

# PLANET ARGO

The Official Alumni Newsletter of Argo Community High School District 217



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NEWS & WORLD REPORT
BEST SCHOOL FIFTH
YEAR IN A ROW



# Dr. William C. Toulios Superintendent

I would like to thank all those who have had a part in making Argo Community High School what it is today. We ended the 2023-2024 school year on a high note due to your support and the

support of our students, faculty, and staff. The last school year brought us our fifth designation as a U.S. News & World Report Best High School. On May 21, 2024, our 100th class of Argonauts graduated and went off to make meaningful marks on the world. The Argo Higher Education Foundation recently raised funds through its annual golf outing to award scholarships to our students pursuing higher education. We will continue to focus on our district-level and building priorities: social emotional learning, enhancement of academic programming, post-high school planning, and community partnerships/sponsorships. We believe this will best prepare our students for life beyond graduation. It will also ensure an inclusive, equitable, and productive learning environment. We had a notable event take place recently - the ribbon cutting of our newest addition to Argo's footprint- the Pass Gate Annex. This secure, after-hours entrance for our students, parents, and community is the culmination of our Jason's Crew 5-year District School Improvement Plan which we will be completed this year. We now look forward to Alumni Night - Friday, January 31, 2025.

# Pass Gate Annex Construction and Ribbon Cutting

Argo Community High School District 217 hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly constructed Pass Gate Annex on Saturday, August 24, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Facing the school's athletic fields, the Pass Gate Annex will provide safe access to the school from the back parking area before and after school hours. The state-of-the-art facility will include spaces for large group learning and breakout sessions, worksurfaces for collaboration, and integrated technology for comprehensive learning opportunities. The Pass Gate Annex supports the District's goals in the further development of students' academic, social and emotional, and physical needs.

The Pass Gate Annex's board room was dedicated to former board member, Mr. William A. Parra, at the conclusion of the ribbon cutting ceremony. Mr. Parra served the school in that capacity for twenty-four years.

Board President Dan Kozal stated, "The Board of Education extends its sincerest appreciation to the Argo community for supporting the addition of the Pass Gate Annex." He added, "This facility will provide another safe place for student development now and into the future."









# Pass Gate Annex Ribbon Cutting



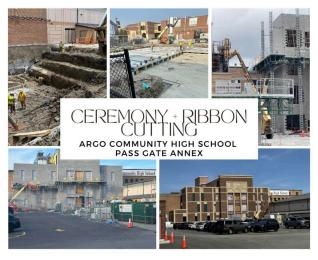








Save the date: saturday, august 24th - 11:00 am





# Argo Named U.S. News & World Report Best Schools 2024

Argo Community High School announced that the school was named a Best U.S. High School by U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools for 2024. Argo was also recognized in 2020 - 2023. This would make it the first time in school history that it has earned a place in the listing for five consecutive years. "It is a tremendous honor to receive this award for three consecutive years," stated Dr. William C. Toulios, Superintendent. "This distinction is a testament to the commitment of our students, teachers, parents, and entire community," he added.

The U.S. News Best High Schools rankings include data on nearly 24,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Nearly 18,000 schools were ranked on various factors based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.



#### **Graduation 2024**





We are immensely grateful for The Village of Bedford Park's support of our commencement ceremony held at the Wintrust Sports Complex. The generous contributions- both financial and with community resources- were very much appreciated by our graduates of the Class of 2024. Our families and community members enjoyed the pleasant surroundings of the Wintrust Sports Complex along with all its amenities.

## Homecoming 2024

















#### Jason's Crew

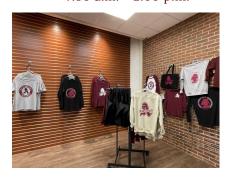
Jason's Crew, a committee made up of teachers, staff, students, parents, and community members, has been tasked with developing ways that Argo Community High School can enhance its branding without changing or replacing key components. Student advisory groups met to discuss various possible school slogans. Of the many ideas presented, "Sail Onto Victory" garnered the most votes.

Other ideas presented by Jason's Crew and the student groups include athletic theme nights, feeder school events, and a bigger Jason the Argonaut presence. This year's focus is on graduation requirements and community service.

### **Argo Spirit Store**

Please visit our Argo Spirit Store where you can purchase Argo merchandise for yourself and your family. The store is located near the main entrance on 74th Avenue and is open during school hours.

---7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.---





# ARGO HIGHER EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S 2024 GOLF OUTING

AHEF'S annual golf outing took place on June 24, 2024 at Silver Lakes Country Club. Over 200 guests enjoyed a day of golf, lunch, and sun. Thank you to all our guests and sponsors. Your support and generosity ensures money isn't an obstacle for students pursuing post-secondary learning opportunities.

**2024 SPONSORS** HAYES MECHANICAL LARRY BURDA **GILBANE TEAM REIL PANOSCAPE UNITED RADIO** SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AND PAULA PANFIL **SCHOLARSHIP** ACHS DISTRICT 217 BOARD OF EDUCATION HOMESMART CONNECT SPORTSFIELDS, INC. **GAMEONE AMERICAN OUTFITTERS** DOORS SYSTEMS SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT **BROWER BROTHERS** ACHS MATH DEPARTMENT **BETON CONSTRUCTION** ARBOR MANAGEMENT ARGO TEACHERS' UNION ACHS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENT SERVICES/ESS DEPARTMENT DLA ARCHITECTS, LTD.

PUMPKIN PROMOTIONS









#### In Memorium



DEAN I. FAULK - CLASS OF 1951

BOB ALLAN - CLASS OF 1952

ROBERT BOJANOWSKI - CLASS OF 1952

MARY NOVASAD - CLASS OF 1952

SAM ESPOSITO - CLASS OF 1953

DIANA FANDRY KELCHNER - CLASS OF 1961

MARY ANN SALECKI RAVIZZA - CLASS OF 1970

WILLIAM JAMES THERES - CLASS OF 1970

LEO J. GERGITS, JR. - CLASS OF 1979

TIMOTHY L. MUNDY - CLASS OF 1983

DANIEL DIAZ - CLASS OF 2011

We remember all those in the Argo community who have passed away.



#### Share Your News!

Notify us of any school or career accomplishments, alumni weddings, alumni babies, address updates, or death notices.

#### alumninews@argohs.net

We will do our best to include them in the next publication of Planet Argo.

#### Save the Dates:

Alumni Night Friday, January 31, 2025

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Dinner 5:00 pm - Boys Game 6:30 pm - Girls Game 8:00 pm - Afterhours @ Chester's

AHEF Golf Outing Wednesday, June 4, 2025 Silver Lakes Country Club

We inspire, educate, and empower students to envision and achieve a positive future for themselves and their

community. We thank you for your continued support of Argo Community High School District 217. Please visit our website at www.argohs.net for all updates.