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Community leaders to serve as 'Principals for a Day' in U-46

By: Elgin Area School District U-46



• On Friday, Dec 7, community leaders will serve as "Principal for a Day" in Elgin Area School District U-46 schools, including, from left, Linda Deering-Dean, Philip Lewis, Tish Powell, Kevin Wallace and Sharmin Shahjahan.

Elgin Area School District U-46 will host its 11th annual "Principal for a Day" event on Friday, Dec. 7, with more than 50 local leaders experiencing school life from a new perspective across the district's 11 communities.

"This annual event is not only a way to celebrate our schools, but it is also an opportunity for our district to create and strengthen relationships with community leaders," said CEO Tony Sanders. "These relationships matter; they are what build and sustain our schools and communities."

Participating guest principals include police officers, firefighters, leaders in the areas of medicine, finance, business and education, and more than a dozen elected officials.

They will all get a behind-the-scenes look at the life and responsibilities of a school leader in a diverse district of nearly 39,000 students. Twenty-two of the 57 guest principals are new participants in the annual event.

The participants are always encouraged to develop long-term partnerships with the schools they visit by committing to activities such as mentoring and tutoring, hosting field trips, sponsoring a school activity, or being a guest for career day.

To conclude the "Principal for a Day" event, the guests will convene for a luncheon sponsored by Marco, a leading technology services provider, from noon to 2 p.m. at Villa Olivia in Bartlett.

The featured speaker will be state Sen. Andy Manar, the chief advocate of the evidence-based school funding reform in Illinois focused on equity for all students and schools. The reform brought additional state funding to U-46, \$24 million during the 2017-18 school year and \$18 million during the 2018-19 school year. He will address attendees on statewide education initiatives during the luncheon.

Below is a chart that outlines which community leaders will serve at individual schools.

- Abbott Middle School: Leslie Maloney of JPMorgan Chase
- Bartlett Elementary: Hasi Smith of Alignment Collaborative for Education
- Bartlett High School: Richard Miskiewicz of Baird & Warner
- Canton Middle School: Streamwood Village Board trustee Mary Thon
- Centennial Elementary: Samantha Alloway of Elgin Area School District U-46 Citizens' Advisory Council
- Central School Programs: Heather Weiss of DUTU
- Century Oaks Elementary: Linda Deering-Dean of Advocate Sherman Hospital
- Channing Elementary: Yvonne Irving of KCT Credit Union
- Clinton Elementary: South Elgin Fire Department Chief Steve Wascher
- Coleman Elementary: Paul Bednar of Vintage Home Realty
- Dream Academy: Jenette Siebens of Family Service Association
- Eastview Middle School: Bartlett Mayor Kevin Wallace
- Elgin High: Mary Perkins of Elgin Community College
- Ellis Middle School: Chris Price of JPMorgan Chase
- Fox Meadow Elementary: Elgin City Councilwoman Tish Powell
- Garfield Elementary: state Sen. Andy Manar
- Glenbrook Elementary: Kelly Behnke of Three Fires Council Boy Scouts of America Inc.

- Hanover Countryside: Veronica Betz of AT&T
- Harriet Gifford Elementary: Dave Burisek of Taylor Family YMCA
- Hawk Hollow Elementary: Tina Smith of JPMorgan Chase
- Heritage Elementary: Denise Espinosa of Walgreens
- Highland Elementary: Elgin City Councilwoman Rose Martinez and U-46 board member Melissa Owens
- Hillcrest Elementary: Robert Cox of RCDC Services
- Hilltop Elementary: Clinton Scharff of Three Fires Council Boy Scouts of America Inc.
- Horizon Elementary: state Rep. Michelle Mussman, 56th District
- Huff Elementary: Elgin Fire Chief Dave Schmidt
- Illinois Park: Amber Peters of Elgin Partnership for Early Learning
- Independence: John Parquette of Hanover Township
- Kenyon Woods Middle School: Wayne Township Trustee Brandi Ramundo
- Kimball Middle School: state Sen. Andy Manar
- Larkin High School: Melissa Barbosa-Guzman, Law Office of Melissa Barbosa-Guzman
- Larsen Middle School: Joseph McMahon, Kane County State's Attorney Office
- Laurel Hill Elementary: Michael Cohen, Hanover Township Youth & Family Services
- Liberty Elementary: Bartlett Police Officer Tracey Dendinger
- Lincoln Elementary: Velma Sept of African American Advisory Council
- Lords Park Elementary: Ernie Broadnax, "Project 3-2-1"; and the Rev. Nathaniel L. Edmond, Second Baptist Church of Elgin
- Lowrie Elementary: Elgin Township Supervisor Franklin Ramirez
- McKinley Elementary: Ralph Martire, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability
- More at Four: Elisa Lara, VNA Health Care

- Nature Ridge Elementary: Hal Theis, retired, Texas A&M and McDonald's Corp.
- Oakhill Elementary: Nancy Coleman, Alignment Collaborative for Education
- Ontarioville Elementary: Ron Wentzell, Three Fires Council Boy Scouts of America Inc.
- Otter Creek Elementary: U-46 Educational Foundation board member Dawn Curran
- Parkwood Elementary: Hanover Park Village Board Trustee Sharmin Shahjahan
- Prairieview Elementary: Kane County Board member Philip Lewis
- Ridge Circle Elementary: Streamwood Police Chief Daryl Syre
- Ronald D. O'Neal Elementary: Elgin Police Chief Ana Lalley
- South Elgin High School: State Sen. Andy Manar
- Spring Trail Elementary: Daniel Potter of JPMorgan Chase
- Streamwood High School: Fatima Reyes of Avid CNA School
- Sunnydale Elementary: Oswaldo Alvarez of Grand Victoria Foundation
- Sycamore Trails Elementary: Bartlett Police Officer Victoria Anderson
- Tefft Middle School: U-46 board member Sue Kerr
- Timber Trails Elementary: Dave Bearden, Elgin Symphony Orchestra CEO
- Washington Elementary: Maggie Sifuentes, Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois
- Wayne Elementary: Wayne Township Commissioner Martin McManamon
- Willard Elementary: Kane County Board member Michael Kenyon

SPORTS

St. Charles North bounces back against Bartlett

By Eric Bridges

St. Charles North started fast and finished strong earning a 58-39 nonconference win over Bartlett Wednesday night.

Junior Connor Linke (17 points, 12 rebounds) scored 13 of his game-high 17 points in the second half, posting up and earning his buckets the hard way. Fellow junior Luke Scheffers (11 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals) directed the offense, driving inside and feeding fellow teammates like Linke, or hitting a 3-pointer when the defense collapsed inside.

"Our focus tonight was to get out and run and play the way we know how to play," Scheffers said. "So I was just trying to be a leader and distribute the ball and make sure we were doing what we needed to do tonight. We were trying to play inside-out, whether that's off the drive or dishing it off to Connor (Linke) down low. He was finishing all of drives tonight, so kudos to him. Once he starts scoring a couple, they start doubling down on him, so then we can start kicking it out to our shooters."

In addition to scoring from both outside and inside, the posting down low also paid additional dividends by forcing Bartlett star scorer Austin Gates (12 points, 7 rebounds) into foul trouble.

"One of our keys was to get it inside and even if I wasn't scoring a lot, then push it back outside. Our guys were knocking down 3-pointers tonight," Linke said. "We thought that if we could push down inside we could get some of their guys in foul trouble, like Gates. He's a great player, so we were able to get him in foul trouble and that hurt their offense I think."

Leading 23-18 at the half, St. Charles North (3-3) earned the first 10 points of the second half on two 3-pointers by senior guard Tyler Czerniak (11 points) and two post up buckets by Linke. Senior Nick Mansk (9 points) provided a brief spark for Bartlett (2-7) to start the second half with two 3-pointers sandwiched around another layup by Linke, but the North Stars put the game away for good with an 18-point fourth quarter to seal the win.

Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith thought his team played well in the first half, but defensively had some breakdowns in the second half that put the game too far away to catch the North Stars on their home court.

"We stopped defending tonight," Wolfsmith said. "They (North Stars) got the shots they wanted. They had uncovered 3s from the outside and then the big man inside ... we don't

have that kind of size. We stopped defending in the second half, and you're not going to beat a team like that on their floor when you're chasing 10-12 points."

St. Charles North coach Tom Poulin thought the defense played a strong game by limiting Bartlett's half court attack and also credited the offense with executing and scoring on what Bartlett gave them.

"I thought our defense has been solid all year," Poulin said. "I was really happy with our defense and I thought we were doing the right things. We were able to shrink the court and make them kind of uncomfortable in the areas of the floor that they couldn't take advantage of us in. Offensively, we shared the basketball, we played inside out, and we executed pretty well. I thought we took what they gave us whether it was in transition or half court. When they played behind him (Linke), we found him and when they played in front of him we went to the next option and got some high-low looks. I thought the kids did a nice job of taking whatever Bartlett gave us."

Larkin builds big lead, holds off East Aurora

By: Allen Oshinski

Larkin dominated the middle quarters and that was enough. The Royals led 38-20 after 3 periods, then survived a furious East Aurora rally for a 49-41 victory Wednesday.

Victor Perez had 10 points and 7 rebounds for the Royals (2-5, 1-1) in the Upstate Eight matchup in Elgin.

The Tomcats doubled their point total in the fourth quarter outscoring the Royals 21-12 to make things interesting. Larkin didn't do itself any favors by missing 10 free throws in the fourth quarter. For the game, the Royals went 9-for-24 from the line, with Perez hitting 6 of 8.

"It didn't end well, but for most of that game we did a really good job of what we were trying to do," said Larkin coach Deryn Carter. "We'll take it. We'll definitely take it."

A 10-0 second-quarter run put Larkin up 22-11, but East Aurora cut it to 24-17 by halftime. The Royals came out of the locker room on fire, scoring the first 8 points of the second half.

Tomcats coach Rick Robinson subbed out all 5 starters at one point. That second unit gave the Tomcats a jump start, but Larkin still won the quarter, 14-3.

When the Tomcat starters came back, they returned with a vengeance. Starting forwards Jules Williamson (9) and Joshua Pryor (6) combined for 15 points in the period as the Tomcats pulled closer amid a flurry of clanked free throws by the Royals. Still, East Aurora didn't get the margin under 10 points until the final minute.

"The crazy thing is we've been shooting free throws really well all year," Carter said. "It just kind of happens. It's a snowball effect for sure. One kid went o-for-6, and I think he was shooting 90 percent coming in."

With rotation regulars Pierre Black and Mirko Sarovic out with injuries, other guys stepped up for Larkin. Trace Boley scored 9 points off the bench. Jashon Johnson-Neals grabbed 11 rebounds to go with his 8 points, and Damari Wheeler-Thomas and Marcus Green added 7 points apiece for the Royals.

Pryor finished with a game-high 15 points and added 13 rebounds for East Aurora, while Williamson finished with 10 points.

Defensively, Larkin held the visitors without a 3-pointer while forcing 30 turnovers.

East Aurora jumped ahead 6-3, with Pryor scoring all 3 baskets. The game was tied at 8 late in the first quarter when a steal and transition layup by Trevell Cooks put Larkin ahead to stay. That 2-point lead ballooned to 11 in the second quarter and to 18 by the end of the third before the Tomcats started to chip away.