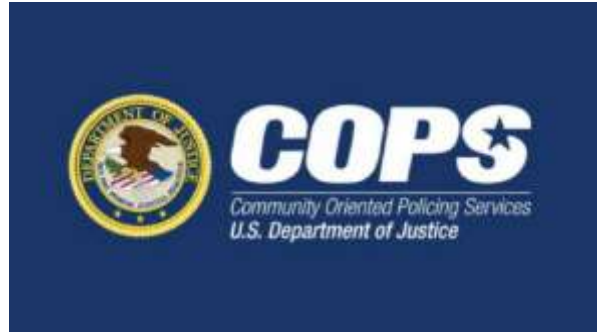


Press Clippings 09-23-20

---Kane County Connects--- 09/23/2020

Kane Roe Secures \$210,000 Funding For Kane Schools Through Cops Grant



- ***Editor's Note: This post written by Kane County Regional Office of Education Communications and Website Coordinator Molly McQueeney is part of a bi-weekly series on education programs and best practices in Kane County.***

The Kane County Regional Office of Education has secured funding as a grant facilitator from the Community Oriented Policing Services School Violence Prevention Program.

The funds from the grant will go to five districts including West Aurora 129, District 301, District 300, East Aurora 131, and Kaneland 302. The U-46 district in Elgin has also secured funding separately through the grant.



Patricia Dal Santo

Funds from the grant will provide Stop the Bleed Kits, Reunification Kits, and Comprehensive Site Risk Assessment Planning.

Kane County Regional Office of Education Superintendent Patricia Dal Santo said her office is proud to be one of the nine organizations in Illinois to receive funding from the Department of Justice.

“The safety of our students and districts’ staff is very important to us,” she said. “And to receive this funding helps give schools the necessary tools to prevent and respond to such incidents.”

Stop the Bleed Kits are a one-time set including a tourniquet, dressings for wounds, and instructional materials for proper usage. Reunification Kits are used after evacuations or other such instances where students and families need to be reunited in a time of crisis and include materials such as important files, safety materials, and more.

Comprehensive Site Risk Assessment Planning is conducted by professionals trained in risk prevention. The goal is to outline potential situations in the school environment that may place the school community at risk and assist the district in forming a plan of action before the event happens.

For more information about the COPS SVPP grant, visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>.

---Kane County Chronicle--- 09/23/2020

Kane Regional Office of Education receives CARES Act grant for remote learning expenses

Gov. Pritzker announced distribution of funds on Monday

By: Kane County Chronicle



The Kane County Regional Office of Education will receive more than \$85,000 in from the State of Illinois as part of the Digital Equity Formula Grant program to address the digital gap among students during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a news release from the Illinois State Board of Education.

The money comes from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which awarded more than \$80 million statewide to help close the digital divide among Illinois students, according to the release. Gov. JB Pritzker announced Monday that 471 school districts throughout the state will receive the funding.

The Kane ROE will get \$69,342 to help purchase devices for remote learning and \$16,372 to address connectivity issues. Other Kane County districts that will receive funding including **School District U-46**, CUSD 300, Aurora West and Aurora East.

"Closing the digital divide has been a priority for the agency since March, when the pandemic forced schools statewide to suddenly shift to remote learning," State Superintendent of Education Carmen Ayala stated in the release. "We saw in the spring that many schools did not have the technology or internet access necessary to connect students and teachers in real-time and to facilitate meaningful remote instruction. We have learned and prepared a lot since the spring, and we are excited to provide our highest-need schools the Digital Equity Formula Grant to strengthen their digital infrastructure this fall and for years to come."

Many school districts have already bought devices and expanded connectivity since the pandemic began. Districts may use the grant to purchase additional devices and connectivity or

to cover purchases made since March 13. Districts will receive reimbursement after submitting an application and quarterly expenditure reports.

“With this commitment of \$80 million in funding to closing the digital divide, we are building on the same goals we’ve pushed since the beginning of my administration, creating a pipeline of high-quality learning from cradle to career,” Gov. JB Pritzker stated in the release. “Throughout this crisis, I have been so impressed to see all the creative ways superintendents and teachers adapted to the pandemic, a spirit of ingenuity that stretched up into our higher education institutions, too. This pandemic has heightened every inequality and injustice in our nation and our educators are on the front lines of seeing our young people through this moment.”

---The Patch--- 09/23/2020

Elgin Schools Get \$2.2M To Close Digital Gap Among Students

The funds are part of the state's \$80 million Digital Equity Formula Grant to ensure students have the technology for remote learning.

By: Jason Addy



Gov. J.B. Pritzker and the Illinois State Board of Education announced 471 school districts will receive funding through the state's Digital Equity Formula Grant. (Shutterstock)

ELGIN, IL — Elgin-based schools are set to receive nearly \$2.2 million from a state grant that aims to help close the digital gap among students in Illinois. **Elgin Area School District U46** will receive \$2.15 million, while the Elgin Math and Science Academy will get \$47,444.

The funds are meant to help the district cover the costs of e-learning devices and improve internet connectivity, according to a news release from the Illinois State Board of Education.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker and ISBE officials announced Monday that 471 local school districts will receive funding totaling more than \$80 million through the Digital Equity Formula Grant, established with funds from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

"With this commitment of \$80 million in funding to closing the digital divide, we are building on the same goals we've pushed since the beginning of my administration, creating a pipeline of high-quality learning from cradle to career," Pritzker said in the release.

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"Throughout this crisis, I have been so impressed to see all the creative ways superintendents and teachers adapted to the pandemic, a spirit of ingenuity that stretched up into our higher education institutions, too," Pritzker continued. "This pandemic has heightened every inequality and injustice in our nation and our educators are on the front lines of seeing our young people through this moment."

More than 1.2 million students are starting the 2020-21 school year with remote learning and about 528,000 are learning in a blended or hybrid environment, comprising nearly 92 percent of all students in Illinois, according to officials. The Digital Equity Formula Grant is meant to ensure students have the technology they need to access equitable learning opportunities.

Many school districts have already purchased devices and expanded connectivity since the pandemic began, and they may use the grant to purchase additional devices or to cover purchases made since March 13. Districts will receive reimbursement after submitting an application and quarterly expenditure reports.

"Closing the digital divide has been a priority for the agency since March, when the pandemic forced schools statewide to suddenly shift to remote learning," said State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala. "We saw in the spring that many schools did not have the technology or internet access necessary to connect students and teachers in real-time and to facilitate meaningful remote instruction. We have learned and prepared a lot since the spring, and we are excited to provide our highest-need schools the Digital Equity Formula Grant to strengthen their digital infrastructure this fall and for years to come."

The Examiner of STREAMWOOD

Volume 26
Number 20

"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

50 cents
September 23, 2020

Photo contest
winners announced
See Page 3

Sabres tennis off to
belated season start
See Page 4

U-46 Board to vote upon budget, expense items

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on the Fiscal Year 2021 budget as well as \$326,749 in expenditure items at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Sept. 28. The items were presented at the Sept. 14 meeting which was held electronically due to COVID-19 regulations.

Spending in the budget is set to rise from \$594.3 million to \$599.5 million, a \$6.2 million increase, and revenue from \$596 million to \$602.4 million, a \$6.4 million increase. Enrollment is projected to drop for the sixth straight year, from 37,886 students to 37,403.

The long-term trend of large spending increases despite large enrollment drops is expected to continue indefinitely. If the budget projections are realized, spending will have increased 45.1 percent between 2012 and 2024 from \$430 million to \$624 million (a \$194 million increase) while enrollment will have declined 13.4 percent from 40,687 to 35,252 (a loss of 5,435 students).

The district again plans to seek the largest property tax increase allowed under the law with revenue proposed to rise from \$306.9 million to \$319.1 million, a 4 percent increase. U-46 plans to seek an average of \$8 million additionally a year from property taxpayers reaching \$339 million by 2024.

A public hearing on the budget was held, but no comments were made. The board offered no discussion.

Unrelated to the budget, the board allowed a public commenter five minutes and 20 seconds, nearly double the board's policy, to praise the district for

keeping schools in distance learning. In contrast, a few years ago the board changed its public comment policy to reduce the time from three minutes to two if a certain number of people requested to make a comment, this coming after large numbers of the public spoke out against a U-46 change in practice.

The expenditure items include a contract renewal with Northwest Evaluation Association costing \$203,000 (education fund) for MAP testing.

Sue Kerr, the board's president, said MAP tests are generally done three times a year and asked about this year's plans and Laura Hill, director of assessment and accountability, said: "We are not administering the MAP assessment currently, so that would be considered the fall term. Our plans are to hopefully administer in winter and spring."

A contract renewal with Workforce Software has a price tag of \$94,949 (education fund) for workforce timeclock annual support and licensing. With Falls Mechanical Insulation, Inc., the board will vote on a \$28,800 (operation and maintenance fund) bid for a pipe insulation project at Elgin High School.

Distance learning item approved by U-46 board

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved, of a \$63,400 expenditure from the education fund to use Zoom during distance learning at its meeting on Monday, Sept. 14 which was held electronically due to COVID-19 regulations.

The item was presented and voted on at the same meeting. The purchase is through CDW.

As we implemented distance learning in the spring, we identified continued needs for support," the proposal states. "One identified need is the need for continued synchronous instruction as well as recording asynchronous instruction."

The proposal added: "The curriculum and instruction department teamed with other teaching and learning departments to

identify Zoom as our resource to provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction. This will also allow our high schools to provide large group online forums with students."

The purchase is for one year and includes video webinar 500 and video webinar 1,000. Sue Kerr, the board's president, asked if that refers to how many can participate in the video conference and Superintendent Tony Sanders said it was.

Also approved unanimously was a 2020 high school graduate supplement. At the previous meeting, the board approved of around 2,600 high school graduates.

"We had one student from one high school that did not make it to that list but should have," Sanders said. "We are asking for approval of this supplement to ensure this student graduates."

Amendment approved to village massage ordinance

By Kristin Carreno

During the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Sept. 17, trustees voted unanimously in approval of a comprehensive amendment to the village massage establishment ordinance.

According to Village Attorney Thomas Bastian, the village board originally approved an ordinance regulating and licensing massage establishments and persons performing massage therapy services in 1999. The ordinance was last amended in 2003 to be consistent with changes in state law. In 2003 state law was again amended by the adoption of the Massage Licensing Act.

"The act provides that the licensure of massage therapists is the sole province of the state," said Bastian. "However, villages can still adopt reasonable regulations and license the business of massage establishments and salons."

Bastian said upon review of the massage ordinance it became apparent that it needed to be updated to conform with state law and to ensure businesses offering massaging comply with

building, zoning, fire and health codes.

According to Bastian, the annual inspections will be performed by the community development department and the fire department.

"A significance is that daily fines can be levied for certain violations along with suspension and revocation of offending business license owners," Bastian said. "The ordinance authorizes the business to be declared a public nuisance for repeated and ongoing violations."

Trustee William Harper asked if the state is going to do inspections as well as the village.

"They will do backgrounds and issue licenses," Bastian replied. "They will not do inspections on establishments."

Harper asked if any violations found from village inspections are then reported to the state.

"We will report it to the state if we determine personnel are not licensed," Bastian answered. "But with respect to zoning codes, fire codes or health codes, that's when we can take action against the license."



Signs of seasonal change

Autumn officially arrived in the village on Tuesday, Sept. 22 this year and early and late in the day it did feel as if fall had fallen. It won't be long before the leaves on the trees in the image will be a memory at least until next April.

(Examiner photo by Bruce Leighty)

Village golf club mower approved for purchase

By Kristin Carreno

At the Village Board meeting on Thursday, Sept. 17, trustees voted unanimously in favor of a motion to waive competitive bidding and authorize the purchase of a 2020 Toro Green mower for the Streamwood Oaks Golf Club from Reiders, Inc., Sussex, Wisconsin, at a cost of \$40,168.

"Links Management, our golf course management firm, has recommended the purchase of this 2020 Toro Greensmaster 3150-Q mower," said Finance Director Josh Peacock. "The mower we're replacing is at the end of its useful life and has some engine trouble."

According to Peacock, since the trade-in value of the older mower is

\$500, it is going to be kept for spare parts.

"Reiders, Inc., is a company we've used previously," Peacock said. "They belong to a group called OMNIA Partners."

OMNIA Partners utilizes cooperative pricing similar to Sourcewell or the National Joint Powers Alliance, Peacock added. They have been used by public works to obtain the best pricing available for this type of equipment.

"Funds are available in the equipment replacement fund," Peacock said. "Links Management has consistently extended the useful lives of all of our vehicles and equipment at the golf course."



Pernilla, a 'whole package'

Golden-eyed Pernilla is the whole package—gorgeous, young, cat-friendly, and a lover of cuddles. She's a sweet two year old girl with a resting grumpy face, but she really loves to be loved. Her previous family had allergies and couldn't keep her, but they described her as a friendly and easy going cat who likes to spend time close to her people. She also lived with another cat, so she won't mind having feline friends in her new home.

Anyone interested may get the adoption process started by completing an adoption application at bit.ly/OurAdoptables and a staff member will reach out to schedule a time for a meet and greet.

(Photo courtesy of County Animal Control)

Connections

Poplar Creek Public Library

September Library Hours
Main Library
Seniors Only Hours
Monday to Saturday, 9 to 10 a.m.
Regular Hours
Monday / Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday / Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday / Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sonya Crawshaw Branch
Seniors Only Hours
Monday to Friday, 1 to 2 p.m.
Saturday, 12 to 1 p.m.
Regular Hours
Monday / Tuesday, 2 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday / Thursday, 2 to 9 p.m.
Friday, 2 to 5 p.m.
Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.
Sunday, closed
Social distancing and masks required; limited services available.
Trustee election packets
Election packets are now available for pick up at the Main Library located at 1405 S. Park Ave., in the Administrative Offices, located on the second floor. Visit pclib.org or call 837-6800 for more information.
How to Restring and Tune a Guitar
Thursday, Sept. 24 at 4 p.m.
Online (YouTube)
Learn how to properly restring and tune both electric and acoustic guitars in this video lesson. The video will be available to view on our YouTube page. For more information, please visit calendar of events at pclib.org or call 483-4939.
Book Discussion with Author Lauren Francis-Sharma
Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m.
Online (Zoom)
Join us for an online discussion with the author of "Book of the Little Axe." Lauren Francis-Sharma's "Book of the Little Axe" is historical fiction at its finest. An incredible journey, spanning decades and oceans from

Trinidad to the American West during the tumultuous days of warring colonial powers and westward expansion. This eBook is available from Overdrive/Libby in unlimited quantities until Sept. 28. Register online or call 483-4925.

DNA Testing for Genealogy
Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m.
In-Library and Online (Zoom)
Are you interested in DNA testing and want to know which is best for you? Or have you already done one and want help understanding the results? Come to this class to learn how DNA helps explore and unravel family mysteries. Registration required; space is limited for in-library seating. Please provide your email address when registering to receive Zoom instructions.

Harvard Computers
Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m.
In-Library and Online (Zoom)
Learn about the women who worked in Edward Pickering's lab in the early 1900s and laid the groundwork for all of modern stellar astrophysics. Presented by Sally Laurent-Muehleisen, associate chair in the Department of Physics at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Registration required; space is limited for in-library seating. Please provide your email address when registering to receive Zoom instructions.

Save the Date!
Family Concert Series:
Rick Pickren - Ghost Riders and Other Spooky Songs
Sunday, Oct. 18 at 2 p.m.
In-Library and Online (Facebook Live)
For more information or to register, please visit pclib.org and click on our calendar of events.
For the most current news at Poplar Creek Public Library District, please visit our website at www.pclib.org. Questions? Call 837-6800.

Sabres tennis struggles through first week of play

By Seth Hancock
A young Streamwood tennis team got much needed experience as the Sabres opened the season.

The Sabres had several matches cancelled earlier this season for various reasons making its Upstate Eight Conference match against Elgin on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at Streamwood its first. Elgin, which already had three weeks of matches in, defeated the Sabres 6-1.

Freshmen Kaleigh Allender and Maryann Soria won their No. 4 doubles match in their first career match.

"Neither of them played tennis before this season, but they come to practice every day and they did a good job today," said Streamwood coach Daniela Necs.

Streamwood has three returning varsity players in juniors Kaitlyn Esteban, Katelyn Nguyen and Amber Tanigue. Necs said last year was the first year for those returners while the rest of the team are in their first years of tennis.

Because of IHSA rules, teams must fill their varsity roster first. Necs said several of her girls would be playing JV without the rule, but playing at the varsity level can give them valuable experience as their careers progress.

"They were very close," Necs said. "I think each girl and each (doubles) team, they were very close and played to many deuces. We just need to improve on consistency. It was our first of the year, and Elgin has played four or five matches already. It is a good ex-

perience."

Necs added: "I try to encourage them to see the bright side. I try to tell them it's an opportunity because you're facing varsity girls and you get to know where you need to work and where you need to improve."

Streamwood went on to go 0-3 in its opening week. The Sabres fell 7-0 in a nonconference match at Maine East on Wednesday, Sept. 16 and 7-0 at South Elgin in an UEC match on Thursday, Sept. 17.

"Tough week but we need to be stronger and keep going," Necs said. "I hope we'll be able to see better days sometime this season."



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- Manage multi-line phone system
- Operation of various office equipment
- Effectively handle stressful situations

- Maintain a positive work environment
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- Filing skills
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