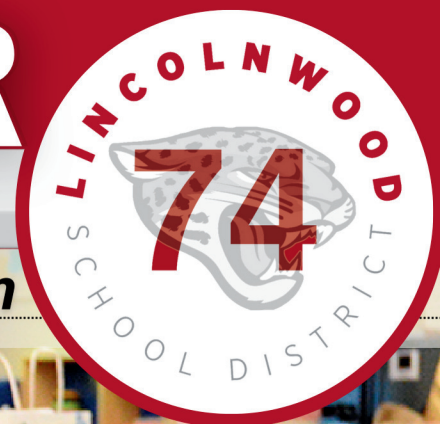


THE JAGUAR

Spring 2024 Edition



SD74 students celebrate Valentine's Day during our annual classroom parties.

IN THIS EDITION ...

From the Superintendent
and Assistant Superintendent

District Happenings

Registration reminders, Family Bingo Night recap, District hosts Spelling Bee Competition

Eye on Education

SD74 Summer Adventures, Rutledge Hall construction, Lincoln Hall presents *Frozen Jr.*

Community Connections

District drafts new Strategic Plan, PALS highlights and acknowledgements

From the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent



Dear Lincolnwood School District 74 Learning Community:

With the arrival of spring, we are into the home stretch of the school year, and what a productive year it has been! Students continue to grow academically; our Jaguar teams have been competitive in every season, winning several championships; and students' musical talents have blossomed during our concerts.

The calendar has also been filled with community events, ranging from the Ice Cream Social and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and Literacy Nights to the recently held Family Bingo evening. Every opportunity to bring District families onto campus provides a chance to highlight student accomplishments and build stronger connections between school and home.

We would also like to thank all those family members who volunteered to support classroom celebrations, Wellness Day sessions, and PALS (People Active with Lincolnwood Schools) activities. The vibrancy of these events is magnified with the participation of our volunteers!

As you will read in this edition of *The Jaguar*, the Board of Education is in the final stages of the process to approve a new Strategic Plan. The plan brings together data from those who completed the Strategic Planning survey in January, along with contributions from a Core Stakeholder Group composed of the Board, administration, staff, parents, community members, and students. The District will chart a course for the next five years based on revised Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Goal Area statements. The Administrative team is excited about the direction this process offers!

Additionally, summer will be extremely busy around campus as we undertake extensive remodeling of all the classroom spaces and bathrooms at Rutledge Hall, and transform the area just west of Lincoln Hall's main entrance into a plaza to serve as a gathering space for students. The District remains committed to improvements such as these to ensure our spaces provide students and teachers with modern learning environments that feature a high level of functionality.

Finally, we are excited to celebrate the Class of 2024 at our graduation ceremony in early June. We are extremely proud of this cohort and wish them well as they move on to the next level of their education. Enjoy the final weeks of the school year!

In Educational Partnership,

David L. Russo, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Dear Lincolnwood School District 74 Learning Community:

Spring is always an exciting time in a school district, as we begin to fully realize the growth students have experienced throughout the year! It is also when planning for the upcoming school year ramps up significantly.

In the curriculum department, our review cycle, which began last year with the middle school math program, continued successfully. Both the middle school science committee and the math committee for grades K-5 engaged in a thorough examination of widely used programs to choose the most up-to-date and innovative options for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond. Two programs -- Amplify Education and Carnegie Learning -- were presented to the Board of Education at the April regular meeting and both were approved for adoption.

Spring also leads us right into SD74 Summer Adventures! We are proud to offer 51 course options for our participants this year. As a reminder, registration closes on May 3, so be sure to sign up soon at sd74.revtrak.net/ if you will be joining us this summer.

Thank you,

Dominick Lupo, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

District Happenings

Register for the 2024-2025 school year

Registration time frame: **NOW - August 1**

Complete:



ONLINE
REGISTRATION



PROOF OF
RESIDENCY



FULL
PAYMENT



Visit www.sd74.org: Home > Family Resources > Registration to register and view school supply lists by grade.

AVOID LATE FEES

To avoid a \$25 late fee *per student*, please complete registration by August 1.

Get ready for

KINDERGARTEN

2024-2025



Learn more about required health forms and residency requirements on this [registration page](#) just for incoming Kindergarten families!

We can't wait to welcome you to Todd Hall!



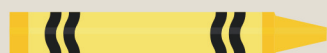
SAVE THE DATES



Now - August 1



May 23



June 5



August 21

Registration time frame*

*Complete registration during this time frame to avoid late fees.

Orientation

Screenings

Kindergarten Playdate

District Happenings

Cross-building collaborations strengthen

peer-to-peer connections



In February, 8th graders and their STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) teachers partnered with the Kindergarten team to host STEM stations for Kindergarten students!

topics the Kindergarteners had recently learned. They were: **Spring - Building LEGO Flowers**; **Summer - Cardstock Slide Creations**; and **Winter - Making a Marshmallow Snowflake**.

The brainchild of 8th grade STEM teacher Kenji Mori and Todd Hall STEM teacher Chris Edman, the collaborative experience grew from a desire to offer students across grade levels more opportunities for connections and relationship-building while keeping a focus on STEM at the forefront.

Both grade-level teams reported the overall feedback to be incredibly positive. To continue the momentum, a second collaboration is being planned before the end of the school year. Its focus will be on literacy, with 8th graders leading a "Readers' Theater," which will involve them reading books with their Kindergarten buddies and performing skits of their favorite scenes.

The stations were inspired by the seasons of the year to reinforce

"One of my favorite things to witness was seeing an 8th grader reframe the exit slip question: 'How would you rate today's experience, 1-5 stars?' He realized his little buddy wouldn't understand the star rating and switched his instruction to, 'Was today fun, really fun, or really, really fun?'"

-Travis DuPriest
8th grade teacher

"After talking with my buddy, it was clear that the Kindergarteners would love to hang out with us 8th graders again, and I would love to visit the Kindergarteners again, too."

-Eleanor F.
8th grade student



Calendar Reminders

APRIL

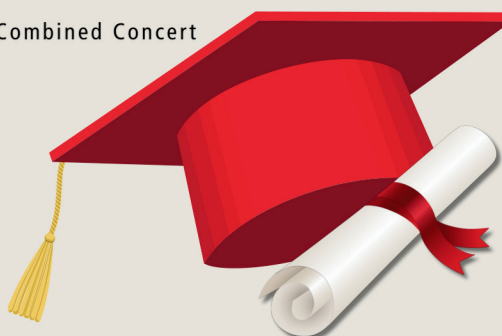
- 18th - Lincoln Hall Choir/Rutledge Hall Chorus Combined Concert
- 24th - Rutledge Hall 5th Grade Music/Art Show
- 26th - AM-Only Student Attendance
- 30th - Cahill Scholarship Reception
- 30th - Spring Orchestra Concert

MAY

- 1st - Spring Band Concert
- 1st-24th - Student Art Exhibit at Village Hall
- 15th - Rutledge Hall 3rd Grade Music Show
- 17th & 18th - Lincoln Hall presents *Frozen Jr.*
- 27th - Memorial Day - District Closed
- 31st - 8th Grade BBQ | Last Day of School for 8th Graders

JUNE

- 3rd - Lincoln Hall Class of 2024 Graduation Ceremony at Niles West H.S., 7 p.m.
- 5th - Last Day of School (*Board-approved update due to the Jan. 12 Snow Day*)
- 17th - SD74 Summer Adventures begins



Congrats, grads!

Let's stay connected!
Join the Alumni Directory!



View the full calendar at www.sd74.org: Home > District Calendar

District Happenings

A look back at **Family Bingo Night**



The District served up popcorn, pizza, and prizes to nearly 250 students and family members during Family Bingo Night in early March. With the building principals serving as bingo callers, plenty of laughs ensued while shouts of "Bingo!" echoed through the Lincoln Hall gym. The fun night ended with a raffle to win lunch with a principal.

Thank you to everyone who joined us!

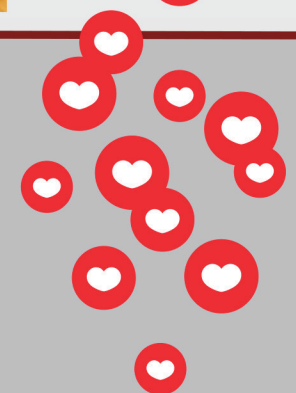


Follow SD74 on Instagram!

The District recently joined the social networking platform!

Follow us @lincolnwoodsd74

to see photos from events like Family Bingo Night and more!



District Happenings

SD74 hosts the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee

The Buzz

For the second consecutive year, the District hosted the North Cook ISC Scripps Spelling Bee Regional Qualifier Competition. Lincoln Hall 8th grader Tristen N. represented SD74 against 27 students in grades 2 through 8 from across the region.

After an exciting two-hour competition, a champion was named: Dev K., an 8th grader from Hoffman Estates!

Two finalists, Katie P. (7th grade, Park Ridge) and Paige T. (7th grade, Palatine), joined Dev and moved on to compete in the next round of the competition in hopes of advancing to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in late May.

Lincoln Hall's auditorium continues to be an ideal venue for events such as the Bee, as it features a large stage and stadium-style seating. The space was renovated in 2018 as a part of a complete overhaul of the middle school building. Improvements at that time also included a new main entrance, state-of-the-art STEM labs, a library, a gymnasium, a fitness room, and more.

The District looks forward to being considered to host the Bee in the future and joins Scripps in thanking the following individuals and sponsors:

Pronouncer

Dr. Robert Sloan, Professor and Department Head of Computer Science at UIC

Judges

Dr. Kevin Jauch, Regional Superintendent/Executive Director at North Cook ISC 2
Jenny Spence, Project Director at Pepper Construction
George Demarakis, Principal at ARCON

Sponsors

Pepper Construction, ARCON Associates, North Cook ISC 2 Regional Office of Education 5



SD74 8th grader Tristen N. during the competition.



Dev. K. (2nd from right), with his family and Spelling Bee Coordinator Dr. Jaime Herron



Paige T. during the competition.



Katie P. with Dr. Jaime Herron.



The winning word?
Mademoiselle

Eye on Education

Summer 2024

Rutledge Hall Construction Plans

Exciting improvements to the District's learning spaces continue this summer! As a part of the SD74 Master Facilities Plan, Rutledge Hall – which houses third through fifth grades – will undergo major interior renovations of all classrooms and bathrooms. This comprehensive project will see everything from the lighting and the HVAC systems to the windows and the flooring get upgraded.

This plan builds on the updates to Rutledge Hall's gym, Multi-Purpose Room (MPR), and library, which were completed during Summer 2023.

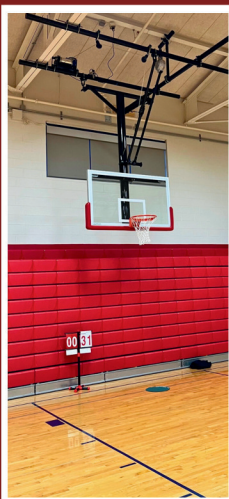
The original timeline had the construction taking place throughout two summers, to be completed before the 2025-2026 school year. However, Stuckey Construction Company – the winning bidder of the project – proposed the work be completed over one summer instead. At the recommendation of the Administration, the Board of Education approved an accelerated timeline during its regular meeting in March.

Rutledge Hall Principal Aliaa Ibrahim is "absolutely thrilled about the upcoming transformative renovation," and predicts the upgrades will have a positive impact on teaching and learning.

"This project will significantly enhance the learning environment for generations of students and teachers to thrive within," she said.

Construction is scheduled to begin on June 10 and the work is expected to wrap up significantly by early August. The District looks forward to revealing an improved Rutledge Hall in the fall!

Lincoln Hall Gym Basketball Hoops Get Upgraded



This winter, the basketball hoops in Lincoln Hall's west gym were modernized thanks to a donation from SD74 alum, Barry Berger.

In 2022, Mr. Berger (*Lincoln Hall Class of 1968*) and his wife Taffy pledged to donate a total of \$500,000 to the District over a duration of 10 years. SD74 continues to be appreciative of the Berger's generosity!

NTDSE recognizes SD74 staff

The Niles Township District for Special Education (NTDSE) honors exceptional members of its extended community through its recognition program, **Friends of NTDSE**. Multiple SD74 staff members were recognized at the March NTDSE Board meeting, and complimentary comments were shared about their work. They are:

Aliaa Ibrahim, Rutledge Hall principal - Regularly goes above and beyond to ensure NTDSE students are included, appreciated, and treated as full members of the Rutledge Hall community.

Hillary Schroer, Rutledge Hall music teacher - So warm, welcoming, and creative in ways to include NTDSE students, such as encouraging them to participate in the program **Jaguars United For Friends and Songs (JUFFS)**.

Zack Beyer, Todd Hall and Rutledge Hall P.E. teacher - Takes initiative to brainstorm ways to provide adapted activities and equipment for NTDSE students' individual needs.

Isabella Mullane, Todd Hall 2nd grade teacher - Always on top of disseminating materials and information so that NTDSE students can access everything with their same-age peers and succeed in her class.

Grace Han, Lincoln Hall food science teacher - Provides amazing cooking experiences with differentiated materials to foster independence in NTDSE students.

Elena Menicocci, Rutledge Hall Media Specialist - So helpful in accommodating NTDSE students in the library.

JUFFS
in action



Eye on Education



Extracurriculars *spotlight*

It has been a busy and exciting year for SD74 students, both during the school day and after.

The District supports the exploration of students' varied interests and currently offers 21 extracurricular clubs, nine team sports, and band/orchestra instruction at Rutledge Hall and Lincoln Hall.

Participation in extracurricular activities and team sports offers numerous benefits for students, including fostering teamwork and communication with peers; boosting academic performance by promoting time management and discipline; and building a sense of community and belonging.



Cooking club



Varsity girls basketball - Last home game



6th grade girls basketball - Little 9 champs!



JV boys soccer - Little 9 champs!



Orchestra - Multicultural concert



Choir - Jr. High Choir Day at Niles West



Cheerleading team - 2nd place Little 9 finishers!



STAR club - Packing lunches for the homeless



6th grade boys basketball - Little 9 champs!



STAR club - Planting mums on campus



Chorale - Veteran's Day assembly

Yearbook club members would love for you to order your 2023-2024 yearbook before its too late!

Visit www.treering.com/validate to order.

Todd Hall passcode: 1015677948684573

Rutledge Hall passcode: 1015681385313334

Lincoln Hall passcode: 1015675171354247

Eye on Education

132

Number of teachers on staff this school year

12

Number of staff members who are SD74 alums

80

Percent of SD74 teachers and administrators with a Master's degree or higher

4

Number of National Board Certified teachers

4

Number of languages represented by teachers with a Bilingual Education endorsement
Hindi, Russian, Ukrainian, and Urdu

40

Number of teachers endorsed in ESL (English as Second Language)

12

Number of teachers with a Gifted Education endorsement

20

Number of staff members who were recognized for 10, 20, 25, and 30 years of service this school year

SD74 staff by the *Numbers*

JOIN

US!



Marvin Garlich
Administration Building
6950 N. East Prairie Road

SD74 is a great place to work!

Keep an eye on the Employment page on the District website for opportunities to join our team!

www.sd74.org: Home > District 74 > Employment

Community Connections

SD74 drafts new Strategic Plan

WHY DO WE EXIST AS A SCHOOL DISTRICT?

WHAT DO WE VALUE?

WHERE ARE WE HEADED IN THE FUTURE?

These are some of the questions that a Core Stakeholder Group comprising SD74 Board members, administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, community members, representatives from community organizations, and students worked together to answer this winter. The goal? Use the answers to draft a new strategic plan that would guide the District's operations over the next five years, specifically across five primary areas of focus: Teaching and Learning; Communications and Community Relations; Facilities and Finances; Human Resources; and Technology.

The strategic planning process was highly collaborative; it began with a school and community perception survey distributed in January to SD74 families, employees, and community members. The Core Stakeholder Group then met for weekly sessions in February and March, during which facilitator Dr. Gary Zabilka, of Educational Leadership Solutions, led the group through outlining new mission and vision statements, determining the District's core values, and identifying new goals for the future.

With the District's current strategic plan expiring at the end of the school year, the new plan will be submitted to the Board of Education this summer for approval.

However, even with all its components defined, the plan itself is only the beginning. To ensure it comes to fruition at all levels of the District, the Administrative team will spend the summer preparing for its implementation by translating its objectives into actionable initiatives that can be executed day-to-day.



The Core Stakeholder Group during a session with Dr. Zabilka.

Mission + Vision + Core Values + Goals =

Strategic Plan

**SD74 values
relationships with
our community partners!**

Thank you for supporting our students!

*Lincolnwood Police Department at
Rutledge Hall Family Read Night.*



*Lincolnwood Library leading
sing-a-long story times at Todd Hall.*



*Lincolnwood Fire Department during
Todd Hall's Community Helpers unit.*



Check the Virtual Bulletin Board on the District website regularly for special events and announcements from community organizations.

www.sd74.org: Home > District 74
> Communications and
Community Relations > Virtual
Bulletin Board

Community Connections

PALS Highlights and Acknowledgments

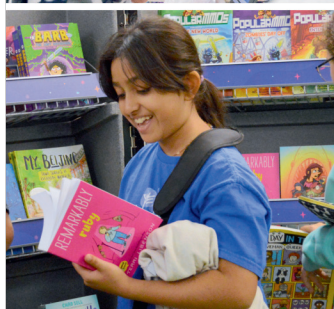
PEOPLE ACTIVE WITH LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOLS



Literati Book Fair

November

Total sales: \$13,000!



PALS would like to thank Lincolnwood families and community members for their generosity this school year! Whether you volunteered during an event, sent your students to school with money for the book fair, ordered dinner from a restaurant fundraiser partner, or bid on silent auction items at Parents Night Out, your support allows PALS to give back to SD74 students and teachers in meaningful ways.

PALS looks forward to continuing to grow in the future.

Want to get involved? Join today!
Membership is free!

Sign up here!



Parents Night Out

February



Raised \$8,000!

Thank you, Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation, for the simultaneous 'Kids Night In' event!

Connect with PALS on social media

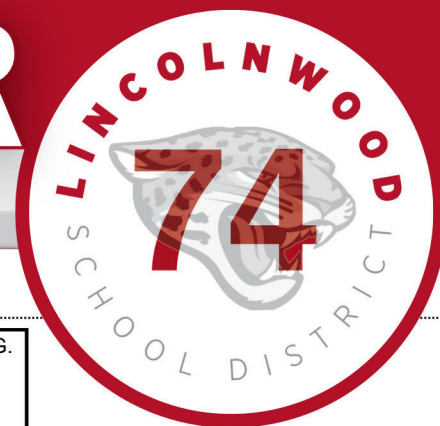


@sd74_pals



@SD74 PALS

THE JAGUAR



Lincolnwood School District 74

6950 N. East Prairie Rd.
Lincolnwood, IL 60712

Phone: 847-675-8234

Website: www.sd74.org

Instagram and X: @lincolnwoodsd74

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Jay Oleniczak

Peter D. Theodore

ECRWSS

Residential Postal Customer



SAVE THE DATES!

Lincoln Hall proudly presents

Disney FROZEN JR.

May 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

May 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

May 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Purchase tickets in the District Web Store:
sd74.revtrak.net/



The cast of Frozen Jr. with Ms. Reynolds (Director), Mrs. Sterba (Asst. Director), and Mrs. Florence-Stedum (Choreographer)