

Press Clippings 2/9/2022

NIU Today

U-46 paraprofessionals 'leap' to begin journey to Special Education degrees --- 2/8/2022

Thirty-five paraprofessionals from [Elgin School District U-46](#) have begun their employer-paid pursuit of [NIU bachelor's degrees in Special Education](#).

Part of the College of Education's [PLEDGE-Partnering to Lead and Empower District-Grown Educators](#) initiative, the new Licensed Educator Accelerated Pathway (LEAP) program provides a fast-track to the classroom including credit for prior learning.

Students enjoy the benefits of a dynamic and evening course schedule tailored to the lives of working adults and an NIU-furnished "completion coach" who will assist with skills related to studying and test-taking as well as the use of technology.

Also included is after-hours academic advising from the [Office for Student Success](#) and access to peer academic coaches.

Candidates take two courses during each eight-week session, each with one face-to-face or synchronous meeting and one asynchronous module weekly. Student-teaching in U-46 and graduation will take place in the spring semester of 2023.

[Laura Hedin](#), chair of the [Department of Special and Early Education](#), is certain that LEAP will help U-46 and northern Illinois to better staff its schools: Another regional cohort is on tap to begin soon in Rockford with licensure candidates from various districts, including DeKalb.



"We all know that there's a huge teacher shortage in special education: Over 750 positions in Illinois went unfilled or were filled with folks who do not have the correct licensure in special education," Hedin says. "That is really detrimental to students who qualify for specially designed instruction under the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#)."

Compounding the problem, she adds, are high attrition rates in special education rooted in teachers who leave the profession altogether or who move to different districts in search of higher pay or more favorable working conditions.

Yet “we knew that there was a large number of paraeducators and teacher-assistants who work in classrooms with students with special needs, and that if they only had the opportunity, and if some of the barriers to become educator-licensed were removed, they would be happy to take that step and upskill,” Hedin says. “They already know the community. They know the students they’re working with. They’re happy with the district.”

[Suzanne Johnson](#), deputy superintendent of Instruction in U-46, is acutely aware of the myriad human resource challenges facing education and the benefits of school-university partnerships.

“Like so many school districts across the nation, we are struggling to retain and recruit special education teachers. Thus, it has become essential to create a pathway for School District U-46 paraeducators to become LBS1-certified teachers,” Johnson says. “By partnering with NIU, we are confident this group of educators will be well equipped to provide optimal equity focused instruction to enhance student outcomes.”



U-46 is tapping into its allotment of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds to pay the costs of attendance for its LEAP-enrolled employees.

In return for that investment, and in accordance with the core philosophy of the “grow-your-own” model, those new Huskies are likely to remain in U-46 as full-time teachers.

“This new initiative is a great ‘grow-your-own’ program as the paraeducators are already familiar with our students, community and district practices and procedures,” says [Leatrice Satterwhite](#), director of Specialized Student Services in U-46.

“U-46 gladly welcomed the opportunity to partner once again with NIU to address staffing shortages,” Satterwhite adds. “There were close to 150 paraeducators interested in obtaining LBS-1 and/or Early Childhood teaching certification. We prioritized our list by looking at those individuals with associate degrees or higher, three or more years in the district and attendance.”



Hedin also is proud that more than half of U-46's licensure candidates are people of color, including Black, Latinx and Asian Pacific Islander.

“This means that special education, which has been traditionally under-representative of teachers of color, is now going to have an infusion of culturally diverse teachers,” Hedin says. “This just enriches the profession so much.”

Instructor Kim Suedbeck, completion coach Lisa Gorchels, program coordinator Lydia Gerzel-Short and Hedin met face-to-face with the U-46 cohort in December.

Suedbeck and Anna Ruehs, both of whom are visiting assistant professors in the Department of Special and Early Education, will provide continuity of instruction for the licensure candidates while nurturing a strong connection.

“We had such energy in the room – such enthusiastic participants,” Hedin says. “These folks are so highly motivated.”

[David Walker](#), associate dean for Academic Affairs, trusts that the students will remain that way.

Key to his assertion is that [the Elementary Education component of PLEDGE](#), a grow-your-own partnerships among U-46, Elgin Community College and NIU, boasts 100% retention and persistence to graduation.



Looking at LEAP in particular, “we’re working with adult learners – the paraprofessionals – and making the teaching profession, the four-year degree and the licensure accessible.”

“We renovated our curriculum. We’re innovative with modality of teaching and learning as well as the duration of the semester,” Walker says. “We’re really excited about LEAP, and we hope to continue to serve interested students and grow the program and its opportunities.”

[Jennifer Johnson](#), the College of Education’s senior director for Student Success, agrees. LEAP achieves the “perfect balance” expected of any school-university collaboration, she says.

“NIU has a long history of proven, successful partnerships and initiatives with U-46,” Johnson says. “The design of the LEAP model supports the district’s capacity to fill high-need teaching positions while allowing students to remain in their community and maintain their salaries for the duration of the program, including all of their clinical field experiences.”

Chicago Tribune/The Courier-News

Parents urge U-46 board to lift mandate or make masks optional for school children. --- 2/8/2022

By Mike Danahey

Nine people spoke during the public comment portion of the [Elgin Area School District U-46 Board of Education](#) meeting Monday night to express their displeasure with the decision to continue enforcing a mask mandate and other pandemic policies it has had in place this school year.

A temporary restraining order issued Friday by a Downstate judge canceled emergency executive orders issued in August by Gov. J.B. Pritzker related to such measures.

Sunday night, U-46 Superintendent of Schools Tony Sanders issued a memo saying that the district’s “plan for reopening will still be in place.”

“This is evil,” Kim Kowall, an interventionist at the district’s Illinois Park Early Learning Center in Elgin said of continuing to have school children wear masks.

Kowall posted photos on Facebook prior to the meeting of a group of about a dozen adults and two dozen children protesting the district’s continuing COVID-19 policies outside U-46 Educational Services Center.

Phoning in her comments, Angie Rol Vel Rul of Bartlett said keeping pandemic policies in place was about control and money. She said having kids wear masks was abusive, a comment she also made to the Board of Education in August.

John Palomino of Elgin said two friends who have children enrolled in schools in other districts were happy today because they didn’t have to wear masks to class — something Palomino wished for his children.

“Just make it optional,” Palomino said of wearing masks.

A few speakers noted that other states have done away with mask mandates and claimed that, in light of the temporary restraining order, U-46 was being unlawful by still making students wear masks.

Three people said their children or other children had been put in isolation at their respective schools Monday for not wearing masks. Board President Sue Kerr asked Sanders to look into those assertions.

Another 22 people wrote to make public comments to the Board of Education about the district's continuing COVID-19 protocols. Eighteen messages showed support and four commented against continuing as-is.

“Our daughter is a student at Otter Creek (Elementary School in Elgin), and we have been pleased with the school and the district's policies and procedures toward reducing the spread of COVID at school. I would not feel the same if the mandate was removed or made optional,” wrote Michelle and Joe Newton.

U-46 was among more than 140 school districts named as defendants in litigation brought by parents and teachers concerning masking and quarantine guidance they feel oversteps its bounds. In the case of U-46, that guidance has been provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Kane, DuPage, and Cook County health departments.

On Friday, Sangamon County Seventh Judicial Circuit judge Raylene DeWitte Grischow found in favor of the plaintiffs and granted the temporary restraining order. The ruling is not a class action, but only applies to the school districts specifically named in the lawsuit.

Sanders' message noted the restraining order has been appealed to the Illinois appellate court and that there is a motion to halt its implementation.

In his message, Sanders said that the judge “recognizes the independent authority of school districts.”

Sanders' message noted that in August, the U-46 Board of Education approved a resolution for returning to in-person instruction that supports following recommendations and guidance pertaining to the pandemic issued by the CDC, IDPH, and the health departments in the three counties in which it has schools.

Grischow's ruling also recognizes “that collective bargaining agreements with its employee groups would also need to be considered, as those were not contemplated within the litigation,” Sanders said in his message.

Based on negotiated agreements with three unions, Sanders said, “I still have the authority to require masks and other mitigations in order to protect the health and safety of students and staff.”

WBEZ Chicago

Families brace for whiplash as Illinois' school mask fight continues in court --- 2/8/2022

By Susie An



Students get on the bus after school at Lions Park Elementary in Mt. Prospect, IL on Monday Feb. 7, 2022. Anna Savchenko / WBEZ

Pigtailed 7-year-old Jaelyn Lozano was still wearing her space-themed mask Monday as she joined a stream of kids running out of Lions Park Elementary in north suburban Mt. Prospect at the end of the day. Her grandmother Gina Lozano said Jaelyn worried she might be bullied for wearing a mask to school.

“The reason why this [pandemic] is still going on is for people who are refusing to wear masks,” Lozano said. “It’s scary.”

But there was no bullying. Many of Jaelyn’s classmates continued to wear masks even though they are no longer required by the Mt. Prospect School District 57, which has gone mask optional in light of a court ruling last week that affects about 170 districts. Sangamon County Judge Raylene Grischow issued a temporary restraining order that put a halt on the state’s mask mandate in schools, as well as some other COVID-19 mitigation measures.

School districts are taking different approaches to the temporary restraining order, leading to a mix of relief, confusion, fear and ongoing disagreements for teachers, administrators, parents and kids.

In Barrington, some students said they felt peer pressured to take off their masks. Jackie Zagrans said her middle school daughter felt so anxious about her health and about bullies, she left school early. Zagrans said her daughter told her one boy was pulling masks off some of the younger students.

“There were threats made,” she said. “There was a great deal of ugliness in the hallways, in the classrooms and at the lunch table.”

Zagrans said as the legal process plays out, she hopes the district makes a better plan to handle these situations. She’s also concerned this could mark an increase in COVID infections.

Another Barrington mother, Marsha McClary, said her kids had no problems at school. They were happy to go without masks, and they said it wasn’t tense between kids who wore masks and those who didn’t. She said kids have been missing out on social cues wearing masks all day.

“There’s just a lot of dimensions of their life that, when you can’t see how someone’s really reacting to something you say, that’s a much bigger deal than I think a lot of people realized,” she said.

McClary said it would be unfortunate if kids had to go back to wearing masks while the legal challenge continues. She said kids aren’t as affected by the coronavirus as other groups.

“No matter what happens with the legal system, we are going to continue to advocate for these kids who don’t have as much of a voice as the parents do,” she said.

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul filed an appeal with the 4th District State Appellate Court in Springfield on Monday and a motion to stop Friday’s temporary restraining order. A ruling from the appellate court is expected by next week.

In the appeal, Raoul argued that Springfield-based Judge Grischow fundamentally misread the law. He argued that the governor has the authority to issue mandates during a public health emergency and that no due process rights were violated, contrary to what the judge found. Raoul also said she failed to consider the harm to student learning and the public health risks caused by her order.

As the legal fight plays out, an elementary teacher in suburban Wheaton said she doesn’t agree with her district choosing to go mask optional knowing there could be yet another legal maneuver to bring back the mask mandate.

“Going back and forth is confusing for kids,” she said.

The teacher spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation from community members around what she said has been a contentious issue. She said all the kids in her class wore masks today, but it was more mixed in other classrooms, including among faculty. She was told teachers shouldn’t tell kids to put their masks back on even if they came to school wearing one.

“We’re not supposed to be policing that,” she said. “They take it off, they take it off. I’m a little uncomfortable with that.”

She said January was rough with many kids and staff out with COVID. She worries what the coming days will bring if fewer people wear masks in the building.

In **U-46 in Elgin**, the district is still requiring masks, except for some students who are part of the lawsuit. Superintendent Tony Sanders said most students and staff came to school masked. He said some parents pulled their kids from school when they weren't allowed to be in class without a mask.

Sanders said school districts need to do what's best for their community. He said in his area, COVID cases have been declining, but not enough to go maskless.

"We are getting so close with our mitigation strategies in place, with vaccinations becoming available, that within hopefully weeks or a few months, we'll be back in a place that's much more normal," he said. "That may include less mitigation strategies, including perhaps masks optional."

A few districts like Hinsdale District 181 canceled in-person classes Monday as they sought to adjust policies in light of the ruling. At a special school board meeting Monday night, members decided to return to in-person learning on Tuesday and temporarily suspend enforcing the mask mandate. Staff will still be required to wear masks and students will be strongly encouraged to do so.

The Examiner of Bartlett

Dist. U-46 teachers retain board certification status ---

2/9/2022

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

Five **School District U-46** teachers have maintained their national board certification. The individuals were recognized at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, Jan. 24. Superintendent Tony Sanders called it "a very rigorous process of self-reflection and watching themselves teach and getting feedback from students. It is a very rigorous process that takes typically a long time. It's good for 10 years once you get your certification. Teachers who decide to go through this process, you typically find it very rewarding but also very rigorous. It's very, very much the pinnacle for certification a teacher can get."

The teachers include Marzena Anderson (first grade, Bartlett's Liberty Elementary School), Denise Bourgoin (English, South Elgin High School), Juan Fernandez (world languages, Elgin High School), Brooke McGrath (instructional special education teacher leader) and Cheryl Romeo (special education, Streamwood's Canton Middle School).

The certification process is overseen by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

“This was hard for me, especially during the pandemic time,” Fernandez said. “I want to thank all my students that helped me pass through this process. It was hard, but I am proud of what I do. I did that because I believe in education, I believe in my students and I believe in what I am doing at Elgin High School for many years.”

Romeo, who teaches non-verbal students, said it was “really neat to look at the video afterwards” to see how the students are interacting with the lessons.

“This is us pretty much us reflecting on ourselves,” Romeo said. “It’s really cool to be able to learn from yourself and from your students.”

The Examiner of Bartlett

U-46 to hike ACE funding with 72 percent jump --- 2/9/2022

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

After some discussion, the **Board of Education in School District U-46** unanimously approved of increasing funding from \$51,000 to \$88,000 to the Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) at its Monday, Jan. 24 meeting.

The vote was 6-0, board member Eva Porter was absent.

ACE, comprised of business and government entities with a stated purpose to serve U-46, was founded in 2013, and then Superintendent Jose Torres promised it would be completely funded by fundraising which Superintendent Tony Sanders reiterated in 2016.

That fact is no longer on the table as the board is now trying to get promises that ACE will not seek future increases. ACE officials suggested they make seek more increases in the future when presented on Jan. 10.

Board member Dawn Martin removed the item from the consent agenda. She said she appreciates the work of ACE.

“However, I am struggling with the jump from us covering 23 percent to the 35 percent of their budget,” Martin said. “I understand that the overall dollars are not necessarily a large number in our overall budget... however, I am struggling with the percent jump. I am struggling with what the original intent was and how we were going to fund it.”

Board member Melissa Owens said that moving forward, she wants to see a “more concrete plan in place” and “I don’t want to see us next year another increase.”

Board member Veronica Noland said she was “doubtful” when ACE sought increases a few years ago but was sold after a “wonderful presentation.” She said “it’s a little fuzzy again.”

“I still believe that we are getting great value, even at that cost,” said board member John Devereux.

Board member Kate Thommes said it’s a “great value” and she’s “super excited about the career exploration,” but “we can’t just keep increasing it each year without more of an explanation.”

Sue Kerr, the board’s president, said she sits on the ACE board. She said “this has been a rough year for ACE” due to COVID-19 shutdowns, and “I don’t think they got the donations they were looking for.”

Chicago Tribune/The Courier-News Bartlett’s Conrad Luczynski scores 25 point vs. East Aurora. Who’s noticing? Well, try Purdue, Michigan State, Wisconsin, Loyola... --- 2/9/2022 By Rick Armstrong for the Aurora Beacon-News



Bartlett’s Conrad Luczynski (54) grabs a rebound against East Aurora during an Upstate Eight Conference game on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)

The long and short of it when it comes to **Bartlett’s Conrad Luczynski** is this.

There is no short of it.

Even recruiting, which had been mysteriously low-key for Luczynski, a 7-foot-3 senior center, is starting to pick up.

For that, Hawks coach Jim Wolfsmith is grateful.

“I think the word is getting out,” said Wolfsmith, one of two big supporters who were on hand Tuesday night when Luczynski led Bartlett against Upstate Eight Conference rival East Aurora.

Tomcats coach Rick Robinson, who is 6-6 and played in college at Eastern Illinois, is the other.

Robinson watched Luczynski score 25 points and spark an impressive fast break that helped key the Hawks’ 82-57 victory.

“I’d say Luczynski has improved a whole lot from the gangly kid I saw as a freshman,” Robinson said. “I can see him playing Division I, depending on what program he gets into. The weight room will be his friend. He needs to bulk up, but he’s gotten better.

“He’s a good one, as long as he has the attitude he wants to work. I even saw him out there before the game dancing a little bit to the music in warm-ups, so he does have some rhythm, too. That’s always a big plus.”



Bartlett’s Conrad Luczynski (54) blocks a layup from East Aurora’s James Parker (1) during an Upstate Eight Conference game on Tuesday, Feb. 8 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)

The 6-9 Wolfsmith also has been beating the drum for his star player, hoping to help Luczynski land a Division I scholarship.

It may be paying off, because in the past few weeks the coach has been contacted by Purdue, Michigan State, Wisconsin, Northern Iowa, North Dakota and Loyola.

“No offers yet,” Luczynski said. “I’ve got a lot of D-I interest along with some D-II scholarship offers.”

Wolfsmith thinks it will require some more time, with college players still taking advantage of the NCAA’s transfer portal, but he feels it’s going to happen.

Bartlett (21-6, 13-2) stayed in the UEC title race Tuesday but time is running out there, however. The Hawks will need some help too, trailing Larkin by two games without any remaining head-to-head matchups against the Royals.

East Aurora (16-9, 10-5) could lend a hand Friday at **Larkin**, and Robinson would like to get his team back on track as the playoffs inch closer.



East Aurora's Ralph Clark (12) pulls up for a shot against Bartlett's Martin McCarthy (1) during an Upstate Eight Conference game on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)

“Our guys were taking it a little too deep,” Robinson said. “My guys will hit floaters and pullup jump shots but they were taking it too deep in there.

“I guess they wanted to challenge (Luczynski) but he had seven or eight blocks easily.”

That also left East Aurora vulnerable to breakouts by Bartlett's guards in sophomore Kelton McEwen and junior Martin McCarthy, who added 23 and 17 points, respectively.

They were often the beneficiaries of Luczynski's outlet passes.

East Aurora's Jabian Acosta, a 6-5 junior and one of four players Robinson rotated in to guard Bartlett's big star, saw it firsthand.

“What he did tonight was ridiculous,” Acosta said of Luczynski. “I never saw that before. He was chucking up Hail Marys off the rebounds. Usually, we don't get outrun.”

Acosta finished with seven points before fouling out. Acosta's brother, Jullian, Stephen Dorsey and 6-7 Ibrahim Koroma took turns defending Luczynski.



East Aurora's Stephen Dorsey (22) reaches for a rebound during an Upstate Eight Conference game on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022. (Mike Mantucca / The Beacon-News)

Jullian Acosta and Ralph Clark led East Aurora with 13 points apiece and James Parker added 12.

“Trying to get shots over him was tough, he was blocking everything,” Jabian Acosta said. “We were getting into his body but not getting the calls we wanted. Bartlett just gave us their best shot.

“I was proud of Koroma and Dorsey off the bench. I thought they stepped up to the task.”

Robinson couldn't argue.

“I thought my four guys played him well,” he said. “He's 7-3. He's 7-foot-3. He's going to get some buckets, but they made him work for things.”

Wolfsmith hopes more people notice.

The Examiner of Bartlett

BHS boys, SEHS girls each win on rivalry night--- 2/9/2022

By Seth Hancock: Note – this story also ran in The Examiner of South Elgin

Bartlett and **South Elgin** high schools resumed their basketball rivalries on Friday, Feb. 4 at Bartlett with outcomes similar to their earlier meetings at South Elgin.

The Bartlett boys' basketball team came out strong to propel it to a 72-55 Upstate Eight Conference win.

The Hawks (20-6, 12-2 UEC) won a 70-49 game at South Elgin earlier this year but they had to pull away in the second half after trailing most of the first, and the Storm (13-13, 9-5 UEC) had entered this game on fire having won five of its last six games.

In the rematch, Bartlett put it away early as Jacob Magnanao (seven points) hit a three-pointer to open a 10-0 run at the start. Bartlett 7-foot-3 senior Conrad Luczynski (21 points) had 12 points and Ian Smith (17 points, three three-pointers) nine in the first half as Bartlett built a 19-5 lead after one period and 35-18 at the break.

“Our coach said that South Elgin can get off to a huge run at the beginning of the game, and we wanted to come out first and set the tone that it’s our gym, not theirs,” said Smith. “We just wanted to put our foot on the pedal and keep going.”

The Hawks kept on building even when Luczynski went to the bench for most of the second quarter after picking up his second foul. Bartlett led 26-16 at the time before scoring nine of the last 11 points of the frame.

Bartlett coach Jim Wolfsmith credited Jesse Singh for filling in well defensively in Luczynski’s absence.

“What a critical part of the game,” Wolfsmith said. “I’m thinking ‘ok, here comes their run’ because now we’re suddenly undersized.”

Martin McCarthy and Kelton McEwen both added 11 points for the Hawks.

South Elgin kept battling and played an even 37-37 second half. Drew Cwik scored 15 points, Josh Genz 10, Elias Cole Williams eight and Brian Vesta seven.

“The effort was there all game,” said South Elgin coach Brett Johnson. “They didn’t quit, and they kept fighting until the last possible moment which is a good thing to have. But I give credit to Bartlett. They had a good game plan coming in, and they stuck with it.”

The Hawks were coming off a 55-27 UEC win at Fenton on Tuesday, Feb. 1 where Luczynski reached the 1,000-career points milestone.

Boosted by a big night by senior Caroline Croft, the South Elgin girls’ basketball team clinched the program’s second Upstate Eight Conference title with a 56-35 win over Bartlett.

It’s the first conference crown for Croft and senior Ella Winterhalder, and Croft joined Winterhalder in the 1,000-career points club. Croft led the effort with 20 points with her final bucket with 6:28 left in the game for a 45-23 lead.

“It’s what we’ve worked for all four years, me and Ella,” Croft said as Winterhalder added 16 points with three treys on the night. “As freshmen, we both wanted to win conference and we both wanted to get 1,000 points. Now that it’s happened, it’s such a great feeling.”

Except for a couple brief deficits in the first quarter, the Storm led the entire night.

However, it was a 21-0 run starting late in the second quarter, when the Storm led just 22-18, ran away. That run ended very late in the third when the Hawks’ Amadea Montijo (11 points) went to the line and hit three free throws.

“We held them to three points the whole third quarter,” said South Elgin coach Dan Mandernack. “That’s what we’ve got to be, a defensive team.”

Raina Yang added seven points for the Storm (22-5, 16-0 UEC). Laney Stark had 11 points and Sophia Desarden seven for the Hawks (7-20, 6-10).

“What I think it came down to is they make good defensive plays and turn it into easy offensive buckets,” said Bartlett coach Tanner Gardon. “We just didn’t handle their pressure too well.”

Gardon added: “We still have a long way to go, but I told them we’re still trending in the right direction. Not a total loss. To be honest, I think we got better as a team. It’s always going to be a battle with South Elgin. That’s what it is, a rivalry game.”

The Examiner of Streamwood

Sabres girls’ hoops fall to Panthers, go 1-3 in week

By Seth Hancock

The **Streamwood** girls’ basketball team was unable to sustain momentum as the Sabres were defeated by Glenbard North on Monday, Jan. 31 at “Rosner Arena.”

The Sabres had grabbed momentum in the third quarter closing a double-digit deficit down to one, but Glenbard North responded and took the momentum back to dominate the rest of the game.

“We were down 10 and cut it to one,” said Streamwood coach George Rosner. “Sayuri (Ishikawa) was on fire, and then we couldn’t get her the ball. And we were just committing silly turnovers.”

Rosner added: “We lost all the momentum, and I guess it’s just our lack of knowing how to win. I’ve coached many teams where we get that kind of momentum you keep it. We didn’t do that, and it’s disappointing.”

Indeed, senior Ishikawa was on fire. The Sabres trailed 26-16 at halftime and 28-16 early in the third quarter when Ishikawa scored 11 of her teamhigh 13 points during a 13-2 run with her third three-pointer of the frame making it 30-29 with 3:11 left in the period.

Glenbard North then scored the final 10 points of the third quarter and dominated in a 13-4 fourth.

“We depend on her for so much,” Rosner said of Ishikawa. “We needed her to score which we did. But we just turned it over as a team.”

Sariah Dixon added seven points and Nicole Barcenas hit two treys for six points.

The Sabres went on to drop a 41-27 Upstate Eight Conference game to Glenbard South on Tuesday, Feb. 1 at Glenbard South but bounced back with a thrilling 40-38 nonconference victory at Hoffman Estates on Thursday, Feb. 3. Ishikawa scored 15 points and Angelina Sagadraca 11 in the victory.

Streamwood ended the week with a 67-59 UEC loss against Fenton on Friday, Feb. 4 at "Rosner Arena."

The Sabres are now 3-24 overall, 2-14 in the UEC.