

Press Clippings 06/17/2019

---Daily Herald---06/17/2019

U-46 students excel in state Future Health Professionals competition

Submitted by: Elgin Area School District U-46

Twenty students from the Elgin Area School District U-46 HOSA -- Future Health Professionals team composed of Streamwood, Bartlett, and South Elgin high schools are advancing to the international competition in Orlando, Fla.

These students placed in the top three of their category at the HOSA Illinois state competition in March, where they competed against more than 1,200 other students.

HOSA-Future Health Professionals is an international service and leadership organization focused around health care related competitions at the state and international level.

Students can compete in more than 50 areas, including sports medicine, pharmacy science, and CPR/first aid. Students are able to showcase the knowledge gained in their coursework at these competitions, to which more than 8,000 students qualify and compete in each year.

"HOSA's values of learning, leadership, service, and innovation serve to prepare students for both college and career," said Lela Majstorovic, assistant superintendent of secondary schools, instruction and equity. "Being a part of this organization gives students the type of real-life opportunities that motivate them and help them envision themselves as leaders in the health care industry."

The U-46 International HOSA team is coached by Bartlett High School teachers Susan Hoch and Valerie Putek, South Elgin High teacher Patrick Doranski, and Streamwood High School teacher Jackie Gordon.

The team will travel to Orlando to compete in the HOSA International Leadership Conference which runs June 19-22.

"The HOSA competitions give students hands-on experience that empowers them to become leaders in the medical field at an early age," Doranski said. "Our students have been diligently preparing themselves to compete and we are excited to see how they perform on the international stage."

A list of the U-46 International HOSA Team members and the category they are competing in is below:

South Elgin High School

- Alissa Farmer, CERT Skills
- Eviana Giardina, Health Career Display
- Toni Herz, CERT Skills

- Kylee Hunter, Original Medical Innovation
- Jordan Lenox, Original Medical Innovation
- Eileen Lopez, Health Education
- MacKenzie Molina, Sports Medicine
- Shruti Patel, Original Medical Innovation
- Tulsi Patel, Health Education
- Margaret Pavilk, Medical Reading
- Kaitlyn Petratos, Health Education
- Karolina Terlikowski, Health Career Display

Bartlett High School

- Anuj Ghandi, CERT Skills
- Sahithi Manne, Knowledge Test: Transcultural Healthcare
- Jhil Patel, Prepared Speaking
- Esha Sachdev, CERT Skills

Streamwood High School

- Gabriella Bongiovanni, Extemporaneous Writing
- Monica Voravong, Extemporaneous Writing
- Reeya Patel, Community Awareness
- Archana Patel, Community Awareness

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Larkin High School to host visual arts camp

By: Rafael Guerrero

School District U46 middle students can learn to sculpt, take photos, draw and paint at a new visual arts camp being held in July at Larkin High School in Elgin.

The program is designed for sixth- through eighth-grade students at Larkin, which also offers a dance academy camp for students in grades 4-12. Both free programs are designed to spark an interest in the arts and increase awareness of the high school's visual and performing arts academy.

“The philosophy behind this is we give the kids a camp to explore the arts,” said Todd Duty, chairman of Larkin’s fine arts division. “You get them in the building, you show them what we have, you show them a school they may not be used to. I think it just eases some of that anxiety (in applying to the U46 high school academies).”

Larkin Academy teachers Sean Murray, Carrie Brannon, and Jamie Miquelon will lead the visual arts camp, scheduled for July 15-18. Each instructor will focus on one specialty area, and the camp will culminate with an open house exhibition, Duty said.

This camp is something Larkin academy educators have long wanted as a way to recruit potential academy students. The school’s summer dance camp was already in place and paved the way for the visual arts summer program.

“These kids make these academy decisions in middle school,” Duty said. “These camps give them a chance to explore and think about something they maybe weren’t thinking about” pursuing in high school.

The new camp will not offer music or drama — the other pillars of Larkin’s academy offerings — but talks are underway to create a similar free camps for those subjects next summer, he said.

The Larkin dance camp runs July 1-25. Each week will be devoted to specific grade levels:

July 1-3, students in grades 4-6;

July 8-11, students in grades 7-8;

July 15-18, current Larkin dance academy students and incoming freshman;

July 22-25, students in grades 9-12 not in the academy;

The dance programs cover multiple techniques and are led by Larkin dance teachers Margaret Palmer and Kelli Myhre-Bahwell. Each typically attracts between 30 and 40 students, Duty said.

Registration deadline for the visual arts camp is July 5. Contact Jamie Miquelon at jamiemiquelon@u-46.org. Dance academy camp registration ends June 29. Contact Margaret Palmer at margaretpalmer@u-46.org.

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U-46 to undertake facilities study starting this fall

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



Elgin Area School District U-46 officials will begin a full review of how the district's facilities are being utilized starting this fall.



Lowrie Elementary School sixth-grade teacher Deni Alegria (in gray) and dual language paraprofessional Janet Ibanez (in red) work with a crowded sixth-grade class at the Elgin school. Elgin school officials might soon have to address the underutilization of some school buildings, while dealing with crowding at others.

Elgin Area School District U-46 officials will begin a full review of how the district's facilities are being used starting this fall with the goal of preparing for the launch of new educational pathways, officials said.

It will involve not only looking at underutilization and overcrowding of the district's 57 buildings, but also evaluating the infrastructure needs of aging schools and how they can be reconfigured to accommodate evolving programming requirements.

"We have schools that were built in the 1890s through 2006," U-46 CEO Tony Sanders said. "Across 57 different buildings we have a wide variety of ages and layout. Most of the buildings in Elgin are at capacity. The empty seats are in the Bartlett area for the most part."

Officials also will determine the feasibility of moving sixth grade out of the district's 40 elementary schools into eight middle schools. That would require boundary changes and community input, Sanders said.

The last time the district looked at facilities use was during the 2015-16 school year. Enrollment has been declining over the past several years at the state's second-largest school district -- 39,377 in 2017 compared to 38,764 in 2018. Declines largely have been in elementary grades.

Overall demographic trend data shows enrollment is expected to decline 2 percent yearly over the next two years.

The district will be working with an outside firm on the facilities study and has put out a request for proposals. Responses are expected soon, Sanders said.

SPORTS

---The Courier-News---06/16/2019

Brad Hunt: 1976-2019

‘He loved his time with you’

Bartlett’s players, colleagues, family react to the death of girls basketball coach

By: Paul Johnson



Bartlett coach Brad Hunt shouts encouragement in the Class 4A Batavia Sectional semifinal against Geneva on Feb.18.

Lexie Sinclair walked into Bartlett’s gym on Monday. She already knew but still expected to see girls basketball coach Brad Hunt.

“I couldn’t believe,” Sinclair said, “he wasn’t there.”

Sinclair and Mackenzie Hare were both on family vacations on Tuesday, June 4, when they were told Hunt, 43, died suddenly that day.

“When we both heard the news, we didn’t believe it,” Sinclair said. “The fact that everything was fine and then it wasn’t, that was shocking.”

Hunt leaves behind his wife Emily, son Brady, daughter Madison and a community mourning the loss of the beloved physical education teacher and coach.

The school held a memorial Monday for Hunt, with dozens of current and former students, parents, colleagues and community members in attendance.

Before the event, Sinclair and her teammates held a practice on the other side of the partition.

“I think that one thing we think about is what he would want us to be doing,” Sinclair said. “He doesn’t want us to not be playing basketball and not be getting better.”

Summer camp went on without Hunt the day after he died, just as he would have wanted.

“You don’t know how the kids will be, whether they were still in shock or what,” Bartlett athletic director Jeff Bral said. “Our counselors were all ready. You have to make sure to take care of your kids.”

Hunt started teaching at Bartlett in 2005. He was an assistant coach under Denise Sarna, who started the program, and then Dave Mello before getting his chance to take over for the 2017-18 season.

Eric Ilich, who shared an office with Hunt, recalled Monday how gracefully Hunt accepted being passed over for Mello when Sarna retired.

“Obviously, it hurt him,” Ilich said. “Brad didn’t give up. He didn’t go to another school. He didn’t quit. He worked harder. He worked as hard for Dave Mello for those two years as he ever has as a coach.

“That’s the kind of character that Brad Hunt had.”

Ilich was one of several speakers at the hourlong program, which included current and former players and parents.

Bartlett coach Matt Erlenbaugh brought his entire football team to the event. South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack brought his girls basketball team as well.

The stories all painted a picture of a man who was dedicated to his students and did whatever he could to impact their lives.

“The kids were always the most important thing to Brad,” Bral said. “Brad meant a lot to a lot of people. That’s also part of the healing for the family.

“It’s comforting to them to know that I care so deeply about Emily and the kids and making sure their futures are the best they can be.”

Emily Hunt spoke briefly at the end of the event, overcoming a fear of public speaking she shared with her husband.

“Today means the world because you gave us memories and you honored Brad,” Emily Hunt said. “He would be so proud. He would be so excited to hear about the successes that are going to come for you and the pride in Bartlett High School.

“He loved his time with you. You meant the world to him. Thank you for being there for coach Hunt.”

Donations to the Hunt family can be made at bhsboosters.org.