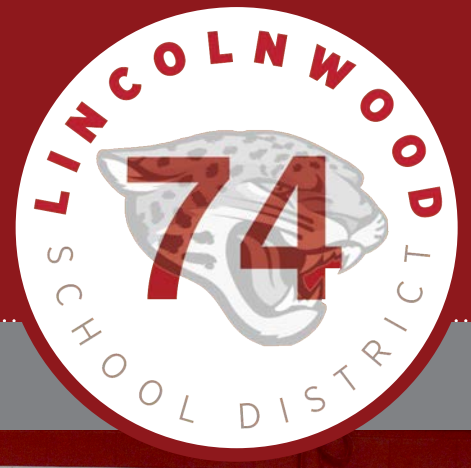


THE JAGUAR

JANUARY 2019 EDITION



Lincoln Hall's NEW Official Cross Country Team page 7

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The Last Five Years: Steps Toward Meeting District Goals

Dear Lincolnwood School District 74 Community,

Wishing you a happy, healthy, and joyous 2019! This edition of *The Jaguar* will guide the community through a brief look back into the last five years. The current strategic plan (2014-19) is coming to a close and the development of the next plan is underway. The Lincolnwood community has been instrumental in collaborating with the District to design the goals and targets we work towards with students, families, and community. We would like to take this opportunity to summarize the main goals, objectives, and accomplishments over the last five years which are detailed later in *The Jaguar*.

As Superintendent of Schools, working alongside families and community to set direction for the District gives us a solid roadmap. The entire learning community strives to ensure each and every child has the opportunity to reach their personal best. We work together on a daily basis to analyze the safety protocols and systems to provide the best possible environment for all. Please stay up to speed and current by following the District on Twitter (@lincolnwoodsd74), signing up for the bi-monthly school newsletter *Tuesday Newsday*, and visiting our website (www.sd74.org). Staying connected as a community serves all of us well.

Together as one learning community,
Dr. Kimberly A. Nasshan
Superintendent of Schools



Expanding Classroom & Parent Resources

News from the Curriculum and Instruction Department

As the District moves through the school year, the students of Lincolnwood School District 74 continue to amaze me with the quality of their work and the consistency of their effort. As part of the District's six-year cycle of curricular review, there are several initiatives on which to provide an update.

Last year, the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch program was implemented at Todd and Rutledge Hall. This program brought greater Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) concepts into classrooms to meet the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), specifically in Engineering Design. For 2018-19, the Board of Education approved full-time STEM teachers for both Todd and Rutledge. This allowed the District to expand the program's footprint at every grade level. Students in each section, grades K-5, meet weekly with their STEM teacher. Experiences range from designing, building, and testing toothbrushes in kindergarten to creating multimedia public service announcements regarding concussions in 4th grade. Students benefit from opportunities to practice skills working in groups, building consensus, and improving on designs until reaching a final product.

Due to the manner in which technology touches so many aspects of our life, it is essential for students to have experiences considering what it means to be a positive digital citizen. The District is implementing a revamped digital citizenship curriculum largely based on materials from Common Sense Media (www.commonsense.org). At every grade level, students will experience a variety of lessons dealing with topics such as safe handling of computer hardware, developing secure passwords, maintaining private data, determining the validity of information, evaluating the amount of time spent with technology on a daily basis, and participating on social media in a positive way. The community can find out more pertaining to this curriculum, along with other helpful information regarding children and technology, at a new web resource developed by the District. The Parent Technology Toolkit is available at www.sd74.org and is updated regularly.

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

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New SD74 Educational Path Coming Spring 2019 in Lincolnwood



At Rutledge Hall, the Students Taking Active Responsibility (STAR) leadership group is dedicated to providing community service throughout Lincolnwood. With the completion of the Village's Union Pacific Path during fall of 2016, the Rutledge Hall STAR group began visiting the path regularly. The group officially adopted the portion of the Union Pacific Path between Pratt Avenue and Lincoln Avenue through the Village's Adopt-a-Path Program. Since then, STAR has dedicated time and effort maintaining the cleanliness and overall aesthetic of their adopted path portion.

The District is excited to share that in collaboration with the Village of Lincolnwood and Lowe's in Lincolnwood, the adopted area will be converted into an "educational path" for the community. This work will be done at no cost to both the school district and village. Through the Lowe's Heroes Program, several kiosks were installed on the path (pictured below). These products are handmade from Lincolnwood Lowe's.



Lowe's Heroes Program Overview
(<https://jobs.lowes.com/lowes-heroes-employee-volunteers>)

"Lowe's is a home improvement company built on a single purpose - to help people love where they live. That's why Lowe's encourages our employees to volunteer and have a positive impact on the communities we all share. Over 10 years ago, we put these ideas into fruition and developed the Lowe's Heroes program, which motivates employees to team together, adopt a volunteer project with a local nonprofit organization or public school and make a difference."

This spring, Lowe's will be planting a variety of flowers and plants surrounding the kiosks and throughout the length of the path. Rutledge Hall students will create educational boards highlighting various facts about the flower and/or plant surrounding the kiosk. As residents walk, bike, and/or run the path, we are in hopes that this will serve as an educational resource for visitors of all ages. Lincolnwood School District 74 is eager to oversee and complete the project this spring for our residents. We hope Lincolnwood residents will enjoy, utilize, and learn from the new Union Pacific SD74 Educational Path.

In the next few months, the District and Village will share information for a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new community resource. The entire Lincolnwood community is invited and encouraged to attend. Thank you to Lowe's in Lincolnwood for volunteering their time and supporting community service initiatives.



Village of Lincolnwood Adopt-a-Path Program Overview
(<https://www.lincolnwoodil.org/enjoy-lincolnwood/parks-and-recreation/our-parks/adopt-a-path/>)

"The Adopt-a-Path Program is a community initiative where interested individuals and civic-minded organizations "adopt" sections of the Valley Line Trail, Union Pacific Path, or Centennial Park Trail. These participants will be responsible for cleaning up their section of the paths four times a year during a two-year period."

Five-Year Review

SD74's Strategic Plan Comes to an End

As the 2014-19 Lincolnwood School District 74 strategic plan comes to a close, the District would like to take this opportunity to provide Lincolnwood residents with an overview of the work that has taken place over the course of the last five years in order to meet the five goals of the strategic plan. The 2019-24 strategic plan will be posted on the District website at www.sd74.org on July 1, 2019 and the plan will be implemented through June 30, 2024.

2014-19 Lincolnwood School District 74 Strategic Plan



VISION STATEMENT

Children empowered for life.



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to build a community of learning that inspires curiosity, compassion, and actively engaged students striving for excellence.

5 GOALS

1. Develop and implement curriculum that leads to improved academic performance.
2. Promote programs for the health and well-being of students.
3. Strengthen community outreach and collaboration.
4. Develop and implement plans for safe and efficient facilities.
5. Provide opportunities for staff development.

Goal 1: Develop and implement curriculum that leads to improved academic performance.

A Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program was implemented at Lincoln Hall Middle School as a core class and the expansion of STEM concepts was integrated into the curriculum at both Todd and Rutledge Hall through the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program. For two years in a row, Lincoln Hall placed *first in the nation* in a vocabulary competition titled "The WordMasters Challenge," where the team competed against 150,000 students across the nation. 1:1 iPads are provided to all students in grades 5-8 and grades Pre-K-4 have access to iPads and laptops in the classroom throughout the school day. Curriculum Review Committees in Pre-K-5 reading, Pre-K-5 math, Pre-K-5 science, and Middle School Science have met during the life of the current strategic plan. This ongoing cycle of curriculum review allows the District to evaluate existing programs and implement materials reflecting current educational trends and standards to



Lincoln Hall students recognized at a Board of Education meeting for the WordMasters Challenge

better meet the needs of the District's student population. The District continues to work with District 219 to obtain data regarding SD74 student performance and class placements. This data will serve as a guiding light for where students are succeeding and areas of focus for academic performance moving forward. For additional information regarding District curriculum initiatives, please visit the website at www.sd74.org.

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Five-Year Review

SD74's Strategic Plan Comes to an End

Goal 2: Promote programs for the health and well-being of students.

The entire Food Service program from the infrastructure to menu items was evaluated during this five-year period. The vast majority of canned food items are eliminated in the school kitchens. Sauces for lunch menu items are made from scratch using natural ingredients and fresh vegetables. Lunch menu items now have added variety with additional options for students with allergy and dietary restrictions. Each day for lunch, students are able to pick from the main lunch meal, a yogurt bistro box, a hummus bistro box, a garden salad with cheese and sunflower seeds, and/or a bagel with cream cheese. There is also a free salad bar at Rutledge and Lincoln Hall for students to utilize each day. The District created a variety of clubs and programs to promote the health and well-being of students including yoga club, cross country and track and field teams, and a fitness center.



Lincoln Hall student at the salad bar

Goal 3: Strengthen community outreach and collaboration.

Community outreach and collaboration is an ongoing effort and commitment to providing residents with a variety of resources, events, and news regarding the schools. SD74 news is now shared through the Lincolnwood Library's e-newsletter, Village of Lincolnwood's *Lincolnwood Local* and *Lincolnwood Connections*, and Lincolnwood Chamber of Commerce's Annual Guide. Internally, the school district authors two newsletters: a bi-monthly school publication titled *Tuesday Newsday* and a bi-annual community newsletter, this newsletter, *The Jaguar*. In addition to news outlets, several programs and events have been developed throughout the last few years to enhance community interaction throughout the village. Each year, the school district hosts 1-2 community "sign-up" events, where families and residents register for Lincolnwood programming including summer pool passes, summer camp, summer school, baseball, daycare, and more. The centralized location is an effort to help residents get involved in the schools and village without having to go to each separate location to register. Fliers for events such as Parent Education Night are sent to the District's English Language team to further encourage event attendance. Finally, facility rentals are available to the community to utilize our spaces for their organization's programming. Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation hosts several programs in the school gymnasiums and organizations such as D1 Volleyball, Lincolnwood Baseball, and District 219 Junior Wolves have also utilized District facilities.

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



Goal 4: Develop and implement plans for safe and efficient facilities.

It is very exciting to share that the Lincoln Hall Building Plan project is complete. On the backside of this newsletter, you will find a flyer for the upcoming Lincoln Hall Open House. All Lincolnwood residents are encouraged to attend the open house to see the newly renovated Lincoln Hall Middle School. During this five-year period, Rutledge Hall renovations included fresh paint and replacing ceiling tiles. Improvements will continue to be made for both Todd and Rutledge Hall. Safe and efficient facilities remain a top District priority and are at the forefront of all decision-making.

Goal 5: Provide opportunities for staff development.

Staff development evolves to meet faculty needs. One such effort was a new internal professional development program titled "Lincolnwood University." Faculty from all three school buildings had the opportunity to learn from one another in professional development sessions and the sessions were led by faculty who received degrees, certifications, and/or attended seminars regarding their session topic. Faculty selected their courses for the day and attended sessions according to their interests and needs. Internal professional development is held for faculty as new programs are implemented in the classroom. Each school now has an Instructional Technology Coach who embeds professional development into the classroom for teachers. This strategic plan cycle saw the creation of Parent Education Nights, which are offered three times each year. Finally, team leaders were consulted at the beginning of this school year to brainstorm staff development topics that would be beneficial to teachers and target student needs.

Official Jaguars Cross Country & Track Teams Added to Lincoln Hall Athletics Offerings

An official cross country team has been added to Lincoln Hall athletics offerings during the 2018-19 school year. The team is an addition to the soccer, volleyball, basketball, and cheerleading teams at the middle school. An official track & field team will also be offered during the spring athletics season starting this school year.

During their first season under coaches Mark Laske and Lani Maldonado, the Jaguars participated in three invitationals. The first was the Little 9 Township Challenge held at Niles West High School on September 13, 2018. On September 20, 2018, the team attended the Fairview Little 9 Invitational and on October 2, 2018, the team was invited to Notre Dame High School in Niles where they competed against schools from surrounding communities.



The season culminated in the team's participation in the Village of Lincolnwood's 42nd annual Turkey Trot on November 18, 2018. 6th grade student Christian Guzman is Lincoln Hall's current top runner. Several students earned a top 10 finish at the Little 9 Township Invitational. These students included Christian Guzman, Heba Mathew, Mark Dizon, and Brian Martel. At the Fairview Little 9 Invitational, Christian, Mark, and Heba earned spots in the top 10. Finally, at the Notre Dame Invitational, Christian, Mark, and Mohammed Alturky earned spots in the top 20. The 6th grade team also placed 4th out of approximately 35 teams at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Lincoln Hall track & field will begin this spring during the month of April. Components of the team include, but are not limited to, sprints, relays, long distance, and hurdles. Students will have the opportunity to identify their strengths and explore areas for which they have interest in participating during the track & field season. Cross country and track & field are unique sports in that they do not host tryouts and rosters can be unlimited. Lincoln Hall students are able to approach the coaches and express their interest in joining the teams. Once they start to attend practices, students focus on key areas and specific events in which they would like to compete and represent Lincoln Hall at invitationals. For example, if a student finds that they are successful at sprinting, they can focus their practice in that area and represent Lincoln Hall in the sprint portion of invitationals.



Lincoln Hall's top runner Christian Guzman competing at Niles West High School

As mentioned in the previous edition of *The Jaguar*, Rutledge Hall students have the opportunity to participate in Running Club with head coach and club sponsor Nicole Kantzavelos. In previous years, those students would advance to Lincoln Hall, where Running Club was also offered. Moving forward, students will have the opportunity to compete against other teams in the Township due to the development of interscholastic Lincoln Hall cross country and track & field teams.

Congratulations to all students and great job to the entire cross country team during their first season and best of luck to the first-ever Jaguars track & field team this spring. Go Jaguars!

SD74 Alumni Make Up 33% of Niles West Illinois State Scholars

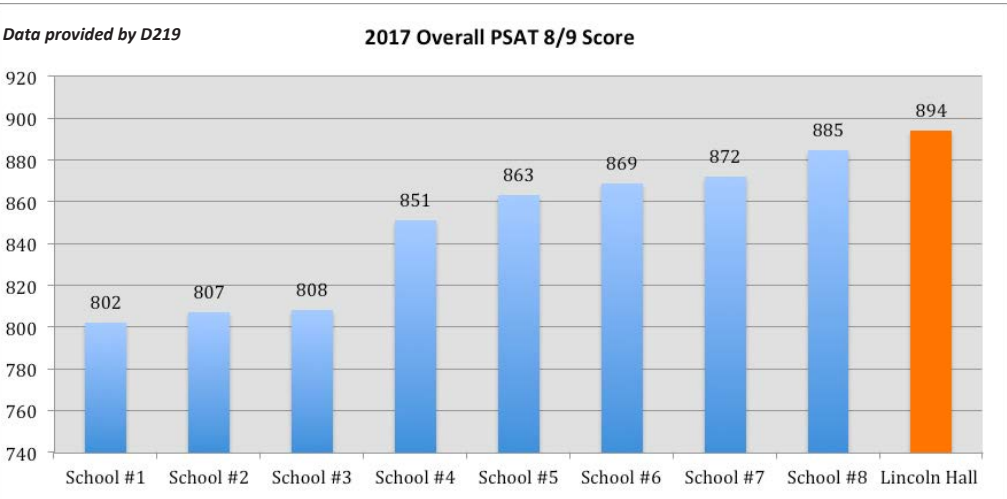
Lincolnwood School District 74 is proud to share that our alumni comprise 33% of Niles West’s 2019 Illinois State Scholars. SD74 alumni only make up 21.2% of the Niles West graduating class of 2019 but achieved 33% representation on the school’s scholars lists. Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top 10% of high school seniors in Illinois. Scholars are chosen based on exemplary ACT or SAT scores as well as their rank during the sixth semester of high school (the end of junior year).

Niles West senior Isabella Gil (Lincoln Hall Class of 2015) reflected on the impact Lincolnwood School District 74 had on her

high school experience and her most recent accomplishment of being named an Illinois State Scholar. “The schools in Lincolnwood prepared me for high school and our teachers were really great. For example, when I came to Niles West I was familiar with labs and activities for science experiments because we had done that in Mr. Metz’s science class in 8th grade. In general, the clubs that were offered at Lincoln Hall were great and we had so much to choose from each year. Lincoln Hall provided me with significant leadership skills and I also really liked how foreign language was integrated into the curriculum. Now at Niles West, I am president of my class, social media editor for Niles West News, and a part of the French National Honors Society.” Congratulations to the following SD74 alumni and 2019 Illinois State Scholars:

Peter Atsaves, Chloe Babcock, Eliana Bender, Ali Chaudhry, Gabriel Cohen, Emil Comor, Alan Hoang Duong, Eric Gassel, Isabella Gil, Violet Gilbert, Nina Gillespie, Kevin Guillaume, Lily Gussis, Claudia Kedryna, Mohammad Larya, Alexandra Lee, Eric Lee, Nicholas Lomahan, Sarah Malina, Haider Mian, Yunyan Mo, Mohammed Patel, Bradley Pawlow, Mason Schmidt, Jack Shimabukuro, Zainab Siddiqui, Isaac Stillman, Sohaib Syed, Albert Thai, and Divitya Vakil.

The District is also seeking data to determine students’ preparedness for high school and what our alumni achieve in their high school career.



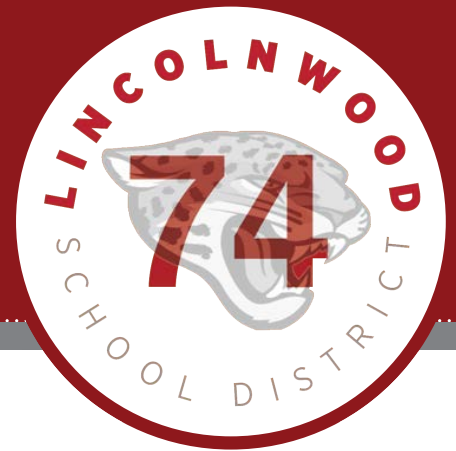
The Lincoln Hall 8th grade Class of 2018 had the highest Township score on the PSAT 8/9 test, which is used for high school placement.

The following table (left) depicts the performance of Lincoln Hall students (Class of 2018) relative to their Township peers.

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THE JAGUAR



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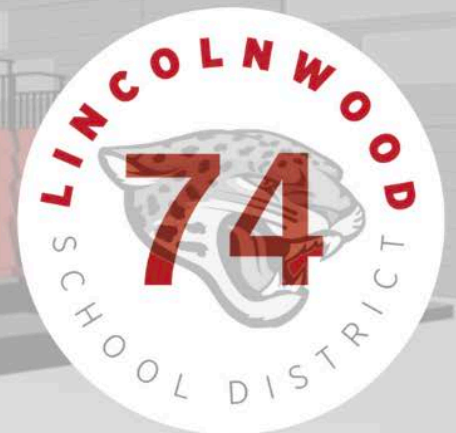
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SAVE THE DATE

LINCOLN HALL OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, February 21

7:00-8:00 p.m.



OPEN TO ALL LINCOLNWOOD RESIDENTS

Join SD74 and tour the final product of the
Lincoln Hall Building Plan.