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# District Digest

*from Glen Ellyn School District 41*

## Reminder: No School October 9 and 10

District 41 schools will be closed on Monday, October 9 for Columbus Day and Tuesday, October 10 for a district Institute Day.

## Celebrating Our Amazing Principals

It is National Principals Month! As the Superintendent, I believe the role of the principal is one of the most important positions in education. The building principal and assistant principal set the academic and behavioral expectations for the entire school. They are like the conductor of a symphony. A symphony needs amazing musicians in every seat, but the truly amazing symphonies have outstanding conductors who bring the best out of each person. It takes thoughtful, dedicated, caring, and knowledgeable leadership to ensure the entire staff is in sync and educating our students with great precision. I am very proud of the leaders we have in all five schools. Please take a moment to thank our principals and assistant principals for the work they do every day for our students, staff, and community.

We will feature principals from each of our four schools each week this month right here in District Digest. This week we honor and thank **Benjamin Franklin Elementary School** Principal Jeff Burke and Assistant Principal Sarah Rodriguez.

"When you step inside Ben Franklin School you cannot help but feel an air of connectedness. It stems from the incredible leadership of Jeff Burke and Sarah Rodriguez," said Franklin teacher Michelle Spratt. "They are the perfect team that exhibits efficiency and inspiration, sprinkled with just the right amount of humor. They make me want to be a better teacher!"



Parent Tina Cardona added, "Mr. Burke will always greet you with a smile! He is available, thoughtful, patient, and leads our school with positive energy every day. We are fortunate to also have Mrs. Rodriguez as our AP. She is compassionate, diligent, and always fair-minded. She is funny, thoughtful and always approaches each day with enthusiasm."

This is Mr. Burke's second year as principal. Prior to that he was the assistant principal at Franklin. He started in the District as a teacher at Abraham Lincoln School in 2006. Mrs. Rodriguez has been with District 41 for 16 years. She has been a teacher as well as a Problem-Based Learning Coach. This is Mrs. Rodriguez's second year as assistant principal.

Thank you, Principal Burke and Assistant Principal Rodriguez!!!

Dr. Paul Gordon, Superintendent

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### **Quarterly Report on the Long-Range Plan**

Last school year, District 41 launched a new five-year [Long-Range Plan](#). The District provided a summary of the plan progress in June. The June report focused on Strategic Priority - Academic Excellence. Superintendent Gordon presented the Fall Quarterly report at the October 2 Board of Education meeting. This quarterly report is focused on Priority 2 - Facilities that Enhance Student Learning. [Click Here](#) for the Fall Long-Range Plan Progress Report.

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### **Donuts with Dr. Gordon**

Superintendent Paul Gordon will be hosting an informal donuts and coffee engagement opportunity at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center on Tuesday, October 17 from 8:30 to 10 a.m., 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn. All are welcome!

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### **Hadley PTA Color Run Fun**

Last Friday the Hadley Junior High School PTA organized a Color Run after school for all Hadley students and staff. Thank you, PTA! Everyone had a blast! [Click](#) to see the short video!



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### Robert Crown Programming for 5th Graders

Over 50 families attended the Robert Crown Parent Information Night at Hadley Junior High this week. Robert Crown Education Center of Hinsdale will visit and present to District 41 5th graders later this month. The program helps students learn about adolescent growth and development. Parents can learn more about the program at [www.robertcrown.org](http://www.robertcrown.org). If parents have questions regarding the student presentation please contact your school office.



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### Fall Orchestra Concert

The Hadley Orchestra students will be performing for their Fall Orchestra Concert on Friday, November 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at Glenbard West High School Biester Gym. The 6th grade orchestra will performing along with the Hadley String Orchestra (6th, 7th, & 8th Grades). Come and enjoy a fun evening of musical selections. Admission is free!



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### The Earth Dome Comes to Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln School PTA sponsored a visit by the Earth Dome, a [MobileEd](#) program. Kids in grades 2-5 got to learn about geography, weather, continental plates and other earth science...and got to go inside the 15-foot globe! Thank you

Lincoln PTA.

[Click Here to watch the video!](#)



### **Marching Band Day at Glenbard West**

The Hadley Jr. High School and Glenside Middle School 8th grade band students joined together to participate in the Annual Marching Band Day at Glenbard West High School on Friday, September 29th. Over 100 Hadley eighth grade band students met with their future Hilltopper Band friends and members of the Glenbard West High School Marching Band. Mr. Jonathan Walsh and Mr. Bill Ortega, Glenbard West band directors, with the help of the marching band's three drum majors (Hadley Band alumni Chris Feliciano, Emma Hanson, and Ben Hoppe), led the 8th grade band students through a morning of marching, music rehearsal, and community building. This combined experience is intended to promote and encourage a smooth transition to our community's wonderful high school program and ensemble. Mr. DePalo and Mrs. Tribley, Hadley Band directors, are so incredibly proud of their current and former students as they continue to make music an integral part of their life and education.



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of all decisions.”*

**Glen Ellyn School District 41**

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