



## Prospect Heights School District 23 September 22, 2017

### Welcome to the 2017-18 School Year!!

Dear District 23 Families,

The 2017-18 school year is off to a great start. This year, we welcomed more than 1,550 students to Eisenhower, Betsy Ross, Anne Sullivan, and MacArthur schools. We were happy to see our returning families, and we extend a warm welcome to those who are new to the District. I also want to welcome our new MacArthur Principal, Mr. Cam Nystrom, and the new teachers and staff who have joined our District community.

We're also kicking off the year with some key facility, curriculum, and technology changes:

- Thanks to a partnership with District 214, newly renovated STEM and Family and Consumer Science classrooms and labs await our MacArthur students.
- Inquiry based teaching and learning will be highlighted in the new science curriculum, Mystery Science, adopted for grades K-5.
- As we continue our 1:1 iPad initiative for students at Sullivan and MacArthur, we have also built a 2:1 shared iPad cart environment at Ike and Ross. This level of access will support our teachers in engaging students in active, creative learning.

Lastly, our Board of Education approved our [Strategic Blueprint](#) that articulates the various goals and priorities of the District. One focus we hope you will notice is an increased commitment to transparency and ongoing communication. This School Scene Newsletter will be the primary vehicle for direct communication and serving as a hybrid of the traditional monthly "Board Highlights" and traditions "School Scene" newsletter. We also encourage families to follow the District and schools on Twitter using the links at the bottom of this newsletter.

Best wishes for a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Don Angelaccio, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

[Click here to view our district website](#)

### Technology Enhancements in D23

The use of technology tools to enhance



teaching and learning has been an ongoing goal for our District. This year, we have entered Phase 3 of our [Tech Plan 2.0](#), which provides classes in grades K-3 with one iPad for every two students to use at school, and we are continuing with the 1:1 iPad initiative for all students in grades 4-8.

[Read More](#)

## Highlights

### September 13, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Education

#### Youth Activation Committee

Two MacArthur students, Avery Meier and Brianna Finnegan, led our Pledge of Allegiance and were recognized for their remarkable leadership on the Illinois Youth Activation Committee. These students will co-chair the Youth Activation Summit in November, where 300 middle school and high school students across the state come to learn about how to become a Unified Champion School. The Unified Champion Schools program helps build youth leadership and social inclusion in schools.



#### Tenured Teachers and New Staff Welcomed

District 23 teachers who have accomplished tenure at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year were recognized. Congratulations to: Lindsay Castronovo, Michael Howitz, Laura Jackson, and Allison Mass. Each were presented with a certificate. Also recognized were all our new staff members: Joanne Engstrom, Jessa Gianneschi, Elizabeth Guza, Anna Hallman, Alyssa Hirsh, Violet Jimenez, Zani Kola, Jessica Lelito, Samantha Lynn, Camron Nystrom, Bryan Quesa, Vicki Samiotakis, Stacey Hendricks, and Jennifer Luke.



#### Budget Adoption

A public hearing on the proposed 2017-

2018 Annual School Budget was held during the meeting followed by a vote to approve. Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Micheal DeBartolo, explained impact of State funding and the District's plan for revenue and expenses this Fiscal year.



Please visit the Business Office page for more information

## Student Performance and Growth Report

Dr. John Gatta of the ECRA group presented a summary of our students' performance and growth data. Dr. Gatta also included an overview of the current trends related to assessment models and State/Federal Policy as it impacts our District. We are excited to share that all of our schools continue to meet their growth targets!

### Growth

2017 Spring MAP (all subjects)

Student Growth by School

School:	Effective Sample Size <sup>A</sup>	% Met Benchmark	% High Growth	% Expected Growth	% Low Growth	Growth
ANNE SULLIVAN ELEMENTARY	271	41%	21%	63%	17%	+ 0.08
BETSY ROSS ELEMENTARY	343	43%	14%	66%	20%	- 0.11
EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY	249	49%	13%	67%	20%	- 0.17
MACARTHUR MIDDLE SCHOOL	494	52%	20%	64%	15%	+ 0.07
<b>ALL EXPECTED</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>18%</b> <b>16%</b>	<b>65%</b> <b>68%</b>	<b>18%</b> <b>16%</b>	<b>- 0.02</b> <b>0.00</b>

<sup>A</sup> Dot color is green for all growth scores that are not statistically significant

<sup>A</sup> Effective sample size only includes students with at least 2 predictors

<sup>B</sup> Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding

<sup>B</sup> Growth not reported for groups with fewer than 5 students



**ECRA Group**  
Education | Consulting | Research | Analytics



**Higher than Expected Growth**  
Growth is +0.30 or above



**Expected Growth**  
Growth from -0.29 to +0.29



**Lower than Expected Growth**  
Growth from -0.30 to -0.59



**Unsatisfactory Growth**  
Growth is -0.60 or below

[Review the Student Growth and Achievement Presentation here](#)

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**  
WEDNESDAY, October 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.  
MacArthur Middle School

## Building Briefs

### Seesaw Connecting Our Families to Their Children's Learning

Beginning this school year, all of our students and families will be introduced to a new two-way communication tool. Using the Seesaw app on their classroom iPads,



students and teachers will be able to share an electronic work portfolio with parents.

## Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

Ross Students kicked off the year with an exciting pep rally to teach students about their "Star Values" and celebrate Safe, Responsible and Respectful behavior.



## Service Learning @ Sullivan

The Anne Sullivan School Ambassadors held their first meeting of the 2017-2018 school year this Tuesday at lunch. The Ambassadors are a student leadership group comprised of two representatives from each classroom. The Ambassador Leaders, Mrs. Yager, Mrs. Espinos, Mrs. Broms, and Mrs. Paeth, meet with the students at lunch throughout the year. The students in this group plan and lead service opportunities and organize fundraisers for those in need both locally and globally.

## MacArthur Welcomes New Principal - Mr. Cam Nystrom

Mr. Nystrom is excited to join the MacArthur family as their new principal following the retirement of Mr. Lee. He has previously served as Assistant Principal in Mundelein District 75, a high school science teacher, and a football coach. Mr. Nystrom is active and visible throughout the school, visiting classrooms and asking students what they are learning and how they are challenging themselves. We are glad that he is part of our Marauder community and hope that his "Bow-tie Tuesdays" tradition might even catch on with the students!



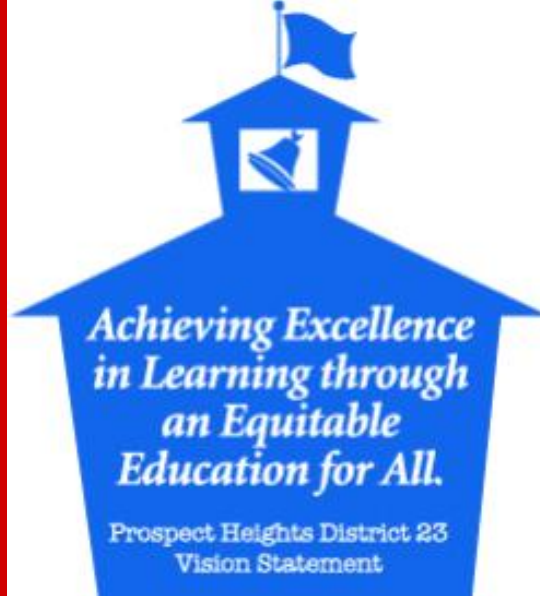
Stay Connected with us!



**Administration:**

**(847) 870-3850**

**Dr. Don Angelaccio**  
**Superintendent**



**Dr. Christie Samojedny**  
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