

# Superintendent's Weekly Newsletter

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**Jan. 18, 2024**

Click [here](#) or on the image below to watch a message from Dr. Johnson about how we are welcoming our newcomer students and families, as well as continuing to develop resources to assist our staff in best meeting the needs of our newcomer students. The online survey mentioned in the video can be found [here](#), and [here](#) you can find the Multilingual & Multicultural Education Department's Supports for Newcomers.



# Kudos

Send Kudos directly by clicking [HERE](#) or using Let's Talk. Remember, only Kudos with the sender's name will appear in the Weekly; no anonymous messages. Kudos are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

**Kudos to Bill, Ryan, Ken, Erick, Jaime, and Danny in the Grounds Department, Plant Operations, from Luis Lopez, Groundskeeper, Plant Operations**

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication in regards to the buckthorn brush removals at Elgin High School. Your tenacity and perseverance were critical in the completion of this job. Because of your efforts, we were able to finish this project before the semester started. I applaud your efforts and attitudes in this shared endeavor. Thank you, all!

**Kudos to Sean Fitzsimmons, Technology Specialist, Information Services, from Sarah Stoner, Physical Therapist, Special Education**

I want to send a huge thank you to Sean Fitzsimmons! As an itinerant therapist, I rely on my laptop to do my job all over the District, and Sean responded quickly and effectively to get me back up and running after I ran into roadblocks at other buildings beforehand!

**Kudos to Lisa Bergbreiter, Principal, Cretia Kirkwood, Assistant Principal, and Lloyd Butts, Custodian; all at Independence Center for Early Learning, from Patti Cronin, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher at Independence**

Thank you for working hard to keep up with the snowfall last week! Your hard work in the cold, wet snow is greatly appreciated!



**Kudos to the Homebound Staff from Denise Joehl, Homebound Teacher, Health Services**

Thanks to all of the homebound staff for your support before and during my leave, especially Jeff Judge, Patty Kenyon, Julie Reuthers, Amy Porter, Dawn Schmied, Rebecca Henson and Sara Marcason. What a caring group of coworkers I have!

**Kudos to the Streamwood High School and U-46 Maintenance Teams and Plant Operations Department from Paige Moran, Principal, Streamwood High School**

We appreciate your speedy response to our water issue over break and making sure that our building was ready to go when students return. We know that you put in many hours in the snow and very cold temperatures, but appreciate your hard work!

**Kudos to Susan Roth, Psychologist at South Elgin High School, from Kim Shead, Special Education Teacher, South Elgin High School**

Susan is an amazing part of our team here at South Elgin High School! We share her with other schools, yet she still is able to give her all everyday in our building. I could not ask for a more kind and compassionate colleague to work with. Susan always has a smile on her face, and will do anything to help out. Thank you for all you do for our Special Education team, Susan. We are so lucky to have you!

**Kudos to Daniel Youngerman, Physical Education Teacher, Heritage Elementary School, from Melany Ruiz, 6th Grade Student, Heritage Elementary**

Mr. Youngerman at Heritage Elementary is just an awesome PE teacher who is so happy and cheerful. He makes the gym much easier and more enjoyable and fun to play. He teaches students how to play different types of sports and how to make good choices for ourselves to keep our

bodies healthy. He should have the best staff member award because everyone likes Mr. Y and his jokes! I really enjoy having PE with a teacher like him. Sadly, 2023-2024 will be my last year at Heritage, and I'm going to miss his class so, so much. Thanks so much, Mr. Y!

**Kudos to Joe Fitzpatrick, Custodian, Wayne Elementary School, from Heather Heatley, Assistant Principal, Wayne Elementary**

I want to send a huge thank you to Joe for working tirelessly over the last six days to keep our school grounds and school clean and safe from the wicked weather we've had. We are so thankful for the extra time and effort you have put in to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and families. Thank you!

**Kudos to the Members of the Ellis Middle School SILT from Jaime Cadengo, Principal, Ellis Middle School**

I want to take this opportunity to recognize one of our many leadership teams/committees here at Ellis Middle School. Our Ellis SILT (School Improvement Leadership Team) has been at it since last year, and I have to tell you, it has not been easy. They had made so much progress because of their effective leadership. They have always kept in mind the reason they are part of the team and have made difficult decisions on what was best for Ellis Middle School as a whole. Having said that, I would like to recognize our Ellis MS SILT members (alpha order): Mr. Baird - EMS Assistant Principal; Dr. Espinosa - EMS SIP Chair, DL Lead and Teacher; Ms. Gutierrez - EMS Instructional Coach, Ms. Harrison - EMS ELA/SS teacher, and Mr. Wilson - EMS PE Teacher. I thank you for all you do for Ellis and most importantly, our students.

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**School District U-46**

