

Press Clippings 1/13/2022

Pioneer Press

New superintendent to lead East Maine School District 63, with students from Niles, Morton Grove, Park Ridge, Glenview --- 1/13/2022

By Jennifer Johnson



Shawn Schleizer has been named the new superintendent of East Maine School District 63 in Maine Township. (School District / HANDOUT)

A new superintendent will be leading East Maine School District 63 beginning this summer.

The Board of Education on Jan. 6 voted to approve the appointment of Shawn Schleizer, who is currently the district's associate superintendent.

Schleizer will receive an annual base salary of \$220,000, said District 63 Spokeswoman Janet Spector Bishop.

He will take on his new role July 1 following the retirement of Scott Clay, who has been superintendent since 2009.

Schleizer joined District 63 in 2010 as principal of Melzer School in Morton Grove. He was promoted to assistant superintendent of human resources in 2014 and then associate superintendent in 2017, the district said.

Prior to joining District 63, Schleizer held leadership roles in Elmwood Park School District 401, Evanston/Skokie School District 65 and **School District U-46**. He holds a master's degree in planning and social policy administration from Harvard University and a doctorate in educational leadership from National Louis University, District 63 said.

More than 30 candidates were considered for the role of superintendent, with the search process consisting of feedback from parents and school staff, the district said.

East Maine School District 63 serves more than 3,400 ethnically diverse students in portions of unincorporated Maine Township, Niles, Glenview, Park Ridge and Morton Grove.

Daily Herald

Boys' Basketball: Glenbard West passes another test with win over Larkin --- 1/13/2022

By Chris Casey for Shaw Media

There is one common goal for the Glenbard West boys' basketball team and it involves playing and winning the final game of the season in March.

After another dominating performance Wednesday in a 64-43 victory over once-beaten **Larkin**, Glenbard West took yet another step in solidifying itself as the top Class 4A team in the state.

But there isn't complacency from a group led by three-year varsity starters in Braden Huff, Caden Pierce and Bobby Durkin. There is a continued will to come to practice each day and find ways to get better and leave no doubt come playoff time.

"We still take one game at a time and don't overlook anyone," said Pierce, one of four Hilltoppers in double figures Wednesday with his 13 points. "It's great taking the court with these guys every single night. We obviously have a lot of confidence with the way we're playing right now. Yeah, there's definitely no complaining, it's nice to win."

Glenbard West (17-0) got off to a fast start with all five starters contributing in the scoring column to a 14-3 run to begin the game. The last of those buckets was a thunderous slam dunk from the 6-foot-11 Huff.

The Gonzaga commit scored 10 of his 16 points before halftime as the Hilltoppers doubled up Larkin, 30-15, at the break. Pierce, a Princeton recruit, also had two slams of his own in the win.

"I think the nice part about us is that we have a number of guys that can contribute," said Huff, who finished with a game-high 18 points. "I think it's honestly our biggest strength. I've been playing [basketball] with a lot of these guys since elementary school, so it's awesome to have one last ride as a group. We know we just have to keep it going."

Larkin (17-2) was coming off an Upstate Eight Conference victory Tuesday night over Streamwood, and while coach Deryn Carter makes no excuses, he hopes to see Glenbard West again with a more significant amount at stake.

"They're one of the better teams we've had to play since I've been [at Larkin]," Carter said. "They're a heck of a team. The problem is that once you get down by 15 to a team like this, you're going to need some help. I thought we fought hard and got back in it, but [Glenbard West] is just so good and they didn't make very many mistakes tonight. We could see them down the line and we hope we get another crack at them."

Royals standout guard Damari Wheeler-Thomas was limited for most of Wednesday night due to the length and size of the Glenbard West 1-3-1 zone. Starting players at 6-foot-11, 6-foot-8, 6-foot-7 and 6-foot-6 made it extremely difficult for Larkin's athleticism to shine, but Wheeler-Thomas helped get his team within 10 at two different occasions in the second half.

However, Durkin answered the Larkin fourth quarter comeback attempt with one of his 4 3-pointers to aid a 10-0 run to put the game out of reach. Durkin finished with 14 points in the win.

Wheeler-Thomas finished with 13 points, while Fernando Perez led the Royals with 14 points.

"We know that when we play the way we are capable of, we like our chances against anyone," Durkin said. "Our unselfishness gives us that piece of mind that we don't have to play a perfect game to still be able to get the job done."

"The overall goal every time we step on the court together, whether that be practice or a game, is to improve," Glenbard West coach Jason Opoka said. "We just have to continue taking this one day at a time. This group understands that it isn't going to be easy and they know how to fight through any adversity. We have to keep taking baby steps to climb up that hill until we reach the castle."

