

COMMUNITY & SCHOOL We have the same interests

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This Olive student's day kicked off with many high fives from the Arlington Heights Police and many Hersey Husky student athletes during High-Five Fridays in the Fall.





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

IMAGE AT LEFT: A student at Westgate surprised his teacher with flowers on the first day of school this past year.

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EMBRACING TODAY! INSPIRING TOMORROW!

This vision statement means so much to us in District 25. Embracing Today is our commitment to welcome every single student into our community. We promise to wrap our proverbial arms around each child, and to embrace his unique characteristics. Inspiring Tomorrow is our promise to help each child grow to his fullest potential. It is our commitment to give back to the community that embraces us by building the students who will contribute in the future.

It's personal in District 25. We are so thankful to the Arlington Heights community for caring about our students and teachers. As the Superintendent of Schools, I am honored to work collaboratively with leaders in our village, our library, our park district, our churches, our senior center, and our local businesses. I'm so very appreciative of each person's genuine interest in supporting our schools. People who live and work in Arlington Heights often have children

IMAGE ABOVE: Dr. Bein is entering her sixth year as Superintendent of Arlington Heights School District 25.

in the District 25 schools. Even when they don't, they have an interest in sharing their experiences and an interest in helping our students engage in all that Arlington Heights has to offer. This entire community is our partner. Everyone is a teacher, embracing all students and inspiring them to the fullest.

District 25 continues our commitment to provide an exceptional education. In 2019, in fact, we received a statewide audit of all areas of our organization. We were given the highest possible ratings in finance and operations, curriculum and instruction, personnel practices, staff and student culture, technology integration, support programs, and facility safety and maintenance. The Illinois State Board of Education praised our Board of Education for the design and implementation of the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.

As we enter into the final year of our Strategic Plan, we will be reaching out to our community again for input, ideas, and support. Thank you, Arlington Heights, for embracing District 25! Together, we will continue to inspire tomorrow's leaders.

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D. – *Superintendent* #d25ltsPersonal

THIS IS COMMUNITY. THIS IS PERSONAL.

COMMUNITY – In District 25, this word carries weight. In District 25, being part of a community is defined by more than mere proximity and location. A community is a sense of belonging and support, and being a part of something bigger than yourself. It's about caring for others, and that care is something that can eventually impact the world.

When a visitor, resident, parent, student, teacher or District 25 staff member walks into one of our buildings, a sense of personal care and dedication washes over them. Our buildings feel safe, full of hope and wonder.

There is a community within each one of our schools, created through personal connection and through the window to our classrooms. Our goal is to open that window to our community. We understand that, while we are our own communities here in District 25, we are part of the larger community of Arlington Heights, and we hope to mirror the values that are so coveted by this Village.

Walking in a local park, down a local street, at the library, park district, or even walking in downtown, people feel care, dedication, safety, warmth and growth. Because we are a part of the Arlington Heights community we have a responsibility to our neighbors to work towards furthering the goal of creating connection within this community.

In District 25, we accomplish that on multiple levels. Not only are we responsibly and personally in charge of educating the young people of Arlington Heights, which adds value to the village at large, but we have also created a community within our school district, itself.

IMAGES FEATURED AT RIGHT (from top): Real life science was brought to students at Westgate by a parent in the District. A Dryden Alumnus brought his a capella group from Yale University back to Dryden to perform for the current Dolphins. The Jesse White Tumblers visited South to support a student who started a "Green Out" campaign in honor of National Donate Life Month. The Patton Community comes together every year for a walkathon to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.





District 25 is made up of teachers, staff members, students and families, all of who are passionate about learning and growing. The values and responsibilities taught within our walls and in our classrooms embody what this community is all about. Being a good neighbor by caring for others is shown through large-scale efforts and student-lead, annual, philanthropic campaigns at every one of our schools. Beyond that, our teachers embody what this community is about by teaching our students how to be the most supportive and empathetic human being they can.

Here in District 25, we practice what it means to be a good neighbor, and what it means to be a productive member of the Arlington Heights community. The relationship we have with Arlington Heights is vital to the success of our students as we are educating future learners and future citizens.

Our students learn the skills needed to be academically successful, while also learning how to be successful human beings who will contribute to society at some point in their life.

Our education extends into the community and beyond

In District 25, we carry the responsibility of educating our students, your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, close to our hearts. The academic education our students receive extends beyond our classroom, and often into the community. In District 25, the importance of the journey of learning is not lost on our students, and it can often outweigh the significance of the results.

Beyond test taking and grades is a world full of information and experiences and all year we invite our community into our buildings to showcase that. Parents, experts, local business owners, high school students, local college students, the library, the park district, the village and fire and police departments, are invited into classrooms throughout the school year to add perspective, spark



interests and further any passions our students may have. It is impactful when students see, firsthand, how what they are learning in the classroom applies to the outside world and the community. These community members leave quite an impression on our students. The opportunity created for our students to ask these experts specific and unique questions fosters their passions and creativity and opens their eyes to what is possible.

There are people within this community that support and take on the passions of our students. Our teachers and students benefit greatly from that.

Thank you for the support.

Arlington Heights and District 25 are one.

The feeling of Arlington Heights runs through our buildings, hallways and classrooms. We feel supported and trusted to do our job from a personal place every day. Creating a safe, caring, fun and personal environment to learn from and grow within, all while encouraging our students to follow their passions, is what we hope to bring to our classrooms.

Every resident within Arlington Heights has a hand in that, and we thank you for that.

IMAGES FEATURED BELOW (from left): Graduating seniors from Buffalo Grove High School were celebrated and honored by students and staff at Ivy Hill Elementary as they walked the halls one last time. Principal Brian Kaye looks on as Thomas alumni are honored during in the annual Pride of the Wolfpack assembly. Current Thomas teacher and Thomas alumnus, Heather Nisbet, addresses the entire student body as she is honored as a new member of the Pride of the Wolfpack.





Nowadays, the words *MODERN, ADVANCED, FUTURISTIC & TECHNOLOGICAL* are used a lot to describe an elementary or middle school classroom. Ask any school district, and they will tell you that their schools are filled with "modern classrooms" packed with 21st Century learning techniques and technology.

IMAGES FEATURED ABOVE: This student constructed her own "lava lamp" during a science lesson where students were learning about solids, liquids, and gases. Every one of our 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students receive their own Chromebook to be used to enhance lesssons inside and outside of the classroom. This word **"MODERN"**, when used to describe a classroom, means many different things to many districts. On the surface, a "modern classroom" could mean great access to technology and a space in which advanced tools are used to enhance learning. It could also be a space in which flexible furniture is used to create a collaborative environment for students to connect while learning.

Both of these views of a "modern classroom" are great, and they add value to a student's learning experience, but here in District 25, we go beyond these surface level views to find the most meaningful way to create a modern experience for our students.

In District 25 we believe there is more to a "modern" classroom than "modern" materials. A modern classroom is a mentality. It is a learning environment free of judgement, worry and attachment. It is a place for students to connect to their work. A modern classroom is personal. "We want students to be responsible for their own learning," Assistant Superintendent of Student Learning, Dr. Eric Olson said. "We want our students to become aware of their strengths and aware of the areas they can improve."

In District 25's modern classrooms, self-reflection and collaboration are extremely important concepts as well.

"We want our students to come to realizations about how they learn themselves, using the teacher as a guide as they try to further develop those skills," Olson said.

Walk the halls of one of our schools and you'll get the feel for exactly what Dr. Olson is talking about. No two classrooms are alike, yet the concepts being taught are all aligned. Teachers feel free to be the teachers they came here to be, and that shows up in the physical space and the mental space they've created for their students in their classrooms. No two classrooms look alike, teachers personalize their classrooms, just as the students personalize their work.

Students and teachers are encouraged to follow their passions, using technology and advanced research tools to support their interests. It starts, however, with the passion. The modern classroom here begins with "how to learn" and not the "what to learn".

"Our teachers are empowered to create a modern classroom in District 25"

Of course, our teachers are well trained and versed in technological advancements in the classroom, and of course, it is a priority to us to provide our students with the materials that make up a modern work environment. For example, our middle schoolers all receive their own Chromebook in 5th grade and have a true 1-to-1 experience through 8th grade. Our elementary school classrooms have easy access to iPads and computers.

Yet, to us, a modern classroom is a place where students collaborate, routinely. This is where things like flexible learning furniture and a flexible teaching mentality can come into play, as it gives giving students the freedom to move about and connect with others. A modern classroom is a space of encouragement and guidance, where our students feel free to explore their passions, within the curriculum structure laid out by the teacher.

Many of the jobs our students are going to pursue in the future are not even conceptualized yet. They do not exist. The technology our students will use in these jobs of the future will be entirely different than what they are exposed to now.

The skills our students are learning in District 25's modern classrooms, however, as unquantifiable as they may be, will continue to be relevant. The ability to listen to one's passion within, work collaboratively, work fearlessly, an endless desire for learning and the ability to adjust will all always be on trend. These are the skills that will carry our students through life, no matter how the definition of "modern" changes in the future.

THE GREENBRIER EXPANSION

It's complete. The Greenbrier Elementary expansion project wrapped up in time for opening day of the 2018-19 school year. This project provides the space, both literally and energetically, for students and staff to learn, grow and connect with one another every day.

This was the last of a wave of expansion projects that included five schools from around the District. These new spaces serve as a permanent investment in District 25 and for the greater Arlington Heights area for years to come. Our goal was to build with our community in the forefront of our mind, and we believe we accomplished that. The value added to our current students and staff will pay off down the line with future students and staff. This is a place that families want to live, in part, because of the fantastic facilities this village has to offer. Our district, is no different and we take pride in that.

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A NEW EDUCATIONAL CLASSROOMS NEW WING ON SOUTH END OF BUILDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PLAYGROUND NEW OFFICES & MEETING SPACES

ADDITIONAL PARKING

396²⁰¹⁷⁻¹⁸ STUDENT

427²⁰¹⁸⁻¹⁹ STUDENT ENROLLMENT

OUR BUILDINGS SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

The Facilities Department keeps our buildings clean and functional, not only for our students and staff, but for the community. These buildings are owned by District 25, but are open and available for use by the park district, library, local clubs/organizations, etc. These buildings are a staple in our community, and serve our community beyond the families that send their students to them everyday. The responsibility to our constituents to keep these buildings up, functional and serviceable beyond the school day is something that our Facilities Department takes very seriously.

"Our school facilities are a direct reflection of the Arlington Heights community that we serve. These buildings are ingrained in the Arlington Heights neighborhoods and support a wide range of community organizations beyond their core educational purpose. That is why we strive to provide safe, reliable, efficient and clean facilities for all the community members that enter our doors." - Ryan Schulz, Director of Facilities Management "Every decision we make related to our facilities is focused on safety, reliability, efficiency, and presentability. We make these decisions by being good stewards of the taxes our community members contribute to ensure the facilities are maintained in a manner that provides long term reliability and a sense of pride for everyone in the Arlington Heights community."

> Ryan Schultz Director of Facilities Management

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.



BALANCING MORE THAN JUST 'THE BOOKS' IN DISTRICT 25

In District 25's Department of Business and Finance balancing the interest of the community with the interest of the district can be a very difficult, scary and overwhelming job. It CAN be, but here in District 25 it is not.

"It all depends on how one looks at it. For example, here in District 25, we believe that the interest of the community and the interest of the school district are the same, and thus, balancing and allocating our funds has become a passion," Stacey Mallek said.

Mallek is District 25's Assistant Superintendent of Business/CSBO. She and her team come to work filled with a lot of joy as they help to make big-time financial decisions that will set up District 25 and the Arlington Heights community for success for years to come.

"This community values a superior educational experience which produces highly sought after schools," Mallek, who grew up going through the District 25 school system, said. "Setting our students up for success, sets the community up for financial success."

Balance. It's a fleeting concept in today's world and is often tough to achieve.

THE VALUE OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 25 PROVIDES OUR STUDENTS.

GOVERNMENT

FUNDING

PROPERTY

TAXES

JUST BECAUSE WE HAVE IT, DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD SPEND IT.

HOW DOES THIS HELP OUR KIDS ACHIEVE?

IF OUR KIDS ACHIEVE... OUR COMMUNITY ACHIEVES!



THIS ROLE IS Community. This role is Personal.

The School Board is the guardian of the public trust and our board members take that job to heart. Through the policies they make and guidance they give the district, our School Board is essential in establishing the standards and philosophies by which District 25 is run.

Elected by the residents of Arlington Heights to ensure that District 25 is adding value to this village, our board makes decisions and guides this district to be of service. District 25's Board of Education affirms the unique role of public education, whereby each community collectively pools its resources for the common good through the education of its students. Therefore, our board seeks to uphold and improve public education for Arlington Heights.



Brian Cerniglia – President I chose to serve on District 25's Board of Education to be a role model for my children. I want to show them the importance of giving back to your community through volunteerism. Also, District 25 provides a caring, nurturing, top-notch education and that is the kind of community I want to be part of and support.



David Page – Vice President I serve on the School Board to give back to our community by doing my part to ensure that D25 delivers the best education possible for our children in a fiscally responsible way. I stay focused on what our most important purpose is by always asking myself "what is best for our students?" as the board discusses and plans for the future of D25 throughout each and every year.



Erin Johannesen – Secretary I serve on the Board of Education because my children benefited from the excellent education this district provides. I wanted to show my support and appreciation by becoming more involved. I find I have received more from the staff, families, and administration than I could ever give. We are blessed to be a part of an amazing community.



Chad Conley – Member I have three children who attend District 25 schools and I wanted to find a way to get involved. I have enjoyed the opportunity to understand how the district operates and I look forward to continued involvement as our community grows and evolves.



Scott Filipek – Member As a Mt. Prospect Police Officer, I understand the importance of community service. I enjoy giving back to the community in which I live and there is nothing more personally rewarding than serving and doing what's best for the kids of District 25!



Rich Olejniczak – Member I love Arlington Heights and part of what makes Arlington Heights special are the schools. Therefore, I want to invest my time and energy into something that continues to help Arlington Heights be great.



Anisha Patel – *Member* As an educator, it's always been about ensuring happy, thriving students and teachers. Arlington Heights is such a positive, innovative learning community and it is inspiring to be an active part of it.



This year, District 25 was audited by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) as a part of a standard Compliance Visit completed every five years. A school district must have a successful review and/or correct concerns from a review in order to maintain its recognition status as an approved public school system. We are thrilled at the outcome of this year's audit. District 25 was determined to be in "FULL COMPLIANCE". Moreover, the review team listed numerous commendations and areas to which District 25 should be especially proud of, and the team listed no concerns or areas of noncompliance. "This is the most proud I have been

after a compliance review. This review shows how deeply our teachers, staff members, administration and community care about the students of Arlington Heights." - Superintendent, Dr. Lori Bein



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ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Lori Bein *Superintendent*

Brian Kaye Asst. Superintendent for Personnel & Planning

Chris Fahnoe Director of Technology & Assessment Adam Harris Head of Communications & Storytelling

Coletta Hines-Newell Director of Food Services

Dr. Peg Lasiewicki Asst. Superintendent for Student Services Stacey Mallek Asst. Superintendent for Business / CSBO

Dr. Becky FitzPatrick 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*

Scott Filipek *Member*

Richard Olejniczak *Member*

Anisha Ismail Patel Member







\$110 PER DAY FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE Select the days you want to work. **CONTACT KASIA KOSINSKA** 847-758-4912 or kkosinska@sd25.org