

Superintendent's Weekly Newsletter



April 25, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

This evening, we will celebrate 30 Superintendent's Scholarship Awardees by recognizing each with a \$2,000 scholarship!

Over 70 applications were reviewed by a group of volunteers who scored each application using a set rubric. Based on these scores, the volunteers selected the top 30 students. These scholars are all first-generation college students and include student leaders, athletes, and volunteers.

Congratulations to: Enrique Aguila, Athena Arellanes, Elvin Arinaitwe, Gabriela Bautista, Stephanie Bautista, Bianca Bil, Ericka Bonilla, John Catalan, Bryanna Cole, Kimberly Diaz, Keyla Fregoso, Miranda Hermez, Wendy Hernandez, Nehmat Kaur, Tyler Luu, Julissa Martinez, Victoria Martinez, Nicole Maslon, Esmeralda Medrano, Stephanie Nieves, Rudra Patel, Nicole Roman, Fatima Salazar, Alexis Serrano, Nicole Smola, Kimberly Ta, James Vargas, Emily Vega, Janine Marie Villegas, and Yahaira Zepeda.

This group of students represents all five comprehensive high schools. To learn more about some of the scholarship recipients, please take a look at this [video](#).

Looking forward to our ongoing celebration of the Class of 2024!

Thank you to our colleagues for supporting our students and making these accomplishments possible! We also extend a special thank you to the Seigle Foundation for their generous contributions through the U-46 Educational Foundation to support the Superintendent's Scholarship.

Also, congratulations to Rich Bosh, Director of School Safety, on his nomination for the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (INSPRA) Distinguished Service

Award.

It's a great day to learn in U-46!

Dr. Suzanne Johnson

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 David Dick, Interim Assistant Principal at Larsen Middle School, from Marc Spacone, Principal at Larsen Middle School

David joined Larsen in December and immediately connected with students and staff. Additionally, he has made recommendations to help us work smarter and not harder. Thank you to David for all you do for Larsen.

Kudo to the Members of the Elgin High School Dean's Office from Brigid Trimble, Science Teacher, Elgin High School

I want to recognize Assistant Principal Nico Ponquinet, Deans Tahirah Khan, Kevin Teglia, Melanee Brandt and Ada Ohara, and SRO Officer Beth Sterriker. Thank you for all the thought and effort you put to work within the systems in place. Elgin High School is better because you are here.

Kudos to the Information Service Department and Tony Romero, Instructional Tech Specialist, from Brigid Trimble and Brittney Mallen, both Science Teachers at Elgin High School

A belated thank you to the IS team who scrambled around to provide us with laptops so our students could run the National Biodiversity Teaching this year at the Educational Services Center. A special thanks to Tony Romero who acts as our onsite amazing consultant for all the tech weirdness. We could not have done it without you!

Kudos to Music Teacher Alex Moliwell, Art Teacher Anna Knudson, and Health Education Teacher Katie Pappas, all at Timber Trails Elementary School, from Todd Duty, Assistant Principal, Timber Trails Elementary

I want to give a big round of applause to Alex, Anna, and Katie for successfully directing the first-ever musical at Timber Trails. "Suessical" was an enormous undertaking and your perseverance shined through. Thank you for allowing students to experience the magic of theatre. Can't wait to see what you and the students produce next year. Also, a special shout-out to Andrea Kuchler for stepping up to the plate and stage managing the show. Bravo, everyone...BRAVO!

Kudos to the Members of the HR Team and Family Members from Mark Moore, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

This is a kudos for everyone who volunteered at the Northern Illinois Food Bank on Saturday, April 20. Thank you Mily Cruz, Brenda Theilbar, Kellie Jordan, Kimberly Noonan, Beth Gehringer, Monica Escalante, Melinda Leman, Christi Herrera (all from Human Resources), Jason Marcotte (Transportation), Cory Ulrich (Information Services), Lucas Kelly (Huff Elementary), Tom Thode

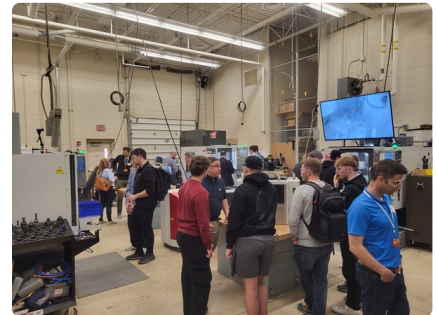
(Plant Operations), and Jackie Jones (Sycamore Trails). No more green beans for a long time, please!

Kudos to Brittney Mallen, Science Teacher, and Jen Kochanski, Cross Cat Teacher, both at Elgin High School, from Brigid Trimble, Science Teacher at Elgin High School

A giant kudos to Brittney and Jen for waking up early on their day off to drive a truck to Monee and pick up special trees for the EHS nature trail.

Kudos to Matt Erbach, Precision Manufacturing Teacher, and Garrett Wolf, Culinary Arts Teacher, both at South Elgin High School, from Doreen Roberts, CTE Coordinator

Matt coordinated an informational open house event with GCAMP (Greater Chicago Advanced Manufacturing Partnership) showcasing the Precision Manufacturing program and students. Matt was also able to coordinate having students attend the event from Coleg Menai in Wales. School Board members, community members, and U-46 partners attended and learned about our program, observed our students working on projects, and enjoyed breakfast. Garrett worked with our Culinary Arts students to plan, prepare, and serve breakfast for all participants. The event was fabulous! Thank you, Matt and Garrett, for your work.



School District U-46

