

WINTER 2023

Connect 41

THE GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

INSIDE

FROM THE
SUPERINTENDENT

TOP RATINGS ACHIEVED
DISTRICT-WIDE

DIVELEY NAMED
DUPAGE PRINCIPAL
OF THE YEAR

STRATEGIC PLAN
2022-2027

HOLIDAY SHARING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

www.d41.org



D41
glen ellyn

As we start off a new calendar year, I want to say thank you to the District 41 community and all of our stakeholders.

Because of your tremendous support throughout the years, District 41 is known for high academic achievement, a strong sense of community and active family involvement. For those new to the community or who may not know, we serve about 3,500 children from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade in four elementary schools and one junior high. We serve parts of five different communities including Glen Ellyn, Glendale Heights, Wheaton, Lombard, and Carol Stream. We prepare our students to move on from Hadley Junior High to attend Glenbard West High School.

As you will read in this newsletter, we have many celebrations happening across our school district. We also have some challenges to address such as lack of space in our elementary schools.

Although a referendum did not pass in November 2022 to build a new school and preschool center, we are continuing to work on how to improve and expand our facilities. Currently, due to lack of space, we are unable to provide full-day kindergarten for our families. The Board of Education and the district will continue planning conversations about how to address this challenge. We are currently working with our District 41 Community Advisory Subcommittee on ways to engage the community in the future. A plan for community engagement based on feedback from the subcommittee will be presented to the Board of Education early this spring.

I hope you find this newsletter informative. Thank you for your partnership.

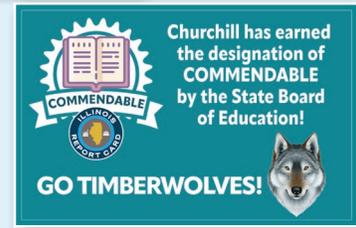
Happy New Year,

Dr. Melissa Kaczowski
Superintendent



Exemplary/ Commendable Ratings

District 41 schools are designated in the top two categories of “exemplary” or “commendable,” by the Illinois School Report Card. We are extremely proud of all of our students and staff members for their hard work and dedication.



Preschool Program Achieves Gold Status

This past September, District 41 was notified by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) that the **District 41 Preschool for All (PFA) Program** has achieved Gold Circle of Quality status in ExceleRate Illinois, the state’s quality recognition and improvement system for early learning and development programs.

Congratulations to all who support the District 41 PreK Program and all of our youngest learners!



Steve Diveley Named Middle School Principal of the Year in DuPage County

School administrators across the state were recently recognized by the Illinois Principals Association. Congratulations to Hadley Junior High School Principal Steve Diveley for being named the Middle School Principal of the Year for the DuPage Region. Mr. Diveley is now eligible for consideration as Illinois Middle School Principal of the Year.

“On behalf of the D41 Cabinet Team and staff, I am thrilled that Principal Diveley has been selected for this award. Hadley Junior High is not only high achieving but also a student-centered school,” said Superintendent Dr. Melissa Kaczowski. “Steve’s leadership along with the commitment of the Hadley staff has made Hadley a point of pride for the district and for this community. Steve demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement and works very hard to stay current in the field of middle level learning and leadership.”



Mr. Diveley has been in education for 30 years and has served as a principal for 18 years. This is Mr. Diveley’s 10th year in District 41. Prior to being a principal, he was a science and social studies teacher and has held various other administrative positions. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University and a master’s from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. Mr. Diveley lives in Naperville with his wife and three children.

These awards recognize administrators who have demonstrated a positive impact on their students and learning community. Criteria for Principal of the Year winners include:

- Demonstrates positive impact on education and advocacy for children
- Demonstrates creativity and imagination in bringing about positive change
- Willing to take risks to improve student learning
- Works collaboratively with teachers and other staff to improve the educational program and student achievement.

The Illinois Principals Association is a leadership organization which serves educational leaders throughout the State of Illinois and whose mission is to develop, support, and advocate for innovative educational leaders. Learn more at www.ilprincipals.org.



Representatives from the Illinois Principals Association attended a Board of Education meeting in December to present the award to Principal Diveley

A FUTURE 4 EVERY 1

STUDENTS ARE AT THE HEART OF ALL DECISIONS



d41.org/strategicplan2022

GLEN ELLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan for 2022-2027 was approved by the Board on April 18, 2022

Creating this path forward for the district was a collaborative process. This work was led in partnership with consultant Dr. Steve Webb who is a former superintendent and on the Commission of the AASA (the national superintendent's association) Learning 2025 national initiative that calls districts to commit to educating and supporting the whole child/whole learner in a more holistic way.

The purpose of our plan is to accelerate academic growth, improve student learning outcomes, and close opportunity and achievement gaps.

The six Strategic Priority Goal Areas are:

-  Growth Focused Learning
-  Safe and Inclusive Environments
-  Social Emotional Learning
-  Early Learning Programs and Facilities
-  Future Ready Skills and Innovation
-  Community Partnerships and Engagement

Updates on the work happening across the district to achieve our goals are presented to the Board of Education and the community quarterly.

FUND RESERVES FOR THE FUTURE

In accordance with the Board of Education's fund reserve policy, the District has been working to build the fund reserve balance with the goal of being able to complete a future programmatic expansion with minimal impact to taxpayers.

Each fiscal year since the year ended June 30, 2015, the District has added to the fund reserve balance. This has been in large part connected to a concentrated effort to approach spending in a conservative manner. Ensuring that every dollar spent is being used to improve the educational experience for our students has put the District in this position. The Board of Education will continue to plan for use of the funds in the future to best support students.



D41 IS HIRING!



Glen Ellyn School District 41 has openings for full- and part-time Special Education Aides at both the elementary and middle school levels.

The full-time aide positions have benefits including paid dental and health insurance. Special Education Aides work with classroom teachers to support students, or a group of students with specific educational needs.

You can learn more and apply for open positions by going to the District 41 jobs website at www.d41.org/jobs.



D41 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS



Two Hadley Junior High 8th grade students, **Maeve Bernstein** and **Elizabeth Bredfeldt**, were selected to serve as student representatives on the Board of Education. The students will serve for the remainder of this school year. They were officially seated at the regular Board meeting on October 17, 2022.

“Effective governance requires an energetic, optimistic, and future-oriented mindset and we are thrilled to have Ms. Bernstein and Ms. Bredfeldt join the D41 School Board. Their presence and voice will be a constant reminder of how we should best conduct our business,” said Board President Dr. Robert Bruno.



The role of student Board members is to provide advisory input to the District 41 Board of Education. As student members, they have the unique ability to represent the student voice during Board conversations and decisions. Student Board members will not be voting members of the Board and they will not have access to confidential information. *Thank you for your service, Ms. Bernstein and Ms. Bredfeldt.*

D41 PTA HOLIDAY SHARING

PTA Holiday Sharing Program Provides for over 245 Families

Since 2005, District 41’s PTA has been organizing a holiday gift program for hundreds of children. This year the program provided gifts for kids as well as gift cards to purchase groceries and other needed items to over 245 families. Community members **Karen Winter**, **Jennifer Huard**, **Erica Nelson**, and **Annie Murphy** coordinate the program along with a large number of volunteers.

Erica Nelson and Jennifer Huard attended a Board of Education meeting in December to provide information about the history of the program and talk about how it has helped families in need this holiday season. The program has grown over the years and now has a number of community partners including:

- D41 School PTAs, our parents, our teachers, our staff members
- D41 administrators and staff at the Central Services Office
- Operation Christmas
- Glen Ellyn Junior Woman’s Club
- St. Petronille Church CCW
- Glen Ellyn Children’s Resource Center Board of Directors and GECRC Staff members
- Glen Ellyn Bookstore

Thank you to our partners and to all who provide gifts and donate their time. A special thank you to District 41 Registrar **Marylou Gehringer** and Churchill Elementary Head Custodian **Herion Syziu**.





BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thank you to the Glen Ellyn School District 41 Board of Education for their dedication and service to the district and the five communities we serve (Glen Ellyn, Glendale Heights, Carol Stream, Wheaton, and Lombard).



Dr. Robert Bruno
President

Jason Loebach
Vice President

Jessica Buttimer
Secretary

Ted Estes

Julie Hill

Dr. Chris Martelli

Tayyaba Syed

STUDENT MEMBERS: Maeve Bernstein and Elizabeth Bredfeldt

The Glen Ellyn School District 41 Board of Education consists of seven members who are elected at large and serve without pay for staggered four-year terms. The Board is accountable to the public and makes decisions as a unit based on what is best for the District as a whole. The Board also includes two 8th graders who serve as non-voting advisory Student Board Members.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Board of Education meetings are live streamed and recorded/archived for your convenience. Tune in to learn more about what's happening in District 41! All are welcome to attend meetings in person and are encouraged to sign up to present public comment. *We want to hear from you!* Meetings are held at Hadley Junior High School.

Community members are welcome to attend Board meetings in person, watch the live stream of Board meetings, or watch a recording of them later.

Go to <https://www.d41.org/Domain/360>



D41 Invite the Board to come to you! **D41**

The Board of Education in District 41 understands the importance of formal and informal engagement with the community. We are committed to broadening the opportunities for two-way conversations with the communities that we serve by coming to you.

Do you belong to a group or organization? Invite the Board to present to your membership about Glen Ellyn School District 41! Board members are happy to attend meetings, neighborhood gatherings, or simply meet for coffee with a small group! They understand that their schedule and events don't always meet your needs.

To invite the Board to a meeting, event or gathering, please contact District 41 Chief Communications Officer Erika Krehbiel at ekrehbiel@d41.org.



793 N. Main Street
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Carol Stream, IL
Permit No. 101
Carrier Route Presort

*****ECRWSEDDM****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

D41 SERVES GLEN ELLYN | GLENDALE HEIGHTS | CAROL STREAM | LOMBARD | WHEATON



**ABRAHAM LINCOLN
ELEMENTARY**
380 Greenfield Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 790-6475



**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
ELEMENTARY**
350 Bryant Ave
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 790-6480



**CHURCHILL
ELEMENTARY**
23W240 Geneva Rd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 790-6485



**FOREST GLEN
ELEMENTARY**
561 Elm St
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 790-6490



**HADLEY
JUNIOR HIGH**
240 Hawthorne Blvd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
(630) 790-6450



THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

It's everything D41—
In your pocket.



Download the D41 app

From posts with photos about what's
happening in the schools, to daily meal menus,
to school-based daily announcements—

it's all right at your fingertips!



Join our Mailing List!

d41.org/enewssignup

Get the District Digest, school closure notices,
and other D41 news!



follow us
@glenellynd41

