

Press Clippings 3/16/2022

Chicago Tribune/The Courier-News

Elgin News Digest --- 3/15/2022

By Mike Danahey

U-46 to spend \$3.1M on new laptops

School District U-46 plans to spend \$3.1 million to replace about 8,500 Chromebook laptop computers that have reached their life expectancy.

The tentative contract to make the purchase through with Lenovo is expected to be approved at the U-46 School Board meeting on March 21.

Chromebooks are used by all students starting in second grade, and tend to have a four- to five-year life span. Students keep the same device for as long as the equipment continues to work or they leave the district, officials said.

The school board Monday night tentatively approved the purchase without discussion.

U-46 using grant money to buy school safety mirrors

The **District U-46 School Board** has approved spending more than \$50,000 to buy safety mirrors from Chicago-based Global Equipment Co. for all 57 district buildings.

The round, half-circle mirrors will allow users to view things occurring at a distance, around a corner or in areas otherwise hidden from sight, officials said. They will help school staff navigate during a run, hide, fight situation or during drills.

Money from a federal Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services grant will fund the purchase, according to U-46 Coordinator of School Safety Richard Bosh. The equipment is to be installed this spring.

District officials are also expecting to use the \$500,000 federal grant to purchase additional cameras for middle schools, motion sensor security lights for all school building exteriors and fencing for three schools.

The Examiner of Bartlett

Calendars for two years approved by U-46 board ---

3/16/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note – This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and in The Examiner of Streamwood

The **Board of Education in School District U-46** unanimously approved, via a 7-0 vote, the calendars for the next two school years at its meeting on Monday, March 7.

The first day of school will be Tuesday, Aug. 16 (Aug. 23 for preschool) in 2022-2023 with the last day of school being Wednesday, May 31 or Wednesday, June 7 if all five emergency days are used. For the 2023-2024 school year, the first day is set for Tuesday, Aug. 15 (Aug. 22 preschool) and the last day Tuesday, May 28 or Tuesday, June 4 if emergency days are used.

Total instructional days each year is 176, and teacher attendance is 184.

Superintendent Tony Sanders said the district plans to bring the 2024- 2025 school year calendar next year to keep a year ahead.

“We’ll just get in the habit of having one year, but we’ll always be a year ahead of everybody,” Sanders said. “Parents and teachers and everybody can plan accordingly.”

High school graduations will be Saturday, May 27, 2023 and Saturday, May 25, 2024.

For 2022-2023, students will have election days off on Tuesday, Nov. 8 and Tuesday, April 4. Thanksgiving break will begin Wednesday, Nov. 23 (return on Monday, Nov. 28), Christmas break on Friday, Dec. 22 (return Monday, Jan. 9) and spring break on Monday, March 27 (return Monday, April 3).

Other holidays include Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 5), Columbus Day/Indigenous People’s Day (Monday, Oct. 10), MLK Day (Monday, Jan. 16) President’s Day (Monday, Feb. 20) Good Friday (April 7) and Memorial Day (Monday, May 29). Four Fridays (Oct. 21, Jan. 27, March 3, May 5) will be non-attendance/institute days.

For 2023-2024, Election Day on Tuesday, March 19 will be off. Thanksgiving break begins Wednesday, Nov. 22 (return Monday, Nov. 27), Christmas break Friday, Dec. 22 (return Monday, Jan. 8) and spring break Monday, March 25 with a return on Tuesday, April 2 after having Easter Monday off.

Other holidays include Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 23), Columbus Day/Indigenous People’s Day (Monday, Oct. 9), MLK Day (Monday, Jan. 15), President’s Day (Monday, Feb. 19) and Memorial Day (Monday, May 27). Four Fridays (Oct. 20, Jan. 26, March 1, May 3) will be non-attendance/institute days.

The Examiner of Bartlett

District U-46 report identifies 17 schools requiring work --- 3/16/2022

By Seth Hancock- Note: This story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin and The Examiner of Streamwood

School District U-46 has identified \$70.9 million in projects needed to address issues at 17 buildings in the 10- year safety survey report.

Sheila Downs, director of plant operations, said because of the district's size, its buildings are on a cycle with different buildings being addressed in each year's report.

"Each of the buildings has to be looked at and inspected by an architect every 10 years," Downs said. "From there, they create two sets of lists. One is the health safety violations, anything that is a code issue. And then our architect also gives me a separate list of things that aren't necessarily code related but that are recommended.... Then they set specific dates depending on the severity of the items. And so, there are some items that need to be repaired the next year to three years. There are some items that are lower priorities that can be completed throughout the duration of the 10-year cycle."

The highest costing needs are at Elgin's Ellis Middle School (\$11.7 million) and Streamwood's Tefft Middle School (\$11.1 million).

There were three buildings on the list that have been marked for potential decommission in a facilities study recently completed: Elgin's Illinois Park Center (\$5.1 million), Streamwood's Hanover Countryside Elementary School (\$3.8 million) and Elgin's Garfield Elementary School (\$2.9 million).

Downs said the district would address the most urgent needs at those locations but will keep the possible plans of decommission in mind when considering long-term items.

Other buildings on the list are Elgin's Larsen Middle School (\$6.8 million) and Century Oaks (\$5.4 million), Hillcrest (\$4.1 million), Creekside (\$4 million), Lowrie (\$3.3 million), Washington (\$1.8 million) and Highland (\$1.2 million) elementary schools as well as South Elgin's Fox Meadows Elementary School (\$4.5 million), Streamwood's Glenbrook Elementary School (\$2.9 million), the Planetarium in Elgin (\$1.2 million) Bartlett's Nature Ridge Elementary School (\$1 million) and Hanover Park's Laurel Hill Elementary School (\$143,400).

The Examiner of Streamwood

Looking at a career that made ‘beautiful noise’ --- 3/16/2022

By Seth Hancock

This is the first of two stories reflecting upon the coaching career of George Rosner. The second will appear next week.

It's hard to choose a quote to sum up George Rosner's 41-year varsity girls basketball coaching career, 37 at **Streamwood High School**.

On the one hand, Rosner referenced his favorite musician Neil Diamond saying “we made a beautiful noise.” On the other hand, he referenced his favorite President Ronald Reagan's farewell address and said: “I guess we did ok.”

Asked if he expected to coach as long as he did, Rosner said “absolutely not.” He had a young marriage with a wife who was a flight attendant, and later they had children of their own.

“It was a lot on us,” Rosner said. “I was taking it a year at a time. I thought at some point, I'm probably going to give this up and focus on my own kids. And it just continued, and I grew as a coach. I attended every clinic that I could. The more I did that, the more I got into it and stayed with it.”

That coaching career extends longer than 41 years as he began as an eighth-grade girls coach at St. Monica in Chicago in 1973. He had some softball coaching experience and was unsure about coaching basketball, but he eventually accepted the challenge.

On his first game, Rosner said: “The game started out and we scored and got a free-throw, we were up 3-0 and we lost the game 39-3. And I thought, ‘Oh, what am I doing here.’”

Rosner stuck with it though, and after six years his squad had won a city championship and conference championship. Before moving to the high school level, Rosner was coaching both the St. Monica girls' team and the eight-grade boys squad at Our Lady of Victory.

In 1979, the Sabres program's first varsity boys coach Tommy Yore brought Rosner to Streamwood as a sophomore assistant coach, and then the girls job came up in 1980 which he took.

Rosner's team won two games that first season, the start of a 468-win career including six regional titles.

“Slowly but surely, we got better and better,” Rosner said, and the Sabres had their first winning season (13-12 overall) by 1983-84, the first of eight straight winning seasons. In 1984-85, Streamwood won its first of four straight regionals culminating in 1987- 88 when the Sabres set a program-best 26-4 record with a sectional title. That team also had a single-game record for points, 101.

Rosner did leave, for family reasons, to coach at Palatine for four years starting in 1992-93 and had one year off, coaching his son's team, but he returned to Streamwood in 1997-1998 which ended last month at the Barrington Regional.

So, on just longevity and coaching successful teams, Rosner did make a "beautiful noise" and "did ok." That's not to mention the lives impacted, but that will have to wait until next week.