

Press Clippings for 10/04/2022

---Chicago Tribune---

Oct. 03, 2022

Illinois criticized over funding equity for low-income schools

By: Karen Ann Cullotta



Instructor Hiral Amin assists student Bozhena Shuhyta as fourth graders take part in an English language learners program at Liberty Elementary School in Bartlett on Sept. 30, 2022. Such programs received money from the state's Evidence-Based Funding program. (Antonio Perez / Chicago Tribune)

A state program intended to deliver equitable funding for Illinois school districts in low-income communities was lambasted by critics who are asking lawmakers in Springfield for more than \$1 billion a year to meet the new law's 2027 deadline to fully fund public education

According to a recent report from the Partnership for Equity and Education Rights Illinois and the Education Law Center, despite five years of using the state's new Evidence-Based Funding formula, 1.7 million students from 83% of Illinois school districts still attend underfunded schools.

The new statewide education justice coalition, PEER IL, was created "to ensure the state is fulfilling its promise to provide Illinois public school students fully funded and fully resourced public schools," PEER IL officials said.

When then-Gov. Bruce Rauner signed Evidence-Based Funding into law in 2017, the legislation aimed to "comprehensively overhaul the state's school financing system," PEER IL officials said.

According to the report, reaching the adequacy benchmarks put forth in the law requires more than \$7 billion additional dollars in state funding to properly fund school districts in the state, with a goal of reaching full funding by 2027.

By providing only the minimum required funding each year — and no new funding in 2021 — the state has underfunded EBF by \$7.2 billion, PEER IL officials said.

“As one of the lowest-ranked public school systems in the nation, it is imperative that Illinois invest significantly more in the EBF formula now to prevent decades more of poorly resourced students in inadequately funded school districts throughout the state,” said Naoma Nagahawatte, a Chicago Public Schools parent and a member of Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education.

“PEER (IL) believes all public school students in Illinois, no matter their race, family income or neighborhood, should receive an excellent, fully funded education,” Nagahawatte said. “Illinois families cannot wait any longer.”

According to the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability and the formula’s adequacy calculations, the Vandalia Community School District should have received \$21,500 from the state over the last five years for a Vandalia Community School kindergartner entering school in 2017, PEER IL officials said in a statement.

“At the current rate of funding from EBF, this same Vandalia student will be 28 years old before her school district begins to receive 90% of the promised funding in state and local dollars needed to provide Illinois public school students with an adequate education,” PEER IL officials said.

A spokeswoman for the Illinois State Board of Education said the state board is “incredibly appreciative of Governor (J.B.) Pritzker’s historic increases to public education funding.”

“Since Evidence-Based Funding was enacted, schools have received more than \$2 billion in increased funding, dramatically reducing the number of school districts funded at less than 60% of adequacy from 168 in 2018 to just two” for the 2023 fiscal year, ISBE spokeswoman Jackie Matthews said in a statement.



Sixth graders Bao Nguyen Mai, , from left, Melana Melnikava, Bohdana Kocherzuk and Zuzanna Sobczak take part in an English language learners program at Liberty Elementary School in Bartlett on Sept. 30, 2022. (Antonio Perez / Chicago Tribune)

Although some have questioned why funding remained flat in 2021, Matthews said school districts received an additional \$354 million that year in federal pandemic relief funds, which were distributed to districts using the EBF tier distribution formula.

“The Evidence-Based Funding formula is working,” she said. “While we have a ways to go before all school districts are fully funded, we have made extraordinary progress in just six years.”

Illinois lawmakers “will enact a state budget that balances many different spending priorities,” Matthews said. She added that the state board encourages “anyone with a stake in public education to share their perspective on state funding.”

With ISBE currently conducting its annual call for funding requests to inform the board’s public education spending recommendation for next year, Matthews said educators, parents and other community members can participate by [submitting a funding request online](#) and attending a budget hearing.

Tony Sanders, superintendent of Elgin-based **School District Unit 46**, said that after the EBF law passed, the district has realized an increase of \$78 million in state funding through the formula since 2018.

“The results to date have been transformational for our district, and had the formula not changed prior to the pandemic, we would have struggled significantly to serve students,” said **Sanders**, who was among the Illinois educators advocating for the change in the state’s funding model.

Although the state committed to an increase of at least \$300 million per year when the law passed, Sanders said funding remained flat in 2021.

“The faster we can get districts that are below their adequacy target to the levels necessary to serve their students, the better,” Sanders said.

U-46 remains the furthest from adequacy among all the large unit districts in the state, Sanders said.

Under the EBF model, each district in Illinois has an “adequacy target” for what the state says the district should spend to meet the needs of its students, Sanders said.

That amount is calculated using funding factors such as low-income rates, students with specialized needs, students who are English language learners and other criteria.



Sixth grade students Asma Tenkhi, left, and Kevin Valerio take part in an English language learners program at Liberty Elementary School in Bartlett on Sept. 30, 2022. (Antonio Perez / Chicago Tribune)

In the annual Illinois Report Card, which this year will be released in late October, the state indicates what it considers a district’s adequacy target, as well as how close that district is to being adequately funded.

U-46 is a Tier 1 school district “because we are so far from our adequacy target, spending about 63% of what would be considered adequate,” Sanders said.

According to the Illinois Report Card for the 2021-22 school year, 57% of the 36,000 students enrolled in **U-46** were from low-income families, and 37% were English language learners.

At Chicago Public Schools, 78% of the 339,000 students who were enrolled during the 2021-22 school year were from low-income families, and 20% were English language learners, according to the report card.

“Chicago Public Schools aims to provide students with a safe, high-quality and equitable education,” a CPS spokesman said. “CPS has been working to distribute Evidence-Based Funds thoughtfully and strategically.”

CPS is funded at 74% of adequacy, an annual \$1.4 billion shortfall, CPS officials said.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 30, 2022

Glenbard East spoils Elgin's homecoming

By: Allen Oshinski

Glenbard East seemed to be its own worst enemy at times. But the Rams overcame the adversity and spoiled **Elgin's** homecoming with a 28-0 win at Memorial Field.

Dillon Williams threw 3 touchdown passes, 2 to Dailen Zollicoffer, Matthew Larson returned a punt for a score, and the defense made stops when it needed to as the Rams broke open the Upstate Eight matchup in the second half.

Before Larson's 60-yard return capped the scoring, the Rams had 2 touchdowns called back, killed 2 drives with turnovers and committed 9 penalties for 70 yards.

After 23 scoreless minutes, Glenbard East finally broke through just before halftime. Williams moved the Rams 47 yards in just 3 plays, finding Zollicoffer on a 30-yard catch-and-run for the score.

The combination of Williams and Yassin Nabil made it 14-0 in the third quarter with a 5-yard completion.

Williams found Zollicoffer again early in the fourth quarter. And after **Elgin** went 3-and-out, Larson fielded Donovan Vences' punt on 1 bounce, shot straight ahead and cut back once before racing untouched into the end zone.

Defensively, the Rams (5-1, 5-1) held **Elgin** to 90 total yards and forced 2 turnovers of its own. Demontay Mack had a fumble recovery, a sack, and a pass breakup, and Drew Kelly came up with a key interception for the Rams.

Kelly's pick came in the end zone, one play after the Maroons' Lamyni Spates intercepted Williams and returned it to the 3-yard line.

The defense showed that type of resilience all game long.

"Our defense is pretty stout," said Glenbard East coach John Walters. "We have some dudes that can play. They play as a unit. They really have a lot of passion for playing defensive football. Sometimes with high school defenses you get them together and you've got some dudes that can play on that side of the ball. We've got 11 guys that really love to play defense."

Elgin (3-3, 3-3) was able to move the ball at times but couldn't finish a drive. The **Maroons** collected only 6 first downs while punting 7 times.

The **Maroons** reached the Glenbard East 3-yard line twice but couldn't score. The first scoring chance ended with Kelly's interception. Then backup quarterback Terrell Arrington led the **Maroons** deep into Rams' territory but his fourth-down pass fell incomplete and the Rams ran out the clock.

Williams finished the night 16 of 28 for 209 yards. Nabil caught 8 balls for 69 yards and Zollicoffer had 3 receptions for 103 yards.

Larson and Dimitri Hritz each gained 49 yards on the ground.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 30, 2022

South Elgin, SCN qualify for sectionals

By: Jake Bartelson



Barrington's Bridget Butler tees off during the Class 2A South Elgin Regional at the Highlands of Elgin on Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022. *Sandy Bressner/sbressner@shawmedia.com*

Bridget Butler's mental approach -- and results on the golf course -- can speak for themselves.

Butler, the Barrington junior, turned in a 3-under par 69 for the second consecutive season at the Class 2A South Elgin regional on Thursday.

Only this year, it earned Butler medalist honors, followed by a 76 from last year's regional medalist, Leah Gaidos.

"Every day, I'm just trying to get 1% better," Butler said. "Obviously, [in] golf, you have so many ups and downs all the time, but you just try and utilize the good days."

"[Butler] is so good. She hits the ball so long. She has all the shots," Barrington coach Tim Martin said. "We've known that scores like this are coming; even in the next week, she's just been building towards this. We're not surprised to see 3-under, but she's worked so hard on her game. She is uber-talented, and a college is going to get a really good golfer in her after next year.

"We're so proud of her."

Butler and Gaidos' friendship comes first, but also adds a unique competitive flare that has withstood time since both began starting on Barrington varsity golf as freshmen.

"We have a really good team atmosphere. Just being able to lift each other up and be happy for each other when the other person succeeds, that's part of why I like this team so much," Gaidos said. "I'm just really happy for Bridget since she played amazing out there today. She played the same score as last year, which is amazing."

Five of Barrington's six competitors finished in the top individual scores: Praise Shim (77), Simran Singh (78) and Sydney Terada (78) along with Butler and Gaidos. Kaitlyn Thomas (82) tied with St. Charles East senior Emily Charles, who will be joined by Saints teammate Olivia Vosburgh at next Monday's Huntley sectional as individuals.

Barrington (300) bested second-place **South Elgin** (366) and St. Charles North (371) as the three full teams advancing. Thursday was the Red Raiders' ninth consecutive regional title.

Gaidos, who sank four consecutive birdies on the back nine last season to win her medalist honor, again affirmed to Martin "she's one of the best players in the state, absolutely."

"[Gaidos has] really been showing that; just so proud of those two ..." Martin said. "For Praise Shim, the sophomore for us, to come up and take third alone with a 77, that's her low round of the year, but we've seen it. She's been getting better and better the entire season."

Barrington, the reigning Class 2A state team champion, is reloaded again for what projects to be another return to the podium.

"Simran won the [Mid-Suburban League]. She's going to Long Island University, and she's playing great. Sydney's game is in great shape," Martin continued. "Kaitlyn Thomas, she's probably our most improved player, and she's right there. She's in the top 10 today, so across the board, I just couldn't be more proud of them."

South Elgin, which placed seventh as a team last year, now gets to send its full rotation. Ila Fontaine qualified as an individual one season ago with a 97 and finished 16 strokes stronger (81) this year. Autumn Burnett (87), Samantha Baran (96), Bella Hazelhorst (102), Sheridan York (103) and Paige Whalen (121) rounded out the Storm.

St. Charles North will send its full team for the 10th season in a row to sectionals. That includes Natalia Petrucci (87), Rylee Huddleston (89), Jakelyn Leycock (95), Caitlin Scanlon (100), Hanna Kizman (101) and Isabella Garza (118).

"Our team, our individuals are working hard. We've had some close matches," Petrucci said. "For me, I just try and save my best for last. Golf is something I picked up pretty late [right before high school], so I just [thought I'd see] where it takes me."

"Rylee has been great," Petrucci said. "Especially for being so young on the team. I'm so proud of her. She's really stepped up, and she's been doing great."

The following 10 individuals qualified for sectionals next week: Crystal Lake Central's Rylee Rud, Ella Smith and Delaney Medlyn; Dundee-Crown's Sophie Morawski and Magen Laas; Prairie Ridge's Brooke Benjamin, Jenna Albanese and Abby Kay; and Charles and Vosburgh for St. Charles East.

---The Daily Herald---

Sep. 30, 2022

South Elgin collects win over Glenbard South by playing keepaway

By: Orrin Schwarz

Considering all the action the **South Elgin** offense saw in the second half Friday night at Glenbard South, they could have been excused if they had gotten a little tired.

But they were having too much fun.

The **Storm** broke open a tied game at halftime by keeping the Glenbard South offense off the field for more than 12 minutes. The **Storm** recovered three straight onside kicks and converted each into second-half touchdowns to take a 49-27 Upstate Eight Conference football victory in front of more than 4,000 fans in Glen Ellyn.

"You know what? Past games we would have been tired, this game we were prepared," **South Elgin** senior offensive tackle Nathan Dinse said. "We were ready. We were ready for it. We were under control. We got on the bench, took a quick breath and were out there, ready to go."

Glenbard South (5-1, 5-1) stayed with **South Elgin** touchdown for touchdown in the first half. The teams were tied at 21-21 at halftime.

Glenbard South, which celebrated homecoming and the 50th anniversary of the school's 1972 opening, started the third quarter with a three-and-out, and **South Elgin** (6-0, 6-0) took control of the game from there. By the time the Glenbard South offense took the field again, **South Elgin** led 49-21 and there was just 8:45 left in the fourth quarter.

For the game **South Elgin** kicker Bryan Cortez attempted six onside kicks, and the Storm recovered three.

"On film we thought that was something we could do, and part of it was trying to keep (Glenbard South receiver) Cam Williams off the field," **Storm** coach Dragan Teonic said. "We had him covered multiple times, he came up with a couple of touchdowns. They had some momentum early."

"You've got to give it up for the onside kick," Dinse added. "It does wonders when you do it right. And we have the toughest, strongest dudes out there for it, so we get it done."

The **South Elgin** running game got it done too, totaling 441 yards rushing. **South Elgin**'s Lucas Norworol and Mason Montgomery each ran for two touchdowns, and Michael Tringali, Kyle Steinhofer and Jordan Green added one each.

For Williams, a Notre Dame recruit, it was tough to spend so much time on the sideline watching and waiting.

"It's hard when you get in a groove on offense and it takes three or four possessions for you to get back on the field, it's just kind of hard," Williams said. "It's just unlucky things with the onsides, but I know we'll get over it for sure."

Still, Williams caught two touchdown passes from quarterback Michael Champagne, finishing with 7 catches for 112 yards. But just one of those catches came in the second half.

"Going into halftime we were real confident," Williams said. "Obviously, the second half didn't go our way. But I think that first half kind of says a lot about our guys and about our team."

"They are so stinking good at their onside kicks, I mean they wrote the book on it," Raiders coach Ryan Crissey said of the **Storm**. "The ball literally didn't bounce our way a few times, and that's what happens against good teams, they take advantage."

---The Daily Herald---

Oct.03 , 2022

Girls golf: Stevenson tops Barrington for sectional crown

By: Dick Quagliano



South Elgin's Samantha Baran tees off to start the Class 2A Huntley Sectional girls golf tournament at Pinecrest Golf Course on Monday, October 3, 2022. *John Starks | Staff Photographer*



South Elgin's Paige Whalen in the Class 2A Huntley Sectional girls golf tournament at Pinecrest Golf Course on Monday, October 3, 2022. *John Starks | Staff Photographer*



South Elgin's Sheridan York hits on the 9th tee in the Class 2A Huntley Sectional girls golf tournament at Pinecrest Golf Course on Monday, October 3, 2022. *John Starks | Staff Photographer*



South Elgin's Bella Hazelhorst in the Class 2A Huntley Sectional girls golf tournament at Pinecrest Golf Course on Monday, October 3, 2022. *John Starks | Staff Photographer*

To read the full article click [here](#).

---The Daily Herald---

Oct.03 , 2022

Boys soccer / Top 20

By: Team Comment

1. York (11-0-3) Dukes depth key to success
2. Naperville Central (15-3-1) Redhawks red hot
3. Stevenson (13-0-2) Patriots nearing NSC title
4. Naperville North (11-3-2) Jason Stokes quality
5. **Elgin** (13-0-3) Kleber Rodriguez first rate GK
6. St. Charles East (15-3-1) 1-0 PK loss to Naperville Central
7. Conant (13-4-1) Nizolek 8 goals, 9 assists
8. Grayslake Central (11-1-1) No. 1 seed in own sectional
9. West Aurora (11-3-4) Only blemish on state-ranked Romeoville
10. Warren (9-3-2) 13 goals for Miguel Garcia
11. Benet Academy: (10-4-0) Suffered first loss in ESCC
12. Wheaton Academy (8-4-3) Closing in on Metro title
13. Round Lake (8-3-2) GK Parks sensational shot stopper
14. Geneva (7-2-7) Eleven goals for Giansanti

15. Fremd (9-5-2) Akashi scoring big goals of late
16. Lake Zurich (7-4-2) In top 20 for first time this season
17. Dundee-Crown (10-6-3) On top of the FVC
18. Elk Grove (8-4-3) Grens lead in MSL East
19. Wauconda (8-2-2) Bulldogs in the NLCC race
20. Hinsdale Central (8-4-1) Luca Davies first class forward

---The Daily Herald---

Oct.03 , 2022

Football / Top 20



Glenbard West's Julius Ellens (4) hands off the ball to Joey Pope (2) for some razzle-dazzle during the boys varsity football game against York on Friday. The Dukes came out on top 17-13 to vault to No. 1 in the Daily Herald Top 20. Tony Gadomski/for Shaw Local

Football

Team Week 7 opponent

1. York 6-0 At Hinsdale Central
2. Hersey 6-0 At Wheeling
3. **South Elgin** 6-0 At **Elgin**
4. Neuqua Valley 5-1 Hosts Waubonsie Valley
5. Glenbard West 5-1 Hosts Downers Grove North
6. Prospect 5-1 Hosts Buffalo Grove
7. Wheaton North 5-1 Hosts Wheaton Warrenville South

8. Warren 5-1 Hosts Waukegan
9. Maine South 4-2 Hosts Niles West
10. Batavia 4-2 Hosts Geneva
11. Palatine 5-1 Hosts Barrington
12. St. Charles North 5-1 Hosts St. Charles East
13. Downers Grove North 5-1 At Glenbard West
14. Naperville Central 4-2 At DeKalb
15. Jacobs 5-1 Hosts Cary-Grove
16. Naperville North 4-2 At Metea Valley
17. St. Francis 6-0 Hosts Bishop McNamara
18. Huntley 5-1 Hosts Hampshire
19. Lake Zurich 5-1 At Lake Forest

20. Geneva 5-1 At Batavia

Others to watch: Wauconda 6-0, IC Catholic Prep 5-1, Glenbard South 5-1, Elk Grove 5-1, Cary-Grove 3-3

---Chicago Tribune---

Oct.04 , 2022

Rick Armstrong's Aurora, Elgin and Naperville football rankings and players of the week for Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022

By: Rick Armstrong



Batavia linebacker Tyler Jansey (7), a Wisconsin recruit, pressures St. Charles North quarterback Ethan Plumb (10) during a DuKane Conference game on Friday, Oct. 22, 2021. (John Konstantaras / The Beacon-News)

Top 10

With records through Sunday and previous rankings in parentheses.

1. Neuqua Valley 5-1 (1)

Wildcats hold serve, blank Metea Valley to stay atop DuPage Valley Conference standings.

2. St. Charles North 5-1 (2)

Drew Surges scores four TDs on offense, forces a fumble on defense.

3. Batavia 4-2 (3)

Wisconsin recruit Tyler Jansey comes up big again for Bulldogs in shutout.

4. **South Elgin** 6-0 (5)

Jacob Sullivan sits out with illness. Sophomore quarterback Nathan Downey steps in for Storm.

5. Geneva 5-1 (7)

Vikings become playoff eligible by dispatching St. Charles East.

6. Yorkville 5-1 (9)

Sophomore Luke Zook delivers pick-six to spark playoff-eligible Foxes.

7. Naperville Central 4-2 (10)

Redhawks beat rival Naperville North 10-7 in overtime on Logan Ellison's 26-yard field goal.

8. Naperville North 4-2 (4)

So close. Huskies stopped twice at 1-yard line in OT.

9. Jacobs 5-1 (8)

Antonio Brown and the Golden Eagles hold on, hold off Burlington Central.

10. Oswego East 4-2 (6)

Mike Polubinski's two TD receptions weren't enough to lift Wolves past Minooka.

Offensive Player of the Week

Senior running back Antonio Brown had 22 carries for 298 yards and four TDs and added a 60-yard kickoff return to rally Jacobs to a 35-30 Fox Valley Conference win at Burlington Central.

Defensive Player of the Week

Batavia linebacker Tyler Jansey totaled 12 tackles, a sack and three quarterback hurries in a 36-0 DuKane Conference victory over Lake Park.

---Chicago Tribune---

Oct.04 , 2022

Local scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

By: Staff Reports

FOOTBALL

HIGH SCHOOLS

UPSTATE EIGHT

East Aurora at **Streamwood**, 7 p.m.

Larkin at **Bartlett**, 7 p.m.

South Elgin at **Elgin**, 7 p.m.

UPSTATE EIGHT SHOWCASE

Bartlett 1, Fenton 0

Elgin 4, Glenbard East 1

South Elgin 3, Glenbard South 0

South Elgin: Ryan Nguyen 2 goals.

UPSTATE EIGHT

Bartlett 52, Fenton 28

Glenbard East 28, **Elgin** 0

Larkin 29, East Aurora 21

South Elgin 49, Glenbard South 27

West Chicago 46, **Streamwood** 24

BOYS SOCCER

Larkin 6, East Aurora 1

Stevenson 4, Waukegan 1

To read the full article click [here](#).