

September 2017

# The Winnetka Wire

Monthly News from The Winnetka Public Schools



## Superintendent's Message

Dear Parents, Staff, and Community Members,

September is always a very special time in our schools, as many activities are underway--from Kindergarten students preparing for butterfly migration to kicking off robotics and wind tunnel studies in our STEAM environments. We have also enjoyed welcoming families to our buildings on "Go to School Nights." This year, we have particularly exciting news. As I have shared previously, we launched an exciting initiative in The Winnetka Public Schools that involves the entire community. We are developing an Educational Master Facility Plan, the District's first in 20 years.



The process for plan development is referred to as "Future Ready D36." A design firm, DLR Group, was selected to guide the District through Future Ready D36 throughout the 2017-2018



school year. Future Ready D36 is a holistic process that will measure, validate, quantify and qualify opportunities to align our school facilities, enrollment, and vision for teaching and learning to meet the needs of current and future students in a fiscally responsible manner.

There will be many community engagement opportunities for all who wish to learn more and share input. The first sessions are scheduled for the end of this month (see dates at right).

If you would like to become involved in this initiative in a more formal capacity, please complete an application to serve on the

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## Important Dates

**Board Meeting  
September 19, 2017**

*Future Ready D36* Core Team ([linked here](#)). The application is available through September 20. It is also accessible on the District website at [www.winnetka36.org](http://www.winnetka36.org). The Core Team will serve as a Superintendent advisory committee consisting of teachers, administrators, community members, and a board member. Further details are included in the application.



Your voice is valuable, and we are eager to collaborate with you on shaping the future of our community's schools. This process is truly a way that we can work toward honoring our past and planning our future. For a glimpse into the Winnetka Experience that we seek to uphold and more understanding as to why *Future Ready D36* is an important initiative to prepare our students for the future, please enjoy this video.



Sincerely,

Dr. Trisha Kocanda  
Superintendent



7:15 p.m.  
Carleton  
Washburne School

*No School*  
*Religious Holiday*  
September 21, 2017

*Future Ready D36*  
*Community*  
*Presentations*

September 25, 2017  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
The Skokie School

September 26, 2017  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Crow Island School

September 27, 2017  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Carleton  
Washburne School

October 2, 2017  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Hubbard Woods School

October 3, 2017  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Greeley School

*Board Meeting*  
October 17, 2017  
7:15 p.m.  
Carleton  
Washburne School

2017-2018  
*School Calendar*

Fall in District 36

The next School Board Regular Meeting will be held at Carleton Washburne School on Tuesday, September 19. There will be a hearing to approve the FY 2017-2018 Budget at 7 p.m. The Regular Meeting begins at 7:15 p.m. The following presentations are on the agenda:

- 1. Educational Master Facility Plan: *Future Ready D36*



Your involvement as a Winnetka community member is essential to *Future Ready D36*. There will be many community engagement opportunities for all who wish to learn more and share input.

The first sessions are scheduled for the end of this month:

***Monday, September 25, 2017***  
***7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.***  
***The Skokie School***

***Tuesday, September 26, 2017***  
***7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.***  
***Crow Island School***

***Wednesday September 27, 2017***  
***7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.***  
***Carleton Washburne School***

***Monday, October 2, 2017***  
***7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.***  
***Hubbard Woods School***



*We have enjoyed welcoming our youngest learners to D36!*



*Washburne eighth grade students engaging in science experiments.*





**Tuesday, October 3, 2017**  
**7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**  
**Greeley School**



Through a regular offering of educational engagement sessions, Winnetka Parents Institute (WPI) is an opportunity for the District to foster parent discussions on various topics of interest. Grandparents, future parents, and community members are always welcome, too! For those who are unable to attend in person, most sessions are recorded and shared on the District website at [www.winnetka36.org/wpi](http://www.winnetka36.org/wpi).

*Upcoming event:*

**Not Quite Little Kid, Not Quite Teenager: The Developmental Progression of the Middle School Child**

**Thursday, September 28 at 9:30 a.m.**

**The Skokie School Community Room**

Join Principal Tess and Principal Kanne for an informational morning session focusing on the ins and outs of the growing middle school child. We will spend time exploring both the academic and social-emotional needs appropriate to 5th-8th grade children, how they change over that four year span, as well as the neurological changes that contribute to these needs. Parents with current middle schoolers, or soon-to-be middle schoolers, are encouraged to join us for an engaging, encouraging, and educational hour together.

To RSVP visit <https://goo.gl/GWVFip>.

## Blackboard Emergency Testing



*Skokie  
World Language students enjoy  
time reading books of  
their choice.*



*"Popsicles with the Principal"  
at Greeley.*



On Monday, October 2 at 4:30 p.m., we will be conducting a test via Blackboard, our emergency call, email, and text system. Blackboard is used to alert parents and staff of weather-related school closures and emergency situations. Please contact your building secretary if you would like to update your emergency contact phone numbers or email addresses.



Hubbard Woods Kindergarten students recently enjoyed learning about the school's new butterfly garden, created as an Eagle Scout project by Hubbard Woods alum Andrew Vagra (Washburne



Class of 2016, Loyola Academy Class of 2020). With the guidance of Principal Carmody and his former fourth grade teacher Ms. Bierner, Andrew created the beautiful wildflower habitat for students to learn from and enjoy

for many years to come. After he answered Kindergarten students' questions, Andrew noted that, "It was also fun to coincidentally see the first graders outside observing the garden for a special project which combined their observations with musical instruments to create a symphony."

Reflecting on his own experience as a student in District 36, Andrew says, "Experiential learning allowed me to truly enjoy going to school. The teachers offered creative ways to learn which held my interest in the classroom and made it fun...I feel that these experiences have given me confidence in my own learning abilities."

*Hubbard Woods students invited community members & Village police officers & fire fighters to visit by hosting "Bring Your Neighbor to School Day."*



*Crow Island students express creativity both in the classroom & while landscape painting in art class.*







The District is proud of how its Shared Vision is embodied in Andrew's service and learning activities. "Being involved with the Boy Scouts has given me so many opportunities to work to make a meaningful difference in the world. Leading and teaching younger scouts at our weekly meetings and campouts and helping the community through various service projects like cleaning up the Skokie Lagoons and volunteering for Bike Winnetka has taught me the value of hard work and how your efforts, no matter how small, can have a positive impact on those around you."

# Tech Tips

On September 5, 2017, The Winnetka Public Schools welcomed Al Ross, Clinical Director at Family Services of Glencoe, and Jordan (a New Trier High School Student), to have a conversation about "Navigating Internet Safety and Social Media Use."

To view the entire presentation, visit our website and view the [Winnetka Parents Institute page](#) or click on the video below .



*The Greeley community celebrating their mascot on Red Panda Day.*



*Washburne students having lunch in their updated cafeteria--thank you, Skokie/Washburne PTO!*

## From the Archives...



*Our history of experiential learning--learning by doing--is evident in this vintage photo.*





Key takeaways from the presentation include:

- Technology use is always about balance and boundaries
- Technology is always changing so there will always be another app to replace the one you've just figured out how to navigate with your child
- Relationships and trust are key to navigating social media with your children



On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, students at all schools may choose to participate in International Walk to School Day. Facilitated by the District 36 Green Team, this event encourages all forms of active, non-motorized transportation. If bikes, scooters or skates are used, please be sure your child is wearing a helmet. For details [click here](#) .

### Safety Reminder

Student safety is our highest priority. Please use caution when driving and encourage your children to be on

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*If you missed it, read the latest issue of Learners, the District's magazine, [here](#).*



*For a list of upcoming FAN speaker series events, including authors such as National Book Award Winner Jesmyn Ward & educators like Stanford University's Jo Boaler,*



the lookout for cars, whether they are walking, riding their bikes, skating, or scootering. Bike helmets are recommended at all times to

keep our students safe. Please encourage your children to cross at appropriate crosswalks, rather in the middle of the road. This is especially pertinent to students crossing major intersections, such as Tower and Hibbard Roads.

*click here.*



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14**

9am at Hadley, 700 Elm Street in Winnetka  
Join us for Hounds for Hadley — a fun, two-mile dog walk through beautiful Winnetka, benefiting Hadley Institute.  
Register at [hadley.edu/hounds](http://hadley.edu/hounds)  
HADLEY INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

### In the News

The Winnetka Current introduced The Skokie School's new Assistant Principal Michelle Woodring and highlighted Greeley School's new logo. Daily North Shore also shared Ms. Woodring's appointment. Winnetka Talk shared a story on several D36 students who were involved in organizing a September 11 remembrance on the Village Green .

*The Winnetka Public Schools community empowers every student to flourish in an innovative, experiential environment.  
We support and challenge all learners to actively engage in their continual growth and achievement to make a meaningful difference in the world.*

**The Winnetka Public Schools**  
**847-446-9400**





*Please note: Unsubscribing will remove you from all Winnetka school emails.*