

LEARN.
LEAD.
EMPOWER.



FREMONT Digest

SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

SPRING 2024

EDUCATIONAL LONG-RANGE FACILITY PLAN

Dear Fremont Community,

We are working diligently on an Educational Long-Range Facility Plan (ELFP) with our community-based steering committee. This process includes assessing the current state of our facilities, anticipating future educational needs, and managing enrollment growth. This community-based plan will be centered around the following:

Maintaining a focus on teaching, learning, and safety

Accounting for future enrollment growth

Committing to wise investments as responsible stewards

Please participate in the online survey to provide your feedback to inform this work (<https://bit.ly/3vkrcT0>). As we address facility needs and plan for 50% enrollment growth, our goal is to maintain a standard of educational excellence with responsible financial investments. Your feedback will help ensure our planning reflects the current values of the Fremont community.

Sincerely,

Trisha Kocanda, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Gabriela Whipple
Board President

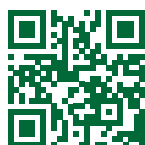


AMAZED THIRD-GRADERS ENJOY A WEATHER DEMONSTRATION.



Chicago Tribune

Fremont School District 79 has been awarded a Top Workplaces 2023 honor by *Chicago Tribune*. The list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey. FSD79 was the only school district to earn the distinction this year.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.fsd79.org

LEARNING SNAPSHOTS

- 1 **Fremont Intermediate School fifth-grader Gianna** wrote and self-published her own children's book and visited Mrs. Bonner's second-grade classroom to read the book to them.
- 2 **Fremont Middle School eighth-graders** constructed Rube Goldberg machines as part of their study of forces and applied science engineering practices.
- 3 FSD79 partnered with the Fremont PTO in hosting the **Fremont Family Math Night**, including a presentation to parents on our new K-5 math curriculum.
- 4 The **multi-age classrooms** participated in their annual winter shopping event at Target with their purchases benefiting the Fremont Township Food Pantry.
- 5 The District continued its long-standing tradition of hosting local service men and women for **Veterans Day assemblies** to educate our students and thank the veterans for their service.
- 6 **Fremont Intermediate School students** collaborated on a variety of team-building activities in their physical education classes to build leadership skills.



SIGN UP
to receive our
District e-newsletter:
<https://bit.ly/3KimhHf>

A COLLABORATIVE CULTURE



REVIEWING OUR MATH AND LITERACY CURRICULUM

This year, our K-5 students experienced a new math resource, Imagine Learning Illustrative Mathematics. This widely respected and research-driven resource addresses math instruction with an interactive, problem-based, collaborative, and inclusive approach that promotes deep student thinking and reasoning.

Our grade 6-8 students have continued to utilize Cengage Big Ideas to support their math learning. This resource embraces an exploratory approach to math, promoting deep conceptual understanding, meaningful applications, and student independence.

An English Language Arts Curriculum and Resource Review Committee has been established this year to engage in a two-year review of our literacy instruction. The committee has partnered with literacy experts from *The Reading League* to help guide our work in applying evidence-based practices aligned with the science of reading.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Empowering the next generation of courageous leaders is embedded in our District's vision. Our students eagerly participate in organizations such as the Service Club (pictured left), the peer-to-peer Hope Squad support group, bus patrol leaders, and Student Ambassadors who assist new students at the middle school.



BUILD-YOUR-OWN FUTURE TEACHER PROGRAM

FSD79 is proud to partner with District 120 on the Aspire 120 program. Students from Mundelein High School who are interested in pursuing education are partnered with a Fremont teacher for mentoring and a hands-on practical experience.



JOIN THE FREMONT TEAM!

FSD79 has an immediate need for school bus drivers. To learn more about all the tremendous benefits included, or to view all of our current job openings, please visit this link or use the QR code.

VIEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES | www.fsd79.org/jobs

FINANCIAL SPOTLIGHT

STAFF MARKET ADJUSTMENTS

To improve employee retention and address growing vacancies, FSD79 made market adjustments to all employee groups in Fiscal Year 2024. Ultimately, this investment ensures the best education for our students. The District now meets the legislated requirement for starting teacher salaries and achieved market competitiveness in the region. Students are now benefiting from complete staffing and improved teacher consistency. The FY24 budget remains balanced with this decision.

FAIR FUNDING ADVOCACY

The District is advocating for a modernized Charter School funding formula at the state level. Over \$600,000 (34%) of Fremont's State funding is routed to Prairie Crossing Charter School, which currently serves approximately 2% of the student population. Our local taxpayers are paying for an outdated funding model.

SCHOOL PROJECT MAINTENANCE GRANT

The District has successfully secured the Illinois School Project Maintenance Grant. This grant will be utilized explicitly for crucial tuckpointing repairs at our elementary school. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$110,000, of which \$50,000 will be funded by the state.



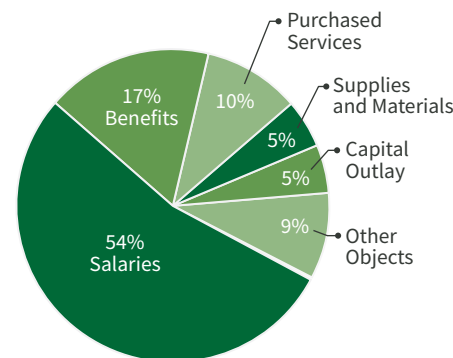
VIEW OUR
2024 FINANCIAL
REPORT
<https://bit.ly/3xmFJhi>

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TAX RATE COMPARISON (2022)

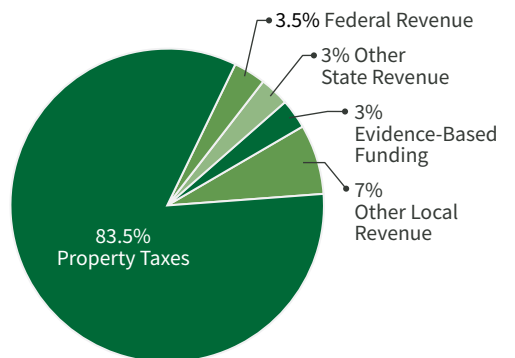
| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| ★ Fremont District 79 | 3.0511% ★ |
| Libertyville District 70 | 3.0811% |
| Lincolnshire District 103 | 3.2980% |
| Aptakisic District 102 | 3.6975% |
| Big Hollow District 38 | 3.7063% |
| Hawthorn District 73 | 4.0174% |
| Kildeer District 96 | 4.1388% |
| Mundelein District 75 | 4.6354% |
| Diamond Lake District 76 | 4.7373% |
| Grayslake District 46 | 5.0495% |

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79 BUDGET ALLOCATION (FY 2024)

FISCAL YEAR 2024 EXPENDITURES: \$37,284,395
Budgeted Expenditure Allocation by Source



FISCAL YEAR 2024 REVENUES: \$37,628,747
Proposed Revenue Allocation by Object



SAFETY AND SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS

FSD79 continues to make the safety and security of our students and staff a top priority. Recent enhancements include:

- Safety bollards and a gate at the elementary school playground (pictured)
- Video doorbell and intercom systems at building entrances
- Added August professional day for staff to review the latest safety procedures, an annual commitment

2024-2025 SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Registration is now open for all grade levels at Fremont School District 79 for the 2024-2025 school year. To register, visit: www.fsd79.org/families/registration

FREMONT AT THE FOREFRONT



INVESTING IN STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Research shows that an investment in high-quality professional learning for teachers and staff produces the greatest student outcomes. FSD79 is proud to partner with top organizations to aid our professional learning, including *The Reading League* to support literacy, *Solution Tree* to develop staff professional learning communities, and the *STAR Program* and *TEACCH Autism Program* for aiding children with autism.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Our school district is representative of our community and we greatly value all opportunities to partner with our community members. The Fremont Middle School Career Technical Education (CTE) pilot program greatly benefited from guest speakers from a variety of professions, including those involved with the Libertyville Rotary Club whom teacher Don Doll visited to discuss the program.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

As technology continues to advance, our schools are learning how to use AI technology as a tool safely. The District's technology committee is developing AI use guidelines and working to prepare our students and teachers for effective implementation. By incorporating AI into our educational systems, we equip our students with the critical skills necessary for long-term success.



2023 GIRLS SOCCER CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS



FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

28855 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
www.FSD79.org | (847) 566-0169

[Lincoln Early Learning Center](#) • [Fremont Elementary School](#)
[Fremont Intermediate School](#) • [Fremont Middle School](#)



F | **FREMONT**
SCHOOL DISTRICT 79
**LONG-RANGE
FACILITY PLAN**

TAKE OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY!

The feedback of our Fremont community is vital as the District embarks on a community-based long-range facility plan. As we plan for future growth and chart our future, **we want this plan to be inclusive of our community's short- and long-term interests.**



Please provide your input by taking the following survey, which will remain open through April 22.

TAKE THE SURVEY | <https://bit.ly/3vkrct0>

DID YOU KNOW? FSD79...

- Will complete bond repayment from the 2003 referendum in 2025, resulting in a reduction in debt payments by taxpayers.
- Has one of the lowest elementary school district tax rates in the region (see insert).
- Conducted a facility assessment in April 2023 and identified \$30.2 million (in 2023 fiscal dollars) in facility needs related to maintenance/repair, mechanicals, electrical systems, security, and site needs.
- Enrollment is expected to increase by 14% by 2033 and up to 50% by 2043 according to a recent demographic study.

PLANNING FOR ENROLLMENT GROWTH

With three neighborhood developments currently in the works and 3,700+ residential units expected from the proposed Ivanhoe Village development, **FSD79 is anticipating an enrollment growth of approximately 1,000 students over the next two decades, a 50% increase.** The influx of students would prompt facility expansion needs estimated at approximately \$107 million (in 2023 fiscal dollars).



The District is working with the Village of Mundelein and developers for fair financial agreements to compensate for facility needs and to ensure adequate operating revenue.

READ MORE | <https://bit.ly/FSD79ELFP>

FOLLOW FREMONT ONLINE



Fremont School District 79

