

## Press Clippings 07/22/20

---The Daily Herald--- 07/22/2020

### U-46 now will start new school year with remote learning

By: Madhu Krishnamurthy



U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders said the loss of a student or staff member as a result of the decision to reopen schools is unacceptable. *file photo*

Elgin Area School District U-46 is planning to start the school year next month with distance learning for all students, reversing an earlier decision to begin the fall semester using a hybrid model of in-person and online instruction.

After analyzing the results of a survey of parents and employees, district officials acknowledged there remains much apprehension about starting school in-person with lingering uncertainties over the COVID-19 pandemic and a surge in cases nationwide.

Superintendent Tony Sanders said the loss of a student or staff member as a result of the decision to reopen schools is unacceptable.

"Rather than flipping a switch like we usually do at the beginning of a school year where all the buses roll out of the transportation department, where every classroom teacher is back in a classroom, what I see this year going as is more of a dimmer switch," Sanders said. "We will remain predominantly in distance learning through the first quarter with schools bringing in students in much smaller groups in much more manageable sizes. In our planning, we continue to rely upon the guidance of federal, state, and local authorities."

Sanders said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois State Board of Education will be releasing further guidance for reopening schools this week, which may impact the district's plan.

"We recognize we must operate in concert with these agencies to best protect our students and our communities," he said.

More than 3,000 employees and 13,000 families provided feedback in the survey conducted last month. Staff members and families sought certain assurances for reopening schools, including strict 6-foot social distancing and limiting group sizes, the use of face coverings at all times, and clear protocols for communicating cases of COVID-19.

Nearly 40% of families said they would allow their children to return to school based on whatever safeguards the district implements. Roughly 31% said they would only allow a return to classrooms with strict 6-foot social distancing and possibly limiting the number of students in

the building at one time, and mandatory masks. About 17% said they would only allow students to return once the state enters Phase 5 of its reopening plan, while 12% said they would not allow their children to return for any in-person instruction.

Among employees, 44% approved of returning to in-person classroom instruction, 34% said they would only return with strict social distancing, 16% favored returning to in-person classes only in Phase 5, and 5% were entirely opposed to in-person classes.

To reopen schools under the state's Phase 4 guidelines, U-46 must ensure everyone within a school is wearing a mask with rare exceptions, not allow more than 50 people to gather within a space, and require 6 feet of social distancing whenever possible. If the district can't adhere to that 6-foot rule, local health departments would require it quarantine any families that were in contact for more than 15 minutes at less than 6 feet. The district also must have a process for symptom screening and cleaning and disinfecting spaces, Sanders said.

"For these reasons ... we will start off with full-time online learning," Sanders said.

That will last through Oct. 9. During that time, access to buildings will be allowed for specific purposes, such as for lab work and Individualized Education Program requirements. Small groups of students will be brought in to acclimate them to what school looks like in the COVID-19 era, officials said.

Priority access will be allowed in small groups for English Language Learner, special education, early childhood and kindergarten students. The district also will work with Right at School and community partners to provide child care from its high schools, officials said.

Beginning Oct. 12, officials hope to move elementary and middle school students to hybrid learning, potentially allowing half the number of students in a school building at a time or on alternating days, and offering a combination of face-to-face instruction and online learning.

High school students would continue online learning with limited building access to small groups for career and technical education (CTE) programs, labs, specialized courses of study, and students needing interventions or supports.

"If cases continue to climb and we return to Phase 3, Phase 2 or Phase 1, we will be in all distance learning across U-46," Sanders said. "It is impossible to plan with any certainty beyond quarter one given the quick-changing landscape of this pandemic. It does not appear likely that we will be in a position to move to Phase 5 in the fall of 2020."

# The Examiner of SOUTH ELGIN

Volume 16  
Number 11

"IF I WERE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER OR A NEWSPAPER WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT, I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO CHOOSE THE LATTER." THOMAS JEFFERSON

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## Summer sports camps hit by health rules

By Seth Hancock

Summer camps that are sport-specific have started at some area high schools, but other have postponed the start of such camps because of the inherent dangers posed to students by the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) mandates due to COVID-19 rules.

**Bartlett, South Elgin, Streamwood** and Glenbard North all announced camps that started as early as Monday, July 13 ranging from baseball to football and golf to tennis. Each school has its own list of sport camps.

Glenbard North's statement for the camps said: "All indoor camps will require each athlete to wear an appropriate mask, fully covering their nose and mouth for the entirety of the camp."

The IHSA had originally announced sport-specific camps could start on July 5 including some limited contact scrimmaging but was told to change its guidance by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and others, including the Illinois State

Board of Education (ISBE) and Gov. JB Pritzker.

The sport-specific camps can continue but with stricter regulations according to a July 14 IHSA release which stated that "moving forward" it will deferring all decision making to the government.

Craig Anderson, IHSA executive director, stated some of the IHSA's guidelines were conflicting with the IDPH, "especially as it relates to the use of masks by student-athletes."

The new guidelines emphasize masks and eliminates scrimmages and allows only "limited summer contact workouts."

"We still believe there is a path to conducting high school athletics in the fall, like the majority of states surrounding Illinois plan to do," Anderson said. "To make that happen, it's important that we allow IDPH, ISBE and the Governor's Office to take the lead on ensuring the safest and most consistent protocols."

The new expected guidelines will require face masks at all times inside,

even when strenuously exercising, but outdoors no mask is required only if socially distanced. The IHSA states any sport requiring physical contact cannot scrimmage which includes basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, volleyball, water polo and wrestling.

Anderson has admitted the IHSA has no authority to mandate anything to the schools in an email exchange with the Edgar County Watchdogs. He wrote that "in a 'legal' sense... we have no provision to offer this guidance to our membership during the summer" and there is no "citation to state our authority in this case."

"We have no intention to police individual schools for violations of our guidance and enforce penalties for non-compliance," Anderson added.

St. Charles schools have delayed their camps according to a joint-statement from Dan Dolney, North's athletics director, and Mike Sommerfeld, East's AD.

Dolney and Sommerfeld stated they needed "time to develop new protocols to ensure compliance with the revised rules" and "we have concerns about athletes participating in vigorous exercise while wearing a facial

covering inside the building and how we will ensure that all athletes maintain at least six feet of distancing between one another in other areas."

"We, more than anyone, want our kids to get back with their teams and do it in a safe manner," the statement added. "The safety of our student-athletes and staff are of the utmost importance, and we will not compromise their well-being during this pandemic."

The World Health Association has stated that "people should not wear masks when exercising" as it reduces "the ability to breathe comfortably," and sweat "makes it difficult to breathe and promotes the growth of microorganisms."

Some schools have gone even further with their restrictions including Bartlett which told its athletes that "paper money or checks" would not be allowed as payment for camps despite no evidence of transmission of COVID-19 through currency.

Christine Tait-Burkard, an infections and immunity expert from the University of Edinburgh, who stated there is very little risk of transmitting the virus through money.

## Village Board discusses variety of topical issues

By Frank Muisenga Jr.

During the Village Board meeting on Monday, July 6, time dedicated to trustee and village president reports offered topics such as the 2020 Census, the police department and in-person village board meetings. The meeting was held remotely due to the coronavirus pandemic.

According to Trustee Lisa Guess, the village's 2020 Census completion rate is 75 percent.

"And we need to continue to encourage our residents to respond as an accurate count is very critical," said Guess.

Village President Steve Ward asked isn't the village's rate higher than Kane County? Director of Administrative Services Megan Golden said yes.

According to 2020census.gov, Kane County's self-response rate is 73 percent, 64 percent of that is internet response; the state's rate is 67 percent; the national rate is 62 percent.

Trustee Greg Lieser said he did not have a report but wanted to reiterate

his support for the South Elgin Police Department.

"The hard part is they get such a bad rap in the media and our guys are going out there doing a great job every single day," said Ward.

Chief of Police Jerry Krawczyk said he appreciated the support.

Ward said he hoped village board meetings would reconvene in person sooner than later.

Lieser asked what has to happen before we can have meetings in person again?

Village Administrator Steve Super said it depends on the board consensus and if social distancing can be properly performed. It is difficult to determine whether the meeting location would be large enough to space everybody who attends six feet apart.

"We haven't had a chance to measure it," said Golden.

Super said staff is going to look how an in-person meeting with social distancing might be possible before the next meeting.



### Another risk for village residents?

It would appear there is enough to be cautious about these days as society reacts to the COVID-19 crisis, however, in the village there is apparently yet another risk to be assumed when venturing near a segment of the Fox River.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

## Pension Board actions include report approvals

By Frank Muisenga Jr.

At the Police Pension Fund Board meeting on Thursday, July 16, members unanimously approved an accountant and an investment report.

The meeting was conducted electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Michael May, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP, said the total net position equaled \$22 million in the monthly financial report as of June 30. Contributions totaled \$742,674; investment income totaled \$1.9 million; total deductions equaled \$204,676. Change in position was \$1.6 million. UP OR SOWN?

Tom Sawyer, Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC, said the second quarter investment report

showed a \$22 million market value. The investment return was \$2.4 million.

"Didn't get us quite back to positive territory, but pretty darn close during that period," said Sawyer. "And if you look at the rates of return, down below, that was a little better than a 12 percent swing each way, both down on the front end and up on the back end, and we're down right in line with the market; down about a percent, currently."

According to Sawyer, the year-to-date investment return decreased \$240,887.

"We've gone through a recovery here and we still have 10 months to perform," said Trustee Stan Helgeson. "We're in a good position."

Pension Services Administrator Keri O'Brien, Lauterbach & Amen, said the termination of an officer needed to be addressed.

Board President Jerry Krawczyk, said the officer was appealing the termination; the process may take until October to be finalized.

Trustee Jim McNamee said Christenson's withdrawal from the fund should be tabled until it is finalized.

O'Brien said an officer needed to be accepted into the fund as a tier-two employee. Retirement benefits for another also needed attention.

"I'll make a motion to approve the service pension to Officer Michael Doty," Helgeson said.

# The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

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Village declares  
varied items surplus  
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Sports camps hit by  
health restrictions  
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## U-46 to resume classes in a distanced manner

By Seth Hancock

The first day of school is right around the corner, Aug. 12, but School District U-46 officials have few answers other than the start of the 2020-2021 year will be all online due to COVID-19.

The U.S. Senate was recently presented with data from 22 European countries that have already opened schools, many with no face mask requirements, showing that there were no measurable increases in COVID-19.

However, U-46 Superintendent Tony Sanders said the district is making its decision based on fear rather than scientific data at a Board of Education meeting that was held on Monday, July 20 which was held electronically. Sanders said the district will base its decisions on government agencies such as the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health and other local agencies.

"We'll start off with distance learning, full-time online learning, and hopefully move into hybrid learning which is where students will come in, half of the students potentially at a time, alternating days and we'll offer days of face to face instruction and online learning," Sanders said.

Sanders said when Illinois reaches Phase 5 of Gov. JB Pritzker's reopening plan, which Sanders said will require a vaccine, U-46 will return "hopefully full-time in person learning."

Pritzker's mandates concerning COVID-19 hold no legal authority according to a recent state court ruling. Sue Kerr, the board's president, cited a Pritzker executive order for allowing the remote meeting, not Senate Bill 2135 approved by the General Assembly which allowed for remote meetings.

The plan is for full online learning through the first quarter, ending Oct. 9, with high school remaining that way through the rest of the first semester but elementary and middle schools moving to hybrid. Some access to buildings, with a face mask requirement, will be allowed in small groups for things such as labs and to acclimate students to "what schools look like in the era of COVID-19," Sanders said.

The district will contact families and staff to verify enrollment plans and staff assignments, and a special board meeting will be held on July 27 to vote on the plan, calendar adjustments and a waiver to immunization/health record requirements.

Sanders said Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines "may still impact our plan." He said wearing masks is "what we must do" under Pritzker's current orders and "the exceptions for this will be very, very rare,"

and he said if someone tests positive in a building anyone who was not fully socially distanced (six feet) would have to self-quarantine for up to 14 days.

The National Institutes of Health has published a study stating that cloth masks "may re-

sult in increased risk of infection." Sanders, who was in the board meeting room along with Kerr and another staff member, several times had to remove his face mask after coughing and losing his voice.

A survey was released seeking to find out what parents and staff were most afraid of and Brian Lindholm, coordinator for strategic initiatives, said U-46 "used these results heavily" to determine the plan.

Lindholm said staff, especially teachers, preferred all online learning or a hybrid model, and they also want more taxpayer-funded technology to use at home. Lindholm said "we do apologize for the discomfort" because the district asked respondents to rank their fears but a lot of respondents felt all six fears "were important." What should be noted is for those that do not hold any of the fears they had little chance to provide that input in the survey.

Several public comments came were made, some written and others over phone, from mostly teachers and mostly those who are afraid of return-

ing to in-person. Brittany Schaefer, a teacher, wrote that "to say that teachers are afraid to return to in-person learning in the Fall is an understatement," and a teacher phoned in saying she was "terrified to return to school" and the district is responsible to "keep us safe."

Suzanne Johnson, deputy superintendent of instruction, offered some possible models once the hybrid learning begins but stressed "that all the information being shared tonight is tentative." She said the calendar, which will now extend into June, "is currently under revision."

Trisha Shrode, director of curriculum and instruction, said that "some students were not as successful in distance learning as we had hoped" in the spring and the district is working on a handbook for teachers.

The district's data from the spring showed that only 9 percent of students fully participated in distance learning, but Sanders said: "The last thing I want to hear is that schools are not in session."

Johnson said work is "ongoing" re-

garding extra-curriculars and, regarding sports, U-46 will defer to the IHSA which has said it will defer all guidance to government agencies.

Jeff King, deputy superintendent of operations, said adjustments will need to be made regarding transportation and food service while they are working on managing federal bailout funds. He said the taxpayer-funded meals, which have been handed out to anybody with no questions asked, that have been funded through reimbursements which ends in August and said the district is lobbying the "state and the Congress" to continue it so the district doesn't have to do the work of verifying who the taxpayer-funded meals go to.

King later said "we couldn't do any transportation anymore" if social distancing is required except for maybe special education students.

Sanders said, regarding masks, that people must assume "that everyone around you might have (COVID-19)" and medical exemptions "will require a physician's note."

Board member Kate Thommes said "that's just not ok" if a student doesn't wear a mask and asked how that will be handled. Sanders agreed "that's not ok" and the district will need to determine "who corrects the behavior" and there needs to be "reinforcing" that they must obey.

From handling teachers who don't want to return to buildings to childcare, student labs and specialized equipment necessary for certain classes the common answer was the district is still determining the answers. A parent called and asked about testing for gifted programs which Sanders said: "We are working on what kind of testing we will be conducting."

Asked about childcare by John Devereux, Sanders said the district is working on something because some parents "have to be back to work because they're essential workers." Those parents who have been out of work because they were considered "nonessential" were not mentioned.

Thommes said more importantly are teachers who need childcare saying: "Make it a priority to take care of our teachers... in all of the ways that they need help."

Board member Donna Smith asked about the ability to implement guidelines based on the different layouts at each U-46 building to which Sanders said: "We don't know what we don't know. We like to think we know about each of our different buildings."

Board member Eva Porter said she was happy with the plan, and "we'll always be looking at science and what the CDC say(s)."

Kerr said she was "optimistic." She said "I certainly realize there will be parents this will be a problem for," but "the fears, it's a real thing."



### What will new school term bring?

With the start of the new year just weeks away for schools such as **Tefft Middle School**, local districts are attempting to come to a final decision on the form education will take in the new term. While three options appear to confront most school districts, U-46 has elected to begin the school year with all remote learning.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

# ‘Hybrid’ board meetings to continue as the norm

By Seth Hancock

The July 7 meeting of the Village Board of Trustees with an in-person presence at the Village Hall since March 9 when Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued a disaster declaration for the state due to COVID-19, but the use of Zoom continues for the board.

The meeting was called a “hybrid” by Village President Kevin Wallace as a public notice was put in place stating a physical quorum would not be present.

“We’re doing kind of a hybrid meeting,” Wallace said. “Half of the board is here, some of the board members are zooming.”

Paula Schumacher, village administrator, said that Wallace “declared this

meeting necessary to be held in this hybrid fashion due to the COVID pandemic, that we’re partially remote for our quorum and partially in-person.”

Throughout the shutdown, public comments have still been allowed at the virtual meetings. At the July 7 meeting, the public was still allowed to address the board via Zoom or physically at Village Hall.

On March 18, Wallace issued a disaster declaration for the village, later approved by the board on March 24, and Pritzker issued an executive order that same day suspending portions of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) allowing for the virtual meetings.

Since that March 9 declaration by Pritzker, he has reissued that declara-

tion three times on April 2, April 30 and May 23 and issued at least 40 executive orders related to COVID-19, but those orders and subsequent declarations appear to not have any authority according to a recent state court decision.

The village’s July 7 public notice noted that lack of authority stating the OMA suspension “arguably expired on May 29,” but the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 2135 on May 23 which was signed into law by Pritzker on June 12 to allow the suspension of portions of the OMA to continue. That is the only action the General Assembly has taken pertaining to any of Pritzker’s edicts related to COVID-19.

The public notice stated that SB2135 found “that the statewide public health emergency caused by the outbreak of COVID-19 presents an unprecedented danger to the People of the State of Illinois requiring the use of extraordinary precautions to reduce the risk of infection, causing delays in critical functions, and fundamentally altering the way in which government must operate in order to serve the People of the State of Illinois.”

Illinois is now in Phase 4 of Pritzker’s reopening plan which limits gathering to 50 people or fewer or 50 percent of a

room’s capacity. The village public notice stated “it is not practical to conduct public meeting... and still abide by gathering size limitations and social distancing requirements.”

However, the government has no authority to enforce any of Pritzker’s mandates in his reopening plan, at least for the private sector, as the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court in Clay County on July 2 declared all of Pritzker’s executive orders since April 8 “void ab initio” as the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act only gave the governor authority for 30 days without General Assembly approval.

That court ruling stated Pritzker had “no Illinois constitutional authority as Governor to restrict a citizen’s movement or activities and/or forcibly close business” at any time during the disaster declaration.

“His executive orders that were grounded in the COVID-19 public health emergency are gone,” said Thomas Devore, attorney representing Rep. Darren Bailey in his case against Pritzker. “They’re gone across the state. They have no force in effect of law right now in any of the 102 counties in this state until an appellate court says otherwise.”

## U-46 Board approves variety of expenses, bills

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved of expenditure items totaling \$1.7 million at its meeting on Monday, June 15 which was held electronically due to the COVID-19 shutdown.

Included was a four-year pact renewal with K-12 Insight for its customer service tool Let’s Talk! The cost was \$320,000, from the education fund, which is the same annual cost (\$80,000) from the previous three years.

With AmeriPak, the district will purchase two food packaging machines costing \$291,066 (food and nutrition fund). They will replace a pair of manufacturing production tray lines purchased in 2010 for the central commissary.

“New machines will allow staff to implement processes for higher resolution heat sealing film using stainless steel rollers, printing tracking production codes, ingredient/product code tracking, and allergen identifiers,” the proposal states.

Costing \$274,652 (operations and maintenance fund), U-46 will purchase playground equipment for four elementary schools from Game Time. The cost includes \$83,083 for a primary playground and \$29,473 for a preschool playground at Elgin’s Huff, \$54,345 for a primary playground at Bartlett’s Prairieview and \$53,876 each for primary playgrounds at Streamwood’s Oakhill and Elgin’s Garfield.

It will replace playground equipment that is “in extremely poor condition due to age,” according to the proposal.

Five pickup trucks will be purchased from Roesch Ford costing \$184,890 (operations and maintenance fund) to replace plant operation’s vehicles that were purchased between 1996 and 1998.

Costing \$144,503 (education fund), the district will renew its Microsoft licenses from CDW-G. The cost is down from \$146,426.

A five-term contract with Northern Illinois University in a not to exceed amount of \$144,000, which will be paid for by the nation’s taxpayers through federal grant funds, was approved for teachers to receive bilingual or English language learners (ELL) endorsements.

“The purpose of this second cohort is to continue to build the capacity of

our own ELL teachers by supporting their efforts in attaining the Bilingual/ESL Endorsement, in compliance with ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education) regulations, and for teacher retention in the program,” the proposal states.

With Illinois Communication Sales, Inc., the board approved \$132,067 (transportation fund) to replace the transportation department’s two-way radio system which currently is nearly four decades old, according to the proposal.

For a contract renewal with Mindsight, the district will spend \$115,998 (education fund), up from \$114,314, for Cisco SMARTnet license renewal which “enables the operation of the district’s phone system, including voicemail, emergency responder, and contact center express (call center management),” the proposal states.

U-46 will spend \$61,750 (education fund) for a contract renewal with CDW-G for AirWatch mobile device management software.

The proposal states: “Mobile Device Management software, AirWatch, allows U-46 to deploy and manage tablet devices (iPads) in an efficient manner from a central administrative console.” This is an increase over the licenses managed last year at \$38,200.00.”

To pay annual dues to the lobbyist group Illinois Association of School Boards, the district will pay \$33,240 (education fund), down from \$40,000.

The board also unanimously approved \$8.1 million in itemized bills as well as a list of authorized depositories which will be PMA Securities, LLC, the Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund and JP Morgan Chase and Company.

## External structure fire strikes Hickory Avenue home



Structure fire damage at South Hickory Avenue. (Courtesy photo)

On Sunday, July 19, at 1:35 a.m., the Bartlett Fire District was called to a report of a structure fire in the 300 block of South Hickory Avenue in Bartlett. The first fire district personnel arrived on the scene at 1:40 a.m. and reported a small fire on the exterior of the home near the air conditioner. The first fire crews utilized an extinguisher to put the fire out. Additional fire companies searched the building for any trapped occupants and to locate any hidden fire.

The fire was declared under control at 1:48 a.m. Firefighters continued to monitor the exterior of the home and perform investigative activities after the fire was extinguished.


No civilians or firefighters were injured in the fire, and the home remained habitable. Damage estimates

are not available at this time and the fire remains under investigation by fire district investigators.

The fire was fought by 17 firefighters, staffing two fire engines, one ladder truck and two ambulances that responded to the scene along with three command officers and one fire investigator. Units from the Hanover Park, South Elgin, and Streamwood fire departments were among the initial responders to the scene as part of an automatic aid agreement. Bartlett police assisted at the scene with traffic and crowd control.

The fire district reminds everyone to have an escape plan, practice it and be prepared to use it in the event of any fire. Visit the district website at [www.bartlettfire.com](http://www.bartlettfire.com) for additional fire safety tips.

**Sudoku and Crossword Puzzles available on our website**  
[www.examinerpublications.com](http://www.examinerpublications.com)

  
**AARON H. REINKE, ESQ.**  
*Attorney at law serving the Bartlett Community*  
[areinke@bazosfreeman.com](mailto:areinke@bazosfreeman.com)  
1250 Larkin Avenue  
Suite 100  
Elgin, IL 60123  
**847-841-2024**

# Curriculum proposals approved by U-46 board

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved of two curriculum proposals and four resolutions at its meeting on Monday, June 15 which was held electronically due to the COVID-19 shutdown.

Approved was a revision to the district's welding curriculum which has an estimated cost of \$34,359 for resources and professional development.

The proposal states that the revisions are necessary "to align the current

coursework with industry aligned technical standards, Common Core Readiness Standards, and Essential Employability Competencies and Standards-Based Learning and Assessment."

"Since its inception in 2017-2018, the Welding Program has grown and will serve nearly 150 students for the 2020-2021 school year with the number of students eligible to test for certification more than tripling since the first year," the proposal adds. "With the implementation of this revised cur-

riculum, students will not only have more in-depth learning experiences in the class room and welding lab; they will also benefit from exploration into post-secondary options upon completion of the program as well as Work-Based Learning opportunities where they will gain valuable insight into the welding industry."

The welding technology pathway will be revised three courses: Welding Fundamentals (sophomore), Welding Technology I (junior) and Welding Technology II (senior). The program is offered at Elgin High School but open to all U-46 students as well as Burlington Central School District 301 students.

A middle school Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum proposal was approved with a total estimated cost of \$183,500, a cost of \$91,750 each for

the STEM-Design and Modeling and STEM-Automation and Design courses.

"Updates to these courses are necessary to meet the demands of Project Lead The Way Gateway course requirements and also to extend the course from nine weeks to a full semester course," the proposal states.

Approved resolutions included one authorizing the transfer of interest earnings (\$6.2 million) from the working cash fund to the operations and maintenance fund, one allowing the district's treasurer to make bond and interest payments, one allowing the district to participate in federal and state programs and one approving hazardous transportation area designations which include 25 locations in U-46.

## DuPage County awards \$1 million to local nonprofits

According to the DuPage County Board, it has awarded a total of \$1 million to 56 local nonprofits through the DuPage County Human Services Grant Fund. The County Board created this fund to partner with local agencies that directly serve the needs of DuPage County residents.

"DuPage County residents continue to face new challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Board Chairman Dan Cronin. "These dollars will help our nonprofits to pursue additional private and public support to assist the largest number of people possible and provide vital community services, protecting our most vulnerable populations. We are honored to help improve the lives of DuPage County residents through this program,"

The grants are available to organizations that promote self-sufficiency and help families achieve independence, ensure the protection of children and other vulnerable residents, and maximize prevention opportunities to strengthen families' well-being and stability.

The grants range from \$2,683 to \$45,000. The agencies were required to be registered as a 501(c)(3), serve a broad geographical area of DuPage County and have made a substantial impact on county residents for at least three years.

DuPage County awarded grants to the following agencies: United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago, 360 Youth Services, Humanitarian Service Project, Catholic Charities – Diocese of Joliet (two programs), DuPage Legal Assistance Foundation, DuPage Senior Citizens Council, Exodus World Service, Family Shelter Service, Prairie State Legal Services, Sharing Connections, DuPage Pads, Love INC of Western Suburbs, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, Loaves & Fishes Community Services, West Suburban Community Pantry, Teen Parent Connection Inc., Metropolitan Asian

Family Services, Little City Foundation, Almost Home Kids, Literacy DuPage, People's Resource Center, HOME DuPage Inc. (two projects), Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services, DuPage Health Coalition, Evangelical Child & Family Agency, Little Friends Inc., Marklund Children's Home, Bridge Communities Inc., The Community House, Ecumenical Support Services for the Elderly, Donka Inc., Samaritan Interfaith Counseling Center, World Relief of DuPage Aurora, Hope's Front Door, Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, DuPage Habitat for Humanity, Turning Pointe Autism Foundation, Wayne/Winfield Area Youth/Family Services, CASA of DuPage County, ChildServ, Hamdard Center for Health and Human Services, Riverwalk Adult Day Services, Senior Home Sharing Inc., Achieving Independence and Mobility Center for Independent Living, Serenity House Counseling Services, Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities, Career & Networking Center, Bartlett Learning Center, ICNA Relief Chicago, The Salvation Army Oakbrook Terrace, Xilin Association, NAMI DuPage, Youth Outlook and Healthcare Alternative Systems Inc.

Information about the Human Services Grant Fund is available online at [www.dupageco.org/Community\\_Services/Community\\_Development/6285](http://www.dupageco.org/Community_Services/Community_Development/6285).

## County Board votes to allocate \$43 million in relief funds

According to DuPage County, the DuPage County Board voted to allocate \$43 million in federal relief funds to reimburse DuPage municipalities for qualifying expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 response.

DuPage County received more than \$161 million in federal funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and was the only government agency in the county to receive a direct allocation from Congress. The DuPage County Board established the Local Government Municipal COVID-19 Reimbursement Program to provide a portion of these federal funds to assist DuPage cities, towns and villages, recognizing the increased expenses all local governments have incurred as they provide government services during the pandemic.

"The COVID-19 response has stressed all government budgets, particularly those providing day to day service to our community residents", said County Board Chairman Dan Cronin. "We are pleased to provide our municipal partners with financial relief as they continue to carry out their vital mission, serving and protecting the residents of this County."

"We're grateful to the DuPage County Board for recognizing the importance of partnering with the DuPage municipal leaders and providing this much-needed financial relief," said Willowbrook Mayor Frank Trilla, who serves as President of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference. "While we work together through this unprecedented public health crisis, we are dedicated to utilizing these funds wisely to provide safety and

services for the benefit of our residents."

Municipal governments are required to submit eligible expenses that were incurred due to the COVID-19 public health response. COVID-19-related expenses may include sanitizing village hall, public buildings, or emergency vehicles; technology costs related to working from home and social distancing requirements; increased costs of police and fire response; purchase of personal protection equipment; and many other costs.

Expenses submitted by municipalities will be reviewed by the County Auditor's Office and a third-party auditor. The expenses must not have been accounted for in the municipality's most recently approved budget and funds must be spent by Dec. 30.

Municipalities will receive \$51.84 per capita, which is more than the \$41.50 the state is reimbursing agencies through its Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Program.

DuPage County approved intergovernmental agreements with the following municipalities at its Tuesday, July 14 board meeting: Addison, Aurora, Bartlett, Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Bolingbrook, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Clarendon Hills, Darien, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Hanover Park, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lemont, Lisle, Lombard, Naperville, Oak Brook, Oakbrook Terrace, Roselle, St. Charles, Villa Park, Warrenville, Wayne, West Chicago, Westmont, Wheaton, Willowbrook, Winfield, Wood Dale, and Woodridge. Municipalities will also have to approve the agreements to receive funds.



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Addison	\$1,891,226	Lemont	\$1,244
Aurora	\$2,486,712	Lisle	\$1,215,129
Bartlett	\$1,268,732	Lombard	\$2,296,667
Bensenville	\$953,856	Naperville	\$5,011,217
Bloomingtondale	\$1,129,023	Oak Brook	\$415,549
Bolingbrook	\$78,848	Oakbrook Terrace	\$150,958
Burr Ridge	\$356,192	Roselle	\$992,165
Carol Stream	\$2,032,283	St Charles	\$29,548
Clarendon Hills	\$453,703	Villa Park	\$1,113,678
Darien	\$1,121,195	Warrenville	\$682,940
Downers Grove	\$2,543,114	Wayne	\$80,611
Elmhurst	\$2,423,312	West Chicago	\$1,390,141
Glen Ellyn	\$1,436,693	Westmont	\$1,267,125
Glendale Heights	\$1,742,705	Wheaton	\$2,734,767
Hanover Park	\$912,228	Willow brook	\$445,668
Hinsdale	\$797,662	Winfield	\$509,068
Itasca	\$470,966	Wood Dale	\$705,386
		Woodridge	\$1,733,114

Spreadsheet listing the total funds that have been allocated to each municipality.  
(Courtesy photo)