For more information about North Shore School District 112, visit www.nssd112.org.

North Shore School District 112
445 Sheridan Road
Highwood, Illinois 60040

Our food service provider, Quest, is **hiring part-time food service workers** in D112 schools for shifts from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Scan the QR code to apply.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

In my first year as superintendent, a top priority is making sure our district stays focused on the work that can have the greatest impact on students. One way we do that is through our Wildly Important Goals, or WIGs.

WIGs help us identify a small number of priorities that deserve focused attention, clear measures of progress and sustained effort across the district. This year, we are continuing important work in literacy and Dual Language while introducing a new WIG centered on Student Agency.

Student Agency is about students' role in their own learning. We want students to feel engaged, connected and confident that their voice matters in school. Our new goal is to increase the percentage of students reporting high levels of engagement and satisfaction from 42% to 62% by November 2028.

"We want students to feel engaged, connected and confident that their voice matters."

You can already see that focus taking shape in different ways across the district. This fall, we welcomed new student representatives to the Board of Education, giving students a direct opportunity to share their perspectives and help inform conversations about our schools. That same idea of listening to students and creating meaningful opportunities for voice and ownership is at the heart of our Student Agency WIG.

Our literacy WIG is entering its second year, with the goal of increasing English language arts proficiency by 6% by the end of the 2026-2027 school year. We are also moving the work of our K-5 Dual Language WIG into implementation as we prepare for the program to come together at Oak Terrace.

These goals do not represent everything happening in District 112, but they help us stay aligned around several priorities that can make a meaningful difference for students.

I look forward to sharing our progress with you throughout the year.



Monica Schroeder, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Three WIGs
Guiding Our Work

Our Wildly Important Goals help District 112 focus on a small number of priorities where concentrated effort can make the greatest difference for students.

NEW FOR 2026-2027



Student Agency

Increase student engagement and satisfaction from 42% to 62% by November 2028.

A districtwide focus on helping students feel more engaged, connected and empowered in their learning.

YEAR 2 OF 2



Literacy

Increase English language arts proficiency by 6% by the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

Building on last year's work to strengthen reading, writing, listening and comprehension across the district.

COMPLETE



K-5 Dual Language

Plan for K-5 Dual Language to come together at Oak Terrace in 2027-2028.

With the planning complete, the district is putting the recommendations into action as we prepare for the transition.

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

Modernizing Our Schools





Photos by Susan Ryan Kalina Photography

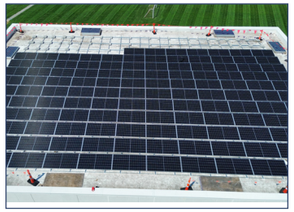
Principal Kevin Saunders and Associate Principal Patience Bertana cut the ribbon in August to celebrate the completion of **Sherwood**'s Phase 2 modernization, joined by staff, families and community members. Students returned a few days later to a fully modernized school that includes a new gym, library and kitchen, updated learning spaces and a redesigned entrance. The building is now fully accessible and includes a new universally designed playground.




Construction continues at **Braeside**, where the full renovation is expected to be substantially complete in March.



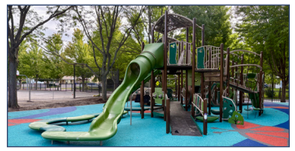
Wayne Thomas broke ground in July. The school is the final Phase 2 project, with completion expected in late 2027.

Solar panels are being installed at **Indian Trail**, **Edgewood** and **Oak Terrace** to support the district's sustainability efforts and reduce reliance on traditional energy sources.

Dual Language Transition Update

In 2027-2028, D112 will bring the K-5 Dual Language community together at **Oak Terrace**. Last year, a task force of families, staff, administrators and Board members helped plan for the transition, with subcommittees focused on student success, family engagement, and facilities and operations. This year, that planning is moving into action.



Over the summer, a new playground was installed at Oak Terrace. Designed with student input, the ADA-accessible playground will support the future K-5 Dual Language community while also providing an inclusive play space for the broader Highwood community.



Students from Red Oak and Oak Terrace are working with artist Jason Watts on a mural project that will help bring the two school communities together. Student artwork and ideas will help shape several murals to be installed at Oak Terrace after the renovation is completed in fall 2027.

Looking Ahead...



- As **Red Oak** moves through its final year, we will look to recognize its history, students, staff and traditions.
- Paridad Consulting's evaluation of the program provides recommendations to help guide the next phase.
- Renovations planned for summer 2027 will prepare Oak Terrace to welcome the full K-5 Dual Language community.

Ravinia Earns Two Honors

Ravinia School's recent modernization is earning recognition beyond D112. The project received an **Award of Merit for Sustainability** in ENR Midwest's 2026 Regional Best Projects program and was also recognized through the 2026 **Excellence in Masonry Awards** for its design and craftsmanship.

Completed in 2025, the project modernized the historic school while preserving its character and adding updated learning spaces, improved accessibility and a geothermal heating and cooling system. The honors reflect the work of the district and its project partners, including architect **Wight & Company** and project manager **Gilbane Building Company**, in creating a modern, sustainable school for students and the community.



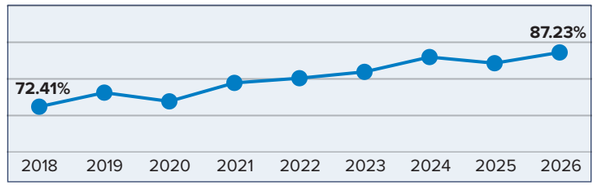
Photo by Connor Steinkamp Photography

Staff Engagement Reaches All-Time High



Photo by Susan Ryan Kalina Photography

Results from District 112's annual staff engagement survey show the district has reached its highest level of staff engagement since the survey began in 2018. This year, **87.23% of participating staff reported being highly satisfied and highly engaged**, continuing an overall upward trend over the past eight years. In addition, **98.75% reported moderate-to-high levels of both satisfaction and engagement**, reflecting a strong and positive staff culture across the district.



Student Voices at the Board Table



Four eighth-grade students are serving as student representatives to the Board of Education this year: **Nolan Woods and Katie Cassidy from Edgewood**, and **Ida Martinez and Julia Faust from Northwood**. They attend regular Board meetings, share school updates and bring student perspectives into Board discussions. Their role puts the district's Student Agency WIG into action by creating opportunities for students to have a voice and contribute to decisions that affect their school experience.

FUNd Run Brings Community Together



Nearly 1,200 participants took part in the 24th annual FUNd Run, hosted by the 112 Education Foundation. The event raised more than $55,000 for need-based scholarships benefiting students across all D112 schools.

Dr. Schroeder's First 100 Days: Connecting Across D112

In her first 100 days as superintendent, Dr. Schroeder has focused on listening, learning and building connections across District 112. She has spent time in every school, met with students, staff and families, and connected with community partners throughout Highland Park and Highwood. At the same time, she has helped advance key district priorities, including the Student Agency WIG, Phase 2 construction and the K-5 Dual Language transition.



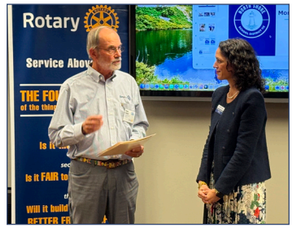
Reading to every kindergarten class in the district has given Dr. Schroeder a chance to connect with some of D112's youngest learners. The visits also provide a firsthand look at classrooms across the district.



Community and staff connections have grown through Coffee with the Superintendent events, including July gatherings with residents and school-based chats with staff.



Attending open houses gave Dr. Schroeder an opportunity to connect with families across the district, hear their perspectives and spend time in each school community.



Connecting with the broader community has also been a focus. Dr. Schroeder walked in the July 4 parade, was inducted into the Rotary Club and has met with local government leaders.