



Dwight D Eisenhower

Bozay Rosa

Anne Sullivan

Douglas MacArthur

# The School Scene

## Prospect Heights School District 23 April 12, 2019

### The home stretch...

The last quarter of the school year is always a busy time as we prepare to close out this school year while also preparing for the summer and next school year. The pace of life seems to speed up a bit as the weather turns nicer, too. Soccer, dance, gymnastics, hockey, baseball, softball, music and every other version of activity draw on our time and fill up our calendars.

As I get older (a little bit more each year), I reflect more and more about the passing of time and how quickly it moves. This summer, for example, my oldest daughter is getting married. Through our preparations, my wife and I have been pulling pictures: 1st day of Kindergarten; 1st Communion; 6th Grade Musical; Graduations; Sports; Concerts, etc. We ask the age old question: "Where did the time go?"

An important part of our children's educational experiences are these celebrations and markers. I encourage you to take a step back from time to time and appreciate the moments. The "home stretch" of our school year is a great time to reflect on all that your child has accomplished this year. What can he do now that he could not in September? How has she grown and matured?

We use the term "Growth Mindset" with our students to talk about setting goals and working hard to achieve them. If we do not meet our mark, that is an opportunity to learn from our mistakes and try again. I've not accomplished my goal...YET!

This "home stretch" is also a time for refocus and rededication to our goals. There is still time to achieve our goals! While we may need to buy our pool passes today, summer is not here yet.

Best wishes for a successful "home stretch"!  
Dr. A

**Registration is now open** and we encourage all families to register before the end of the month. This helps with the scheduling and placement of students.

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Education has frozen the fees for this year with **NO INCREASE!** We do ask families to pay particular attention to their selection of transportation, though, as we have a number of students

### Upcoming Events



**Registration Open  
for 2019-20  
April 3, 2019**



**NO SCHOOL  
April 19**



**Special  
Board  
Meeting  
for Reorganization  
7:00pm @ Admin bldg**



**BPAC  
Meeting  
May 3  
6:00pm  
@ Ike**



**Board of  
Education  
Meeting  
  
May 8  
7:00pm  
@ Eisenhower**

### Quick Links

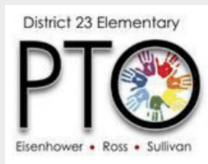


who are registered but do not use our bus services. Not only does this create for longer route times, but also wastes money that could be used to provide additional supports and services or reduce the need for transportation fees to be added in the future.

You likely did not know that each route costs approximately \$37,000 so when people sign up for bus but don't actually use it, we need to purchase routes that go under used. Please help us to contain costs in this area by only selecting bus transportation if you are likely to need and use this service.

We appreciate your assistance in helping us continue to provide programs and services like transportation, for students with minimal or no fees. This helps us to be good stewards of tax payers' funds and serve the needs of our community.

Visit the D23 website



**Register TODAY!!**



**It's time to register for the 2019-20 School Year.**  
We encourage all families to register as soon as possible to assist in planning and placement for next school year.



You should have received a letter with your child's "Snapcode" and instructions to complete registration.  
Please contact the office if you need any assistance.



**Board of Education - Meeting Highlights April 10, 2019**

**New 4 Year Contract Ratified**

Mr. Bob Miller, President of the Prospect Heights Education Association, that represents most of the



certified and non-certified staff of the District, and Mr. Jeff Bowes, President of the Board of Education signed the Negotiated Agreement after it was ratified by both parties this week. The new four year agreement was developed through a collaborative process that began in October 2018.

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## LAST DAY OF SCHOOL MOVED - Friday, June 7

The Board of Education amended the 2018-19 School Year Calendar to set Friday, June 7th as the last day of school. This was necessary due to the use of emergency days for cold and inclement weather earlier in the year.

They also adopted the 2020-21 School Year calendar. The calendars may be found on the [District Website](#).



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## MacArthur Wrestlers Lead the Pledge



Representatives of the MacArthur Wrestling Team lead the Board in the pledge of allegiance. They shared their experiences throughout the season all the way through the State Meet. We are proud of all of our students who dedicate their time to practice and compete in our athletic programs. Special recognition to these young men for their success!

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## Thank you to all of our Volunteers

April is also Volunteer Appreciation Month and the Board recognized representative of our ePTO and PTO organizations for their contributions. We are so grateful for their service that enriches and supports all of our offerings to our students and families. We also encourage all to consider volunteering and sharing your time and talents too.



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## Math Curriculum Approved

Dr. Zaher presented the recommendation from the 2018-19 Math Curriculum Committee to adopt Ready Math as our core curriculum beginning in 2019-20. This program meets the new rigor and scope of our standards while providing teachers with a broad range of tools to meet varied student needs. The curriculum also includes a blended learning tool

## Building Briefs

### New Security Features in Place at All Schools

District 23 is pleased to announce that we will begin using the Raptor Visitor Management System in all of our schools to strengthen our program of campus safety for students and faculty. Part of keeping students and faculty safe is knowing who is in our buildings at all times, and the Raptor system will allow us to do that. The Raptor system will better allow us to screen visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools and provide us with a safer environment for our students and staff.



Upon entering a district building, visitors will be asked to present an ID such as a Driver's License, which can either be scanned or manually entered into the system. If a parent or guardian for any reason does not have a US government-issued ID, the school staff member can use any form of identification and manually enter the person's name into the Raptor system. The Raptor system will check to ensure that registered sexual offenders are not entering our school campuses without our knowledge. The Raptor system checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders. The registered sex offender database is the only official database checked by the Raptor system. No other data from the ID is gathered or recorded and the information is not shared with any outside agency.

Once entry is approved, a Guest badge and lanyard will be provided so that the visitor is easily identified by staff as having been approved and authorized. Visitors will leave their ID at the main office and receive it back when they return the lanyard and exit. A visitor's badge will not be necessary for those who visit our schools simply to drop off an item in the office or pick up paperwork.

The safety of our students is our highest priority and the Raptor Visitor Management System allows us to quickly identify those that may present a danger to our students. Thank you in advance for your understanding and your support in enhancing the school safety protocols in our district.



### MacArthur Program and Faculty Celebrated State-wide

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) seeks nominations for programs that are serving the needs of students and improving schools across the State. They highlight these programs in a feature called "Story-Tellers". Our nomination for our Unified PE and Advisory program was accepted and staff from ISBE came out to visit MacArthur in November to meet with and interview the students, faculty, and administration. They then worked on the story that they recently published on their website and shared State-wide via their Newsletter.

We are extremely proud of all whose vision, leadership, and daily work have developed and implemented this fantastic program. Please click the photo below to access the [ISBE link](#).



Home > Support & Accountability > Sharing Our Stories: Creating Connections > Story

## Unified in a Student-Led Culture of Respect

### In Brief

- MacArthur Middle School needed to respond to student demand for opportunities for special and general education students to learn and lead together that aligned with the instructional inclusion model.
- The Special Education team worked with school and district leaders to build a unique program partnering students for physical education, life skills, and academic and extracurricular activities.
- Students apply to participate in Unified PE and Advisory, where they collaborate to create their own adaptive physical education and social-emotional curriculum. This group of student leaders create resources to build a culture of inclusivity schoolwide and beyond.

Students at MacArthur Middle School in Prospect Heights School District 23 work together with their teachers and administrators to create a culture of respect and inclusion. Based on this shared cultural focus, MacArthur teachers created a Unified PE and Advisory class for students with and without disabilities to partner for physical education, team-building,



### More Information

#### Contact Information:

- Abigail Lynch, Learning Behavior Specialist
- Dr. Chrystyna Sroka, Director of Special Education
- Vicki Samiotakis, Physical Education/Unified Teacher

#### Key Resources:

- Unified Champion Schools (Special Olympics Illinois)
- Special Olympics Unified Physical Education Resources
- MacArthur Middle School Unified PE
- Respect Week Video (Created by students in Unified Advisory)

#### School Website

[View School Information](#)

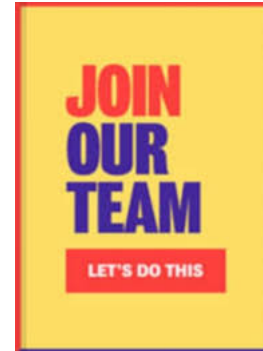


## Looking for a Summer Job??

District 23 is seeking qualified candidates to work on our Summer Custodial Crew and to participate in our Internship Program. Please follow these links for more information.

[Seasonal Summer Worker](#)

[Buildings and Grounds Internship Opportunity](#)



Connect With Us

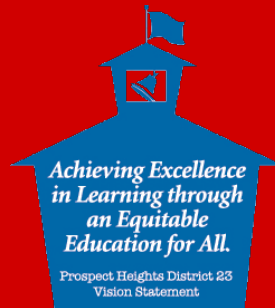


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[Dr. Don Angelaccio](#)  
Superintendent

[Dr. Amy Zaher](#)  
Assistant Superintendent

[Mr. Micheal DeBartolo](#)  
Assistant Superintendent



[Dr. Chrys Sroka](#)  
Director of Special Education

[Mrs. Maria Stavropoulos](#)  
Director of Technology

[Mr. Brian Rominski](#)  
Director of Buildings & Grounds