



Dwight D Eisenhower

Betsy Ross

Anna Sullivan

Douglas MacArthur

The School Scene

Prospect Heights School District 23 February 15, 2019

Happy Valentine's Day!!

There have been MANY proud moments for me throughout my professional career, but Wednesday may have been one of the best! I had received a handwritten (very well done) invitation from a student in Ms. Sullivan's 3rd grade classroom to join her and her class at their Valentine's Day party.

While I frequently visit the class parties on the holidays, this was the first formal invitation that I had received in District 23. I felt so special and grateful that this young lady and her classmates thought to ask me to join them for their fun afternoon. I anxiously watched the clock to be sure that I did not get too busy with some paperwork or other task and miss the time for the party. I walked down the hall and into the classroom and was greeted by a huge smile and lots of excited students.

I spent some time with the kids while they were playing a SMARTIES Bingo game. I shared how impressed I was that they could play the game without eating the candies as I'm sure I would have done in 3rd grade. As I left the room the teacher stopped me to thank me for coming and that the student who had invited me was worried that I would not come. She told me that I had made her day.

I stopped for a moment and said, "No, she just made mine!"



Important Information for our District 23 Community

February 15, 2019

Dear District 23 Parents, Community and Staff,

As you are aware, between 2013-2015, Prospect Heights School District 23 implemented new geothermal heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in each of our schools.

Shortly after the systems were installed between 2013-2015, we

Upcoming Events



**No School
Monday,
February 18**



**Kindergarten
Registration -
February 19
& 20**



**Parent
Teacher
Conf.
February
21 & 28**



**MacArthur/
Sullivan
Concerts
7:00pm**

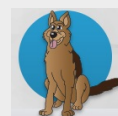
6-8th Orchestra 2/26

6-8th Band 2/27

4-5th Orchestra 3/11

6-8th Chorus 3/12

4-5th Band 3/14



**Sullivan
Musical
March 7
and 8**

**7:00pm @ MacArthur
Theater**



**Board of
Education
Meeting**

**March 13
7:00pm**

Betsy Ross Elementary

noticed that while the new systems did successfully cool our school buildings, they also created high levels of humidity in our classrooms. We immediately reported and began to work with our architect to remedy these issues. To ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff, as we worked to find a long-term operational and technical solution, the District enhanced our moisture monitoring, reporting and response and provided additional training to our custodial staff to improve daily cleaning and prevent any mold or mildew.

The District hired StudioGC and their subcontractors, CM Engineering and 2010 Engineering, to provide an HVAC system that would meet standards and work as promised. The District hoped and expected that they would recognize their responsibility, and we made every attempt to resolve the problems and reach a resolution with them, but we were unable to do so. We will continue to seek full restitution from StudioGC and its subcontractors for this breach of contract, so that our students, staff and taxpayers get the classrooms and school environment that they were promised. On Thursday, the Board of Education of Prospect Heights School District 23 filed a lawsuit in the Cook County Circuit Court against StudioGC for breach of contract seeking damages to cover the cost of the repairs and replacements needed to remedy the defective HVAC system designed by StudioGC and its subcontractors.

In 2016, the Board of Education replaced StudioGC with a new architect that has tested a range of solutions to address the humidity issues and I am pleased to share that they have identified an approach that will ensure a comfortable learning environment in our schools. As part of our long-range capital plan, the District will use bond proceeds to begin implementing this solution, which includes the replacement of rooftop units as well as the installation of dehumidification units that can be retrofitted in all of our schools and classrooms. Work will begin at Eisenhower School this summer and at our other school buildings in subsequent years.

The Board of Education is dedicated to maintaining safe and engaging learning environments for our students, staff, and community. We will continue to fight on behalf of the taxpayers as stewards of public funds to hold our contractors accountable for the services and products promised. As we move through this process, we will keep our community informed through periodic updates on our website (www.d23.org) and our monthly "School Scene" newsletter.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and partnership.

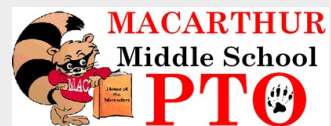
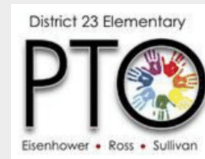
Sincerely,
Donald S. Angelaccio, Ed.D.
Prospect Heights School District 23
Superintendent



Quick Links



**Visit the D23
website**



Board of Education - Meeting Highlights February 13, 2019

Summer Construction Projects

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Mr.

Micheal DeBartolo, along with the Director of Building and Grounds, Mr. Brian Rominski, and representatives from ARCON, presented an overview of the Summer 2019 projects and bids received. This work is targeted to address HVAC issues, roofing, windows, and paving work at Eisenhower. The roofing and masonry work at the Administration Center is also scheduled for this summer. The Board voted to approve these bids and look forward to these enhancements to our schools and grounds



Staffing Plan Presented

Dr. Angelaccio presented a proposed Staffing Plan for the 2019-20 school year, highlighting impact on class size guidelines, space constraints, and budget. The proposed staffing plan would increase staffing for our Early Childhood program, general music, and special education while maintaining compliance with our class size guidelines.

Strategic Plan Update

A summary of the District Strategic Plan updates and Trimester II progress report on the current 2018-2019 Strategic Plan was provided. The full Strategic plan may be viewed by [clicking this link](#). The Administration and District Improvement Team meet regularly to monitor the progress of work being done to reach our goals. The Board receives an update each trimester to review strategies and actions taken to implement the plan.

Building Briefs

St. Baldrick's Day Fundraiser and Service Learning

Representatives of MacArthur's Student Senate led the pledge of allegiance and shared their plans for the Spring, St. Baldrick's Day fundraiser and service learning projects. Proceeds will support research of pediatric cancer and students will have a variety of ways to support the cause. The culminating event, the shaving of heads, will take place on Friday, March 22, but presentations and classroom discussions will occur over the next few weeks.



Sullivan School Musical

Our 4th and 5th graders have been preparing for their performance of Mary Poppins Jr. and are ready to put on a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious show. Shows start at 7:00pm on Thursday March 7 and Friday, March 8 in the Theater at MacArthur Middle School.



STEAM Night @ Betsy Ross

Thanks to our ePTO for hosting a fun and engaging STEAM night for the students of Betsy Ross. The theme of the night was A River Adventure, with eleven interesting activities spread throughout the gym, art room and the hallways. Also a big thanks to our partners at the Prospect Heights Public Library for helping to make this night a success.



1st Graders "Broke Out"



1st graders at Eisenhower worked with our Technology Integration Specialist, Dr. Durbin, and their classroom teachers to participate in a BreakoutEDU experience. Students worked collaboratively to reveal and answer clues and puzzles that opened locks. Students at all of our schools have participated in a range of BreakoutEDU activities, Ask your son or daughter if they "broke out".

Connect With Us



Administration: (847) 870-3850

Dr. Don Angelaccio
Superintendent

Dr. Amy Zaher
Assistant Superintendent

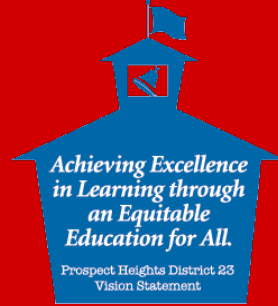
Mr. Micheal DeBartolo

Dr. Chrys Sroka
Director of Special Education

Mrs. Maria Stavropoulos
Director of Technology

Mr. Brian Rominski

Assistant Superintendent



Director of Buildings & Grounds