



Learning For All. Every One. Every Day.

Hawthorn

DISTRICT 73 COMMUNITY UPDATE | JUNE 2023



Middle South Spring Musical



Our Mascot is Named

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Expanding Student Learning

2018 Referendum Update

Technology in the Classroom

Hawthorn Hits 100



Hawthorn Celebrates 100-year Anniversary



Middle North Spring Musical

Thank You to Our Hawthorn District 73 Community



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Dear Hawthorn District 73 Community,

On behalf of the Board of Education and district leadership, we extend our deepest gratitude for another spectacular school year. Sharing this report marks a significant moment for us. It's an opportunity to reflect on our achievements, look ahead to exciting developments and voice our appreciation for your support and partnership.

Our centennial year was filled with unique celebrations that personified the spirit of Hawthorn District 73. We proudly named our mascot Sam, in honor of our district's founder. Each school building crafted a time capsule, capturing our present for future generations to uncover. On District 73's "birthday," April 12, staff and students brought history to life by dressing as if they were 100 years old!

In addition to celebrating a landmark anniversary, we had the privilege to recognize hundreds of our remarkable students for their achievements throughout the past school year. Furthermore, many of our dedicated staff and teachers earned local and national recognition for their own accomplishments.

As you explore the contents of this report, we hope you feel a profound sense of pride. Additionally, we hope that it stirs up excitement for the upcoming school year. Your support has been instrumental in shaping Hawthorn District 73, and we look forward to building an even brighter future together.

Go Eagles!

—Dr. Pete Hannigan, Superintendent



Our Mission:
Learning For All. Every One. Every Day.

District 73 Strategic Plan Goals

Goal 1— Performance

Hawthorn School District 73 will be a high performing school district with at least 90% of PreK-8th grade students scoring proficient or better in both reading and math, as measured by district, state and/or national assessments.

Goal 2— Growth

District 73 will perform in the top 10% of all schools in reading and math for both growth and proficiency, as measured by state and local assessments.

Goal 3— Achievement

District 73 will close the achievement gap for all students in reading and math, as measured by state and local assessments, while improving academic performance for all students.

Goal 4— Whole Child

District 73 will ensure the success of the whole child by providing comprehensive approaches and programming, grounded in the belief that each child deserves to be healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged.



Explore More!

www.hawthorn73.org/discover/strategic-plan

Expanding Learning Opportunities

Each year, the district administrative team actively collaborates with the Board of Education to explore avenues for improving and revolutionizing learning experiences for all Hawthorn students. Two substantial projects this year included preparing for the seven-hour instructional day and introducing an Instructional Coaching program.

Instructional Coaches

Our first year with six instructional coaches has been a success. Their role, as part of our comprehensive coaching program, is to foster student learning by transforming instructional teams into professional learning communities. They partner with teams to establish standards-based goals, identify learning targets and use pre-assessments for planning. Coaches then co-teach, co-plan and support the team in monitoring student progress. Our coaches participated in a comprehensive summer institute and multiple professional development sessions throughout the year, while also collecting ongoing feedback to enhance coaching practices. Our coaches even presented at the DITCHED Con Conference, showcasing our program's success.

Increased Instructional Day

In the 2019-20 school year, District 73's Board and the Hawthorn Education Association agreed to lengthen the instructional day for optimized learning. Starting 2023-24, a seven-hour day will be implemented, extending the previous 6 hours 15 minutes for elementary and 6 hours 30 minutes for middle school. This change will effectively add 11 and seven instructional days respectively.

Every Wednesday, students will be released 45-minutes early while staff undergo 1 hour 15 minutes of professional development, replacing the six early-release days previously included on the school calendar. To support this shift, District 73 upgraded curricular resources, student support structures and technology.



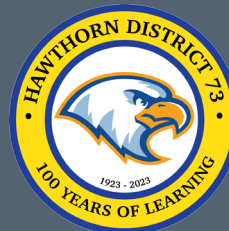
Explore More!

www.hawthorn73.org/discover/school-start-times



Explore More!

www.hawthorn73.org/discover/hawthorn-history



Hawthorn
Celebrates
100 Years
of Learning

Celebrate our 100th anniversary by exploring our district's rich history on our website. Discover the journey from early settlers in the 1840s to the formation of our school district in 1923. Uncover a century of growth and improvements documented on our site. Visit now and delve into our captivating story!

Construction | Referendum Update



“The new space opens up additional opportunities for our students to learn, grow and gain the skills they will need beyond their time at Hawthorn.”

—Robert Natale, Principal, Hawthorn Middle School South

In November of 2018, the community approved the issuance of \$48.7 million in bonds to fund facility improvements over five phases. The fourth phase was completed this year with the addition of a new music education suite and renovated STEM classrooms at Hawthorn Middle South. The district is beginning the final phase this summer at Elementary North.

In addition to the referendum dollars, the business office has presented an ongoing capital plan to the Board of Education that includes an average budget commitment of \$2 million each year to improve learning spaces and maintain district facilities.

The work at Elementary North involves a complete overhaul of all learning spaces, given that both the interior structures and mechanical systems are original to the building constructed in the 1970s. One of the most notable changes will be a complete renovation of the existing library. This renovation will feature a new mobile circulation desk, mobile shelving, a dedicated classroom space for large group instruction, age-appropriate book browsers, upgraded technology features and a maker space.

This aligns with the work that has been done in the Elementary South library and future work planned in all district libraries.



Explore
More!

<https://en.hawthorn73.org/discover/en-renovations>

In addition to the work at Elementary North, other planned updates and renovations include:

Summer/Fall of 2023

- Townline/Dual Language Library
- Flooring and cabinetry in two wings of classrooms at Elementary South
- District Office security upgrades and renovated spaces to include family-friendly waiting areas and reception

Summer 2024 and Beyond

- Playground replacements
- Library updates and renovations across the district
- Building Automation Systems (BAS) and mechanical enhancement
- Parking lot resurfacing and repair
- Flooring replacements

Student Opportunities

Beyond a rigorous academic experience, Hawthorn District 73 is proud to offer several innovative learning opportunities and extracurricular experiences for students to enjoy. Hawthorn students engage in physical education five times per week, as well as art and general music two times per week. From STEM classes that every Hawthorn student takes, to our award-winning music program, we are committed to enhancing and expanding the opportunities for every Hawthorn student.



Introducing “Pawfficer” Billie

Sixth grade students at Middle School South were surprised to learn that their persuasive letter-writing assignment convinced Vernon Hills Police Chief Patrick Kreis to add a wellness support dog to the police force. They were the first to meet Billie during a special assembly held on May 2. We can't wait to see Billie around our schools and town!



Technology in the Classroom

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) courses allow students to experience integrated math and science projects that address real-world problems and build skills that will serve them regardless of the career path they may follow. STEM learning environments foster “design-thinking” skills, collaboration, creativity, problem-solving, open inquiry, experimentation and communication which impact students’ social, emotional and reasoning growth.

Introducing students to STEM and computer science is essential to ensuring they have the best opportunity to develop a passion for entrepreneurial and engineering fields, as well as proactively addressing equity skill gaps that have been identified as challenges.

This year, our 6th and 7th grade middle school students were the first to experience our new Project Lead The Way STEM program. This new program is broken into different courses based on grade level:

6th Grade STEM Courses	7th Grade STEM Courses	8th Grade STEM Courses (starting in 2023-24)
Design and Modeling	Medical Detectives	App Creator
Computer Science for Innovators and Makers	Science of Technology	Flight and Space

At Hawthorn, our commitment lies in ensuring every student has access to the best educational opportunities available, while consistently striving to enhance the quality of our resources and instruction.



Middle South Orchestra Achievements

The Hawthorn Middle School South orchestra was honored to perform at the Illinois Music Educators Conference this year in Peoria, IL. This invitation was a result of the hard work and dedication of our Hawthorn musicians, and by Middle South Orchestra Director, Ms. Samantha May.

The Middle South orchestra was the only middle school orchestra selected in the state to perform at this prestigious event. Many of those in attendance agreed the orchestra performed exceptionally well and positively reflected on the efforts happening at Hawthorn.

Superintendent Dr. Hannigan was among those in attendance at the performance. Afterward, he shared, **“What Ms. May is doing with these students helps put Hawthorn on the map as a lighthouse district for our Fine Arts program. Performing in these types of events is so important to these students, and I’m sure this will be something they will remember for the rest of their lives.”**



Quest Food Management Services is excited to partner with Hawthorn for the 2023-24 school year.

The cafeteria food quality is set to improve, benefitting students with an increased availability of freshly prepared items made onsite at each location.

To ensure students have a say in the food program, a dedicated food committee comprising both students and staff will be formed. This committee will actively seek direct feedback from students, and play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the program.

Grant Awards

Hawthorn is dedicated to sourcing and securing grant funding opportunities. Our committed district team has successfully won the following grants for the upcoming school year:

- 1 **ARP Community Partnership Grant**
Year 2— \$311,000

Supports the social emotional needs of our school community
- 2 **ARP Digital Equity Grant—\$68,000**

Supports technology-rich learning experiences for students
- 3 **School Maintenance Project Grant—\$50,000**

Supports the maintenance or upkeep of buildings/structures for educational purposes
- 4 **Equipment Assistance Grant—\$50,000**

To replace outdated equipment at Townline/Dual Language

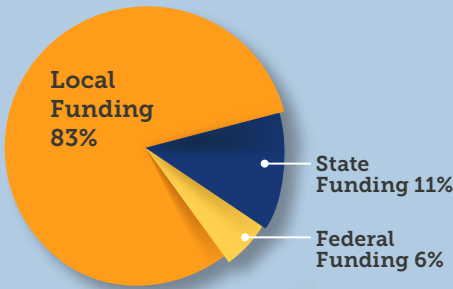
Fiscal Responsibility

The District 73 tentative budget for fiscal year 2024 includes approximately \$63.5 million in operating expenses. Federal, state and local sources fund the district expenditures.

According to the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) model as a Tier III district, Hawthorn 73 is funded at 91% adequacy. The goal of EBF is to work toward 100% funding adequacy for all Illinois school districts. Although the state temporarily halted EBF increases because of the pandemic, the district remains fiscally responsible and maintains quality services and programs to support all students.

Operating Revenue Resources

As with most school districts in Lake County, D73 relies heavily on local sources. Each year, we thoughtfully prepare the tax levy, balancing community impact with efficient, academically-driven school operations.



Operational Efficiency

The district is in the last stage of the referendum facility upgrades, with improvements currently underway at Elementary North and Townline/Dual Language.

In March 2023, the D73 Board of Education approved \$1.5 million in non-referendum facility upgrades for the Townline/Dual Language library and the District Office. The Townline/Dual Language Library renovation will feature new flooring, ceilings, paint, LED lighting and new furniture for collaboration. The District Office project will feature security enhancements at both entrances to ensure the safety of all district and community stakeholders. Spaces will be redesigned to increase efficiencies and improve workflow. Other upgrades include a larger space for registration and parent meetings.

The Facilities Committee is dedicated to continuous facility improvement as needed to keep operations running smoothly. As part of the five-year facility plan, areas of concern are identified and monitored to fulfill approximately \$2 million in summer projects each year.



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

This year, Hawthorn District 73 rebooted the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program district-wide. This program is directly aligned with Goal 4 of our Strategic Plan and provides an evidence-based, three-tiered framework that promotes safe-learning environments for all students through a proactive behavioral approach.

We implemented universal strategies and supports for all students, such as:

- Teaching school-wide positive behavioral expectations
- Reinforcing and acknowledging expected behaviors using "Eagle Bucks"
- Responding with a support system for students with varying behavioral needs

At Hawthorn, we use the acronym "SOAR" to define our universal expectations across all settings. SOAR stands for: Safe, On-Task, Act Responsibly, Respect.

We are proud of our students who "SOAR Like an Eagle" at Hawthorn!

Enhancing Parent Engagement at Hawthorn

Hawthorn District 73 conducted parent/guardian education events this year, focusing on social-emotional development and bilingualism, attended by over 300 parents either in-person or online. Partnering with organizations like Simply Bee Counseling and SEL Integrations, topics like managing emotions, gaining control in uncertainty and building confidence were addressed.

Our Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC) also organized events such as a Día de los Muertos program, Literacy Night with author Araseli Rodriguez, a concert with Latin Grammy-winning 123 Andrés and eight Latino literacy sessions. Event updates are provided via social media and weekly principals' newsletters.



Explore More!

www.hawthorn73.org/student-learning/social-emotional/pbis

Staff Accomplishments



Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan was named a Superintendent to Watch by the National School Public Relations Association.



Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Dr. Allison Stein received an Award of Excellence in this year's Those Who Excel in the Administrator category.



Hawthorn School of Young Learners Music Teacher Jake Scheuring was named an Educator of the Year by the Lake County Board of Education and received an Award of Excellence in this year's Those Who Excel in the Early Career Educator category.



Tonline First Grade Teacher Megan Ruffner was nominated for a Lake County Board of Education Educator of the Year award and received an Award of Excellence in this year's Those Who Excel in the Classroom Teacher category.



Elementary South School Psychologist Sadaff Raheel received a Meritorious Service Award in this year's Those Who Excel in the Student Support category.



Elementary North Library Media Specialist Karen Karolczak received a Meritorious Service Award in this year's Those Who Excel in the Student Support category.



Aspen Principal Secretary Wendy Giovenetto received an Award of Excellence in this year's Those Who Excel in the Educational Service Personnel category.



Aspen's Second Grade Team received a Meritorious Service Award in this year's Those Who Excel in the Classroom Teacher Team category.



HAWTHORN DISTRICT 73

Learning For All.
Every One. Every Day.

HAWTHORN SCHOOL DISTRICT 73
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Student Accomplishments



Middle North and South Science Olympiad Teams Compete at State

The Science Olympiad teams from Hawthorn Middle North and Hawthorn Middle South both competed at this year's State competition. Middle South placed fourth overall, and Middle North placed 12th overall among the top 41 teams from across Illinois.

Volleyball Conference Champs

The 8th grade boys volleyball team from Hawthorn Middle North emerged as champions in their conference tournament. The team concluded their season with an impressive record of 12-1.



Hawthorn Student Musicians

Hawthorn was proud to send 23 students to perform at the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) Festival Finale Concert, which included band, chorus and orchestra. More than 700 middle school students auditioned in early October for the opportunity to participate in the festival.

State Chess Championship

Hawthorn Middle North's Rohan M. participated in the Illinois State K-8 Chess Championship at Illinois State University and placed second out of 120 participants.

Connect with Us!



Hawthorn School
District 73



hawthorn_73



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Hawthorn School
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¿Quiere recibir los boletines futuros en español? Haga contacto con: cooks@hawthorn73.org