

Press Clippings - 10/04/2023

- Chicago Tribune -

Elgin News Digest: U-46 marching bands to perform at Elgin High School; mental health board OKs grants for 2 Elgin nonprofits; Elgin Fire Station No. 2 holding open house Saturday

By: Mike Danahey

October 03, 2023



District U-46's five high school bands will present a free public showcase Thursday night at Elgin High School's Memorial Stadium. (Megann Horstead / The Courier-News)

U-46 marching bands to perform at Elgin High School

The marching bands from School District U-46's five high schools will perform in a free public showcase at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, at Elgin High School's Memorial Field, 1200 Maroon Drive.

Each band will do a 15-minute program and then receive feedback from a group of clinicians made up of veteran band directors, according to a news release.

The showcase performance order will be Streamwood High School, followed by Bartlett, Larkin, South Elgin and Elgin.

To read the full article please click [here](#).

- The Examiner -

Compensation report presented to U-46 board

By: Seth Hancock

October 04, 2023

On average, School District U-46 employees made \$101,032 in salaries and benefits and took 12 sick days in Fiscal Year 2022, according to the salaries and benefits report generated by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The 69-page report was presented to the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, Sept. 11.

Superintendent Suzanne Johnson said the district reports numbers to the ISBE which in turn generates the report.

“Each school board shall report to the State Board of Education, on or before October 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of the district superintendent and all administrators and teachers employed by the school district,” the Public Act requiring the report states. “For the purposes of this Section, ‘benefits’ includes without limitation vacation days, sick days, bonuses, annuities, and retirement enhancements.”

The Public Act continues: “Prior to this annual reporting to the State Board of Education, the information must be presented at a regular school board meeting, subject to applicable notice requirements, and then posted on the [internet] website of the school district, if any.”

The salaries and benefits in the report represents about 55 percent of the \$465.5 million budgeted for salaries and benefits in FY2023. Certain staff and certain income expenditures, like stipends, are excluded from the report.

The salaries listed in the report totaled \$201.3 million. Total compensation was \$255.5 million with benefits included: other benefits (\$32.4 million), retirement enhancements (\$19.9 million), annuities (\$1.7 million) and bonuses (\$172,000).

There were 2,529 full-time employees included in the report who took 30,240 sick days, for the average of 12, and 2,075 vacation days were taken. The district’s teachers’ contract allows for 12 sick days per year.

- The Examiner -

Without comment, U-46 approves its latest budget

By: Seth Hancock
October 04, 2023

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved, by a 7-0 vote, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget that increases spending by \$86.4 million (\$689 million to \$775.3 million), a 12.5 percent increase, at its meeting on Monday, Sept. 25.

A public hearing, originally scheduled for Sept. 11, was held that evening. No public comments were made.

This will be the ninth straight year of spending increases with enrollment declines. It projects a 2.9 percent drop in student population from 35,049 to 34,026 with only 61 percent of building capacity used.

There was no board discussion on the ongoing, long-term trends.

Although not discussed at the meeting, the budget appeared to correct an anomaly caught by The Examiner in the tentative budget from August which showed enrollment data from previous years significantly off.

The original budget proposal stated “equity,” not education, is the budget’s “mindset” by spending taxpayer dollars “to areas of greater need as well as addressing climate and culture issues.” Spending is “based on need rather than enrollment alone,” the proposal stated.

“This year, we tried some new approaches such as budgeting with an equity lens and deeper stakeholder engagement,” said Frank Williams, assistant superintendent of finance.

Revenue is set to increase by \$57.2 million (\$689.8 million to \$747 million), an 8.3 percent increase, for a \$28.4 million deficit.

However, the budget is considered in balance with a \$21.6 million surplus based on government financing rules as \$50 million in spending comes from other financing sources, that being the issuance of bonds after the voter approved referendum last spring.

The largest increase in revenue is in the so-called “evidence-based” funding from the state, \$242.9 million to \$275.7 million (\$32.7 million increase). The district plans to seek the largest property tax increase allowed under the law with that revenue increasing \$12 million (\$330.7 million to \$342.8 million).

The largest expenditures are salaries and benefits, increasing 8.2 percent from \$448.9 million to \$485.9 million. Staff is expected to remain flat at 4,794. The largest spending increase is capital outlay, \$53.3 million to \$111.2 million, based on capital projects funded by the new bonds.

The three-year budget forecast shows spending increasing to \$803.5 million by 2026-2027. Enrollment is expected to decline by around 1,000 students a year, eventually to 30,924.

If the forecasts are realized, spending will have increased by 86.9 percent (\$430 million to \$803.5 million) and enrollment declining by 24 percent (40,687 to 30,924) since 2012.

- The Examiner -

Missed chances lead to tie for Streamwood soccer

By: Seth Hancock

October 04, 2023

The Streamwood soccer team was unable to put away enough chances as the Sabres finished in a 2-2 tie with Glenbard East in Upstate Eight Conference play on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at Millennium Field.

Sabres coach Matt Polovin noted the Glenbard East crowd's excited reaction to the tie as if they won a state title. That's because based on time of possession and scoring opportunities were definitely on Streamwood's side making the tie feel more like a loss for his side.

"We should have won eight or nine to two," Polovin said. "We shouldn't have given up the two, but we had the chances getting the ball in the box and attacking. Andy Benitez was just on fire tonight creating so many chances. He didn't get any help from his teammates. All we needed was someone to just run in, a good hard pass on the ground and put the ball in the back of the net. And nobody did it."

All the scoring came in the first half. Max Galvan and A.J. Sabanovic each found the net for Streamwood with Sergio Barrera and Jairo Sanchez adding helpers.

The Sabres did lose top defender Alex Alcala to an injury in the game when he took a knee to the head which could keep him off the field for a few weeks. Keeper Carlos Rosales also made his first start, which Polovin was pleased with his performance, as starting goalie Issac Morales was injured during practice that week.

Streamwood is now 10-3-3 overall, 2-0-2 in the UEC as they compete with Elgin (5-0) and Larkin (3-1) for the conference crown.

"There's a lot of teams that would love to be 10-3-3 right now," Polovin said. "The guys have done well all season. I just don't want it to unravel at this point in the season. We're supposed to get stronger and get ready for regionals coming up in a couple weeks."

The Sabres were coming off their fourth and fifth shutouts, both UEC games, of the season the previous week with a 0-0 tie at Bartlett on Monday, Sept. 18 and a 6-0 win at Glenbard South on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Sabanovic led the effort against Glenbard South with two goals and three assists.

- Daily Herald -

Breaking down this week's Top 10 football teams

October 04, 2023



Maine South quarterback Constantine Coines carries the ball during a win over Warren earlier this season. Maine South plays Glenbrook South this week with a chance to take control of the Central Suburban South

First and 10

Team (record) This week's opponent

1. York (6-0) Glenbard West, Friday

Comment: The Dukes started the toughest three-game stretch on their schedule last week with an impressive 32-21 win over previously unbeaten Downers Grove North. Jake Melion rushed for 257 yards and scored 3 touchdowns a week after running for 213 yards and 3 TDs. Next comes a pair of 4-2 teams, Glenbard West and Lyons.

2. Hersey (6-0) At Rolling Meadows, Friday

Comment: The Nasir McKenzie comeback story added another impressive chapter last week in a 28-3 win over Prospect. McKenzie, a senior who tore his ACL as a sophomore, rushed for 211 yards -- his second straight 200-yard rushing game. Combined with QB Colton Gumino and Hersey's lethal passing game, the Huskies continue to be near impossible to stop.

3. Batavia (5-1) St. Charles East, Friday

Comment: Much, much, much closer this time -- full marks to Boone Thorgesen's Geneva squad -- but another year, another Bulldogs win, this time 21-18. Now 13 straight, the one-time lopsided series is narrowed to 51-49-5 with Batavia coach Dennis Piron aiming to tie it in his final two years as coach. Batavia's schedule finally eases up last 3 weeks.

4. Barrington (6-0) At Hoffman Estates, Friday

Comment: The Broncos continued their bounce-back season with a 55-14 win over Schaumburg last week, though the schedule gets harder to end the year. Next up are a couple of 4-2 teams with the Hawks and then Palatine before closing the regular season against Conant. QB Nick Peipert threw for 330 yards last week.

5. Downers Grove N. (5-1) At Lyons, Friday

Comment: The Trojans gave top-ranked York a battle last week despite missing RB Noah Battle. Sophomore QB Owen Lansu threw for 223 yards and found Oliver Thulin for a pair of touchdowns. Now they get another toughie against Jon Beutjer's Lions before closing the regular season against the two Hinsdales -- a combined 3-9.

6. Maine South (5-1) Glenbrook South, Friday

Comment: The Hawks enter on a five-game winning streak. The latest came against Glenbrook North -- a game they trailed 7-0 before quickly putting 40 unanswered points on the board. Constantine Coines tossed three more TD passes and scored on an 8-yard run. Glenbrook South also is 2-0 in the Central Suburban South that the Hawks have absolutely owned.

7. Palatine (4-2) Conant, Friday

Comment: Kole Fager ran for 3 TDs last week in the Pirates' 24-10 win over Fremd in the annual Battle of the Tracks matchup. Now comes a Cougars team that struggled last week in a 28-0 loss to Hoffman Estates. Cooper Hanson did rush for 151 yards for Conant, who let up all 28 points in the second quarter.

8. Warren (4-2) At Waukegan, Friday

Comment: After an absolute gauntlet of a schedule, the Blue Devils get 1-5 Waukegan this week and 1-5 Zion-Benton in Week 9 sandwiched around a Lake Forest team that just lost to Stevenson last week. Warren is in the driver's seat for the North Suburban Conference title, and it is also looking like a strong bet for another long postseason run.

9. Lake Zurich (5-1) Lake Forest, Friday

Comment: The Bears bounced back from a hard-fought loss to Warren with an equally hard-fought win over Libertyville, 29-28 in overtime. Chris Pirrone rushed for 113 yards, quarterback Lucas Lappin added 75 more, and Lappin also threw the 2-point conversion pass to force OT before Pirrone scored the eventual game-winner on a 1-yard run in overtime.

10. Naperville C. (5-1) DeKalb, Friday

Comment: Watch out for the Redhawks, who have opened DVC play with a 27-0 win over an improved Waubonsie Valley team, then beat Neuqua Valley 21-7 and Naperville North 21-14 in back-to-back weeks. With 2-4 DeKalb and 0-6 Metea Valley up next, the Redhawks are in a great position with their lights-out defense and improving offense.

Second and 10

11. IC Catholic Prep 5-1 Lost to St. Francis 35-34; Loyola

12. Geneva 5-1 Lost to Batavia 21-18; at Wheaton North

13. St. Francis 4-2 Beat IC Catholic 35-34; St. Rita

14. Glenbard West 4-2 Beat Hinsdale Central 42-21; at York

15. Cary-Grove 5-1 Beat Hampshire 41-21; Huntley

16. St. Charles North 4-2 Beat St. Charles East 40-14; Glenbard N.

17. Glenbard South 6-0 Beat **South Elgin** 14-13; hosts W. Chicago

18. Prospect 4-2 Lost to Hersey 28-3; Elk Grove

19. Huntley 5-1 Beat Crystal Lake South 54-43; at Cary-G

20. Neuqua Valley 3-3 Beat Metea V. 41-0; at Waubonsie V.

- Daily Herald -

To the Max? That's exactly what Streamwood needed from Max Galvan against Elgin. 'It's just his tenacity.'

By: Paul Johnson

October 03, 2023



Streamwood's Max Galvan (5) heads the ball against Elgin during an Upstate Eight Conference game in Streamwood on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. (H. Rick Bamman/The Beacon-News)

Sophomore midfielder Max Galvan came into Monday's game on a mission for Streamwood.

Junior forward AJ Sabanovic and his team-leading 16 goals were on the bench due to a red card in the previous game. That meant Galvan needed to execute a different approach.

"We had to rely on the midfield and the wingers to work with us more, not with the strikers," Galvan said. "The strikers were more of a decoy. We had to step up for AJ."

Galvan indeed stepped up with 11:12 left in the first half, converting a pass from Bryan Huerta for the lone goal in a 1-0 win over Upstate Eight Conference leader Elgin.

Huerta pushed the ball up the sideline and centered a pass to Galvan, who fired a line drive into the net to send the host Sabres (11-3-4, 3-0-3) past the Maroons (11-3-1, 5-1).

The play was second nature for Galvan.

"We work on that before we start the game," Galvan said. "We do that in warm-ups where someone takes the ball there and centers it and we finish. I had that in mind."

"That's always (Huerta's) mission — to take it all the way down the line and center it back in. I was just waiting for the opportunity, and once I saw it, I put it in."



Streamwood's Ethan Avila (21) heads the ball away from Elgin's Eduardo Nava (25) during an Upstate Eight Conference game in Streamwood on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. (H. Rick Bamman/The Beacon-News)

The goal was the fifth of the season for Galvan, tying him with Huerta for second on the team. That's only part of what he brings to the Sabres, however.

"It's just his tenacity out there," Streamwood coach Matt Polovin said. "You would never look at him and say that's the guy we have to watch out for. He flies under the radar but just does everything and more than I ask of him."

"Defensively, distribution-wise and when we need a goal, he's done that a few times this season. He just hits a line drive right into the center of the goal."

Streamwood was also missing its best marking defender in Alex Alcala, who's out with a mild concussion but hopes to be back before the end of the regular season.

That didn't stop the Sabres from stifling Elgin on the defensive end.



Streamwood's Max Galvan (5) splits Elgin defenders Alexander Villarruel (2) and Alberto Gaytan (9) during an Upstate Eight Conference game in Streamwood on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. (H. Rick Bamman/The Beacon-News)

"They were doing a nice job of staying compact and cleaning stuff up," Elgin coach Jimmy Romano said. "They did enough to disrupt what we were trying to do."

"It was an off night for some of us as well. Couldn't find the groove, couldn't find the connections."

Eduardo Nava, the Maroons' leading scorer, was held to only one shot on goal. Trey Yi did most of the one-on-one work on Nava.

"My original plan was to double-team him and then it turned out that we didn't need to," Polovin said. "Trey did a phenomenal job, just on him, frustrating him."

Elgin didn't lose its first game last season until the supersectional. The Maroons have now lost three games in a month, but Romano isn't overly concerned.

"Honestly, it's kind of humbling," Romano said. "Losing now to get that taste before the playoffs is good. Last time we lost to York and Naperville North it kind of fired our guys up."

"It actually makes us more focused, more determined."



Streamwood's Jairo Sanchez (11) reacts to a missed shot against Elgin in the second half of an Upstate Eight Conference game in Streamwood on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. (H. Rick Bamman/The Beacon-News)

With the win, meanwhile, the Sabres kept their conference title hopes alive with three games left before the postseason.

Galvan's effort will go a long way toward fueling the Sabres' success.

"Max is one of the better midfielders anywhere," Polovin said. "What he brings to our team and what he's done this season, we probably wouldn't be where we are without him.

"He's someone that is just 80 minutes strong."

- Chicago Tribune -

Local scores for the Southland, Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

By: From Staff reports
October 03, 2023



Geneva's Michael Rumoro (20) gets past Batavia's Ben Brown (34) for a 13-yard gain and a first down in the first quarter of a DuKane Conference game in Geneva on Friday, Sept. 29, 2023. (H. Rick Bamman/The

Results and highlights of high schools and local colleges from the Southland and Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County coverage areas.

WEEK 7

MONDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS GOLF

CLASS 3A SECTIONALS

PEKIN

Advancing local team: 1. Lockport 313.

Top local individuals: 1. Tanner Leonard, Lincoln-Way East, 72; 2. (tie) Nathan Kwiatkowski, Lockport, 74; 5. (tie) Joey Sluzas, Lockport, 75; 7. (tie) Caleb Negley, Sandburg, 76.

PLAINFIELD NORTH

Advancing local team: 3. Geneva 304.

Top local individuals: 6. (tie) Andrew Freedlund, Batavia; 72; Charles Davenport, Benet, 72; Clay Heilman, St. Charles North, 72.

PROSPECT

Advancing local team: 3. Vernon Hills 308.

Top local individuals: 2. Kartik Vasudeva, Vernon Hills, 71; 3. (tie) Seth Gillie, Hampshire, 72; 8. (tie) Tadgh Burke, Lake Forest, 73; 9. (tie) Kalin Patel, Highland Park, 74.

CLASS 2A SECTIONALS

FREEPORT

Advancing local teams: 1. Carmel 312, 3. (tie) Burlington Central 322.

Top local individuals: 1. Dominic Lucchessi, Grayslake Central, 71; 2. Kevin Crow, Carmel, 71; 4. (tie) Brady Cross, Lakes, 74; . Tyler Samaan, Burlington Central, 74; 9. (tie) Wesley Hollis, Kaneland, 76.

LEMONT

Advancing local teams: 1. Lemont 302, 3. Mount Carmel 306.

Top local individuals: 1. Eddie Scott, Lemont, 68; 2. (tie) Michael O'Keefe, Mount Carmel, 70; Regan Konen, Marmion, 70; 6. (tie) Ryan Walsh, Mount Carmel, 73; Joe Brasky, Providence, 73; 8. (tie) Robert Politza, Lemont, 74.

CLASS 1A SECTIONAL

BISHOP MCNAMARA

Advancing local team: 2. Beecher 324.

Top local individuals: Liam Lodding, Harvest Christian, 76; Hayden Mosely, Harvest Christian, 77; Tristan Biesterfeld, Illinois Lutheran, 77; Wil McCracken, Aurora Christian, 78; Jackson Reece, Beecher, 78.

GIRLS GOLF

CLASS 2A SECTIONALS

BUFFALO GROVE

Advancing local team: 3. Stevenson 303.

Top local individuals: Allyson Duan, Stevenson, 75; Amanda Adley, Deerfield; Campbell Ray, Stevenson, 76; Megan Lee, Stevenson, 76; Sophia Joeng, Stevenson, 76.

BURLINGTON CENTRAL

Advancing teams: Neuqua Valley 302, Waubonsie Valley 319, Benet 326.

Top local individuals: 2. Sophie Lagman, Neuqua, 70; 3. (tie) Madison Coffey, Neuqua, 72; 5. (tie) Jenna Shilts, Benet, 74; Shyell Lowe, Oswego East, 74.

HINSDALE SOUTH

Advancing local team: 2. Lockport 339.

Top local individuals: 2. (tie) Brooke Adams, Sandburg, 72; 8. Gianna White, Lockport, 77; 9. Brooke Visser, Andrew, 78; 10. (tie) Grace Boyd, Andrew, 79.

NORMAL WEST

Advancing local teams: 2. Lincoln-Way West 327, 3. (tie) Lincoln-Way Central 336.

Top local individuals: 4. (tie) Kaylee Dwyer, Lincoln-Way West, 77; Sarah Arsich, Lincoln-Way Central, 77; 6. Reilly Carlson, Lincoln-Way West, 78.

CLASS 1A SECTIONAL

PONTIAC

Top local individual: Julia Karl, Illinois Lutheran, 87.

BOYS SOCCER

Byron 3, Sandwich 1

Sandwich: Kayden Page goal.

Downers Grove North 5, Argo 4

Kaneland 7, Morris 0

Kaneland (8-7-2, 7-2 Interstate Eight): Sam Keen 4 goals.

Larkin 2, East Aurora 0

Libertyville 1, Cristo Rey St. Martin 0

Minooka 3, Lincoln-Way West 1

Streamwood 1, **Elgin** 0

Vernon Hills 4, Mundelein 2

Vernon Hills (10-3-1): Nikita Stepanov 2 goals.

Warren 3, Lake Forest Academy 1

Warren (10-7-1): Lucas Ahonen goal, assist.

LITTLE TEN TOURNAMENT

First Round

Hinckley-Big Rock 3, IMSA 1

Indian Creek 3, Serena 2 (SO)

Indian Creek (9-7-2): Tyler Bogle and Antonio Bonilla scored in regulation.

WARSTANG INVITATIONAL

Metea Valley 3, Lemont 0

Metea (6-8): Michael Senese goal. Cole Hatfield goal. Graham Leman goal.

Boylan Catholic 4, Waubonsie Valley 0

Maine South 4, Batavia 0

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Beecher d. Peotone 25-9, 25-22

Geneva d. Naperville Central 26-28, 25-17, 25-17

Kaneland d. Rochelle 25-11, 26-24

Lake Zurich d. Palatine 28-26, 25-15

Libertyville d. Hersey 24-26, 25-23, 25-15

Libertyville (21-6): Hannah Fleming 10 kills. Stella Meyer 7 kills. Jaimie Marquardt 16

assists, 12 digs, 4 kills, 3 aces.

Stevenson d. Crystal Lake Central 25-15, 25-18

Stevenson (20-4): Brynn Smith 13 kills, 5 digs. Mija Jegers 9 kills, 8 digs. Kyra Costabile 12 assists, 4 digs, 3 aces.

Wauconda d. Lake Forest 25-23, 22-25, 27-25

LITTLE TEN TOURNAMENT

First Round

Indian Creek d. DePue 25-11, 25-8

Somonauk d. LaMoille-Ohio 25-11, 25-14

Leland d. IMSA 25-12, 25-13

NEWS AND NOTES

North Central College quarterback Luke Lehnert was selected offensive player of the week by the CCIW. ... St. Xavier kicker Peyton Benes (MSFA Midwest) and Lake Forest College punt returner A.J. Jackson (Midwest Conference) were named special teams players of the week.

To read the full article please click [here](#).

- Chicago Tribune - Paul Johnson's Aurora-Elgin area boys soccer rankings and player of the week

By: Paul Johnson

October 03, 2023



West Aurora's Shaury Mateso (19) moves the ball down the field past Oswego's Benjamin Sobecki (5) during a Southwest Prairie Conference game in Aurora on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023. (Mark Black/The Beacon-News) West Aurora and Streamwood inch closer to Elgin atop rankings, while Geneva moves in. West Aurora's Shaury Mateso is the player of the week.

Top 10

With records through Monday and previous rankings in parentheses.

1. **Elgin** 11-3-1 (1)

After a successful weekend trip to Iowa, Maroons lose 1-0 to Streamwood.

2. West Aurora 14-2 (3)

Blackhawks win two straight conference games to stay in the conference race.

3. **Streamwood** 11-3-4 (4)

Sabres shake off rough stretch with a 1-0 win over **Elgin** behind goal from Max Galvan.

4. Marmion 9-2-3 (2)

Cadets drop their first Catholic League game to Brother Rice.

5. Oswego East 9-4-2 (5)

Wolves celebrate senior day with 4-1 win over Metea Valley.

6. Geneva 10-4-1 (NR)

Vikings are on a roll. Trent Giansanti, Liam O'Donoghue are each up to 10 goals.

7. St. Charles East 12-6 (6)

Marc Walker's stellar senior season continues with 12 goals and eight assists.

8. St. Charles North 9-5 (7)

Despite goals from Sam Cooke and Oliver Longosz, North Stars lose first conference game.

9. **Larkin** 10-2-1 (9)

Royals, still alive in Upstate Eight Conference race, are 4-0-1 in last five matches.

10. Oswego 12-6-2 (8)

Panthers are 0-2-1 in their last three matches.

Player of the Week

Senior forward Shauri Mateso scores a hat trick for West Aurora in a 3-0 Southwest Prairie Conference win over Oswego.