



LAKE ZURICH COMMUNITY UNIT
School District 95

Empower every learner to achieve personal excellence.

From Superintendent Kelley Galt,



As the new Superintendent of Lake Zurich Community Unit School District 95, I am so proud to have been a part of welcoming over 5,600 students and more than 700 staff to an incredible year of learning and growth. So much has been visioned for our district and supported by our community

through the passing of our referendum and the development of our strategic plan, **Forward 95**. I remain committed and excited to continue the leadership necessary to fulfill this plan, which is significant as it represents the collaborative effort of a representative team of District 95 stakeholders who developed and communicated goals and strategies that give structure to our district’s mission and vision.

Action Plans within Forward 95 include supporting student achievement and growth, developing and retaining high quality staff, nurturing strong partnerships and stakeholder engagement, and committing to the allocation of resources to support the district’s mission. Much of this work is highlighted as a part of this

newsletter, including where to find more detailed information on our website.

As both a resident and leader of District 95, I continue to be so impressed with the generosity and support of our community. No matter the circumstances or situations that are presented, this community has united to provide incredible support. Whether it be supporting the May Whitney Elementary School community after a fire this past November, or expressing the strong desire for acceptance and tolerance in our community after another school was vandalized with hateful pictures and words in December, the strength and commitment of the community – first responders, businesses and organizations, local governmental leaders, the Educational Foundation, our school PTOs, students, staff, parents, and other community members - is simply amazing.

Please know that I am excited for all that is to come during this new year, and I am honored to have the privilege to serve Lake Zurich Community Unit School District 95 and our community! If you ever have questions, please feel free to email me at Kelley.Galt@lz95.org and follow me on Twitter at [@GaltKelley](https://twitter.com/GaltKelley).

Letter from the Superintendent	1
Forward 95 Strategic Plan Overview	2
Social Emotional Learning	2
Referendum & Construction Updates	3-4
Career Exploration and Readiness	4-5
Professional Learning: High Impact Teacher Teams	5
New District and School Websites	6
Mobile Learning and iPads	7
Distinguished Alumni Recognition	7
About District 95, Board of Education	Back Cover



FORWARD 95 OVERVIEW

In 2016, the District underwent an important community engagement and strategic planning process that we called “Forward95”. The Forward95 Strategic Plan was adopted by the Board of Education in Spring 2017. It identified our Mission, Vision, Values, Goals, and Strategies. Underneath the Goals and Strategies, our administrative team identified Actions Plans that guide our work through 2022.

Updates on some of those Action Plans are highlighted in this newsletter. In addition, we continually add new information to our website at www.lz95.org. Under District, select “Strategic Plan - Forward95” to see strategic plan and referendum updates including time lapse and drone footage of the new May Whitney construction and a strategic plan dashboard.



GOAL 1 Maximize every student's growth and achievement of personal excellence.



GOAL 2 Recruit, develop, and retain innovative staff who embrace collaboration and continuous improvement.



GOAL 3 Engage families and community partnerships to ensure student success.



GOAL 4 Prioritize resources to achieve the district's mission, vision, and goals.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

ACTION PLAN 1A22 Integrate Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programming with other existing initiatives, including academic improvement, at the school and district levels.

After surveying staff and administration to assess current knowledge and practices of Social Emotional Learning, a learning plan was developed to enhance adult capacity and strengthen our shared understanding of Social Emotional Learning practices within the district.

The focus of this action plan is on three main implementation areas: Communication, Professional Learning, and Continuous Improvement. The district has aligned itself with the Collaborative Academic and Social Emotional Learning (CASEL) network, which is a

well-known consortium designed to provide research-based resources and interventions to schools worldwide. District 95 is using the common language of the five SEL Competencies:

- self-awareness
- self-management
- social awareness
- relationship skills
- responsible decision-making

The Curriculum Department has been hard at work embedding these competencies into our curricular and instructional practices.

Beginning this school year, each school's SEL team has begun to build capacity by engaging in specific professional development with our CASEL consultants. All elementary buildings are implementing a 'morning meeting' structure to teach the SEL Competencies to students as they interact with one another.





REFERENDUM & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

ACTION PLAN 4B22 Optimize facility design, usage and maintenance to further teaching and learning.

As a result of the referendum passed in Spring 2018, planning and work has begun on some major construction projects that will help the district develop and implement facility designs that support the teaching and learning of 21st century skills. Two major projects, building a new May Whitney Elementary School, and providing air conditioning at existing non-air-conditioned schools, are highlighted here.

May Whitney Construction

Construction on the new May Whitney Elementary School began according to plan in June 2019. The expected construction completion date is early 2021 with the new school opening in the fall of 2021. Regular construction updates are provided on our district website, through this and other newsletters, and via social media. Time lapse videos and drone footage of the construction are periodically posted on our website as well.

[Find more referendum and other strategic plan](#)

updates at www.lz95.org under the 'District' menu, click on Strategic Plan – Forward95.

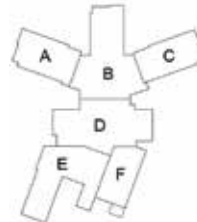
As part of this project, the district will be incorporating some roadway improvements on Church St./Midlothian Road, including a left turn lane into the high school. We believe this multi-million dollar enhancement will benefit the entire community as it should alleviate some of the current congestion on this road. We are working with IDOT; roadway improvements are expected to begin in Spring, 2021.



MAY WHITNEY ELEMENTARY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

DECEMBER 2019

- The mason has completed the Southwest exterior block portion of what will be the new Little Learners section in Area E. The mason is continuing around the exterior wall of Area E.
- Excavation and concrete footings and foundations are continuing in Area E.
- The Elevator Pit and Center Stairwell foundation walls were poured the week of December 9.
- Steel is erected in Areas A, B, & C. The steel contractor is now working on detailing, which includes installing decking, bolts, miscellaneous angles and structural steel pieces, and welding.
- The metal framing contractor began the week of December 9 and exterior walls will begin to form starting at Area A.
- A new water line, sanitary line, and storm lines are almost completed.



Monthly construction updates can be found at www.lz95.org under the 'District' menu, click on Strategic Plan – Forward95.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH & ISAAC FOX ELEMENTARY

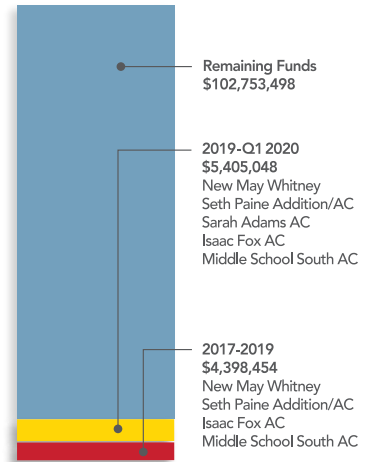
SUMMER 2019

AIR CONDITIONING PROJECT



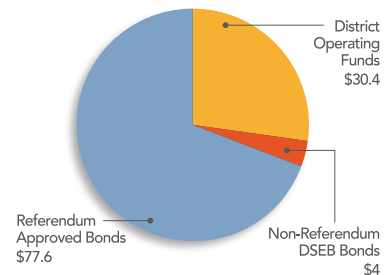
- The project began with classrooms being emptied, ceilings coming down and cabinets removed.
- New circulating pumps were installed.
- Concrete pads were poured and readied for new chillers.
- The buildings were piped with new cooling lines.
- Some classrooms and hallways received new suspended cabinet units.
- Chillers were set in place.
- Ceilings and lights were installed along with technology. Furniture was brought in.
- The successful project required a lot of coordination and oversight, including help from an LZHS intern.

REFERENDUM PROJECT SPENDING TO DATE



PROPOSED FINANCING PLAN

Estimated Sources of Capital Plan Funds 2019-2022 (millions)



3 CAREER EXPLORATION AND READINESS

ACTION PLAN 3C22 Engage community partners to extend learning and service opportunities for students and staff.

As part of Action Plan 3C22, District 95 is seeking to engage community partners to extend learning and service opportunities for our students. One area of focus is industry professionals willing to provide internship opportunities for students to enhance their skills and to provide career exploration opportunities. Internships, both paid and non-paid, allow students, grades 10-12, to explore a variety of career pathways during the school year and over the summer. Internships help students by:

- Providing mentorship from experienced workforce professionals**
- Developing job skills including "soft" skills**
- Demonstrating relevance between academic courses and the workplace**

- Helping students evaluate potential career fields**
- Assisting students in building a professional network**

As we continue to develop our Community Partnership Framework, our focus will be on creating more internship opportunities for our students, pairing industry experts with our staff to provide relevant learning, and offering other authentic student learning opportunities for career exploration and readiness. If your organization would be interested in partnering with District 95 for internships, please contact our District Development Coordinator, Mrs. Beth Slaughter at beth.slaughter@lz95.org.

Student feedback and industry sponsor feedback from our 2018-19 internships has been extremely positive!

Paige

"It's been really fun having Paige around. She's been a good learner, very reliable and seems really interested in the whole area of conservation."

JUDI THODE

PRESIDENT
ANCIENT OAKS FOUNDATION



Naomi

"Naomi far exceeded our expectations! I could see the lightbulbs going off as she grew in her experience."

JIM LORIS

PLANT MANAGER
SCHWEITZER ENGINEERING
LABORATORIES



Charlie

"We are so incredibly honored to have Charlie working with us this summer. I am extremely impressed with his ability to grasp the concepts at such a quick rate. We consider Charlie a part of the team as his effort and work has been directly incorporated into our ultimate design."

PETER LIND

STAFF ENGINEER AT GEWALT HAMILTON



Zach

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INTERN

"I learned a ton and it was a very neat experience. I especially appreciated being able to go to the Schaumburg and downtown Chicago offices like I was going to work as an employee and collaborating with teammates/ other Motorola employees."



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING: HIGH IMPACT TEACHER TEAMS

ACTION PLAN 2A 20A Establish and sustain Professional Learning Community practices that enhance collaboration, continuous improvement, and advances student learning.

Lake Zurich School District 95's commitment to continuous improvement is illustrated by the District's focus on providing students with quality and challenging learning experiences. To achieve this, our staff works together not only to design but also implement curriculum. Teaching and learning is complex, so teachers need to have time to collaborate on a weekly basis. Based on the level, each grade level or course team K-8 meets focusing on how to increase student achievement. District 95 refers to these teams as our **High Impact Teacher Teams**.

To improve student learning, high impact teams clarify the learning goals for a unit, so students are clear about what they are learning and what success looks like. Teachers then plan for and implement formative assessments; they check on students'

current understanding of the content and skills. These checks are not grades. Teachers use these checks of understanding to analyze misconceptions and misunderstandings to inform their next steps in the classroom. The assessment data informs teachers' decisions on how to re-teach, give feedback, or extend learning for students.

"Of all the things that are important to having good schools, nothing is as important as the teacher and what that person knows, believes and can do," Saphier, Haley-Speca, and Gower (2008). District 95 recognizes the significance high impact teacher teams have on student achievement, and we support this work by providing time and training.



NEW DISTRICT & SCHOOL WEBSITES

ACTION PLAN 3A19 Implement a new district website to engage families and community to help promote student and District success.

In August 2018, the Website Replacement Committee was formed, consisting of parents, teachers and students, school administrators, building administrators, technologists. Surveys were conducted to learn what parents, staff, and students liked and disliked about the website that had been in place for the previous ten years. Google analytics were reviewed by the committee to understand what pages were most and least utilized on our website. The committee learned about Accessibility requirements for the website as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, to assist those who are visually impaired by correctly designing and maintaining the new website. The committee also launched two subcommittees; one to review vendors, the other to determine the needs of elementary teacher webpages.

By early Spring the subcommittees had completed their work and a vendor, Finalsity, had been selected.

The majority of the new website development was done over the summer months and a 'soft' rollout – meaning the website was “live” but still being improved - occurred in early August. We will continually add and improve content on our website. Our elementary teachers have launched their teacher websites (called Boards, like a bulletin board) while our secondary teachers will continue to primarily communicate via Canvas, our Learning Management System for grades 6-12.

One additional advantage is that the new website is mobile friendly! **Check us out at www.lz95.org.**



MOBILE LEARNING INITIATIVE EVALUATION AND IPADS

ACTION PLAN 4C19A Evaluate the Grade 6-12 Mobile Learning Initiative (MLI) for its academic, social, and financial impact and make recommendations for the future of MLI.

The District's Mobile Learning Initiative ensures that secondary students (grades 6-12) have a technology device available to them to be used during their learning both at home and at school, currently an iPad. Action Plan 4C19A was formed to evaluate this 1:1 mobile learning plan and make a future evaluation. The committee assigned to this action plan consisted of a wide range of stakeholders including teachers, students, parents, building administrators, technologists, district administrators, and a social worker.

The recommendations below are based on feedback from staff and students, a thorough analysis of our current state and visioning of where we want our learning to grow.

Continue our commitment to the iPad as our learning device.

- The iPad's durability, available apps, curriculum support, availability of accessories, size, and durability all contributed to this decision.

Develop authentic performance assessments which integrate instructional technology.

- The committee recommends the design of performance tasks and assessments that demonstrate mastery of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

Integrate Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies into our students' digital lives.

- By incorporating SEL standards, we recognize and nurture the skills of self-awareness, self-management, and social awareness in our students.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECOGNITIONS

District 95 proudly launched a Distinguished Alumni Recognition program, designed to not only recognize alumni for their achievements and contributions since leaving District 95, but also to offer role models for our current students. Award recipients were recognized at the Homecoming football game and an Alumni Wall of Distinction will be created at the entrance of the high school honoring these distinguished recipients.

Recipients of this award graduated from Lake Zurich High School at least 10 years ago and demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Model high standards of excellence in their personal and/or professional life;
- Made outstanding contributions to volunteer service or their community, country, or world;
- Have post-secondary experiences demonstrating the values supporting our district mission: collaboration, continuous improvement, equity, high expectations, integrity, perseverance, and respect.

We are proud to announce our five inaugural recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Recognition for 2019!



Joe Benarroch

Class of 1996

Senior VP of Corporate Communications,
NBC Universal

Joe Benarroch is Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications for NBC Universal for its advertising sales and client partnership division. He is a graduate of Illinois State University with a degree in Public Relations and holds a MBA from NYU Stern School of Business.



Fred Branding

Class of 1962

Principal Attorney at OFW Law,
Washington, D.C.

Fred Branding is a Principal Attorney with the Washington, DC law firm of OFW Law. He is also a registered Pharmacist. Mr. Branding also served as a former Chief and Deputy Chief of the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office (US Department of Justice) for the Northern District of Illinois and Chief of the Psychotropic Drugs Unit of the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board in Vienna, Austria.



Lisa Fielding

Class of 1985

Anchor and Reporter,
WBBM News

Lisa Fielding is an anchor and reporter for WBBM News Radio 780. She is a graduate of Bradley University and brings three decades of news and sports, radio and television broadcasting experience to WBBM. She is an adjunct graduate instructor for Medill School of Journalism and serves on the Program Advisory Committee of the Illinois Media School.



Patrick Kilbride

Class of 2007

Concert and Operatic Artist

Patrick Kilbride is a concert and operatic artist. He studied Voice at Northwestern University and completed graduate work in Opera at the University of Maryland. He has performed all over the world and throughout the United States. Praised for his "beautiful" and "sweet-voiced" tone, and "superbly acted" portrayals, American tenor, Patrick Kilbride, is enjoying a flourishing career, particularly sought after as an interpreter of Monteverdi, Cavalli, Bach, Vivaldi, Handel, Mozart and Britten.



Helena Cunningham

Class of 1996

Boeing 767 Captain,
Delta Airlines

Helena Reidemar Cunningham is captain of the Boeing 767 with Delta Airlines. She holds a bachelor's degree in Aviation Management from Southern Illinois University - Carbondale, a dual specialization master's degree in Aviation Safety and Operations from Embry Riddle and a PhD ABD in Safety Engineering from Kennedy Western University.

OUR MISSION WHY WE EXIST

Empower every learner to achieve **personal excellence**.

OUR VISION WHERE WE ARE HEADED

Learners achieve **personal excellence** when they:

- aspire to make a positive impact on the world.
- contribute to a collaborative and diverse learning community.
- develop habits to promote self-direction and growth.
- are prepared for college, career, and/or personal aspirations.
- are continuous learners who make and fulfill life goals.

OUR VALUES WHAT WE STAND FOR

- Collaboration
- Continuous Improvement
- Equity
- High Expectations
- Integrity
- Perseverance
- Respect



LAKE ZURICH COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 95



Contact District 95 Administration at: Feedback@lz95.org
 832 S. Rand Rd., Lake Zurich, IL 60047 | 847.438.2831

Visit our website at: www.lz95.org

Follow us on Facebook at:
 Lake Zurich Community Unit School District 95

Follow us on Twitter at @D95SocialMedia
 @GalltKelley

BOARD OF EDUCATION (left to right)

Doug Goldberg, Vice President
 Kathy Brown
 Chris Ketcham
 Eileen Maloney
 Marty Cupples
 Lisa Warren, Secretary
 Scott McConnell, President

Contact the District 95 Board of Education at:
BoardMembers@lz95.org

