

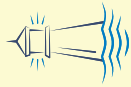


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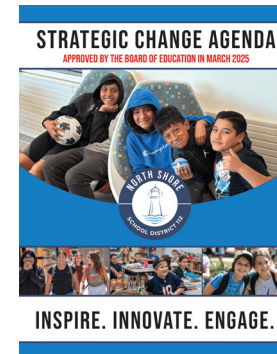
MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Learn how District 112 is elevating literacy and unifying the K-5 dual language program in the year ahead.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The 2025-2026 school year is off to an exciting start in North Shore School District 112. From the very first day, there has been an energy in our classrooms, hallways, and communities that reflects the dedication of our staff and the enthusiasm of our students.

At the heart of that momentum is the opportunity to bring our new Strategic Change Agenda, which was approved by the Board of Education in March, off the page and into action.

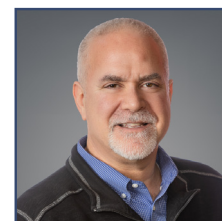


This plan charts a bold course for our district, outlining the areas where we want to make the greatest impact for students and families. The work ahead is focused and intentional, built on the belief that when we set clear priorities and rally together, we can achieve extraordinary results.

One way we are putting the plan into practice is through our Wildly Important Goals, or WIGs. These goals will help us zero in on the initiatives that matter most right now: improving literacy across the district and developing a strong, sustainable future for our K-5 dual language program. While we will never lose sight of the many important efforts happening every day in our schools, the WIGs give us a shared focus that unites our community around student success.

As I begin my final year as superintendent before retiring at the end of June, I am especially grateful for the chance to help lay the groundwork for the future of our schools and students.

I know the district will be in strong hands with Dr. Monica Schroeder, who will become superintendent on July 1, 2026. With her leadership, and with the continued dedication of our teachers and staff, the support of our families, the engagement of our community, and the limitless potential of our students, I am confident that this will be a year of growth, achievement, and meaningful change for North Shore School District 112.



Michael Lubelfeld, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

WHAT ARE WIGS?

A Wildly Important Goal, or WIG, is part of the “4 Disciplines of Execution” framework. WIGs help us focus on the priorities with the greatest impact, track progress clearly, and work together toward shared success. This does not mean other work is ignored. It means we give special attention to what matters most for our students. In the 2025-2026 school year, we’ll be focusing on two key areas.

LITERACY PROFICIENCY GOAL

Increase the percentage of students meeting and exceeding grade-level proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA), as measured by the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), by 6% by the end of 2026-2027.

NOW 73%

GOAL 79%

WHY THIS GOAL?

A 6% increase is ambitious and significant. Literacy includes reading, writing, listening and comprehension. By setting a goal that pushes us to grow, we are committing to the skills that open doors for all learners. Achieving it will take everyone working together to support every student’s growth.

K-5 DUAL LANGUAGE GOAL

A Superintendent’s Task Force will help create a thorough plan for consolidation of the K-5 dual language program, with subcommittees focused on student success, family engagement, and facilities/operations.



August 2025
Launch
Task Force



October 2025 - April 2026
Task Force and
Subcommittees Meet



May 2026
Board Report and
Implementation

WHY THIS GOAL?

In 2027, the K-5 dual language program will consolidate at Oak Terrace and Red Oak will close. Recognizing the significance of this change, we are committed to ensuring it is carried out thoughtfully and effectively.

Learn more and track our progress at
www.nssd112.org/OurWIGs

Phase 2: Ravinia Opens, Braeside Renovates, Wayne Thomas Designs

Construction across District 112 is moving full speed ahead as Phase 2 of the Long-Range Facilities Plan takes shape. Over the past three months, we've seen major progress.

RAVINIA SCHOOL



August marked the ribbon cutting for a fully modernized Ravinia. The milestone was meaningful, but the true impact has come from staff and students filling the new spaces with energy and purpose.

BRAESIDE SCHOOL



Ground has been broken at Braeside, where a full renovation is underway. The project will give the historic building a modern look and create lasting benefits for students.

WAYNE THOMAS SCHOOL

Wayne Thomas is now in the design phase, making it the final school to be renovated in Phase 2. Construction is scheduled to begin in summer 2026, with more details to be shared as designs are finalized and preparations move forward.



Ravinia Welcomes the Community



On September 27, neighbors and friends gathered at the newly renovated Ravinia School for a community open house. Guests toured classrooms, updated learning spaces, and community areas while reconnecting with one another. The event highlighted both the improvements to the building and the strong sense of community that surrounds Ravinia.

Congressman Schneider Hosts Educator Roundtable at Ravinia

On August 27, U.S. Rep. Brad Schneider (IL-10) convened a roundtable at Ravinia Elementary School, bringing together prominent voices from the American Association of School Personnel Administrators, the Council of Administrators of Special Education, and local education leaders, including Dr. Monica Schroeder in her role as AASPA president.

The discussion focused on teacher recruitment and retention, highlighting the Teachers are Leaders Act, a bipartisan bill that invests in the professional growth of educators by creating leadership opportunities that allow them to mentor peers while continuing to teach. Participants praised the bill's emphasis on valuing teachers as leaders. Schneider encouraged attendees to contact their representatives, calling it "not about red versus blue, but about ensuring every child has the opportunity to learn from experienced, supported educators."



U.S. Rep. Brad Schneider speaks with Lake County educators and administrators during a roundtable on teacher recruitment and retention at Ravinia Elementary School. The event was organized by the American Association of School Personnel Administrators (AASPA).

D112 Early Childhood Program Earns Illinois' Highest Honor



North Shore School District 112's Early Childhood Program, located at Oak Terrace Elementary School, received the Gold Circle of Quality from ExceleRate Illinois, the state's highest recognition for early childhood programs.

This honor reflects the program's success in creating a warm, supportive environment where children can build important early skills. Reviewers visited classrooms, observed daily activities, and looked at how teachers support both learning and family connections. Their findings showed that the district's preschool program is giving young children a strong foundation for the years ahead.



Dr. Lubelfeld thanks the Early Childhood staff at Oak Terrace for their dedication and congratulates them on earning the Gold Circle of Quality.

2026 Golden Apple Award: Nominate a Teacher Today!

The Highland Park Community Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Golden Apple Award. This year's award will honor an outstanding teacher in grades pre-K through fifth who demonstrates excellence in teaching, a lasting impact on students, and meaningful contributions to school and community.



Parents, students, colleagues, administrators and community members are invited to submit nominations by scanning the QR code. The deadline is November 3, 2025, at 5 p.m. The winner will be announced in 2026.



To begin the year, we asked families to share what's filling their homes with joy and bringing smiles to their faces.



"My child is truly inspired by her teachers and looks forward to every new school day."

"Our 8th grader came home from the first day of school with a huge smile."

"Our principal and assistant principal greeting my children by name on the first day at our new school!"

"The first day of school was great and joyful. A new school with new opportunities for everyone."



"My son feels happy at his school with his teachers because they make him feel at home."

"My child's teacher sent him a postcard before school started welcoming him to class."

"Watching students meet new friends, staff welcoming them with open arms and knowing that amazing opportunities await."



"The smile and 'good morning' from the bus driver!"

"My son's transition to 6th grade has been as smooth as possible."

"Students, parents, teachers and admin have been so welcoming to our family after moving to HP from out of state."