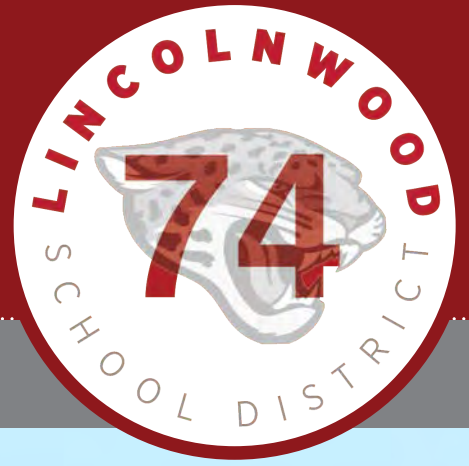


THE JAGUAR



SUMMER 2020 EDITION



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Moving into a New School Year

Dear Lincolnwood School District 74 Community,

Despite the global pandemic, our school community rallied together to make the best of these unique times. As you read through this edition of *The Jaguar*, you will see how the District, along with the community, honored Lincoln Hall's Class of 2020 and the way we wrapped up the academic school year. As a result of the pandemic, the community will see a very different school opening as we work through giving families a choice of remote learning and in-person learning. Each family has unique needs that may drive their decision. The District has been working diligently to provide solid options that will be fluid and accessible throughout the year.

Long term facilities renewal and upkeep continue to move forward. Each year, individual projects are scheduled in order to maintain the buildings and grounds of the campus. This summer, a drainage project across the campus fields is underway. The District has installed new carpet throughout the primary building (Todd Hall) and an additional grade level at the intermediate building (Rutledge Hall) will receive new furniture. With a slow steady pace of refresh, the goal of constant improvement is provided for our students and community.

Wishing you all the best for the new school year ahead.

Together as one learning community,

Dr. Kimberly A. Nasshan
Superintendent of Schools



Transition to Remote Learning

News from the Curriculum and Instruction Department

The final two and a half months of the school year brought about a number of rapid changes to education as the District shifted to remote learning in response to the physical closure of schools in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the weeks unfolded, everyone in our learning community did an amazing job of adjusting to new routines and family structures necessitated by incorporating remote learning into their daily lives. The District was focused on keeping students emotionally and physically safe and engaged in learning. Based upon Remote Learning Recommendations published by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), districts across the state had the discretion to determine what critical standards were prioritized during remote learning.

In Lincolnwood School District 74, teachers focused on developing remote learning plans to keep the curriculum moving forward. Teachers derived instruction and learning experiences from the essential skills and standards outlined in the District's core instructional programs while using ancillary online tools for support/reinforcement as necessary. Remote learning experiences provided instruction for concepts in the form of videos, voice overs, screencasts or other online resources. Each school used an online learning management system to allow students to receive and submit work and afforded teachers the opportunity to communicate and provide feedback. Zoom conferencing was used as a means to check on the social-emotional wellbeing of students throughout the period of remote learning.

The District is reflecting on the structures and systems created during the spring to identify ways to enhance the virtual learning experience should we find ourselves in a period of remote learning during the upcoming school year. Later articles in this edition of *The Jaguar* describe more about the ways the District responded to the pandemic to keep the continuity of instruction. Although your summer is likely looking different than years past, I hope you continue to have a restful, relaxing and fun summer!

Sincerely,
Dr. David L. Russo
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

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Sue Vecchione

A Lincolnwood Gem Retires

An SD74 student in the first decade, an SD74 parent in the next few decades, and finally an SD74 staff member for 21 years: Ms. Sue Vecchione.

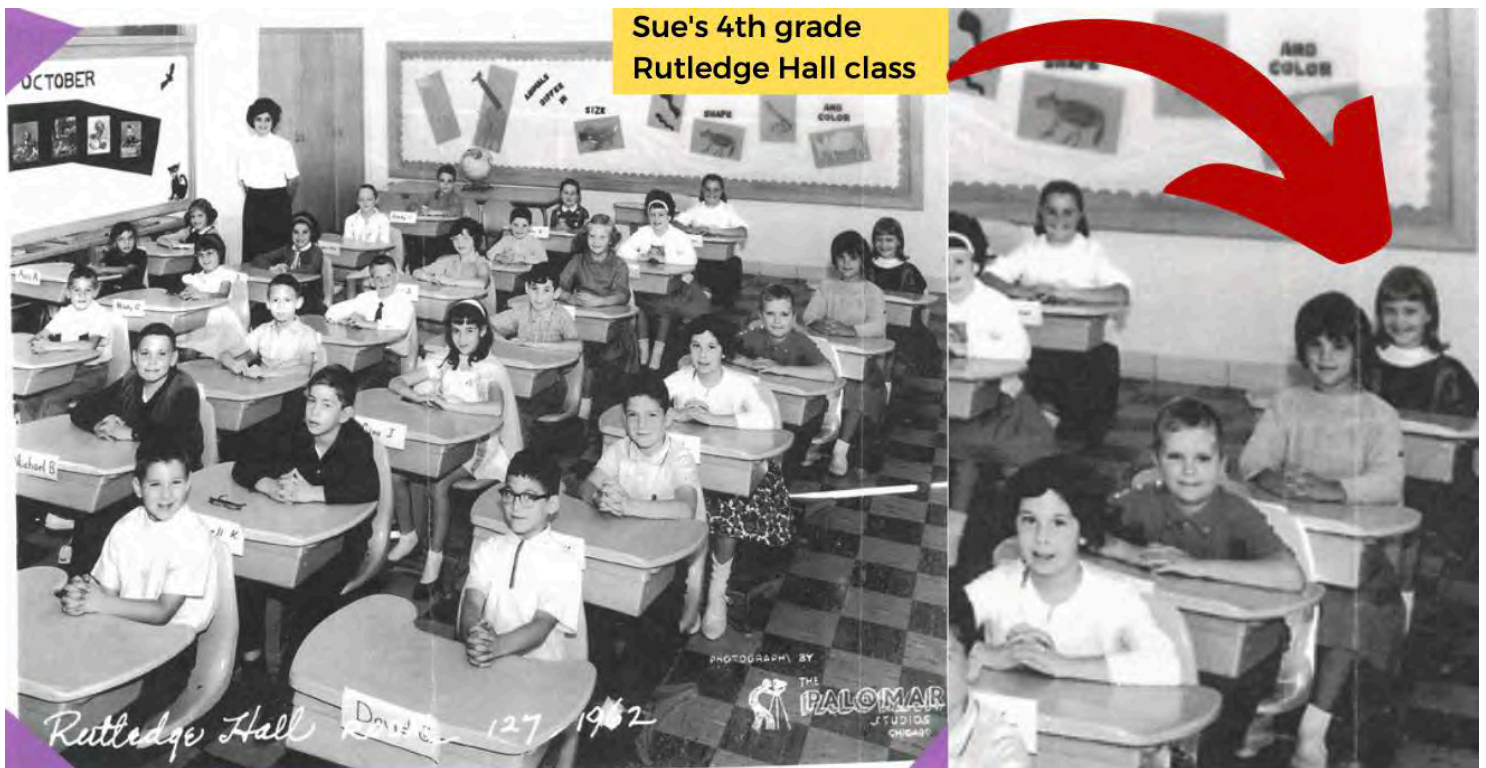
"My family moved to Lincolnwood in 1959 when I was 5 strictly to get into a good school district. I loved school, especially math. I only have fond memories of the schools. Everything now is so different. The office I work in was the library when I was here. We got really excited when chosen for special chores like taking the erasers outside to bang them together to get the chalk out. It was my honor to be elected as a patrol girl in Lincoln Hall. The patrol girls and boys got to where a canvas belt with shoulder sash and we were crossing guards at Lincoln Hall! The only traumatic memory I have is the blue one piece bloomer gym uniform we had to wear at Lincoln," said Sue, when asked to reflect on her years in Lincolnwood for an "Alumni Spotlight" project last school year.

Sue began her career in the District as the Rutledge Hall "Greeter," followed by being a Paraprofessional for two school years. She then moved into her role as Administrative Assistant in the main office at Rutledge Hall.

Sue reflected on the changes made to Rutledge Hall and the campus, stating: "Each building had a person at a desk at the front entrance that would sign-in people that came to school. That was before locks were put on the doors." Since then, Sue has been an integral voice in providing feedback for ways the District can keep our buildings safe and secure.

Students at Rutledge Hall took every opportunity to gather around Sue, enjoying her stories, jokes, and conversations. Visiting Sue meant visiting the infamous scented pencil machine and Rutledge Hall's beloved pets; the hermit crabs. "Anyone who knows Sue can think of a moment where she personally touched their lives. She has been a treasure to SD74! What I love most about Sue is her strong sense of advocacy and empathetic heart. She is intuitive to a situation and quickly mobilizes what it takes to assist. She is an encouraging cheerleader for all. She will be greatly missed and wish her the best in her retirement!" said Rutledge Hall Nurse Munhi Sohn.

Sue retired after 21 years this June. Staff came together and planned a farewell parade in an effort to honor her years in the District. Thank you, Sue, for the joy that you have brought to the students, staff, and families of Lincolnwood.



Remote Learning Takes Spotlight During COVID-19 Pandemic

Remote learning began on Monday, March 16, 2020. This decision was made following guidance from local, state, and federal government officials, the CDC, and in partnership with Niles Township schools and neighboring organizations. At the time of the initial school closure and transition to remote learning in mid-March, *there were no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Lincolnwood.*

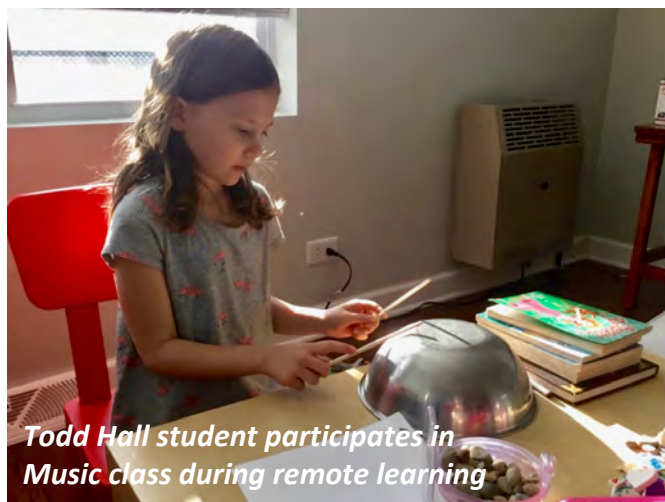
Throughout the spring, Lincolnwood School District 74 worked hand in hand with the Lincolnwood Fire Department, monitoring the case count in the village, as well as planning for the remainder of the school year. Once Illinois Governor JB Pritzker announced the closure of schools through the end of the 2019-20 school year, SD74 parents, staff, and students were notified and remote learning continued through June.

"There was a bit of a learning curve when we had to make the switch to remote learning, but we made it work and learned a lot along the way! It was hard to not see my students every day, but technology allowed us to stay in touch. I made daily videos of my math lessons on my home whiteboard, emailed surveys to my students, and hosted Zoom sessions to reconnect and answer any questions. I couldn't imagine teaching during a pandemic 10 years ago without the technology we have at our fingertips today. While remote learning is far from ideal, it's allowed us to stay safe and do our best to continue learning," said Lincoln Hall 6th Grade Math Teacher Monique Bonneville.

"Remote learning was a huge adjustment for both teachers and students. We had to figure out a way to maintain relationships, continue with the curriculum, and still try to have fun. However, the students impressed us every day with their resilience, hard work, and positivity. Great job 2nd graders!" said Todd Hall 2nd Grade Teacher Liz Golden.

From March and through June, SD74 teachers, students, and families worked through the transition and worked together to ensure that each and every student's needs were addressed.

SD74 teachers provided instructional guidance and lessons for students each school day. Every morning, students signed-in for attendance. Throughout the remote learning period, the school week ended at 11:30 a.m. on Fridays, and teachers used the remainder of the afternoon on Fridays to plan lessons and activities for the following week.



Todd Hall student participates in Music class during remote learning

"The way my colleagues responded to the COVID-19 crisis demonstrated their professionalism, resiliency, and love for our students. In a matter of days, we had to redesign lessons, become experts on new technology, and support our students' social emotional needs, all while managing many of our own families' new realities," said Rutledge Hall 3rd Grade Teacher Bridget Doyle.

Students participated in remote learning as young as the age of three years old in Todd Hall's Pre-Kindergarten program. "Students engaged in meaningful, feedback-rich activities at Todd Hall, documenting their learning within their digital portfolios. Students loved choosing from various response tools, including voice or video recording, and even drawing a picture to explain their thinking. Weekly Zoom meetings rounded out the experience, allowing students to connect with classmates and teachers to meet their social and emotional needs in real-time," said Todd Hall Instructional Technology Coach Lindsay Kopinski.

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Remote Learning Takes Spotlight During COVID-19 Pandemic



The learning management systems used for remote learning included Seesaw at Todd Hall, Google Classroom at Rutledge Hall, and Schoology at Lincoln Hall. Using Seesaw, Todd Hall teachers assigned various activities and lessons to students, and students were able to use the built-in tools on the platform to complete the assignment(s).

At Rutledge Hall, students and teachers grasped onto features from Google Classroom, completing homework assignments and making sure that students were able to have an open dialogue with their teachers for help throughout the day. "I liked how relaxed it was to do e-Learning last year. I didn't have to wake up early to get the bus and I could do the work in the order that I wanted. But I really missed seeing my friends during the day and at recess. I also missed the taco salad at lunch. The thing I'm excited for in Fifth Grade is the iPad!" said incoming 5th grade student James Brennan.

Lincoln Hall students continued their use of Schoology from in-person learning to remote learning, as it was a tool already used daily to distribute homework materials and communicate with peers and teachers.

Download the SD74 Mobile App
Available on both Apple & Android devices.



The District continues to work on a school opening plan, with hopes of returning back to in-person learning on August 25, 2020. This plan is dependent upon state orders that may develop in the coming weeks. According to the latest state-issued guidance, students who attend school in-person this fall will need to wear a mask during school hours with the exception of their lunch period. Families will have the option to select in-person or remote learning for the 2020-21 school year, based on personal family decisions.

Since the start of the initial school closure and throughout the last five months, the District has initiated planning for a safe return to school, with staff and student safety and health as the top priority.

If you'd like to stay updated and learn more about Lincolnwood School District 74's reopening plans, please visit our website at www.sd74.org.

An Unforgettable "See You Later" Lincoln Hall Class of 2020



Lincoln Hall's Class of 2020 graduation ceremony was unlike any other hosted in previous years. This year, Lincolnwood's 8th grade graduates and their families attended a drive-in graduation and diploma distribution ceremony on June 15, 2020 at the SD74 campus.

Lincolnwood School District 74 planned the event to honor each student as they embark on their new journey in high school. The traditional graduation ceremony, typically held at Niles West High School, was transformed into an event where families gathered on the District campus in their vehicles, while watching a graduation video on a large screen displayed in front of the schools. Graduates were accompanied by parents, siblings, and pets, and had the chance to see their classmates in-person after several months of remote learning.

Graduates began the evening by receiving their diplomas, where they had a professional photograph taken. Once students were back in their vehicles with their families, they proceeded into the Rutledge Hall parking lot. At sundown, a video, approximately 45 minutes in length, honored each graduate and featured speeches from parents, administration, Board of Education members, and graduates.

"My name is Matteo Rizzotti and I recently graduated from Lincoln Hall Middle School. My graduation experience was that of a unique one given the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic the world is in. I was deeply touched with how the school administration came together and honored us in the way they could. Our ceremony will always be remembered because it was so different and yet so special. I look forward to beginning my new journey at Niles West High School and I know that again it will not only be a new start but a continuation of great learning experiences already had. Our class will always be remembered as the 1st class of Corona 2020!" said Class of 2020 graduate Matteo Rizzotti.

Thank you to our partners throughout the planning of the 2020 Lincoln Hall Graduation: Lincolnwood Police Department, Lincolnwood Fire Department, Village of Lincolnwood, Lincolnwood Town Center, & Zeigler Buick Cadillac GMC of Lincolnwood.



Peter Rassam (LH '20) with his dog, Mack



Noah Weinberg (LH '20) in a decorated vehicle



Nazarius Lupas (LH '20) with his family at the drive-in

#SD74Together

From the start of the stay-at-home order & school closures in March, SD74 ran an #SD74Together campaign, spotlighting students showcasing their Jaguars pride.



THE JAGUAR
Lincolnwood School District 74

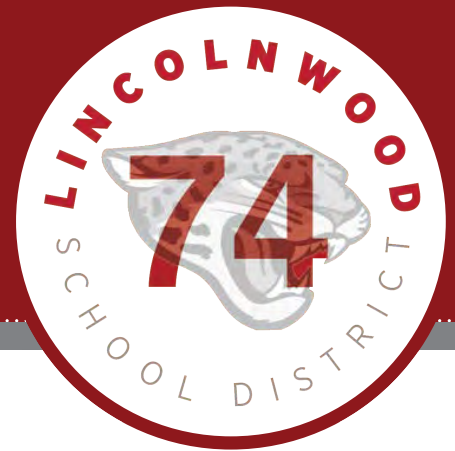
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2020 Lincoln Hall Graduation Drive-In

