

DEAR DISTRICT 39 COMMUNITY,

School is off to a fantastic start in D39. Our six buildings are buzzing with more than 3600 students and 500 staff members.

We welcomed staff back with an excellent keynote address on diversity and inclusion from Pat Savage-Williams. Pat is currently on staff at New Trier facilitating discussions and interactions on identity, race, gender, class, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.

This summer Harper and Wilmette Junior High had construction to update their out-of-date libraries. These Learning Commons provide engaging spaces which combine library, media, and technology into a single space for students. Romona and McKenzie are slated for this update next summer.

This year we also expanded the 1:1 Learning Program to include 5th graders, so now all Highcrest and Wilmette Junior High students use iPads as part of their personal learning experience.

Our new efforts with Learning Commons and 1:1 technology support our ongoing commitment to meet the needs of all students. A Learning Commons is a place for students to explore, create, collaborate, and innovate. As they discover and tinker, there is the opportunity to work as a team, personalize their learning experience, and move toward academic independence.

The iPads infuse another tool, supporting this same aim. This technology provides students a chance to readily access a broad range of information, and easily communicate with teachers and other students as they complete work or produce a project. In these ways, we continue to personalize learning for students.

We have an important responsibility in this community, and we are proud of the education we provide for children. You can learn more about D39 on our new website at www.wilmette39.org. Or find us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

Your partner in education,



Raymond E. Lechner, Ph.D.

Superintendent

Wilmette Public Schools District 39



Superintendent Ray Lechner greets first graders on their first day back.



These two get the best seats in the house at the new Harper School Learning Commons

WELCOME NEW ADMINISTRATORS

MEET D39'S THREE NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



Left to right: Doug Wernet, Meghann Young, and Jon Valentino

DOUGLAS WERNET

Doug is the new seventh grade Assistant Principal at WJHS. Doug has a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications from the University of Iowa and a master's in educational leadership from Concordia University. Before coming to D39, Doug was with Tinley Park Community Consolidated School District 146, first as a middle school reading/language arts teacher and then as Interim Assistant Principal. Preceding his educational career Doug was a television news reporter in El Paso, Texas.

MEGHANN YOUNG

Meghann is the new Assistant Principal for Central and McKenzie schools. Meghann has a bachelor's in education from Smith College and a master's in leadership studies from the University of San Diego. Previously, Meghann was at King Chavez Academy of Excellence in San Diego as Vice Principal. Prior to that she was a founding faculty member for High Tech High in California designing and facilitating project-based learning opportunities for fourth and fifth graders. Meghann mentored new faculty and led workshops for visiting educators. She also taught STEM-based curriculum to kindergarten, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders at a Title 1 school.

JONATHAN VALENTINO

Jon is the new Assistant Principal for Harper and Romona schools. He has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Northern Illinois University and a master's from National-Louis University in educational leadership. Previously, Jon was with Aptakisic-Tripp School District 102 where he served as District Coordinator supporting administration with curriculum and instruction for K-8 and program implementation for English language learners and special education departments. Before that Jon taught English language arts (ELA) and history to eighth graders in Glencoe District 35 and Indian Prairie District 204. He also taught ELA for one year to sixth graders in St. Thomas, VI.

CARPOOL KARAOKE WITH THE NEW APs

What an intro to D39 for these three! They get picked up by the Superintendent and featured in a video shared with the whole staff. You can find it on the D39 Facebook page.



SUMMER FUN!

The D39 Summer Enrichment Program completed another successful year.

More than 551 students participated this year and there were lots of opportunities for fun and learning. Classes for K-3 were at Romona School while grades 4-7 went to Wilmette Junior High.

There were 133 classes in all. Several new options were introduced this year including *Social Thinking*, *Coding Camp*, *Pinterest Crafts*, and *Public Speaking with TED Talks*. And, many kid favorites returned like *Rocketry*, *iMovie*, and *Rope Climbing*, to name a few.



Teacher Jill Gontovnick shares stories and ideas with students in Lively Letters.

D39 FINANCIALS: 2016–2017 BUDGET

The 2016-17 Budget was adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, August 29, 2016 at 7 P.M. at the Mikaelian Education Center. A recap is below and the complete budget is posted on the District website.

OPERATING FUNDS

EDUCATION, OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE, TRANSPORTATION, ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND/SOCIAL SECURITY, AND WORKING CASH FUNDS

Revenue

Local	\$53,325,181
State	3,387,724
State Teacher Pension Flow-through	11,796,375
Federal	1,150,631
Other	0

Total Operating Funds \$69,659,911

Expenditures

Salary, Wages & Benefits	\$44,666,552
State Teacher Pension Flow-through	11,796,375
Purchased Services	4,835,450
Supplies & Materials	3,424,991
Capital Outlay	1,438,309
Tuition & Other	3,499,221

Total Operating Funds \$69,660,898

- Teacher Pension Flow-through is the payment the State makes toward D39's pension obligation and is a budget neutral item. The District must record the pension obligation, even though the District does not make these payments.
- The deficit in the Operating Funds occurs because of one time planned construction projects: a new library media technology center and large space air conditioning at Wilmette Junior High and a new library media technology center and partial roof replacement at Harper.
- Projected Fiscal Year-End Operating Funds Reserve is \$35,598,374. The ratio of reserves to expenditures is 51.1%. By way of comparison, as of 6/30/15, the Fiscal Year-End Operating Funds Reserve was \$35,680,911. The ratio of reserves to expenditures was 55.0%

NON-OPERATING FUNDS

CAPITAL PROJECTS, BOND & INTEREST, AND LIFE SAFETY FUNDS

Revenue

Local	\$1,203,537
State	0
Federal	0

Total Non-Operating Funds \$1,203,537

Other Sources – Transfers \$2,494,750

Expenditures

Purchased Services	\$0
Capital Outlay	0
Other Services	1,376,750

Total Non-Operating Funds \$1,376,750

Other Uses – Transfers \$2,494,750

TRANSFERS INCLUDE:

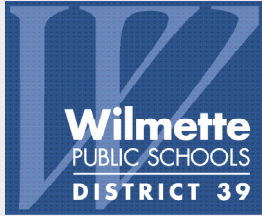
- \$1.5 million of construction costs moves out of O&M to the Capital Projects Fund.
- \$1 million of debt service payments moves out of the Education and O&M Funds to the Bond & Interest Fund.

ALL FUNDS

Total All Expenditures: \$71,037,648
transfers not included

Total All Revenues: \$70,863,448
transfers not included

For more financial data, including historical comparisons, we encourage you to visit the District 39 Dashboard on our web site at wilmette39.org.



MIKAELIAN EDUCATION CENTER
615 LOCUST ROAD
WILMETTE, IL 60091
(847) 256-2450
WWW.WILMETTE39.ORG

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 ECRWSS
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 WILMETTE, IL 60091
 PERMIT NO. 93

39 exPRESS is published by the District 39 Board of Education to provide information to local citizens about educational programs and activities. 39 exPRESS is printed on recycled paper.

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

DISTRICT 39 EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

The start of school is a busy time for the D39 Educational Foundation. We have so many events, programs and activities over the next few months to share with you.

A fun way to kick off the fall season is the "Attire to Inspire", the Foundation's Fashion Show and Luncheon, Thursday, September 22, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at The Michigan Shores Club. Local merchants provide fashions for the show, sell merchandise at the event and donate a portion of the proceeds. New this year...a "Trivia Night" table raffle. Go to the Foundation website for tickets.

B-I-N-G-O! Friday, October 7 is Family Bingo Night from 6 - 8 pm at The Masonic Lodge in Wilmette. Pizza, salad, and other goodies from local restaurants will be available. Come for the fun and great prizes!

Future scientists be on the lookout for information on this year's Science Olympiad program. Registration will be in October. Classes start in early December. 5th-8th graders can sign-up for science-enrichment courses in a variety of STEM disciplines taught by parent volunteers/scientists and D39 teachers. JV and Varsity teams compete

at invitational and regional competitions. We're always looking for great leaders, so contact us if you're interested.

Proceeds from the Foundation fundraisers support Gripp Grants, which provide innovative educational programs, experiences, and technologies to D39 schools. Grant applications are welcomed from teachers, staff, parents, and students in D39. Application deadlines are October 28, 2016 and March 3, 2017.

The Foundation appreciates the tremendous support of D39 families. Whether you attend events, support educational initiatives, or donate to our Annual Appeal, all contributions help continue educational excellence in D39. Watch for our Annual Appeal in late October.

For more information and to purchase tickets to Foundation events, visit www.d39foundation.org.



D39 students compete at Science Olympiad state competition last spring.

DISTRICT 39 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Alice D. Schaff, President	schaffa@wilmette39.org
Kimberly W. Alcantara	alcantak@wilmette39.org
John M. Flanagan	anagij@wilmette39.org
Tracy A. Kearney	kearneyt@wilmette39.org
Cindy Levine	levinec@wilmette39.org
Frank D. Panzica	panzicaf@wilmette39.org
Mark Steen, Vice President	steenm@wilmette39.org
Ray Lechner, Ph.D., Superintendent	lechnerr@wilmette39.org

DISTRICT 39 SCHOOLS

CENTRAL	Rebecca Littmann, Principal Meghann Young, Assistant Principal	littmanr@wilmette39.org youngm@wilmette39.org
HARPER	Dr. Susan Kick, Principal Jon Valentino, Assistant Principal	kicks@wilmette39.org valentij@wilmette39.org
McKENZIE	Dr. Denise Welter, Principal Meghann Young, Assistant Principal	welterd@wilmette39.org youngm@wilmette39.org
ROMONA	Cindy Anderson, Principal Jon Valentino, Assistant Principal Julie Pease, Early Childhood Coord.	andersoc@wilmette39.org valentij@wilmette39.org peasej@wilmette39.org
HIGHCREST	Kelly Jackson, Principal Aaron Dubnow, Assistant Principal Chimille Dillard, Assistant Principal	jacksonk@wilmette39.org dubnowa@wilmette39.org dillardc@wilmette39.org
WILMETTE JUNIOR HIGH	Kelly Jackson, Principal Doug Wernet, Assistant Principal Eric Resis, Assistant Principal	jacksonk@wilmette39.org wernetd@wilmette39.org resise@wilmette39.org

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are interested in your ideas, feedback, and suggestions, whether or not you have children in our schools. Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Email us at opinion@wilmette39.org or contact Dr. Ray Lechner at 847-512-6030. Mail can be sent to the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, IL 60091.