



Prospect Heights School District 23 January 11, 2019

Goal "Setting" vs. Goal "Attainment"

10 frogs are sitting on a log. 7 of them decide to jump into the water. How many frogs are left on the log?

The answer might seem to be 3, but the correct answer is 10 frogs because there is a very important difference between DECIDING to do something and ACTUALLY doing it. As I tell my doctor at my annual physical, I set a goal each year to exercise 4 times a week and to lose weight. Each year, however, there are a number of reasonable and rational explanations for why I was too busy to get to the gym and many examples of "cheat" days from my dieting. (Although to be fair, I am 1/2 Polish and 1/2 Italian, so CARBS are a food group in my family!)

As we return to the daily schedule of our kids going to school and the start of the New Year, many of us set goals for improvements to ourselves, our work, or our families. When I reflect on the start of each new year, I am optimistic about the possibility of enhancements and positive change. I am also reminded of the lesson of the frogs and the importance of moving from setting goals to attaining them.

In our work with students, we discuss the powerful concept of Growth Mindset. Kids LOVE this idea, and we as adults should take a lesson from their openness and willingness to learn. We help our students understand that achieving their goals is not an overnight success story and that it is only through small daily practice that we get better. Our teachers help students understand that YET is the best word in our vocabulary. We also discuss the reality that true change and growth requires hard work and determination, often defined as "grit".

As parents, we model this mindset too. Teaching each of my four kids to ride a bicycle was a different experience for each. My oldest took to it right away. My second was afraid and uncertain for months. My boys preferred the training wheels. None of them, however, learned to ride without falling at least a few times. As parents we protect and nurture our children because it pains us to witness their pain. When it comes to learning though, we must also help our children to see the benefit in the struggle, the importance of learning from mistakes, and the power of picking yourself back up and getting back on the bike.

We thank all of our families for your continued partnership in supporting the growth of children and know that we will share in the work of making school and home a safe place for our children to learn. I hope that you have success in attaining whatever goals or resolutions you set for yourself, but also hope that you stay focused on the daily decisions and actions required to attain those goals. Lastly, I hope you persevere through the challenges and falls with grit and determination. Whether we are successful in attaining every goal we set or not, it is in modeling a growth mindset that we have the

Upcoming Events



No School
Monday,
January 21 -
Tuesday,
January 22

Dance-a-thon Fundraiser

Wednesday, January 23
6:00-8:00pm



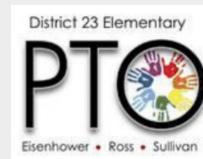
Board of
Education
Meeting

February 13
7:00pm
Grotsky Admin Building

Quick Links



Visit the D23
website



most powerful impact!

Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Dr. Angelaccio



[Link to Winter Weather Guidelines Letter](#)



5Essentials Survey

The Illinois State Board of Education requires all Districts to administer a survey of parents, students, and faculty to monitor culture, climate, and essential performance issues. District 23 has consistently used the 5Essentials Survey provided by the State. The data gathered is used to review building and district level performance and areas for improvement. A direct email was sent to all parents to invite participation by clicking the following link: <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/>.



Board of Education - Meeting Highlights January 9, 2019

Financial Projections Presentation

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Mr. Micheal DeBartolo, presented the 5 year financial projections to the Board of Education. This annual presentation, is the start of the budgeting process for the upcoming fiscal year. The community is invited to view the [presentation here](#).



We are pleased to report a sustainable, balanced outlook due to the responsible and conservative decision making required in these uncertain financial times.

Transportation Audit



The business office also presented the results of our transportation audit. The board reviewed data related to ridership, costs, and other factors that impact our transportation planning.

Assessment Overview for 2019

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Amy Zaher, presented an [overview of the assessments](#) mandated by the State and implemented in our District. The report describes the purpose and use of the data collected. This Winter, we will begin the

Building Briefs

Winter Fundraiser

The Sullivan Ambassadors have coordinated a District wide fundraiser for this Winter. The service learning project will first support District 23 student in attending local summer camps, the share proceeds to an agency in Haiti that will build a school and purchase supplies. We're so proud of these students for their caring and compassionate hearts and their dedication to serving other, both locally and around the world.



Many thanks to our ePTO, partners - Happy Holidays!!

Thanks to the support and service of our ePTO room parents, our students enjoyed fun and festive holiday parties before leaving for Winter Break. We also enjoyed time with our friends from Aspired Living!



Connect With Us



Administration: (847) 870-3850

Dr. Don Angelaccio
Superintendent

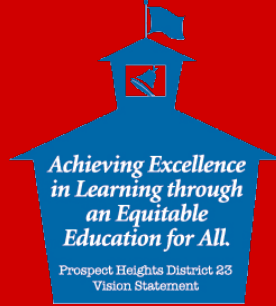
Dr. Amy Zaher

Dr. Chrys Sroka
Director of Special Education

Mrs. Maria Stavropoulos

Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Micheal DeBartolo
Assistant Superintendent



Director of Technology

Mr. Brian Rominski
Director of Buildings & Grounds