

Insight

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

NEWSLETTER

OUR DISTRICT IS YOUR DISTRICT

Catching you up on
the progress of our
Strategic Vision
page 11

THIS IS PERSONAL

#d25ItsPersonal

Students at Patton Elementary embrace a former
Patton student at their Senior Walk - pages 6 & 7



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
SCHOOL DISTRICT 25



IN THIS ISSUE

- 3 Dr. Bein's Message:
Embracing Today, Inspiring Tomorrow
- 4 The Window to Our Classrooms
- 5 Look! We're on TV! – D25 in the News
- 6 It's Personal in D25
- 8 Facilities Update:
Expanding with a Purpose
- 10 Twenty Fives are Wild in District 25:
A Business Perspective
- 11 Our District is Your District:
Strategic Vision 2020 Update
- 12 We are Hiring

CONNECT WITH US

WWW.SD25.ORG



@AHSD25



FACEBOOK.COM/AHSD25

Check out what's happening in D25 at
www.sd25.org/stories

IMAGE AT LEFT: Students at Patton Elementary experiment with augmented reality.



MAY 1, 2018 ENROLLMENT

5,584

845
STAFF MEMBERS

9 SCHOOLS
IN THE DISTRICT
7 ELEMENTARY / 2 MIDDLE SCHOOLS

20 K-5 STUDENTS
PER CLASS

\$12,478.68 PER PUPIL
EXPENDITURE

5,531 MAY 1, 2017
ENROLLMENT



EMBRACING TODAY INSPIRING TOMORROW

It's personal! The mission of Arlington Heights School District 25 is a simple statement, but a powerful message. A team of teachers, administrators, parents, and community members crafted this simple statement together. It took several hours of discussion, review of what we value about our school district, and a collective effort of determining how to prepare our students for a future we can't fully predict.

Embracing today – inspiring tomorrow was crafted after sharing many stories about how District 25 is personal to each student, staff member, parent, and community member. We realized when we were together that each one of us has a personal story to tell about our connection to District 25. We agreed that we each have a personal responsibility to do the very best we can for each of our students. We realized that each student will have his/her own personal needs, strengths, and connections to their education in District 25.

District 25 welcomes all students, embracing them as they are when they walk into our schools. It is our responsibility – our passion – our personal commitment – to inspire each student to be the best student and human he/she can be. Teachers, social workers, principals, food service personnel – each employee is driven by a personal commitment to provide the best environment and experience for each student we serve.

In return, we watch our students grow and put their personal gifts into all that they do from preschool through 8th grade. They amaze us with their personal efforts, their personal talents, and their collective care for the world around them. Each student discovers who they are and who they can be – right in front of our eyes.

As the Superintendent, I am privileged to see this personal commitment from staff and students each and every day. It is a gift I value now and will treasure forever. I am personally filled with gratitude to be a part of a District community that embraces today and inspires tomorrow.

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D. – *Superintendent*
#d25ItsPersonal

IMAGE ABOVE: Dr. Bein learns to keep a beat with a Dryden student

THE WINDOW TO OUR CLASSROOMS

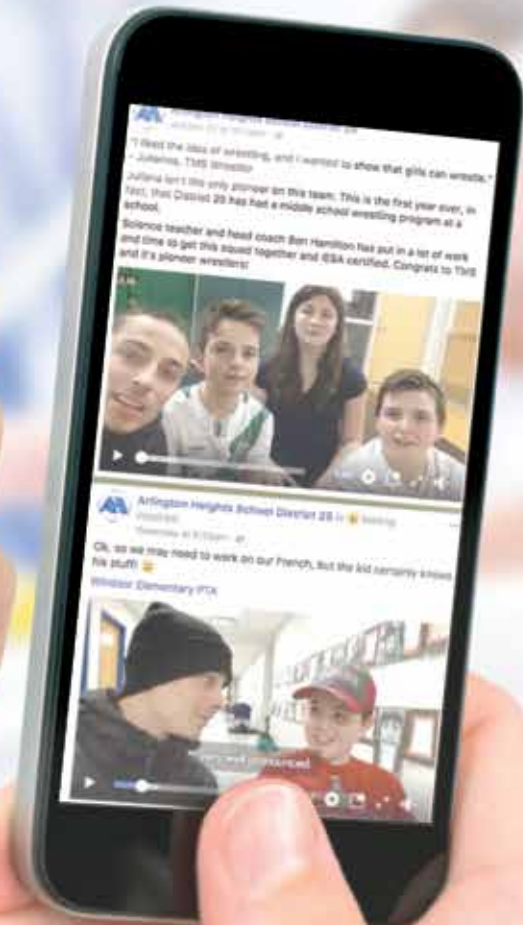
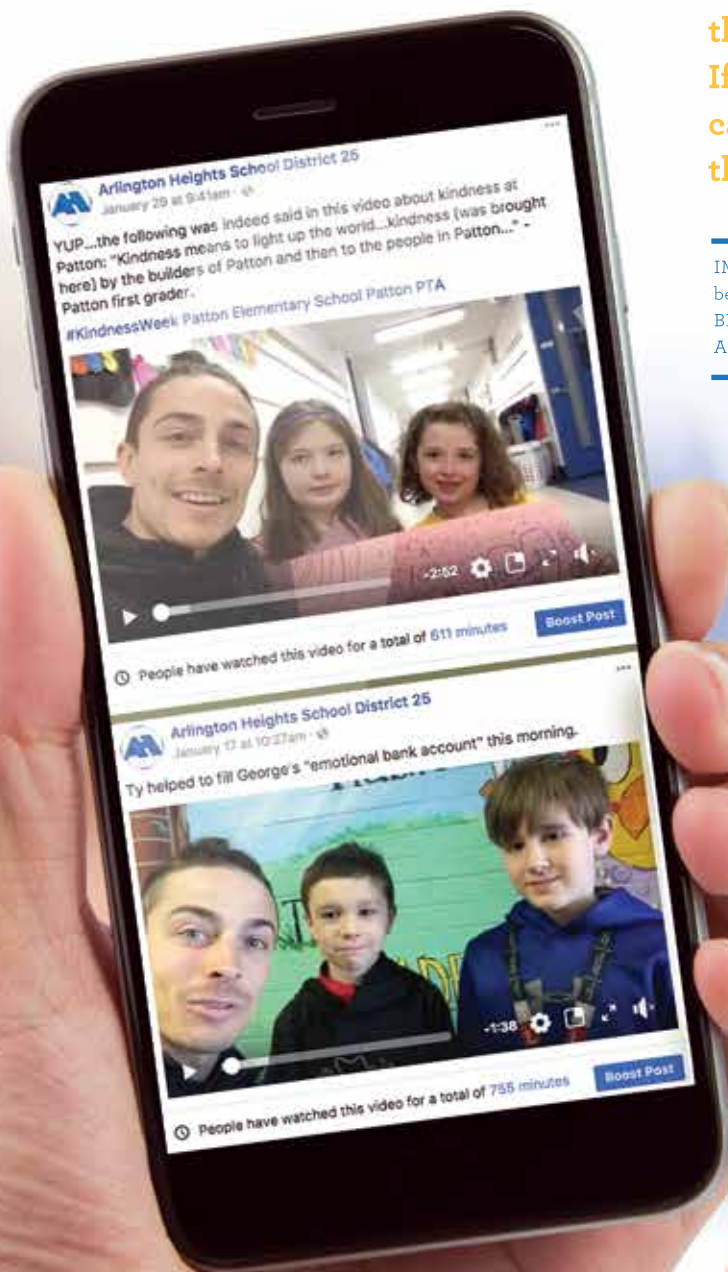
Each and every classroom in District 25 is magical and bringing that magic to you is the absolute best part of my job. I invite you to visit our Facebook page and scroll through our videos to catch up on our stories, just like the ones here. My goal is to showcase our students' genius and insight in a genuine and authentic way. There is no one better to do that than our students themselves.

I want them to have a voice and feel that their community hears them and have fun while doing it! Like and follow our Facebook page to be sure to stay up to date on our inspirational windows into our classrooms.

– Adam Harris, Communications Coordinator for Arlington Heights School District 25

Visit www.sd25.org/facebook to scroll through and see our videos and stories. If you do not have a Facebook page, you can visit www.sd25.org/videos to see these stories!

IMAGES FEATURED AT LEFT: Students at Patton discuss what it means to be kind. Westgate Wolverines exemplify leadership. IMAGES FEATURED BELOW: Thomas Middle School launches the first ever D25 wrestling team. A Windsor student shares his knowledge of explorer Jacques Cartier.





LOOK!
WE'RE
ON TV!

LIVE! WCIU - THE JAM VISITS SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

WCIU's morning show, *The Jam*, sent their out and about reporter, Jon Hansen, to highlight a kindness campaign that was initiated by students at South Middle School.

BIG 95.5 AIRS DRYDEN'S FRIDAY PARTY JAM

Two Dryden teachers put together a musical jam to kick off everyone's weekend that ended up inspiring a radio station in Chicago.

ABC 7 CHICAGO REPORTS FROM SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The week-long kindness campaign at South Middle School kicked off with an assembly by *Dude. Be Nice.* founder Brent Camalich, and ABC7 Chicago was there to capture it.

FOX 32 NEWS VISITS OLIVE

"Some of the COOLEST first graders around" with some first hand knowledge in all things weather and an appearance on the news! Thanks to long-time weatherman, Bill Bellis, for visiting!

District 25 believes there's never too much good news in the media, and we are proud of our contribution to the positive stories communicated about Arlington Heights throughout Chicagoland. Whether it be a newspaper story, a television news story or a television feature/appearance, District 25 knows spreading kindness and joy contributes greatly to a vision that our Village is a wonderful place to live and raise children. Scan this page for many examples of how we spread our positive message through various Chicagoland news outlets, and as always, keep an eye out for us in the Daily Herald, The Arlington Post or any local news/entertainment television stations.

IMAGES FEATURED ABOVE: 1) Jon Hansen from *The JAM* engages students at South 2) Dryden teachers, Mr. Deptula and Mr. Poliszczuk, wrap up the week with a Friday Party Jam on 95.5 FM. 3) The Fox 32 News team stopped by Olive to discuss weather. 4) Students at South gather with Brent Camalich and ABC7 to kick off *Dude. Be Nice* week.

IT'S PERSONAL IN DISTRICT 25

What inspires is personal, & what's personal, inspires.

Upon stepping foot inside a District 25 classroom, you quickly realize how meaningful and important learning, growing, and discovering is to our students and our teachers. I guess you could say it's personal to them.

At the beginning of this school year, District 25's Superintendent Dr. Lori Bein stood in front of and addressed just under 850 of her staff members, eager to get into their classrooms. Dr. Bein's message was simple: **"What we do here is personal to us."**

A humbling, yet impactful and powerful statement, it has brought a new awareness and new excitement as to why everyone here in District 25 wakes up ready to inspire their students. Everything done here in District 25 is done from a personal place, from within.

A student's relationship to his/her learning is personal. The relationship an administrator has with his/her teacher is personal. How a teacher communicates and teams up with a student's parents comes from a personal place.

The way a custodian so meticulously organizes and cleans their respective school building is personal as it sets up our students and teachers for success the following school day. The smile and blind willingness from a front office administrative assistant to help any parent or constituent that walks into their school is personal.

And, of course, the way our teachers and staff members plan, teach, interact, and develop relationships with our students is the most personal thing of all.

Oh, we cannot forget about how a Superintendent impacts her staff. That's personal as well. Dr. Bein's message wasn't one that was meant to change the world or even the way things are done around District 25. This place is already one of warmth, care, and dedication. The message, however, was to be put in the back of her staffs' minds, for maybe a rough and overwhelming day, as a reminder as to why everyone here in District 25 consciously decided to make his or her life's work in education; a career full of impacting kids during their most vulnerable years.

ArlingtonHeightsSD25 @ahsd25 • Mar 23

This run has been personal to a few of us in District office! Who else?!

@LoyolaChicago @RamblersMBB @PorterMoser #d25ItsPersonal



1 17

Mrs. Wienckowski @MrsWienckowski • Mar 17

My reading teacher heart is so happy this little guy loves books already!

#d25ItsPersonal



19

Becky FitzPatrick @PrincipalFitz • Feb 24

She's our Golden Apple! Congrats @Jodi3060 for a well deserved honor! Hoot, hoot, hooray! @AHSD25Olive @ahsd25 #d25ItsPersonal



4 5 41

Monica Rahman @Monica_Rahman25 • Feb 5
 Thank you to @EricLarson23 for leading with #PantherKindness
 #d25ItsPersonal



1 2 15

Akemi Sessler @AkemiSessler • Apr 27
 Happy Birthday to our favorite crossing guard, Mr. Poterack! Rain, snow or shine he's always there to help our students get safely to and from @DrydenSchool
 @ahsd25 #d25ItsPersonal



1 7



Miss Swanson @TheSwansonSquad • Mar 1
 Big shout out to Konstantino on his awesome performance in goal tonight! You crushed it K-Man! So proud of you! Thanks for inviting your teacher ❤️
 #Ivyhillleague #d25ItsPersonal



2 2 29

Our staff's desire to contribute to our students' lives in such an intimate way spills over into our community. Our students are developing into young and impactful citizens in Arlington Heights. This Village is their home, and there's nothing more personal than home.

In District 25, we encourage our students to get out and experience their community. Our students and staff develop and hone their passions inside our buildings and then bring them out to the community in many ways.

Whether it be a holiday chorus concert at Luther Village or a student-run fundraising effort to support a fellow student, neighboring family, the community, or just a great cause, our students are highly motivated to passionately represent Arlington Heights with pride.

Thank you, Arlington Heights Community – This must be personal to you, as well.

The job of growing and impacting our youth is not one we can do alone. We need the entire Arlington Heights community's support, and we certainly get that. District 25 so appreciates our partnerships with local organizations such as the Park District, the Library, the Arlington Heights Police and Fire Departments, the Chamber of Commerce, ABC/25, our PTA, and the Village itself.

The Library brings to life the stories our students are reading with yearly author visits, giving a one-on-one experience our students and staff remember for a long time. The before and after school care via the Park District's CAP (Children at Play) Program gives our families a reliable and engaging childcare and recreational option for their children.

Safety remains our District's top priority, and the Police and Fire Departments work tirelessly with us to ensure the safety of our students and staff. The Chamber of Commerce partners with our schools in so many ways, whether it be donating a venue or their services to a school-run event, or to the many World of Work days where students get to experience what it's like to work in a real business for a day.

Our parents donate their time and vision through the PTA and ABC/25 Foundation to enhance the learning done inside each and every classroom. None of this would be possible without the Village itself, supporting our schools with a tight partnership and endless support.

It is clear that Arlington Heights is a personal place. People with passion, excitement, and dedication make this Village a great place to raise a family. We, here in District 25, feel a connection to that idea, and bring what's personal with us every day into the classroom, so that value can continue to be recycled back into our community.

To see how District 25 has become such a personal place, please visit www.sd25.org/d25ItsPersonal. Tweet us using the hashtag #d25ItsPersonal to let us know how District 25 is personal to you.

EXPANDING WITH A PURPOSE

This is an exciting time to be a student, parent or staff member in District 25. As enrollment continues to grow, so do our walls. Last year, the District broke ground and completed expansion projects at Thomas Middle School and Windsor Elementary School. The expansions were completely ready for the start of the 2017-2018 school year, and students have been learning in their newly renovated, inspiring spaces all year.

The final step in the District's three-year expansion plan is underway at Greenbrier Elementary School. That project broke ground last November and is intended to alleviate space from a booming neighborhood and increasing enrollment in our Early Childhood Program. The plan at Greenbrier is the smallest of our five projects. It will be completed and ready for the students to arrive in August for the 2018-2019 school year.

"The high ceilings in both rooms provide for better acoustics than the old, cramped rooms. There's more space for learning and enjoying the music."

Madi Palmer
8th grade band and
music student at Thomas



THOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL

**NEW OFFICE,
ENTRANCE
& WELCOME SPACE**

**NEW MUSIC CLASSROOM
& BAND ROOM**

NEW DRAMA CLASSROOM

ADDITIONAL PARKING

4 NEW CLASSROOMS

912 2014-15 STUDENT
ENROLLMENT

**EXPANDED
COMMONS**

**NEW
GYM**

976 2017-18 STUDENT
ENROLLMENT



WINDSOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5 NEW EDUCATIONAL CLASSROOMS

EXPANDED GYM

RENOVATED AND DOUBLED IN SIZE

EXPANDED LUNCHROOM & COMMONS

NEW OFFICES & MEETING SPACES

ADDITIONAL PARKING

474 2014-15 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

517 2017-18 STUDENT ENROLLMENT



GREENBRIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4 NEW EDUCATIONAL CLASSROOMS

NEW WING

ON SOUTH END OF BUILDING

EARLY CHILDHOOD PLAYGROUND

NEW OFFICES & MEETING SPACES

ADDITIONAL PARKING

373 2014-15 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

396 2017-18 STUDENT ENROLLMENT

— PROJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN SUMMER OF 2018 —



**ALL 5
PROJECTS
AT A GLANCE**

OLIVE-MARY STITT (2015) | IVY HILL (2015) | THOMAS (2016) | WINDSOR (2016) | GREENBRIER (2017)

30 New Classrooms | 24,000 square feet of Gym Space | Expanded Commons in 4 buildings
New Band, Music, and Drama Classrooms | Ancillary and Meeting Spaces added to all 5 buildings

*Years are indicative of when each project broke ground.

TWENTY FIVES ARE WILD IN DISTRICT 25

“I am the fiduciary of other people’s money, and I take that job personally.”

District 25’s Assistant Superintendent of Business, Stacey Mallek, has one tiny, inconspicuous plaque on a wall in her office; it reads, “This Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented to Arlington Heights School District 25, 2017.”

She also has twenty-four more of those plaques in a box located right next to her desk with the same message, one for each of the last twenty-five years.

These 25 plaques represent 25 straight years of recognized excellence in financial reporting in District 25 by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO International).

Oh, and, ASBO International doesn’t just hand out these recognitions. In order to be considered for this award, school districts must put together an extensive financial report that goes above and beyond the standards that many businesses and government entities are required to meet. Last year, just 63 districts in Illinois and 559 across the country were recognized and District 25 was one of them.

Every year, Mallek and her team take audited financial information, interpret it, and explain what it all means in this report. Then Mallek and her team submit the report to ASBO International, and publish it on the District 25 website.

The public may decide not to read it, but that is not the only reason this report is important to Mallek in the twelve years she has worked here.

“When interpreting the District’s financial information, I ask myself, ‘If I’m a community member reading this, what do I want to know about these numbers?’” Mallek said. *“Not everyone is comfortable calling the office and asking questions.”*

The extra hours of work and time by Mallek and her staff is gladly spent in order to rightfully show the community that District 25 and its School Board has financial integrity.

“It gives credibility to the Business Office that we understand,” Mallek said. *“I know what the numbers mean. I know where the tax money from our constituents goes and I want everyone in the community to know as well.”*

This credibility not only builds and establishes trust within the Arlington Heights community, but it positively affects the District and the community when it comes time to sell bonds. This award is respected by bond rating agencies and it helps District 25 receive a higher bond rating, helping the community by lowering the cost of District 25’s debt when selling bonds.

All of this is personal to Mallek. She grew up in Arlington Heights, went through District 25 schools, still lives close by, and her mom currently lives in Arlington Heights. Her ties to this community are deep.

“My goal is to show my community I know exactly where their money is going and what we are doing with it,” Mallek said.



STRATEGIC VISION 2020

A community-wide vision for District 25.

In February of 2016, District 25 asked the entire Arlington Heights Community three simple questions:

- 1) WHAT ARE SOME CONCERNS YOU HAVE ABOUT DISTRICT 25?
- 2) WHAT ARE SOME THINGS YOU APPRECIATE ABOUT DISTRICT 25?
- 3) WHAT ARE SOME OTHER THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY ABOUT DISTRICT 25 AND ITS SCHOOLS?

The public flooded these open-ended questions with personal thoughts, opinions, feelings, and beliefs about their school district, each one then analyzed, grouped and packaged into a comprehensive website giving the public access to the results.

The answers from this exchange served as a great launching point to begin a conversation with the public and eventually a plan as to what District 25's vision, mission, and individual objectives are through the 2020 school year. The District invited parents, community members, representatives from local community organizations/partnerships, teachers, staff, and administrators to come in and spend two days brainstorming, fine-tuning, sharing, and preparing the final version of Strategic Vision 2020.

"Those two days were incredible," Superintendent Dr. Lori Bein said. "Being in that room with all of those perspectives, and using the results from the community set District 25 up to best support it's students and staff for years to come."

BELOW REPRESENTS OUR 5 BROAD GOALS AND THE PROGRESS WE'VE MADE ON EACH.

65% BROADEN
BEST
PRACTICES

40% EXPLORE
PROGRAM
EXPANSION

100% STRENGTHEN
COMMUNITY
RELATIONS

100% ENHANCE
STAFF
SUPPORT

50% MAINTAIN &
ENHANCE HIGH
QUALITY FACILITIES

For a detailed update on each Broad Goal, including links to presentations given at District 25 Board Meetings, visit www.sd25.org/VisionDashboard.

EMBRACING TODAY. INSPIRING TOMORROW.

Arlington Heights School District 25 cultivates innovative learners within a nurturing and collaborative community to thrive in an ever-changing world.



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

1200 South Dunton Avenue Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Plum Grove

2160 Stonington Ave.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Lori Bein
Superintendent

Dr. Jake Chung
*Asst. Superintendent for
Personnel & Planning*

Chris Fahnoe
*Director of Technology
& Assessment*

Adam Harris
*Communications
Coordinator*

Coletta Hines-Newell
Director of Food Services

Aimée LeBlanc
*Asst. Superintendent for
Student Services*

Stacey Mallek
*Asst. Superintendent for
Business / CSBO*

Dr. Eric Olson
*Asst. Superintendent for
Student Learning*

Ryan Schulz
*Director of Facilities
& Grounds*

SCHOOL BOARD

Brian Cerniglia
President

David Page
Vice President

Erin Johannesen
Secretary

Chad Conley
Member

Richard Olejniczak
Member

Anisha Ismail Patel
Member



WE ARE HIRING!
**SUBSTITUTE
TEACHERS**

\$110 PER DAY

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE

Select the days you want to work
based on your schedule.

CONTACT KASIA KOSINSKA

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