

COUNSELING *Corner*

ARGO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL | FEBRUARY 2026

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Time to Get ILL – Argo’s Class of 2026 Illinois State Scholars

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) annually recognizes the top ten percent of our state’s approximately 140,000 graduating seniors for this prestigious honor based on standardized test scores and/or class rank at the end of a student’s junior year. Long-time Argo scenesters are aware that this graduating class, with forty-six students making the cut, is representing our school extremely well in the Land of Lincoln, so we would like to shout them out and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Drum roll please as we recognize this group:

Mohammad Ahmad	Marcin Landowski
Jacob Bobak	Elijah López
Lucas Bobak	Peyton Lupo
Gabriela Bonar	Jay Medina
Andrzej Bryja	Nadia Mirecki
Cody Cassidy	Emily Mniszak
Karolina Choragwicki	Karla Padilla
Damian Cruz	Grishma Patel
Evan Doyle	Alondra Pérez
Susann Dunlap	Alexander Piruta
Imane Ezzhory	Erika Reynoso
Gabriel Flores	Francisco Romero
Victoria Flynn	Art Romo
Shifa Ghazawi	Natalia Sitko
Julia Gibala	Patrycja Sojka
Angelina Gibson	Patrick Stafiera
Natalie Granda	Natalia Stanibula
Mia Gutierrez	Ava Torres
Leen Hasan	Leonardo Torres
Gabriela Huzior	Hubert Zajac
Gabriela Kalafut	Angelica Zeglin
Sebastian Krzanowski	Natalia Zeitz
Zander Lacny	Nicolette Zeitz

In the Corner

This month we have Ms. Kirchens cornered and she obliged us to let us know what makes her tick. She handles students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and 504 Plans whose last names fall in the range of M – Z. While she is seated across the hall with the Educational Support Services staff in Rm. 147, she positively represents the Counseling Department in all that she does. Let's pull back the curtain on this alumna (Argo Class of 2002):

CC: What made you want to go into the field of school counseling:

JK: Since the end of high school, I wanted to be a counselor, it just took time to figure out which type. I started out in college as a biology major intending to become a genetic counselor. But I worked as a high school dance coach for a couple of years and loved working with this age group. My two interests merged and voila!

CC: What are your goals for the 2025/26 school year?

JK: My goal is to make my students feel supported. I am here to help parents, teachers, and students have a successful year. I especially want to welcome my freshmen and assist my seniors in getting through this year and transition to their postsecondary pathways.

CC: What do you like to do in your free time outside of work?

JK: I love reading, traveling, walking my new puppy, and attempting to run.

CC: What are some of your favorite movies and TV shows?

JK: Since I first read Harry Potter, back when I borrowed it from the Argo library as a freshman, I have been a big fan of the books and movies. In the past, some favorite shows are the *Great British Baking Show*, *Ted Lasso*,



The kindhearted Mrs. Kirchens.

Stranger Things, and Mindhunter.

CC: What type of music do you listen to driving to and from work:

JK: I listen to everything from country, alternative, rock, and pop music. **C**