial projections for the District. (You can see the presentation [here](#).) The District is projected to have deficit budgets for the next six years, and the state's inability to pass its budget continues to cause difficulties for all school districts trying to make financial plans.

As we work through these challenges, we will continue to communicate and engage with residents. It is good to know that as we face significant and complicated issues, we have the backing of a community that understands education is crucial to our civic health.

Here are some important reminders and celebrations:

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

Registration opens February 27 for students who will be kindergartners in the 2017-18 school year. If you have a student starting kindergarten next year, registration information can be found [here](#). Registration for returning students will open April 5. More information is available [here](#).

February 22: Free Family Wellness event

Families are invited to get moving at the Family Wellness Event from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22, at Glen Crest Middle School. The free event will include activities for students ages 5 to 12, including dance, yoga, soccer, martial arts, and crafts. Find out more here:

http://www.ccsd89.org/pages/CCSD_89/Calendar/WellnessNight

Congratulations Glen Crest student Stefan Loest!

I want to congratulate Glen Crest Middle School eighth grade student Stefan Loest. About 450 students

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applied, and Stefan was one of 235 students accepted to the Annual Auburn University Middle School Honor Band Festival. Not only that, but Stefan, who plays alto saxophone, earned first chair in the highest band! To see Stefan's talent on display, check out [his recent performance at a Board of Education meeting](#).

COD tax filing help

If you're interested in having your taxes filed for free, our District will be hosting a College of DuPage event open to residents. College students, under the supervision of accounting instructors, will be available from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 26, at Park View Elementary School, to help file taxes. Find out more [here](#).

Thank you for gift card contributions

Each year, our Parent-Teacher Councils collect \$10-\$25 gift cards to be distributed at holidays and during times of crisis. I'm honored to announce that this year's gift card campaign raised an incredible \$10,720 for local families in need! The cards have already been used to support 72 families! Thank you to everyone who contributed, and to the PTCs for coordinating such an important effort.

Board of Education updates

The Board of Education met on February 4 to discuss proposed boundary changes. The Board agreed not to make any boundary changes for the 2016-17 school year. A summary of the Feb. 4 Board meeting can be read here: <https://goo.gl/3Quq29>

The Board of Education also met on February 13, and learned about middle school math curriculum. Students who attended the meeting "flipped the classroom" and showed Board members how to solve linear equations. The Board also heard a presentation on the District's updated financial projections. The state's unresolved budgets continue to make local financial planning challenging. The full report can be found here: <https://goo.gl/S3xgmS>

A summary of the Feb. 13 Board meeting can be read here: <https://goo.gl/StalnI>

Upcoming events

February 22: Family Wellness Event
February 28: Second trimester ends
March 3: No school – Teacher Institute
March 7: Second trimester report cards sent home
March 11: CCSD 89 Choral Festival at GSHS
March 18: GC Orchestra Solo/Ensemble Competition
March 20: Board of Education meeting
March 24: Half day for students (morning attendance)

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily K. Tammaru". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Dr. Emily K. Tammaru

Superintendent

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