

Press Clippings for 8/13/2022 to 8/15/2022

ABC-7 Eyewitness News

Our Chicago: Illinois 2nd-largest district to resume school with about 100 teacher vacancies --- Aired 8/14/2022

By Kay Cesinger

<Note: To watch video/interview with Superintendent Tony Sanders, click on link below>

<https://abc7chicago.com/back-to-school-covid-illinois-u-46-staff-resources-teacher-shortage-2022/12120789/>

It's back-to-school time.

Classes begin Tuesday for students in **U-46**, Illinois' second-largest district. It covers all or part of eleven communities in the northwest suburbs including Bartlett, Elgin, St. Charles and Schaumburg.

There are 40 elementary schools, eight middle schools and five high schools. More than 37,000 students will be starting the fourth school year to be impacted by the pandemic.

But **Supt. Dr. Tony Sanders** said he feels more optimistic this year.

SEE ALSO | [How schools are trying to address the national teacher shortage](#)

"I think the more we've gotten into COVID and vaccinations are widely available, treatments are available, and the continuing easing of restrictions from the CDC and the state are making it easier and easier for schools to feel a little bit more normal," he said.

U-46 and districts across the state are dealing with a shortage of teachers and bus drivers.

"For U-46, where we're really lacking staff is bilingual teachers and special education teachers. If we have a general education, elementary general education opening we have plenty of people to fill those vacancies," he said.

Sanders said they have about 100 teacher vacancies right now. He said the district will continue to look for teachers as the school year gets underway. As for bus drivers, they have enough, but are always looking for more.

Our Chicago: Part 2



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, between February 2020 and May 2022, approximately 300,000 public school teachers and other staff left their jobs and the education profession.

A survey by the National Education Association in March found that 55% of teachers intend to leave the profession earlier than originally planned.

So, what's behind this?

Nancy Latham, associate dean of the College of Education and executive director of the Council on Teacher Education at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, said there are many reasons for the departures.

"They are not just the pandemic. or just recent. I think for two or three decades we have been de-professionalizing the field of teaching. Both in how we look at teachers, how we blame the educational, our schools and our teachers for everything that is not the way that we think it should be," Latham said.

Daily Herald

Scouting the Fox and DuPage County girls golf season --- 8/12/2022

By Bobby Narang, Daily Herald Correspondent



Bridget Craig of Wheaton North is one of the top returning golfers this fall in DuPage County. *Daily Herald File photo*

A year ago, Audrey Wake made a big impact in her first season at Benet.

The sophomore is looking to continue her stellar rise with another memorable showing. The Redwings, who finished third in the East Suburban Catholic Conference in 2021, also welcome junior Jenna Shilts for the first time into the program.

Wake had one of the best openings for a career, when she carded a hole-in-one in her first nine-hole match in a Benet uniform.

"We plan to be very competitive in the conference this year," Benet coach Mike Bremner said. "We hope to compete for a conference title."

Hinsdale Central is among the top teams in the area -- again. Led by coach Nick Latorre, the Red Devils return senior Sarah Thornton and junior Caroline Owens to go with Elyssa Abdulah and Toral Bhatt after finishing first in the West Suburban Silver and earning regional and sectional championships last season.

"We have significant experience returning and are hoping to play at a consistently high level throughout the season," Latorre said.

Seniors Sarah Sanek, Erica Lei and Annie Wittwer are slated to be the top golfers for Naperville North this fall.

"The key to our season is going to be consistency," Naperville North coach Greta Williams said. "The girls can shoot competitive scores, but we will have to work on the consistency of those scores and our short game to be able to compete with the top teams in the area."

Neuqua Valley coach John Keller is all smiles due to the return of his top three players, led by juniors Rebecca Wu, Sophie Lagman and Madison Coffey. The Wildcats made big strides last season, winning the DuPage Valley Conference tournament, a regional title, placing second in sectionals and qualifying for the state tournament for just the second time in 20 years -- finishing ninth.

"We should have a strong team this year," Keller said. "Our top three all have varsity experience and continue to work on their games to get even better."

Metea Valley is coming off a memorable showing in 2021. Seniors Abby Terada and Macey Martin plus junior Pranvi Kakkar are the Mustangs' top players.

"I have high expectations for the team this year based on last year," Metea Valley coach Brad Lange said. "I expect us to finish first or second in conference, and hopefully get our team and individuals to state."

Lake Park senior Madison Place, an all-DuKane Conference performer, is back for her final season. Junior Marisa Lerario, another all-conference returnee, helps give the Lancers a solid duo to go with talented senior Reagan Henkel.

"We're looking to be in contention for the conference title," Lake Park coach Jeff Henrikson said. "Our team goal is to win a regional title and get the team to qualify for the state tournament."

Glenbard West lost a ton of experience and talent, but the cupboard isn't empty thanks to the return of seniors Anna Meinhart and juniors Kaavya Mamgain and Aubrey Sawyer.

"We're looking for the leadership of Anna and Aubrey to help the younger players that will join them this fall," Glenbard West coach Mary McGrane said. "I'm excited to see what this young team can accomplish together."

Downers Grove North is full of experience, with seniors Ruby Bartowiak, Emily Smetana, Ashley Mall and juniors Shannon Bell and Allie Steiner leading the way for a team with high hopes after a solid 2021 season.

Addison Trail is filled with youth and promise, according to coach Stacey Puccini. The Blazers have a good blend of youth and experience, with seniors Joslynn Elakkat and Mia Saldana the most experienced returnees.

Willowbrook seniors Mickey Martens and Maddie Aderholt are the headline returnees on a team looking to make some noise in the West Suburban Gold.

Wheaton Warrenville South junior Grace Cavin, a sectional qualifier in 2021, is back to lead a talented cast that includes senior Abby Trinkl, sophomore Claire Snider and junior Chloe Korb plus sophomore Abby Olsen and junior Peyton Johanson.

"We're hoping to be much more competitive this season in the DuKane Conference," Wheaton Warrenville South coach Arthur Tang said.

Wheaton North's Bridget Craig is among the top golfers in the area following a top 30 showing at state last season.

"We're bringing back all but one of our varsity players from last season," Wheaton North coach Karen Calabrese said. "Bridget will be our workhorse, but after that, we should be able to get a good score from any one of our other seven varsity players. Lizzie Elftmann, Lucy Rutgens and Zoey Bohmer were with us at regionals last year but Ruth Ahern, Maggie Lange and Abby Lucas were right on their tails. My expectations for this group are fairly high."

Batavia is not short on experience with junior Amanda Naylor leading an upperclassmen driven team. Lauren Sudler, Brooke Besic and Mya Henderson round out a talented group of juniors.

"We will surprise some teams this year I think," Batavia coach Tim Kauffmann said. "My expectation is to win conference. We will be able to compete this year."

St. Charles East senior Emily Charles is the No. 1 golfer for the Saints this fall.

"Emily is a very consistent golfer and went low several rounds last year," St. Charles East coach Jarod Gutesha said. "The rest of the varsity graduated last year, so we will be looking for some younger players to step into their roles."

South Elgin senior Ila Fontaine and juniors Bella Hazelhorst, Sam Baran and Sheridan York are looking to win conference again this season.

"Ila is looking to finish off her golf career with a bang, while my three juniors are trying to break averages from last year," **South Elgin coach Tanner Gardon** said.

Hampshire is led by seniors Lily Farnam and Reagan Green, with sophomores Jaina Farnam and Kaylee Seo part of the mix.

"Almost everyone returns this year, and we've continued to add golfers each season," Hampshire coach Eric Samuelson said. "We hope to be playing meaningful golf as the season moves along."

St. Edward is down to two players, with senior Ivy Burnett and sophomore Addison Gillie forming the team.

"Ivy lost by a stroke in the playoffs to go down to state last year, so her goal is to make that trip to Decatur at the end of the season," St. Edward coach Paul Netzel said.

Dundee-Crown's top golfers entering the season are junior Magen Laas, senior Lydia Rodriguez, junior Katy Mensching and sophomore Sophie Morawski.

"We're looking for a strong season from Magen Laas after her first all-conference honors last season," Dundee-Crown coach Emma Ageneau said. "We're returning a lot of key players to our team, and are looking forward to building on the success from last season."

Crystal Lake Central sophomore Delaney Medlyn is looking to add to her impressive start to her career. Medlyn, Ella Smith and Addison Cleary were all consistent golfers last season for CLC.

After several years of recent success, Aurora Central Catholic will not field a team due to having only two players, according to ACC coach Mark Schwartz.

Girls golf at a glance

Top players: Wheaton North's Bridget Craig, Lake Park's Madison Place, Hinsdale Central's Sarah Thornton, Hinsdale Central's Caroline Owens

Key dates: Regionals Sept. 26-28; Sectionals: Oct 3-4

2021 sectional champions: Stevenson, Hinsdale Central, New Trier O'Fallon (2A); St. Anthony, Chicago Latin, Rockford Boylan, Mt. Carmel (1A)

2021 state champions: Barrington (2A), Mt. Carmel (1A)

2022 state tournament: Oct 7-8 at Hickory Point Golf Course, Decatur (2A) and Red Tail Run Golf Course, Decatur (1A)

Daily Herald

Scouting the DuPage County and Fox area boys golf season -- - 8/13/2022

By Bobby Narang, Daily Herald Correspondent



Paul Valade/pvalade@dailyherald.comWaubonsie Valley's Salil Khanduja took 12th at last year's Class 3A state tournament and will try to help the Warriors win their fifth DVC title in the last six seasons.

The DuPage County and Fox area enter the season with an abundance of talented boys golfers and teams.

Benet heads into the season looking to replace star golfer Jack DiTrani, the 2021 East Suburban Catholic Conference Player of the Year. Benet coach Martin Gaughan pointed to the development of senior Ryan Dannegger and sophomore Charlie Davenport as building blocks for the Redwings.

"Ryan and Charlie both had every solid summers in events," he said. "They will be two key players for our team. Both have the ability to shoot low."

Naperville North, which finished in fourth place in the DuPage Valley last season, returns seniors Zach Wu, Peter Christiansen and David Richardson to go with juniors James Driscoll and freshman Daniel Chang.

"We're excited about this year's group," Naperville North coach Ryan Hantak said. "The juniors and seniors have worked hard to improve and we added a strong freshman in Daniel."

Naperville Central senior Dan Rabinovich and juniors Matthew Sims and Joey Cerney all competed in sectionals last season to form the anchor of a strong team.

"This team has great potential," Naperville Central coach Barry Baldwin said. "It will be a season-long process that hopefully shows well in October."

Waubonsie Valley is poised to extend its streak of conference titles. The Warriors have won four DuPage Valley Conference championships in the last five years. Conference MVP Salil Khanduja leads the charge after placing 12th in state last season.

"We lost some seniors to graduation but we're hopeful that players like Chris Wagner and Arjun Iyengar will step up and take a leadership role," Waubonsie Valley coach Eric Flodberg said.

Wheaton North's junior group of Mason Oleniczak, Colin Baker and Henry Brock give hope for a solid two-year run for the Falcons.

"We have no returning seniors which will give us a chance to see how this talented junior class responds," Wheaton North coach Michael Pribaz said.

Wheaton Warrenville South's returning players include Callan Fahey, Tug Webber, Danny Gainor and Trey Harshbarger.

Wheaton Academy seniors Sam Dykema and Wyatt Brown joins juniors Freddie Chan and Joe Luchtenburg looking to defend last season's first-place showing in the Metro Suburban Conference and third place effort at state.

With seniors Ben Orozco and James Tyrrell and junior Conor Lynch the top returnees, Downers Grove South is aiming for a ninth consecutive West Suburban Conference Gold title this fall. Lynch, in his third year on the varsity, is looking to make an extended run in the state series after qualifying for sectionals last season.

Hinsdale South has a big hole in its rotation following the graduation of Billy Gneiser, but coach John Richerson likes his overall depth, which includes Tommy Gneiser and Ryan Flinders.

"I expect us to compete for the conference championship in the West Suburban Gold division and also compete to win a regional," he said.

Montini juniors Anjay Dhir and Danny Peterson join sophomore Jack Barrett and freshman Liam O'Dea as key players on the Broncos.

"Our guys are hungry to learn," Montini coach Eric Scott said. "We have a young team that's put in a lot of work this summer. I'm excited to see what our guys can do."

Six players are back from IC Catholic Prep's Class 1A third-place team from last season, led by seniors Jann Atendido, Nick Zaroni, junior Zazz Atendido and senior PJ Wisniewski.

"The boys have quietly set lofty goals," IC Catholic Prep coach Don Sujack said.

Lake Park senior Josh Lahner is looking to top last season's individual showing at state, while being a leader to a talented junior class.

Westmont is led by a pair of seniors in Hays Templeton and Matt Pecard, while sophomore Briggs Templeton is a golfer to keep an eye on this fall. Fenton junior Sean DiCosola had a solid showing last season, missing sectionals by one stroke. He will be joined by seniors Ethan Freeman and Taylor Siekierski on the Bison.

Glenbard West lost four of its top six golfers from last season's memorable team which won a regional and sectional title. Senior Matthew Valdick and junior Grant Roscich, who won the IJGA Junior Amateur at McCray Memorial in July, are the top returnees.

"We need players without much experience to step up," Glenbard West coach Paul Hezlett said.

Glenbard South claimed second place in the Upstate Eight Conference with a 9-1 record, as senior Brian Uvodich is the top returning golfer.

"We're looking for a strong conference performance this year," Glenbard South coach Phillip Yudys said. "We're excited for some younger golfers to step up and make a difference."

Glenbard North seniors Luke Ruffolo and Shaan Patel lead a promising team filled with experience that competes its home matches on Glendale Lake Golf Course.

"We should have some depth that we've not had recently, so hopefully we can have the best season we've had in a while if all the guys all play to their potential," Glenbard North coach John Chamberlain said.

Juniors Luke Heidendry, Kyle Grutzmacher and Matthew Kane are the core of Lisle's team, according to Lisle coach Yousef Matariyeh.

"My expectations for this year is for the team to become more cohesive as the season progresses," Matariyeh said.

Aurora Christian's Wil McCracken, a junior, is the top returning golfer after a solid showing the last two seasons. Sophomore Ashton Medows and freshman Jacob Baumann are players to watch on a young team.

At Marmion, sophomore Regan Konen is part of a young team that includes senior Jude Bohr, sophomore Evan Paganelis and junior Dominic Howard.

"We have a lot of young talent that should develop as the season progresses," Marmion coach Lou Solarte said.

Bartlett coach Chris Pemberton's third season at the helm is shaping up to be a nice collection of players from various classes. Junior Jayden Patel, senior Trey Holly, sophomore Robby Coyne, junior Mitch Davis and senior Aaron Ryniec are among the players slated to be in the rotation.

"Our consistency should make us competitive with every conference opponent this year," Pemberton said.

Burlington Central fell one stroke away from winning the Fox Valley Conference in 2021, but seniors CJ Strout, Ivan Larson, Matthew Lemon and sophomore Matthew Kowalik are all looking to take the next step in their games to overcome heavy graduation losses.

"While we lost some very talented players who could go low last year, we might actually have more depth this year," BC coach Thomas Davies said. "I wouldn't be surprised if this team made some serious postseason noise."

Elgin benefits from the return of all-conference senior Derrick Graves along with Ben Heinrich, Dylan Phamanivong and Alex Jesberg. **South Elgin** has a strong returning group, sparked by Kian Petal, Matthew Murphy, Nick Martinez and Nic Heinrich. The Storm won the Upstate Eight Conference title last season.

Dundee-Crown coach Bob Sweeney enters his 18th year looking to build on last season's fourth-place effort at regionals. Seniors Jake Russell and Mason Morawski and sophomore Jarod Russell are back from last season.

"I feel confident Jake will post consistent scores that will provide a competitive foundation in each match or tournament we play," Sweeney said. "I'm excited to watch our younger and returning players progress over the course of the next two months."

Huntley senior Brendan Busky and juniors Nathan Elm and Nooa Hakala form a competitive trio with potential. Busky had a nice postseason run last year while Elm and Hakala gained valuable experience.

"(Brendan) put in a tone of work and we believe that he can absolutely make a trip to Bloomington," Huntley coach Collin Kalamatas said.

Hampshire junior Eric Brown and sophomore Seth Gillie, both sectional qualifiers in 2021, are a solid pair at the top of the lineup. Freshman Nolan Adamczyk has already proven to be a golfer to watch.

Cary-Grove senior Maddux Tarasievich and junior Erik Pietrzyk are the core returnees for the upcoming season.

"Having Maddux put in so much time and effort last season and reach his goal of getting downstate has been contagious," Cary-Grove coach Chris Gotsch said. "Seeing Maddux's success, we've had several players step it up this summer."

Kaneland first-year coach Patrick Carter is looking to top last season's six-win conference showing. The Knights have seniors Gabe Gooch and Rocco Rosati scheduled to be team leaders.

Boys golf at a glance

Top players: IC Catholic Prep senior Jann Atendido, Wheaton Academy senior Sam Dykema, Benet senior Ryan Dannegger, Waubonsie Valley junior Salil Khanduja, Lake Park senior Josh Lahner, Glenbard West senior Matthew Valdick, Glenbard West junior Grant Roscich

Key dates: Regionals Sept. 26-28; Sectionals: Oct 3-4

2021 sectional champions: Barrington, Glenbard West, New Trier, Lockport (3A); St. Ignatius, Breese Mater Dei, Macomb, Crystal Lake Central (2A); Beecher, IC Catholic Prep, Oblong, Sherrard (1A)

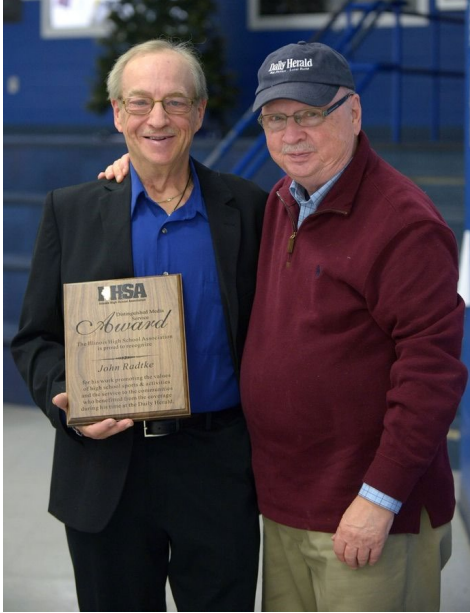
2021 state champions: Glenbrook North (3A), St. Ignatius (2A), Vandalia (1A)

2022 state tournament: Oct. 7-8 at The Den at Fox Creek Golf Course (3A), Bloomington Weibring Golf Club, Normal (2A) and Prairie Vista Golf Course, Bloomington (1A)

Daily Herald

High school basketball game the spark for Radtke's career--- 8/6/2022

By John Radtke



Daily Herald High School Sports Editor John Radtke is with retired sports editor Bob Frisk after Radtke was presented the Illinois High School Association Distinguished Media Service Award in 2014 at Burlington Central High School, Radtke's alma mater. Radtke retired Friday after 25 years with the newspaper. *Daily Herald File Photo*

The exact date escapes me, but it was a cold December night in 1974. The venue was the Genoa-Kingston High School gymnasium, and it was a basketball game between the host Cogs and the Central Rockets.

I was a senior at Central, now more commonly referred to as Burlington Central, and I had entered a work co-op program in the sports department of the DeKalb Daily Chronicle. Sports Editor Roger Farrell was teaching me the business from the ground up and the assignment to cover that game would be my first byline.

Little did I know then, nor was it in my wildest dreams, that 48 years later I'd be sitting at home in, ironically, Genoa, writing the final column of my sports journalism career.

But as I embark on retirement after today, what you're reading here is just that.

Where to begin? Well, I learned in that six-month stint at the Chronicle this is what I wanted to do -- be a sports writer. At that time, I, like many other aspiring scribes just starting out, had designs on covering the Cubs, the Bears ... anything pro or college. And I did at times, but I always came back to my passion -- high school sports.

After graduating high school, former Elgin Courier-News Sports Editor Stan Shalett gave me my first opportunity to earn a paycheck as a sports writer, allowing me to cover teams and athletes who achieved greatness. The state championship football teams from Hampshire in the 70s, the run of state appearances and titles from the St. Edward girls' basketball teams of the 80s and early 90s -- it's a list that goes on and on.

I came to the Daily Herald as a freelancer in 1995 and was fortunate to cover the **Elgin High** girls' basketball run to a state championship game appearance in 1996.

In 1997, as the Herald took more of a foothold in the Fox Valley, I was hired full time and was named Fox Valley Sports Editor, a position I held until 2018 when I took over for my mentor, Aaron Gabriel, as high school sports editor.

Those years in the Fox Valley chair will always be cherished. Hampshire girls' basketball, **Bartlett girls' basketball**, **Elgin boys' basketball**, **Larkin football**, Cary-Grove football and girls' volleyball ... all teams that had state greatness and some impressive athletes.

Of course, there were some equally fine teams from my alma mater, Burlington Central. The 2009 softball team that took third place at state, the 2014 girls basketball team that was fourth at state, the 2008 girls volleyball team that was second at state, and the football teams of the early 2000s were so much fun to cover.

My time in the Northwest suburbs of Cook County has been rewarding as well. Thanks to all the athletic directors and coaches who helped me make the transition seamlessly.

People often ask me what the biggest changes are I've seen in six decades in the newspaper business and without hesitation my answer is: technology.

When I came to the DH full time in 1997, our Elgin office had one computer that was wired for internet access, and you could eat a sandwich and run a couple of miles while waiting for a Web page to load.

People also ask about the best athletes and coaches I've covered. I might have to write a book on that subject, because there's no way I could even begin to name them here.

The Illinois High School Association takes a lot of criticism, some of it warranted, most of it not. My relationship with the IHSA was always on the up-and-up, and for the most part, it was always positive. **Elgin High graduate Scott Johnson**, Jim Flynn, Marty Hickman, Matt Troha and Craig Anderson remain among the best people I worked with at the IHSA. And, of course, Beth (Hasenmiller) Sauser and I go back to her basketball playing days in the late 1980s at St. Edward.

Beyond covering those teams and all the athletes and coaches I've had the privilege of writing about and working with over the years, there have also been so many colleagues within the walls of this business who without, it would have been impossible to do my job.

If I tried to name them all, I would surely miss many, but I do have to single out people like Tom Quinlan, Aaron Gabriel, Don Friske, Marty Maciaszek, Marty Stengle, Mike Smith, John Lampinen and Jim Baumann for their incredible support.

Lindsey Willhite earns a mention as well. Lindsey and I covered the Kane County Cougars together when they came to town in 1991 -- Lins for the Herald and me for the Courier. When I was looking for an "in" with the Herald in 1995, I reached out to Lindsey and the rest, as they say, is history.

I had special relationships with those who collaborated with me, including Mike Miazga, Travis Miller, Patricia Babcock McGraw and Jerry Fitzpatrick, as well as John Lemon, who now takes the baton as high school sports editor.

But the one man who I owe the most to is Bob Frisk. Bob taught me, and countless others, that high school sports should always be reported on fairly, but with a positivity that college and pro sports don't have.

That's something I always strove for in my reporting and something I tried to instill in those I mentored.

I had the good fortune to be inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2001, an honor I was able to share with my dad, who passed away in 2004. Other special honors, such as the Burlington Central Hall of Fame and the IHSA's Distinguished Media Service Award, came after that. I never set out to be a hall of famer, but now as I close my career, those accolades do become special.

I know not what's on the horizon. I do know I'll miss this gig. You can't do what I've done for as long as I've done it and say you won't miss it. I can't imagine not writing more, but in what form and for whom remains to be seen.

So, as I bid adieu for now, I've saved my final thanks for you -- the readers. Without you, none of us have the incredible opportunity to tell the stories we tell.

Be well, everyone.