



# THE DISTRICT IN REVIEW

A Newsletter for the Northbrook School District 27 Community

SUMMER 2021

## GET TO KNOW THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT



The Northbrook School District 27 Board of Education is pleased to announce it has selected Dr. John Deiter as the District's next Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Deiter officially began his duties on July 1. Dr. Deiter brings extensive experience and leadership in education, having most recently served as the Superintendent of DeWitt Public Schools in DeWitt, Michigan for the past 10 years.

"My greatest strength as a leader is my ability to pull people together to achieve a common goal," Dr. Deiter said. "A collaborative attitude and atmosphere are crucial for a successful organization. I was drawn to District 27 because of its strong sense of community. I am excited to have the opportunity to work closely with the staff, Board of Education, and community to continue a tradition of excellence in Northbrook."

Prior to serving as the Superintendent of Schools in DeWitt, Dr. Deiter spent six years as principal in Belding Area Schools and two years as principal in Ionia Public Schools. He holds a bachelor's degree in Education from Central Michigan University and a master's degree in secondary teaching from Saginaw Valley State University. He obtained his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from Michigan State University. Dr. Deiter has six years of classroom teaching experience. He has served as president of the School Equity Caucus since 2014 and was president of the Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators Region 6 from 2017-2018.

## Q&A WITH DR. JOHN DEITER

**Q: Tell us more about what drew you to District 27?**

A: I was first drawn by the location, but was sold on District 27 when I learned about the people and the community. The close-knit, high-performing staff, the supportive community, and especially the talented students are what really drew me in.

**Q: What are you most excited about as school gets underway this fall?**

A: I am looking forward to getting to know the entire school community and working together toward our goals. I am also looking forward to a "normal year" and having kids and staff in the schools on day one!

**Q: What are some of your goals for District 27?**

A: District 27 is a phenomenal school district. My main goal is to keep the momentum and continue to lead the District toward constant improvement. I want to help everyone reach their full potential and ensure that the students are primed for success when they exit our system.

*Continued on Page 3...*

## WHAT'S INSIDE...

2 – WOOD OAKS STUDENTS  
SHAVE HEADS TO BENEFIT  
CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH

2 – SHABONEE STUDENTS  
CELEBRATE EARTH DAY,  
COLLECT TRASH

2 – HICKORY POINT TEACHER  
BRINGS FIELD TRIP EXPERIENCE  
TO THE CLASSROOM

3 – BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SEATS THREE NEW MEMBERS

4 – PTA SUPPORTS STAFF,  
BUILDS COMMUNITY

Are you following  
Northbrook 27  
on social media?



**#Northbrook27**





# SCHOOL NEWS

## WOOD OAKS STUDENTS SHAVE HEADS TO BENEFIT CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH



Several Wood Oaks students went bald for a great cause this school year. They shaved their heads as a fundraiser for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which is a childhood cancer research charity. The students raised more than \$6,000.

Originally known as the "Shabonee Shavers" and now the "Wood Oaks Shavers," these students have created an annual tradition of shaving their heads for charity, even as they have grown older.

(Photo submitted)

## SHABONEE STUDENTS CELEBRATE EARTH DAY, COLLECT TRASH



Shabonee classes made the most of Earth Day this year by getting outside to pick up trash and create sock pets. The students used socks to plant grass. By placing soil and grass seeds inside the sock, they learned grass can grow through the sock to create hair for their sock pet.

(Photos by Tarah O'Connell)



## HICKORY POINT TEACHER BRINGS FIELD TRIP EXPERIENCE TO THE CLASSROOM

Hickory Point Art Teacher Ms. Mara Lovisetto knew students would not be able to go on field trips this year due to the pandemic. Therefore, she made it her goal to bring art field trips to her students!

Ms. Lovisetto visited the Immersive Van Gogh Exhibit in Chicago and found a way to recreate that experience in the classroom.

She taught her students about the art of Vincent Van Gogh and used a starry light projector to help students imagine the colors and designs they would like to use in their artistic works.

The students loved creating their own versions of *Starry Night*.

(Photo submitted)

## Q&A WITH DR. JOHN DEITER (continued from page 1)

**Q: What has been the most rewarding part of your career?**

A: I have always enjoyed creating and providing opportunities for kids to learn in new and exciting ways. This has looked a little different with each step in my career, but nothing beats the excitement in the faces of students when they are engaged in learning. As a superintendent, I have enjoyed seeing the students participate in new programs and learn in new spaces that I have helped design.

**Q: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?**

A: I like to spend time with my family and friends. I have two Australian Shepherds that need a lot of long walks and exercise. I enjoy travel, sports, reading, music, movies, and physical activities. I am very excited about the proximity to Chicago for concerts, shows, sports, and museums.

## DISTRICT 27 KEY SUCCESS FACTORS



**OUTSTANDING  
STUDENT  
PERFORMANCE**



**RIGOROUS &  
COHERENT  
PROGRAMS/SERVICES**



**HIGHLY QUALIFIED  
STAFF**



**SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL  
WELL-BEING**



**SAFE LEARNING &  
WORKING  
ENVIRONMENT**



**HEALTHY FINANCIAL  
POSITION**

## MEET THE NEWEST BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Gali Oren-Amit, Mr. Matthew Basinger, and Mr. Daniel Terrien were elected to the District 27 Board of Education in April. Each is set to serve a 4-year term.

### Dr. Gali Oren-Amit



**Q: How long have you lived in the Northbrook community? What makes it special?**

A: I have been a resident of Northbrook since 2009. I have three school-aged children. What I love about Northbrook and District 27 in particular is the community's unwavering commitment to excellence and the sense of comradery which was particularly impactful this last year and a half.

**Q: What are you most looking forward to as a Board member?**

A: I look forward to being able to collaborate with my outstanding colleagues on the Board and District 27 staff to make sure that the kids and families in this community continue to thrive as we hope to move past the pandemic.

### Mr. Matthew Basinger



**Q: What inspired you to run for the NB27 Board of Education?**

A: My three kids are all enrolled in District 27. I was inspired to run for the Board by my strong belief in the importance of excellent public schools and by my desire to give back to the community through public service.

**Q: What are you most looking forward to as a Board member?**

A: I look forward to listening and learning as much as possible so that I can make informed decisions that are in the best interest of our students, our teachers, and our community.

### Mr. Daniel Terrien



**Q: What are some of your top goals as a Board member?**

A: My top goals are to make sure the District is making the best, informed decisions to remain financially stable while also addressing our needs and improving our facilities and infrastructure. I will work closely with the new superintendent to continue the District's success.

**Q: What are you most looking forward to as a Board member?**

A: I look forward to ensuring our District continues to provide an exceptional education for our students and working with the new superintendent to develop the standards that will make the District even stronger in the future.



**1250 Sanders Road  
 Northbrook, IL 60062**

Tarah O'Connell, Editor

## OUR SCHOOLS

### HICKORY POINT

Grades K-2

Mrs. Maureen Deely, *Principal*

Mrs. Meggan Buchanan, *Asst. Principal*

HickoryPoint.nb27.org

### SHABONEE

Grades 3-5

Dr. John Panozzo, *Principal*

Mrs. Meggan Buchanan, *Asst. Principal*

Shabonee.nb27.org

### WOOD OAKS JR. HIGH

Grades 6-8

Dr. Rob McElligott, *Principal*

Mrs. Cari Beake, *Asst. Principal*

WoodOaks.nb27.org

## PTA SUPPORTS STAFF, BUILDS COMMUNITY

The District 27 Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) led endless initiatives to support staff and build a continued sense of community throughout the school year.

At Hickory Point, the PTA asked members of the community to state their favorite thing about their teachers and then made door posters for every teacher featuring the kind comments that were submitted.

The Wood Oaks PTA launched a #WoodOaksSupportsLocal campaign to encourage the community to eat at local restaurants. This win-win partnership has given local businesses a boost during the pandemic.

At Shabonee, the PTA held a flower fundraiser for Teacher Appreciation Week. Students were able to purchase flowers for their teachers during recess time. The teachers were then surprised with beautiful flower bouquets.

More information and upcoming initiatives can be found at [NB27.org/PTA](http://NB27.org/PTA)

## OUR ADMINISTRATION

Dr. John Deiter  
*Superintendent*

Dr. Theresa Fournier  
*Asst. Superintendent for  
 Personnel and Student Services*

Dr. Katharine Olson  
*Asst. Superintendent for  
 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*

Dr. Kimberly Rio  
*Asst. Superintendent for  
 Finance and Operations*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Alex Frum  
*President*

Melissa Copeland  
*Vice President*

Matthew Basinger

Martha Carlos

Dr. Gali Oren-Amit

Brian Paich

Daniel Terrien

