



Stevenson High School Board Bulletin

A monthly message from the Board of Education

MAY 2024

Welcome to our Stevenson High School Board Bulletin, a monthly message from our Board of Education that will include key updates that impact student life at Stevenson. We are very pleased to share several key takeaways from our most recent board meeting below. Thank you for your engagement on these very important issues! We look forward to staying in touch.

Sincerely,
Stevenson High School Board of Education

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Our board meeting agendas often include many items for discussion. While you will always be able to review the agenda, meeting minutes and video recordings of these meetings on [our Board webpage](#), this Board Bulletin provides key takeaways for our Stevenson community.

1

We were pleased to recognize this year's cohort of Stevenson faculty and staff who were named among ISBE's Those Who Excel. These individuals were selected and honored for their passion, skills and contributions as educators. For the 2023-24 school year, Those Who Excel at Stevenson include:

- Faculty and Teacher of the Year (Northern Region): Sam Figueroa from Multilingual Learning
- Educational Service Personnel: Deborah Marquardt from Human Resources
- Student Support Personne: Katie Bennett from Special Education
- Early Career Educator: Kristin Koe from Mathematics
- Team: The Little Patriots team including Eileen Schopen, Faina Kaminsky, Brenda Thomas-Hill, Hayley Larsen

We were also honored to meet and recognize this year's recipients of our annual Student Success Awards, given to those who overcame the odds to achieve their goals. This year, we celebrated Micah Anders, Akil Dougherty and Nancy Noah, each of whom shared unique and compelling stories about the challenges they faced and the steps they took to overcome them.

2

The Family & Consumer Science team shared an update on their social emotional learning initiatives which include creating learning environments that are supportive, culturally responsive, and focused on building relationships and community. Their new and unique cookbook project offered student's opportunities to improve their sense of belonging and

connection in their classrooms. The team focused on the food prep classes, which represents a diverse cross section of students from various grade levels and backgrounds. Whether it was a dish that represented their culture or was a family staple, students had the opportunity to explore their identity and share who they are with the rest of the class. The project included communication to the families which helps increase student success and engagement.

Students in food prep may also participate in co-curricular activities that allow further exploration and representation of their identities, including participating in FCCLA and Cultural Cuisine Club. The work has had a profound impact on students' sense of belonging, driving an increase of 11% from the spring of 2023 to fall of 2023.