

Superintendent's Report

4/24/2025





Dear Hinsdale Central Students, Parents and Community:

It is with deep regret and sadness that I inform you that a current Hinsdale Central student passed away in the afternoon of April 8. On behalf of our entire community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family during this very difficult time.

We encourage you to talk with your child, our student, because learning of a death or experiencing the death of a peer or loved one impacts each student differently. Each student processes grief and responds differently – some respond immediately, while others may show signs of grief days, or weeks after the death occurred. Keep in mind that adolescents tend to act out feelings rather than verbalize or analyze what has happened. Look for changes in your student's behavior. Only you know your child best.

Students may exhibit the following signs:

- May become angry or aggressive
- May ask guestions surrounding death
- May be withdrawn or moody, sad or depressed
- May have difficulty sleeping
- May have a change in eating habits
- May be unable to focus or concentrate in school
- May appear to be lethargic

Please talk openly with your child should you observe any changes in their behavior.

Counseling services are available for students through the Student Service Department. You may contact the Student Service Office at 630.570.8252. Our Student Services department is here to help:

In-School Support:

- School Counselor
- School Social Worker
- School Psychologist

Outside Resources:

- 988 Call, text or chat 988 for free and confidential emotional support
- Referral GPS to find local mental health resources
- The Community House Counseling Center 630-323-7500 Ext. 239

This sorrowful tragedy reminds all of us how precious life is. We send our heartfelt condolences out to all those impacted. Please understand that, at this time, we are respecting the privacy of the family and are not able to share the name or details.

Thank you for supporting each other and holding the entire Red Devil family in your hearts and minds.

With a heavy heart William C. Walsh, Principal Hinsdale Central High School



Dear Hinsdale South Community:

It is with deep regret and sadness that I inform you that a current Hinsdale South student passed away yesterday morning. On behalf of our entire community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family during this very difficult time.

Please understand that, at this time, we are respecting the privacy of the family and are not able to share the name or details.

Students may experience a range of emotions in response to this loss. Our Student Services department is here to help:

In-School Support:

- School Counselor
- School Social Worker
- School Psychologist

Outside Resources:

- . 988 Call, text, or chat 988 for free and confidential emotional support
- Referral GPS to find local mental health resources
- The Community House Counseling Center 630-323-7500 Ext. 239

This sorrowful tragedy reminds all of us how precious life is. We send our heartfelt condolences out to all those impacted.

Thank you for supporting each other and holding the entire South family in your hearts and minds.

Sincerely.

Dr. Kari Peronto

Principal - Hinsdale South High School



ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS

BEST ENSEMBLE NOMINEES

THE PROM (SCHOOL EDITION)Adlai E. Stevenson High School

INTO THE WOODS

Bradley Bourbonnais Community High School

THE 25TH PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Champaign Central High School

THE MUSIC MAN

Crystal Lake Central High School

SIX: TEEN EDITION

Hinsdale South High School

HINSDALE CENTRAL DRAMA PRESENTS

DISNEY and CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film

Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

Julian Fellowes

New Songs and Additional Music and Lyrica by

George Stiles and Anthony Drewe

Thursday, April 24 - 6 p.m.

Friday, April 25 - 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 26 - 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 - 1 p.m. followed by **Jolly Holiday Party with Character Meet & Greet**



ticketpeak.co/hcdrama

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The Community Speaker Series

Serving These Schools

HTHS District 86

Hinsdale Central Hinsdale South

Butler District 53

Butler Junior High Brook Forest Elementary

Cass District 63

Cass Junior High Concord Elementary

CCSD 180

Burr Ridge Middle Anne M. Jeans Elementary

CCSD 181

Clarendon Hills Middle Hinsdale Middle Elm Elementary Madison Elementary Monroe Elementary Oak Elementary Prospect Elementary The Lane Elementary Walker Elementary

Darien District 61

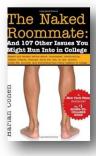
Eisenhower Junior High Lace Elementary Mark Delay Elementary

Gower District 62

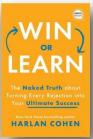
Gower Middle Gower West Elementary

Maercker District 60

Westview Hills Middle Holmes Primary Maercker Intermediate







Harlan Cohen

New York Times bestselling author and college success expert Harlan Cohen offers his advice for achieving success by getting comfortable with the uncomfortable. He equips parents and students with the knowledge and tools to support student success while maintaining a healthy parent-child relationship.

5 Simple Rules for Success in College A Live Event for Students and Parents

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 7:00pm - 8:30pm In Person at Hinsdale Central Auditorium

5 Simple Rules for Your Child's Success in College A Live Event for Parents

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 9:00am—10:30am In Person at The Community House







Tuesday April 29, 2025

7:00pm – 8:30pm In-Person at Hinsdale Central Auditorium

Wednesday April 30, 2025

9:00am – 10:30am In-Person at The Community House

This program is free and open to all.

Registration Required

Questions?

speakers@d181foundation.org

Presented By

District 181 District 86

Supported By

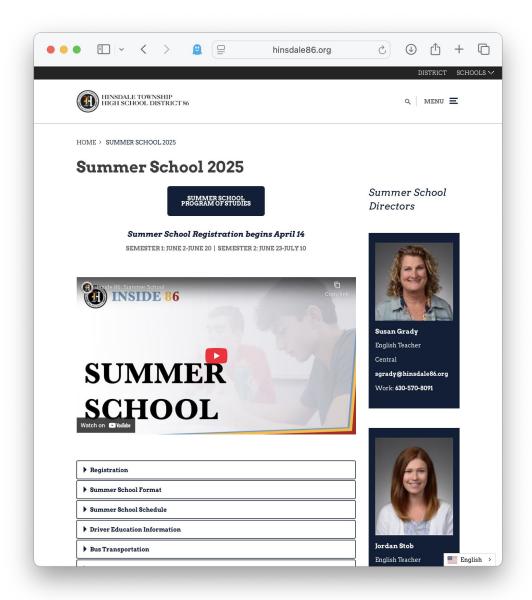
District 181 Foundation

Community Partners

Café La Fortuna The Community House Gone Grazy Hinsdale Public Library Kramer Foods







https://www.hinsdale86.org/summer-school Register via parent portal.



Habitat For Humanity STUFF THE STRUCK

Looking to free up space from spring cleaning?



WHERE? 55th Street Entrance HCHS

WHEN? SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

@ 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

This donation is for **furniture**, **home goods**, **and building materials** to furnish new homes built by H4H members!



Hosted by Evolve and Trailblazers

Get ready for AP exams and Finals with dedicated study time and support!

April 28th & 29th
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Hinsdale Central Library







Scan To Sign UP!





Questions?

Contact Ms. Thielmann, Ms. Bruckner, or Ms. McCloud

New ice bucket challenge is sweeping Hinsdale

Monday morning I watched Jenna Bush Hager pour ice water over the heads of Carson Daly and Savannah Guthrie on the Today Show.

That night, I found myself looking for a bucket and filling it with ice water so Ainsley and her friend Jonathan could do the challenge on our back deck. Ainsley let out a four-letter word. Her friend squealed like a little girl.

In between, I went to the Community Consolidated School District 181 meeting, where board member Sinead Duffy told me she had a great story idea. The topic? The ice bucket challenge!

Before I go too far, let me clarify that this is a different ice bucket challenge than the one many of us remember from 2014, which raised millions for ALS research.

This one was started by a group of college students at the University of South Carolina who want to raise mental health awareness and money to support programs for students in need. They hoped to raise \$500, according to one article I read, and had surpassed \$287,000 by Wednesday morning.

Participants post videos of themselves completing the challenge on social media with the hashtag #SpeakYourMind and tag #uscmind. Donations are being collected for Active Minds, an organization based in Washington, D.C., that works to help change how youth view and discuss mental health. Visit www.activeminds.org.

This story exploded since I first heard about it. Wednesday morning,

Hinsdale High School District 86 issued a press release saying Superintendent Mike Lach would be completing the challenge Friday afternoon. The release noted the loss of one student from each of the two schools, Hinsdale Central and Hinsdale South, in recent weeks.

Among the students at Central participating in the challenge to raise mental health awareness were freshmen Fiona Schimpf and her Central soccer teammates. She's Duffy's daughter, and she and her friends completed the challenge in Duffy's backyard.

"I think everybody is looking for levity and trying to find something to focus on," Duffy said.

"That's why the board and the



Pamela Lannom

adults really jumped on it," she added. "It's a simple way to get out the message. At this time, it's critical."

Newly elected D86 board member Bobby Fischer was roped in through the gathering in Duffy's backyard.

"It was important for all of us to recognize that mental health is something we should be

talking about, we should be funding and it shouldn't be something anyone is embarrassed to talk about," he said.

Too many school board members in Districts 181 and 86 to print all their names. Individuals outside the school districts have gotten involved as well.

Greg Hart, Hinsdale's incoming village president, was nominated by newly elected D86 board member Baron Leacock. Hart challenged state Reps. Marti Deuter and Nicole La Ha before his kids — who seemed all too willing to participate — helped him complete the challenge.

"Mental health is a vital aspect of our well-being and it's time we break the stigma surrounding it," he said in his video. "By participating in this challenge, we're encouraging open conversations and supporting those who may be struggling."

D86 Board President Cat Greenspon challenged Illinois House Speaker Chris Welch along with other local leaders after completing the challenge Tuesday morning.

"Our community has suffered unspeakable loss recently," she wrote to me in an email. "I am so proud of our Hinsdale Central students for bringing this ice bucket challenge to the D86 community in support of mental health awareness."

Mental health issues can be very serious, as we all know. And yet I was so encouraged to see people joyfully talking about ending the stigma and supporting good causes.

"No kid need battle mental health challenges alone," Leacock wrote in his post.

Let's keep spreading the message. There is help. There is hope. — Pamela Lannom is editor of The Hinsdalean. Readers can email her at plannom@thehinsdalean.com.





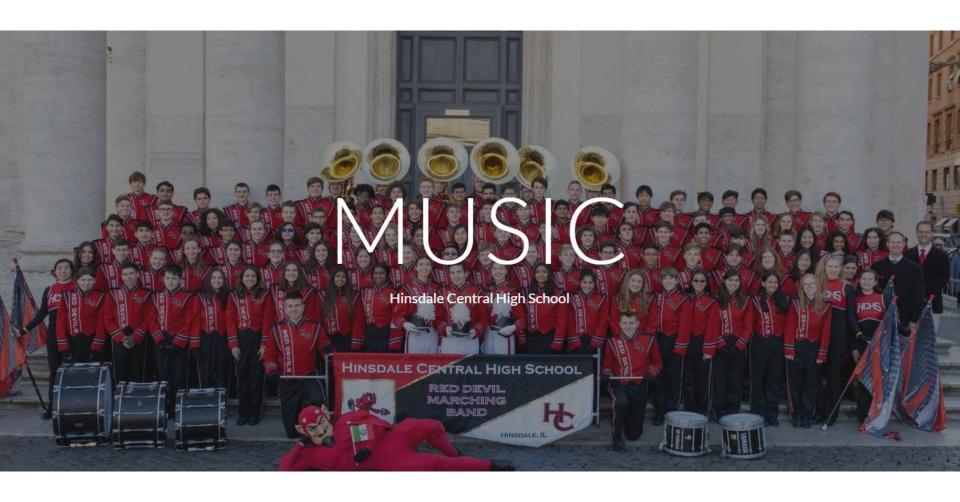
Helping kids
GROW &
THRIVE
at school is a para's

SUPER POWER









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Over the past seven years we see a 166% increase in the proportion of students who are English Learners.

		District						
			2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	
mographic	2024	2023	2022			1.6	1.7	
English	5.1	3.3	2.7	2.3	2.1	1.0		
Learners				17.0	17.9 13.3	13	12.6	
w/ IEPs	13.8	14.9	14.4	13.8			14	
W/ IEFS		7	10.4	12.4	12	13.3	1	
Low Income	15.5	14.7						



MULTILINGUAL PROGRAM









Step Up To













Step Up To

I'm fine.

Thank you.



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