

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

AUG 30, 2023



## WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL YEAR AND OUR NEW DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

### Superintendent Message by Dr. Lynn Glickman

I hope that all of our families and staff members had a happy and smooth start to the school year and that our students are comfortably settled in their new classrooms and schools. Thank you to everyone for your patience during those first few very hot days of school!

We are glad to bring you this new electronic district newsletter. You should expect this newsletter to arrive in your inbox every other Wednesday, and it will also be posted on our website. It will be filled with district news from various departments and is intended to keep our families and community up-to-date on what is happening in our school district.



## PLANS AND FUNDING PROPOSAL

### Community Information Meetings

The District and Board of Education are committed to fulfilling our mission of empowering learners, creating equity, and cultivating community. This includes seeking opportunities to strengthen teaching and learning; maintaining and repairing our schools so that our facilities are accessible, safe, and reflect the way students learn today; and being good stewards of taxpayer funds.

Since the Strategic Plan was adopted in April 2021, the District has assessed the condition of our buildings and adopted a Capital Facilities Plan that addresses critical maintenance needs. We have engaged with staff and community members to identify and prioritize educational goals and created a plan that reflects this input and ***can be accomplished with a net tax rate decrease.***

This fall we will be sharing the plan with the full community to gather additional feedback before the BOE considers placing a funding proposal on the ballot in 2024.

The proposed plan will ***benefit all students and all schools.*** It includes:

- Addressing maintenance/infrastructure needs including roofing, plumbing, and HVAC
- Updating libraries/media centers at all schools, including spaces for collaboration and STEM programming
- Reconfiguring/renovating student support spaces
- Attracting, training, and retaining quality teachers
- Protecting current programming
- Maintaining class sizes

We invite you to learn more by attending an informational meeting. The content of the three meetings is expected to be the same, so please attend the one that is most convenient for you. Encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to do the same.

- Thursday, **September 21, 6:30 pm**, Frederick School, 595 Frederick Rd., Grayslake
- Monday, **October 2, 6:30 pm**, Park Campus, 400 W. Townline Rd., Round Lake
- Thursday, **October 5, 6:30 pm**, Avon Center School, 1617 IL-83, Round Lake Beach (There will be a Spanish interpreter at this meeting.)

We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings! Thank you for helping us maintain excellence in CCSD 46!

# MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE



### COOLING ISSUES AT FREDERICK AND MEADOWVIEW SCHOOLS

The first week of school brought significant cooling challenges at two of our schools on one of the hottest days on record in our area. We are sharing the information here for districtwide awareness.

At Meadowview School, the chiller, which is a large piece of machinery that cools the building, broke down on Wednesday afternoon. This resulted in no student attendance for Thursday while the chiller was repaired by Trane Technologies technicians. Students were back in school on Friday.

At Frederick School, there were two emergency building mechanical issues, resulting in school closure on Thursday and Friday.

The first issue was the chiller, which broke down on Wednesday. Working in partnership with Trane Technologies, a temporary chiller unit was installed over the weekend. This was transported from out-of-state on a truck and arrived on Sunday. Trane Technologies technicians installed it, with district staff onsite as support. This temporary chiller unit will provide cooling relief for the month. The permanent chiller is being repaired, and that work began this week.

The second issue at Frederick was a rooftop air handling unit (AHU) that accumulated excess water condensation which came through the ceiling. AHUs help circulate air through buildings. No classrooms were affected, and this area was restored during the week.

It was unfortunate that we had to temporarily close school at Meadowview and Frederick, however doing so was in the interest of student safety and comfort during this heat wave so early in the school year.

Please note that the Illinois State Board of Education allows for 2 days where 1-2 schools can be closed within a district for emergency purposes without extending the school year due to these closures. All schools within the district will continue to follow the approved calendar for the 2023-24 school year.





## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

**Mrs. Amanda Pelsor**  
**Director of Innovation**

### Chromebook and Care Expectations

All K-8 students in CCSD 46 have been issued a Chromebook, case, and charger to support and enhance learning, maximize individual growth, and help prepare for the future. Each student is responsible for the general care of their Chromebook and should follow the expectations shared below:

- Students should charge their Chromebooks at home every evening
- Chromebooks must be brought to school each day fully charged
- Students should keep food and drinks away from the Chromebook
- Students should keep their devices clean by using only soft, dry cloths
- Students should keep the case on their Chromebook at all times
- Students should not tamper with asset tags or barcode stickers on their Chromebook
- Students should have no expectation of privacy as the district has a right to, and does monitor, the use of the Chromebook and their school accounts
- Damages or issues with a Chromebook should be reported as soon as possible to the student's teacher

If devices are not properly cared for, the district will assess fees for the damage caused by neglect and/or misconduct as follows:

- Chromebook Replacement - \$300
- Power cord - \$35
- Broken Screen - \$100
- Missing keys - \$25 total cost per repair

For more information about the Acceptable Use Policy and the Chromebook Agreement, please visit the [Student Handbook](#).



### STUDENT SERVICES UPDATE

Dr. Heather Lorenzo  
Director of Student Services

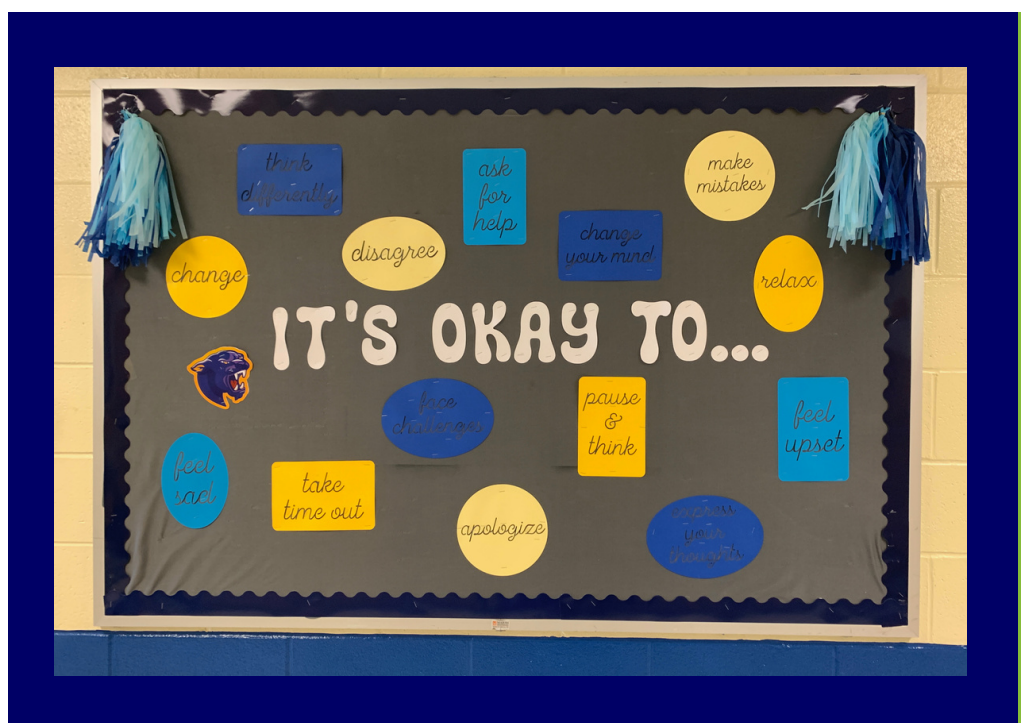
#### **Student Services Opportunities Review**

We are pleased to share that CCSD 46 is undertaking an effort to improve the effectiveness and equity of services for supporting students.

While we are proud of the quality of services provided to students and the hard work of our staff who help all children achieve at high levels, we are always seeking opportunities to improve. Ever-higher expectations require us to look for ways to further increase student learning and improve the way we deliver services to our students who have additional learning needs. To that end, the district has engaged District Management Group, a Boston-based education organization, to assist with this Student Services Opportunity Review. DMGroup has extensive experience working with districts in Illinois.

This systematic study will examine our current general education and special education services, programs, procedures, and staffing for serving students with quantitative and qualitative data gathering. With this information, the district will be able to make thoughtful and informed decisions to ensure all students receive appropriate support.

The results of this study should provide us with a comprehensive picture of what is working well in the district, reflections on appropriate staffing and service levels, overall improved delivery of services to students and parents, and better utilization of district resources. We are so glad to have begun this work, and we are looking forward to DMGroup helping us celebrate what is working well and consider our opportunities for growth!



## **HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

**Dr. Chris Wolk**

**Director of Human Resources**

CCSD 46 is excited to welcome our new staff members. This year we have over 60 new staff, in various positions, across the district. These individuals come from a variety of different backgrounds and have a wealth of experiences to bring to our classrooms. Please join us in welcoming them to CCSD 46.

We still have a few Paraprofessional positions available and we are always interested in bringing on more Substitute Teachers. If you are interested in joining our team please complete an application on our [District website](#).

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CCSD 46 is currently hiring Program Assistants and Substitute Teachers and due to changes in the certification requirements by the Illinois State Board of Education now is a great time to join our team.

Substitute Teachers begin at \$115 per day and then after twenty (20) days an individual moves to \$125 per day. For individuals with no experience, Program Assistant pay begins at \$17.20 per hour with a Paraprofessional License and \$18.21 per hour for individuals with a Bachelor's degree. Program Assistants are also eligible for health insurance benefits and sick leave.

### **Substitute Teacher**

What do I need in order to apply for a Substitute License?

- A bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education
- A valid Illinois Professional Educator Licensure (PEL) and a bachelor's degree

#### How do I obtain a Substitute License?

- Log into the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) at [www.isbe.net/ELIS](http://www.isbe.net/ELIS).
- Submit your official transcripts to the Regional Office of Education [licensure@lake.k12.il.us](mailto:licensure@lake.k12.il.us)

### **Paraprofessional (Program Assistant)**

What do I need in order to apply for a Paraprofessional License?

- Paraprofessional License
  - Must be at least 19 years of age
    - Beginning January 1, 2023, you may qualify for the ELS-Paraprofessional license by meeting the requirements outlined below at age 18 but only may serve in prekindergarten through grade 8
  - One of the following required:
    - Associate's degree or higher
    - 60 semester hours of coursework
- Short-Term Paraprofessional License (Effective August 18, 2022)
  - High school diploma or equivalent

#### How to Apply for the Paraprofessional License?

#### How to Apply for the Short-Term Paraprofessional License?

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- Submit your official transcripts to the Regional Office of Education [licensure@lake.k12.il.us](mailto:licensure@lake.k12.il.us)

