

NewsBits



Winter 2022

Kathleen Kelly Colgan named Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Kathleen Kelly Colgan was named the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources at the December 13 Board of Education Meeting.

Kelly Colgan comes to the district with just under two decades of experience in education, having served the last four as Executive Director for Human Resources in J. Sterling Morton High School District 201. Prior to that, Kelly Colgan served for three years as the Director for Human Resources in North Chicago District 187.

"I am honored and excited to join the Des Plaines 62 team, and I look forward to building upon the strong foundation created by Dr. Hertel and Dr. Amadei in the Human Resources office," said Kelly Colgan.

"As a teacher and a leader, I have always put students first. The District 62 community can be assured that what is best for students will be at the forefront of all that we do in the Human Resources office."

Kathleen Kelly Colgan

"I have a professional passion for building capacity and fostering leadership in others, and finding and keeping the best educators for our kids is one of the most rewarding aspects of my role."

The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources is responsible for collaborating with all stakeholders to ensure best practice with regards to personnel services and records, staffing issues, contract administration, and personnel review and appraisal. Kelly Colgan will be responsible for providing creative and dynamic leadership to direct the district's human resource needs.

Kelly Colgan began her career as an educator at Lake View High School teaching Chicago high school students history. She later served in school and district leadership roles in several Chicago charter schools. Prior to joining Morton 201, Kelly Colgan served North Chicago District 187 as an Instructional Specialist before becoming the Director of Human Resources for the district.

"I'm excited to welcome Kathleen Kelly Colgan to our team," said Associate Superintendent Dr. Michael Amadei who will take on the role of Superintendent officially in July of 2022. "Mrs. Kelly Colgan has a wealth of experience and will be an extremely valuable member of my team. She



is committed to equity in education and has a passion for encouraging and facilitating the growth and development of teachers and school leaders through excellent human capital practices. I am confident that she will be an asset to our district as she takes on the critical role of supporting the over 800 employees of District 62.”

Kelly Colgan received her Bachelor’s degree in History from Bradley University, and holds a Masters degree in Teaching and Learning from DePaul University and a Masters degree in Educational Leadership from Northeastern Illinois University. She is proud to be a first generation college student.


A lifelong Chicagoan, Kelly Colgan and her husband Dan are the parents of four: Caroline a college sophomore, Brendan a high school senior, Patrick a high school junior and Nora an eighth grader. Kelly Colgan is set to begin July 1.

“As a teacher and a leader, I have always put students first,” said Kelly Colgan. “The District 62 community can be assured that what is best for students will be at the forefront of all that we do in the Human Resources office. I am grateful for the road that I have traveled in my education and my career as it has brought me to the amazing District 62, and I look forward to the road and the work ahead.”

District 62 seeking substitute teachers

Are you or someone you know looking for a job that allows you to make a difference for students? If so, join our team as a substitute teacher here in District 62.

If you know of someone who would make a great addition to our District 62 family, please let them know about these opportunities. To begin, click here: bit.ly/62Subs




We are hiring

Substitute teachers

Are you or someone you know looking for a job that allows you to make a difference for students? If so, join our team as a substitute teacher here in District 62.

www.d62.org

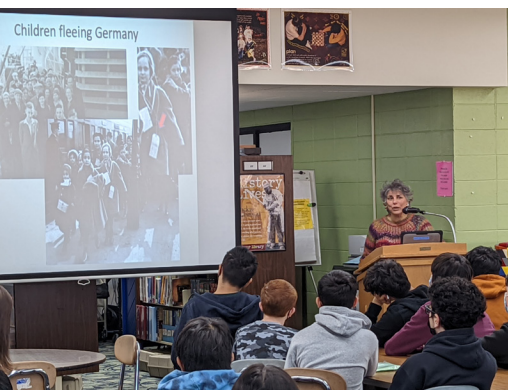


Online registration now open

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open for all students, including those new to the district. In addition to any students new to District 62, Kindergarten students will begin their registration process online. Families must register via the district's web-based parent portal before making an appointment to visit their home school and provide necessary documents that include proof of residency, birth certificate and health forms. More information can be found on the district website, www.d62.org. Additional information about District 62's online registration process can be found [here](#).

Local author Fern Schumer Chapman visits Algonquin Middle School

Chicago-based author Fern Schumer Chapman



met with Algonquin Middle School's 8th grade students on January 21. Schumer Chapman narrated the story of her mother Edith Westerfeld and her experiences as a Holocaust refugee. Schumer Chapman

spoke to students about the Holocaust and its impact on her family.

Westerfeld was one of only 1,000 children the United States permitted to enter the country during the 1930's in order to escape Nazi Germany.

Schumer Chapman is a former reporter for The Chicago Tribune and Forbes magazine. She has written several books, all of which touch on her mother's story of her Holocaust survival. The event was made possible by a grant from the [District 62 Education Foundation](#).

District 62 Education Foundation Footnotes

Greetings and happy new year! The hectic days of December are behind us and the calm of January and a new year has settled in. This coming year of 2022 brings hope to all of us that we can regain our social equilibrium and begin creating new and positive memories. The [District 62 Foundation](#) will embrace that vision with a series of partnerships and events involving the community.

District 62 students have had the best academic experience that is available, surrounded by dedicated staff and support personnel. The District 62 Foundation has also been doing their part supporting the educational vision of District 62 teachers. Foundation grant dollars are being used to support programs such as life skills experiences for special needs students and their peer buddies, school visits from published authors, as well as many different student clubs. The District 62 grant dollars are used to enhance many student's educational lives and create lasting memories. The District 62 Foundation could not do it without the exceptional support we receive from the community and for that we are extremely appreciative.

We invite you to three upcoming events:

- **April 1:** The Foundation will host a trivia night at the [Frisbie Senior Center](#) in Des Plaines.
- **April 9:** [The Des Plaines Theater](#) will host Bee Gees Gold The Tribute band. 40% of the ticket price will go directly to the Foundation. Click [here](#) to purchase your ticket and don't forget to use the code 62foundation.
- **May 10:** Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce will feature an After Hours event hosted by the District 62 Foundation and the [Des Plaines History Center](#).

To learn more about the Foundation visit d62foundation.com

District 62 recognizes its Difference Makers

Last year, District 62 began a formal recognition program to honor those staff members considered “Difference Makers” who are a defining example for the learning community of District 62. This recognition program aligns directly with Goal 3 (Work Environment) of the district’s five-year [strategic plan](#). Those recognized as a Difference Maker will receive a coin to commemorate this honor. We thank our Difference Makers for doing a great deal for others without seeking recognition or acknowledgment. They make the District 62 learning community a better place through their dedication, commitment and support of public education.

Congratulations to our winter **District 62 Difference Makers**:

Jennifer Skoog is an instructional teacher at Central School who goes above and beyond to include all students. She is an amazing teammate who is willing to share time, resources, and ideas to help struggling students.

Tracy Kellerhals is a Library Media Center assistant at Central who ensures that all of our AV materials are set for assemblies, walk-a-thons & celebrations. Tracy works tirelessly behind the scenes to make all run smoothly.

Sam Shyamani is one of the most patient members of the Technology Team. He handled the scanning of all student and staff devices when we exchanged them out earlier this year. Sam is not too busy to lend a hand anytime a problem comes up. Many times people “snag” him with little issues that pop up—even when he’s in the building for other matters. He’s so patient, kind, yet firm with the students when he has to talk to them about the proper handling and care of their devices.



Gibbs Cummings has been a long-time member of Cumberland’s custodial staff. He is a hard worker, who is always friendly and personable toward staff. He has done so much to keep the rooms clean and disinfected. Anytime we have made a special request of his custodial services, he fulfills the request in a timely and courteous manner. Gibbs is definitely an example of Cumberland Pride.

Melissa Matulewicz has worked tirelessly this year supporting the students, families and staff of Cumberland as we navigate through the complexities of the pandemic and the routines of each school day. She is always positive and helpful to anyone in need. Melissa remains calm in all situations, is incredibly organized, and very thorough.

Jennifer Bergstrom has worked with every team at Central. She is extremely resourceful and empowers classroom teachers to stretch their lessons and reach all students. She has helped with benchmarking, unit planning, setting up number corner, and modeling lessons. She is an incredible addition to the Central School staff.

Thank you to **Ashley Rasmussen**, (pictured left) our contact tracer. She has supported students, staff & families during challenging times. **Donna Zenger** is our certified school nurse, supporting the schools during the global pandemic since Day 1.

Raúl Guerra has subbed for numerous classrooms at the last minute when other teachers are out. He waits with bus riders every day until the bus arrives a while after the 3:30 bell. He is always positive, supportive and kind.

Kelly Nichele shows such care and compassion for the students she services. She is reliable and always tries to connect her speech lessons with whatever content is being taught in the classroom. Kelly is positive and kind.



FinanceBits

The Board of Education adopted the 2021 tax levy in the amount of \$83,701,000. This is a 9.99% increase over the prior year and it is based on the increase in the 2020 Consumer Price Index, Urban (CPI-U) of 1.4% and the projected increase in new construction and the expiration of a TIF district within the district's boundaries. It should be noted that taxpayers on existing properties within the district will see an increase of approximately 1.4%. A public hearing was held on December 13, 2021 prior to the Board voting on the adopted levy.



Calling all interested crafters and vendors.
Spots are open for the upcoming craft fair:
April 2, 2022
Orchard Place Elementary School

6' table fee: \$35

8' table fee: \$45

Booth space @ 10'x10'

Deadline: **March 18, 2022**

District 62
Craft Fair

Contact Cathy Smith:

847.789.5608 | smithcat@d62.org | www.d62.org