



Washington Newsletter April 5, 2024



Washington Elementary School

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Dear Washington Families,

One of the most important tasks we complete each year is to place students into classrooms for the next school year. Grade level teachers meet along with the support staff to create classrooms that are balanced for gender, behavioral and learning abilities. In addition, individual student and teacher characteristics are taken into consideration.

If you have thoughts you would like to share about the type of environment you feel would best suit your student, please feel free to email me at kanderson@emsd63.org or send a note. Specific requests for teachers cannot be honored. Please send your thoughts by May 10.

Information received after that date cannot be guaranteed to be considered by the placement team. If your family is moving out of the Washington attendance area, please contact the office at 847-965-4780 or email dwagner@emsd63.org as soon as possible.

Your partners in education,

Kate Anderson, Principal

Samantha Eiseman, Assistant Principal

Pi Night



Share Your Feedback: K12 Insight School Quality Survey Opens April 11

On **Thursday, April 11**, all D63 families will receive an email directly from our survey vendor, K12 Insight - asking for your help in completing our [2024 School Quality Survey](#).

On that day, look for an email **from K12 Insight** with this subject line:

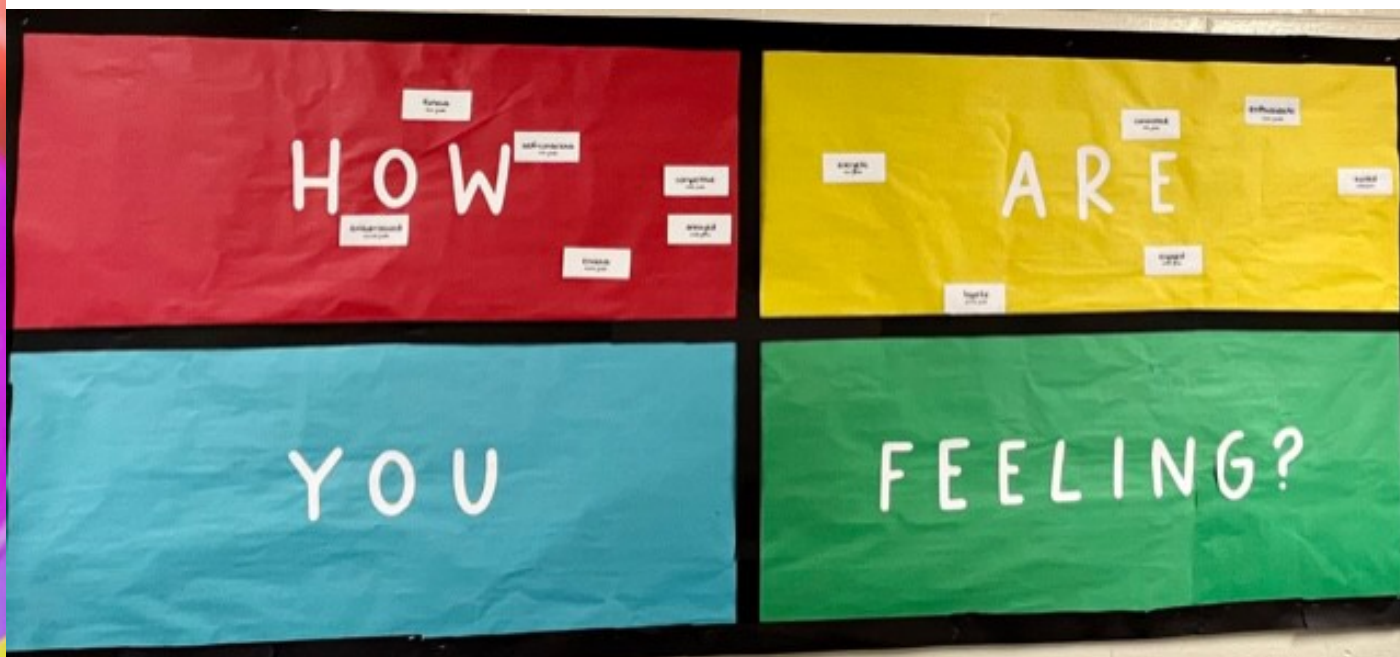
"Take the District 63 Family Survey Today!"

Offered in English, Spanish, Urdu, Arabian, Assyrian, and Gujarati, the survey will gather feedback on a wide range of school-related items. If you participated in our 2023 survey, you'll note that the questions are similar: this way, we'll be able compare results and track our progress.

Last year our survey garnered more than 395 responses (about 15 percent of our families) - and we'd love to increase that number! The survey will be open through April 25.



RULER



Each grade level focuses on a specific feeling word. During class meetings, students are encouraged to share how they are feeling using their new feeling words.

Here are the feelings words for each grade:

Kindergarten: Bored

First Grade: Distracted

Second Grade: Rejected

Third Grade: Empathetic

Fourth Grade: Envious

Fifth Grade: Offended

- ★ • LITERACY & STEAM ACTIVITIES
- STUDENT ART FAIR
- SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
- ★ • NILES/GLENVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY INFO
- ★ • REFRESHMENTS

read.. grow.. create



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT & ART FAIR
THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH
5:30-7:30 PM
WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

Important Dates to Remember

4/8 - Solar Eclipse - 2:05 PM
4/10 - EID - No School
4/11 - PTO Meeting - 6:30 PM
4/12 - Early Dismissal - 10:55 AM
4/18 - Book Fair/Literacy Night/Art Show - 5:30 - 7:30 PM



Charity Basketball Game



District Band Concert



Dress Rehearsal:

Monday, May 6th 3:30 - 5:30 Gemini (enter door #12)

District Band Concert:

Tuesday, May 7th 6:00PM Maine East Auditorium

Student drop off 5:15, details regarding where students will meet and store cases will be shared as that information is available, stay tuned.

What's Happening in Specials This Month



Art in March

Kindergarten - We are in the midst of our study of still-life and the art of Henry Hensche. We have made small sculptures out of blocks and then drawn them. We will then explore the concept of dark and light colors (shades and tints) as we color in our still-life. The background will use a resist (painting over oil pastel or crayon) to create an exciting completed composition.

1st Grade - We are fully in our study of Paul Cezanne and still life. We have explored the concept of overlapping and will be learning about the use of warm and cool colors as we create depth and contrast in our own still-life artwork.

2nd Grade - We have finished our initial artwork based on the work of Franz Marc (Broken Forms). We created an abstract design that showed evidence of color mixing to make the secondary colors (green, orange, and purple.) We will next move into our study of landscape as we explore the use of warm and cool colors and learn about Marc's use of animals in his landscapes.

3rd Grade - We have started our sunflower artwork based on the sunflower paintings of Vincent Van Gogh. We have explored the concepts of overlapping and color value (tints and shades) to show depth within our painting. Once the painting and drawing components of our artwork are finished, we will add a sculptural component to one sunflower through the process of paper quilling.

4th Grade - After completing our study of the Artist Andy Warhol and learning about the process of printmaking, we will move into the study of Edgar Degas and Yinka Shonibare. We will view and

draw human figures in movement (athletes and dancers) using an expressive drawing technique. We will eventually study one specific figure that we will turn into a sculpture using aluminum foil.

5th Grade - We are continuing our study of Georgia O'Keeffe and her use of contour line and color value within her paintings of flowers from the Southwest. We are almost finished with the first of two monochromatic artworks. We will then move on to the second larger artwork which will utilize a gridding process to enlarge the flower and then acrylic paint to complete.



Library in March

K-3 - We voted on the winner of the Monarch books and it was. . . Chez Bob by Bob Shea! This was a state favorite as well as a Washington favorite. Please ask your student about the book and what it's about. Just because we've chosen a winner, doesn't mean we'll stop reading the Monarch nominees. We'll continue reading making our way through the list while focusing on coding this month. Each lesson will introduce another piece of coding or build on what we did the week before.

K-1 classes will have a special visitor, Ms. Byerly from the Niles public library, come in and do a special read-aloud fairy tale activity with our classes. We're so grateful to have her!

Grades 4-5 have been focusing on Bluestem nominees and voted before Spring Break. The Bluestem winner was. . . Allergic by Megan Wagner Lloyd! We will continue to examine more Bluestems. Next on our list is Chunky by Yehudi Mercado, and we will be doing a STEM project

where students design a mascot on the computer, then bring it to life using makerspace materials in the library. They may even get to tell a story about their mascots!

Reminder - As always, please check shelves, cars, tables, under beds, etc for library books! If a student has four books checked out, they cannot check any additional books until some are returned.



Music in March

Kindergarten - Students will continue incorporating their musical understanding of steady beat, sound sources and tone color through different music activities.

1st Grade - Students have been exposed to the musical pitches of "So" and "Mi" and will begin notating these pitches on the music staff, as well as create compositions. They will also start to incorporate more rhythm and understand the difference between "beat" and "rhythm".

2nd Grade - Students have been exposed to the musical pitches of "So", "Mi", "La" and will learn new songs with these pitches. They will expand this knowledge and transfer it to different instruments like the xylophones and handbells.

3rd Grade & 4th Grade - Students will resume learning the basic foundations of the recorder and be able to play the notes "B" "A" "G" "F" and "E".

5th Grade - Students can write the pitches of “So” “Mi” and “La” on the musical pitch, and will be introduced to new pitches of “Do” and “Re”. If there is time, students will also relearn the basics of the ukulele!



PE in March

Kindergarten - 5th Grade - As we get ready for our Field Day at the end of May, we will focus on integrating essential sport skills such as locomotor skills, striking, and proficiency in all ball sports. But it's not just about individual skills, teamwork and sportsmanship are at the heart of our preparations. Alongside these skills, our students have also been engaging in cardio, strength, and flexibility exercises.

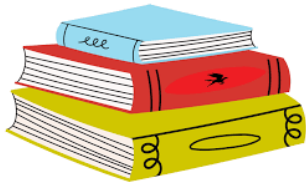
3rd - 5th Grade - Cardiovascular endurance, strength, and flexibility will also be assessed through the state's Fitness Gram Test. The test results of 5th graders are recorded and submitted to the State, where they are compared and used to determine the physical fitness levels of all 5th graders across Illinois. Due to Covid, such testing has not been conducted recently. The tests include sit-ups, push-ups, sit-and-reach, and the pacer test. While I will be administering tests for grades three through five, only the data from 5th graders will be submitted for analysis.

K - 5 Adapted - Students' cardiovascular endurance, strength, and flexibility will be evaluated through the state's Brockport/Fitness Gram Test.

5th Grade Health Curriculum

As part of our Health Curriculum, students in 5th grade at Washington will participate in a virtual class about puberty on Wednesday, May 1 at 9:00 AM through Candor Health Education. According to State law, no student is required to take or participate in these classes or courses. There is no penalty for refusing to take or participate in such a course or program. If you do not want your child to participate in these classes or courses, please contact the Washington School Office by April 19, 2024.

Summer Reading Book Selection



All current D63 students will once again receive their own collection of books to read - for free! Students may select books at school or at home from now until April 9 ([use these step-by-step instructions](#)).

Summer Learning Programs

Mark your calendar! Enrollment for D63's FREE Summer Learning Programs opens on Monday, March 11. Summer Quest afternoon enrichment classes - as well as our invitation-only morning programs (Ready, Set, Kindergarten; Multilingual Summer Scholars; and Extended School Year) - all run June 24 - July 18. [Click here to visit our website and learn more about each program.](#)



Summer Camp Academy - Expanded Learning

Click [here](#) for more information.

REGISTER
STARTING ON
DEC. 31!!

SUMMER CAMP ACADEMY
EXPANDED
LEARNING

ACADEMICS, WELLNESS, & ENRICHMENT AT THE FRC

**10 WEEKS+
FIELD TRIPS
HANDS-ON
LEARNING**

VISIT WWW.EMSD63.ORG TO LEARN MORE



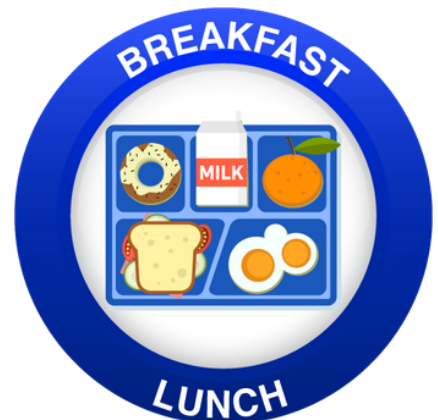
Childcare Programs in D63

Many students need childcare beyond the school day. Whether it is before school/after school, or on days when school is closed due to staff professional development, Expanded Learning offers options to meet the needs of our families. More information [here](#).



Family Resource Center (FRC)

D63's Family Resource Center offers a wide range of parent education opportunities as well as a central location for ELL testing. Click [here](#) for more information!



Breakfast and Lunch Information

Breakfast is served daily from 7:40 - 7:50 AM. Students will have lunch and recess from 11:05 AM - 12:05 PM. Click [here](#) for more information about the food service program in District 63.



Parking at Walgreens for Dismissal

If you are parking at Walgreens to pick up your child at dismissal, please park your car in a parking spot. Cars are lining up behind parked cars along the side of the building, making it impossible for Walgreen's customers to leave safely. Thank you for your help with this matter.



Samantha Eiseman

Samantha is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters