

KWMS Panther Pride

May 16th, 2025

Message from the Principal

Happy Friday, Kenyon Woods Families!

As we wrap up the final days of the school year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership, support, and encouragement throughout the year. It has truly been a year of growth, learning, and connection — and we couldn't have done it without you.

Today, I'd like to recognize and celebrate five very special members of our Kenyon Woods family who will be retiring at the end of this school year. Together, these incredible educators represent **152 years** of teaching experience. When you think about it — if each teacher works with an average of 150 students each year, that adds up to over **22,800 students** whose lives they have touched! Who says we don't use math every day?

When we talk about what it means to dedicate your life to supporting and educating young people, these teachers are the perfect example. Their passion, wisdom, and care have made a lasting impact, and their contributions to our school community will never be forgotten.

Please join us in congratulating:

Mrs. Cebulski – 32 years

Mr. Cesaroni – 22 years

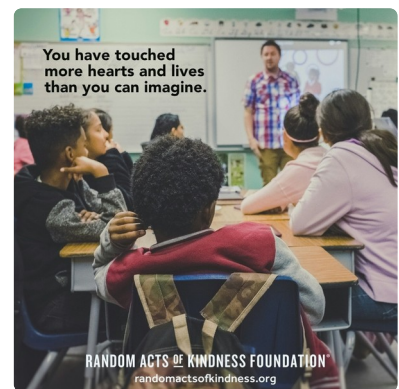
Mr. Crumpley – 40 years

Mr. Gotfryd – 21 years

Mr. Monger – 37 years

Your teachings will forever be treasured, and your legacy lives on in every student you've inspired. We wish you all the best in this new chapter of life — thank you for everything.

Wishing all our families a smooth end to the school year and a joyful start to summer!



Thank you Everyone!
Lisa Olsem ~ Principal

WE ARE KENYON WOODS AND WE DREAM BIG

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also DREAM; not only plan, but also BELIEVE!

~ Anatole France



THANK YOU MRS. CEBULSKI

It has been an honor and a privilege to teach at Kenyon Woods for the past 21 years. During this time, I have met many wonderful young people and worked with many amazing teachers and support staff. It is the people I will miss, not the building, or the lesson plans, and especially not the meetings and directives, but the people. I have taught nearly 5000 students during my 32 years as a teacher. This last group has so many wonderful caring individuals that helped me get through the toughest year of my career, and I am forever grateful to them. I look forward to bumping into many of you as time goes on. I love to hear what you are doing and what your plans are. Many of you are going to go on and do some amazing things. Remember, you make your life, and the choices you make today will impact your future. Best wishes to all of you!

Love,

THANK YOU CESARONI

Dear Kenyon Woods Middle School & U46 Families,

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I write you to inform you of my intention to retire upon the conclusion of this school year. I have had the privilege of doing what I have come to understand to be the most honorable of professions; educating children, working with professional staff, learning and caring for children. In May, I will have completed 22 years of service to the students and families of School District U46. I will remain eternally grateful for the opportunity to serve School District U46 as a teacher, role model, mentor and coach.

It has been an honor to work alongside so many talented and passionate U46 administrators, teachers and staff. There is not a day that goes by that I do not marvel in your work, your talent and commitment to the students. Thank you and Bless you all.

Phillip Cesaroni
Kenyon Woods Middle School

THANK YOU MR. CRUMPLEY

Dear Kenyon families, students, staff and friends,

No, wait,

Dear Beautiful and Talented Kenyon Woods Community,

When I was first picked to come to Kenyon Woods eleven years ago, I knew I had hit the jackpot. I came to Kenyon with nine years already in U-46, and twenty years in California schools before that, but I knew with Kenyon Woods I was finally “home”. I told people proudly that they would have to drag me out of here to get me to leave. Eleven years ago I still hadn’t anticipated the “getting old” part of the equation. So now, as many of you know, after a teaching career of 40 years, I’m dragging myself out, and retiring at the end of this school year.

The question I’m asked most is, “Will you come back and sub?” The answer is a clear and definite, “No.” I have done nothing but teach my entire adult life, and I think I’ve done enough. I’m still going to do a lot of things, but the label of “teacher” that has defined me since I was 22 is really going to be retired. I’m not kidding myself, just the thought of all this is more than a little scary.

I want to thank everyone, all the students, families, teachers, and staff who have made Kenyon Woods my home since 2014. You are more special to me than you know. Obviously, an extra special thanks to Bill Greguras who has been my “American Studies” partner for the last eight years. (We’ve built something special here, dude.)

Thanks and farewell, everybody. I know Kenyon Woods will continue to be a great place to be a Panther (raower).

Mr. Crumpley

THANK YOU MR. GOTFRYD

Mr. Gotfryd is retiring. This is to all staff and families.. I am thankful daily for what gifts I have been given. This was my second career, my first being a computer engineer at Bell Laboratories in Naperville for 20 years. I have always had an interest in science, math, and technology. I started U-46 21 years ago as a computer teacher at Abbott Middle School and Kenyon Woods. (Doing the math, yes, 41 years full time) I transitioned to teaching math at Kenyon Woods as most know I'm teaching 8th grade science teacher here. A favorite memory is when a student took the image of my face from the Canvas home page and had t-shirts printed for a group of students who wore the shirts to class. Of course they gave one to me, too! It had a caption: "In Don we Trust" . I love the resiliency and positive energy of middle school students. By my count, I've reached nearly 5,000 students in my teaching career, and I hope students left my class with the confidence to build their dreams. Outside of school, I will enjoy time with family, friends, and the occasional meeting with fellow teachers. My goal is to be a centennial, which scarily enough is not that far away.

THANK YOU MR. MONGER

In my 37 years of teaching (5 before coming to u-46), I have spent my last and most years as an educator at Kenyon Woods Middle School. When I interviewed for my teaching position at Kenyon Woods, I shared that I was looking for a place to be for the rest of my career, a place to retire from, a place where I belonged, a home. I do not think that a single day has passed since then that I felt that Kenyon Woods was not that place. Not everyday has been the easiest, but even in challenging times, I found belonging with my students, parents, administrators and fellow staff members.

Kenyon Woods has been a place where people come and most stay. Everyday, Kenyon Woods provided me with the opportunity to make a positive difference in the school experiences of young people and challenged me to recognize those opportunities. I believe that middle schools are the places where students begin the journey to find themselves and begin building the courage to try new and difficult and scary things . At Kenyon Woods, students will find a staff that will support them in that journey. It has been heartening and rewarding to see students begin to discover talents and strength within themselves, to take chances; seeing them celebrate their successes and persevere at times when things didn't work out as they had hoped. The great thing about being an educator at Kenyon Woods is that I work with people that expect more from me, challenge me, depend on me and invite me to do the same for them. I have taught at many schools in my years in u-46 and I enjoyed them all, but Kenyon became my home.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Today, we had the pleasure of honoring all of our Students of the Month with a special breakfast celebration — and what an incredible event it was! These students truly exemplify what it means to **live the Kenyon Way** through their character, effort, and leadership.



A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff for organizing such a meaningful celebration, and to our amazing PTO for their generous support with the food and setup. Your contributions helped make this event a memorable one for our students.

Congratulations to all of our honorees — we're so proud of you!



EVERY MINUTE MATTER PRESENTS MAY ATTENDANCE MADNESS

Every Minute Matters, the District's attendance campaign, is excited to present May Attendance Madness—a bracket-style challenge running May 5–23, designed to celebrate student commitment. Each week, schools in each network will compete head-to-head, with the most improved attendance (compared to the same week in May 2024) advancing to the next round. The final week of school will determine the 2025 Attendance Champion for each network.

To prepare, check the Every Minute Matters [Attendance Data Trends](#) webpage to see your school's attendance rate for the previous week. Let's work together to finish the year strong—because Every Minute Matters!

AT THE END OF THIS WEEK, KWMS HAS DROPPED TO 4TH PLACE!

REMINDER ABOUT DRESS GUIDELINES

With the warm weather we tend to see quite a few new fashion styles. While they may be in style for going out, they are not always appropriate for school. Please check what your student is wearing before they leave for school. If you question it, it is probably not right for school. Students

can choose clothing that makes them feel comfortable and safe, as long as it complies with the following guidelines:

1. Does not depict any violence, hatred, drugs, alcohol, gang affiliation, profanity, phobic language, sexual content or cruelty of any kind
2. Covers all appropriate areas at all times. Appropriate areas include: stomach, chest and sides (both male and female) and butt/pelvic/upper thigh areas.
3. Items such as tank tops, sleeveless shirts, any type of shorts, coats, jackets, etc. are all allowed provided they adhere to #2 of this Section. (Low backs are not a problem)
4. Jewelry is allowed, unless it becomes a safety concern.
5. Hats, hoods, and other types of head coverings are not allowed unless required for religious or medical purposes.
6. Footwear must be worn for health reasons (cannot go shoeless). **Due to safety concerns, Flip Flops and Slides are not to be worn in school.**

ONE LAST CHANCE TO ORDER A YEARBOOK

If your student didn't receive a yearbook and you'd still like to purchase one, there's still an option available! Families who wish to have a copy printed and shipped directly to them can do so through the link below. Please note that the cost will include printing and shipping fees.

The ordering link will go live on **June 2**:

🔑 [Order a Yearbook Here](#)

Thank you for helping us celebrate and preserve the memories of this school year!



HAVE YOU REGISTER FOR THE 2025-26 SY

Did you know that you can use your mobile phone to register your child for the 2025-26 school year? That's in addition to a laptop, a desktop computer, and your child's District-issued Chromebook.

If you have not yet started the registration process, now is the time to do it — all currently enrolled students must be registered by May 31 this year.

It's also easier to turn in necessary paperwork before the summer break begins, and if you run into problems, the front office staff at your child's school is available to help.

Get started [here](#). If you've forgotten a password or username, or need other assistance, [this page](#) will help.

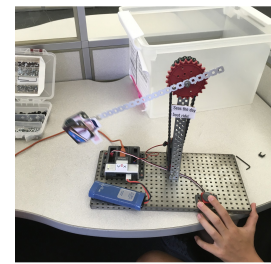
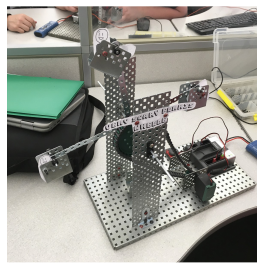
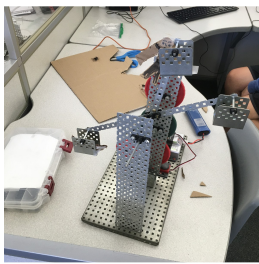


BRAVO TO OUR 7TH, 8TH AND JAZZ BAND PERFORMANCES THIS WEEK!

Our bands delivered outstanding performances this week — truly as good as, if not better than, many high school bands we've heard! The growth and progression since the start of the year has been nothing short of incredible. Huge kudos to our talented student musicians and dedicated directors for an unforgettable showcase of skill and passion!

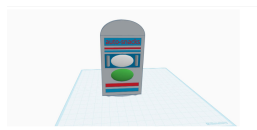
PICTURES OF THE WEEK

We have been building and programming carnival rides.



Students in Introduction to Computers have been completing their Passion Projects. They choose a topic they are passionate about and then selected a program from a previous unit to complete some amazing and unique designs!

Below are examples from Animation, Graphic Design, and 3D Modeling.



SEHS SUMMER ATHLETIC CAMPS ARE AVAILABLE!

SEHS Summer Athletic Camp Registration is Now Open!

To register for a camp, start by clicking on the registration tab on <https://schools.snap.app/sehs>. If your student was registered for a sport before, or if he/she registered for a summer camp, you need to use the same log-in email and password as before. If this is your first time registering on 8to18, you will need to use an email and create a password. Once you click on "Begin Registration", go to Camps and click "Summer Camps".



SOUTH ELGIN FOOTBALL SUMMER CAMPS

**JUNE &
JULY**



REGISTRATION LINK

<https://manage.snap.app/register/sehs/dashboard/catalog>

STRENGTH CAMP (FRESHMEN-SENIORS)
JUNE 2ND - 20TH (M, T, TH, F)

🏈 **PRE-SEASON CAMP (FRESHMEN-SENIORS)**

🏈 **PRE-SEASON CAMP 8TH GRADE (CLASS OF 2030)**

June 23, 24, 26, 27, 30

July 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 31*

Times/Details on Team SportsYou Calendar App

@ South Elgin High School

Head Football Coach Pat Pistorio

Email- Sehsfootballcoach@gmail.com



U-46 Middle School Experience

- Meet teachers and students from your middle school
- Have fun
- Get to know the building



Open to rising 7th grade students at all U-46 middle schools.



[Click here or scan above to REGISTER!](#)

Dates:

July 29-30 8 am to 12 noon

at Abbott, Canton, Ellis, Eastview, Kenyon Woods, and Tefft Middle Schools

August 4-5 8 am to 12 noon


at Larsen and Hawk Hollow Middle Schools

August 7 1 pm - 5 pm

at Kimball Middle School

South Elgin High School Football Presents

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL



YOUTH CAMP
1ST-8TH GRADE



JUNE 2ND ,9TH, 16TH, & 23RD | 6:30-8:30 P.M.

South Elgin High School Football Stadium
Register Here
<https://manage.snap.app/register/sehs/dashboard/catalog>

SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES

As part of our commitment to ensuring a safe learning environment, Kenyon Woods will be conducting random, non-invasive searches throughout the school year in accordance with board policy and law. These searches are a proactive step towards maintaining safety and fostering an environment where learning can thrive without disruptions. They will be carried out by trained school personnel, in a manner that respects the privacy of all students. We assure you that these measures are standard safety procedures and not in response to any specific incident or concern. If a student refuses to participate in the random search, the school administration will follow the necessary steps in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Should you have any questions, please contact the school's main office.

LINK TO LUNCH MENU

IMPORTANT DATES

5/19/25 - 8th Grade Fieldtrip - Main Event
5/22/25 - 8th Grade Recognition - 6 pm @ SEHS

[Link to all 2024/25 KWMS Panther Newsletters](#)



Kenyon Woods Middle School

Website: <https://www.u-46.org/KenyonWoods>

Location: 1515 Raymond Street, South Elgin, IL, USA

Phone: 847-289-6685

Fax: 847-488-1430

Attendance line: 847-289-6685 Ext: 6654



Lisa Olsem

Lisa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters