

DEAR DISTRICT 39 COMMUNITY,

The 2018-19 school year is well underway. As I begin this last year as D39 superintendent, I was thrilled to enjoy one of my favorite activities - greeting families as they come back on the first day of school! These Romona students (at right) were happy to share their excitement.

As the school year begins, so too does the process of finding the next D39 leader. With the guidance of SCHOOL EXEC CONNECT, the search is progressing with input from parents, staff, and community members. Focus groups and a survey will help define the most important qualities in the next superintendent. The *Superintendent Search* section on the District's website will always have the most current information.

There is a community forum in the WJHS auditorium on Wednesday, October 3rd at 7:00 PM; the survey remains open until October 10th and can be found at bit.ly/D39searchsurvey or on our website. The October 22nd Board of Education meeting will include a profile developed by the search firm. In November, candidates will be presented to the Board in closed session, and a stakeholder committee will be formed to participate in second interviews in December. The Board plans to announce its final selection in December or January.

Summer construction took place at Highcrest where a new entrance, offices, and staff lounge were added. I'm pleased to report that now all six of our schools have a secure "double-buzz" entry. There is also a four-classroom addition in progress, which will be complete prior to the end of winter break. Funds for construction come from District reserves, which are referenced on page 3.

There has been progress toward an optional fee-based D39 Kindergarten Enrichment Program that can serve as a step toward a long-term goal of full-day Kindergarten. The administration is recommending a self-sustaining phased implementation that is planned to have no impact on taxpayers. Phased construction at the elementary schools would happen over two years; the first phase would have space available for Kindergarten Enrichment in 2020-2021.

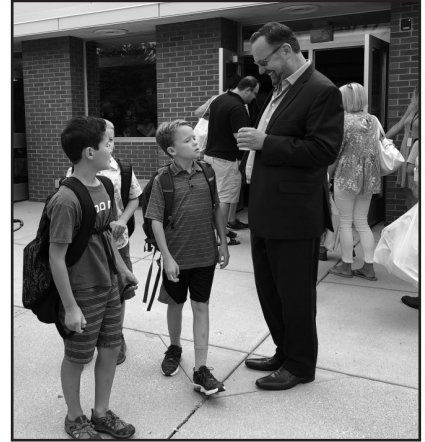
I want to thank the D39 community for the past 20 wonderful years. It has truly been a privilege to serve the families of District 39.

Your partner in education,



Raymond E. Lechner, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Wilmette Public Schools District 39



Superintendent Ray Lechner welcomes Romona students on the first day school.



Construction at HMS provided a new visitor entrance with improved security, as well as new offices and a staff lounge.



McKenzie kindergarten students love to explore!

WELCOME NEW ADMINISTRATORS

SUSAN CARLSON - HIGHCREST

Susan is the new 6th grade Assistant Principal at HMS. Susan has a bachelor's from John Carroll University, Ohio, a master's from Northern Illinois University in Special Education, and is completing her master's in Educational Leadership at Northeastern Illinois University this July. She joined D39 two years ago and was an 8th grade Learning Behavior Specialist at WJHS. Susan previously worked in Chicago Public Schools, Niles, Glenview, and the North Suburban Special Education District (NSSED).

JEFF DEES - WJHS

Jeff is the new 7th grade Assistant Principal at WJHS. Jeff taught social studies for six years, first at St. Mary's in Lake Forest and then at Loyola Academy. He was promoted in 2012 to department chair at Loyola. Jeff earned his bachelor's from Northwestern University and a master's in Education from John Carroll University in Ohio. He earned an administrative endorsement through DePaul University.

ANGELA DEMAY ASST DIRECTOR - STUDENT SERVICES

Angela is the District's new Assistant Director of Student Services. Recently Angela has been in Barrington District 220 holding the positions of Learning Behavior Specialist, Special Services Coordinator, and Assistant Department Chair of Special Services. Angela received her bachelor's and master's from Northwest Missouri State University, holds a Certificate of Advanced Study from National Louis, and is currently working on a Ph.D. from Concordia University.



From left: Angela DeMay, Jeff Dees, Susan Carlson

LIP SYNCHING WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATORS

The D39 administrative team saw an opportunity for some fun. In introducing the new administrators to the rest of the staff, the District wanted to *Take a Chance...* and then captured it all on video. Want to see for yourself? Go to bit.ly/lipsynchadmins



SUMMER FUN!

The D39 Summer Enrichment Program completed another successful year.

More than 542 students participated this year and there were lots of opportunities for fun and learning. Classes for K-3 were at Romona School while grades 4-7 went to WJHS.

There were 128 classes in all. Several new options were introduced this year including *Camp National Novel Writing* and *Pinterest Crafts*. And, of course the kid's favorites returned like *Minecraft*, *Rocketry*, and *Future Explorers*.



Superintendent Ray Lechner visits with Summer Enrichment students in Perform Through the Summer.

D39 FINANCIALS: 2018–2019 BUDGET

Budgeting is a year-long process, beginning with the levy in October. The District provided significant detail last year to promote a better understanding of the levy process and its impact; this information remains available on the District's website under *A Closer Look*. The 2018-19 Budget was adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, August 27, 2018 at 7 P.M. at the Mikaelian Education Center. A recap is below and the complete budget is posted on the District website.

OPERATING FUNDS

EDUCATION, TORT, OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE, TRANSPORTATION, ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND/SOCIAL SECURITY, AND WORKING CASH FUNDS

Revenue

Local	\$56,361,232
State	3,702,475
State Teacher Pension Flow-through	14,703,185
Federal	1,125,187
Transfer from Ed Fund to O&M Fund	750,000

Total Operating Funds Revenue \$76,642,079

Expenditures

Salary, Wages & Benefits	\$47,174,021
State Teacher Pension Flow-through	14,703,185
Purchased Services	5,215,190
Supplies & Materials	3,432,893
Capital Outlay	1,852,279
Planned Construction Projects	4,593,630
Tuition & Other	2,084,091
Transfer from Ed Fund to O&M Fund	750,000

Total Operating Funds Expenditures \$79,805,289

- Teacher Pension Flow-through is the payment the State makes toward D39's pension obligation and is a budget neutral item. The District must record the pension obligation, even though the District does not make these payments.
- The deficit in the Operating Funds occurs because of \$4.6 million in allocated expenditures for a four-classroom addition with air conditioning and a secure entrance at Highcrest.
- Projected Fiscal Year-End Operating Funds Reserve is \$36,242,421. The ratio of reserves to expenditures is 55.7%.

NON-OPERATING FUNDS

CAPITAL PROJECTS, BOND & INTEREST, AND LIFE SAFETY FUNDS

Revenue

Local	\$1,447,084
State	0
Federal	0

Total Non-Operating Funds \$1,447,084

Other Sources – Transfers \$5,393,173

Expenditures

Purchased Services	\$0
Capital Outlay	0
Other Services	1,451,696

Total Non-Operating Funds \$1,451,696

Other Uses – Transfers \$5,393,173

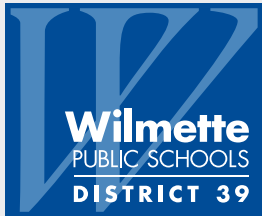
TRANSFERS INCLUDE:

- \$4.6 million of construction costs moves out of O&M to the Capital Projects Fund.
- \$800,000 of debt service payments moves out of the O&M Fund to the Bond & Interest Fund.
- \$750,000 Permanent Transfer from the Ed Fund to the O&M Fund.

ALL FUNDS

Total All Expenditures: \$80,506,985
transfers not included

Total All Revenues: \$77,339,163
transfers not included



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DISTRICT 39 EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

The D39 Educational Foundation is excited to begin the 2018-2019 school year with some new faces on our General and Executive Boards. We are thankful for the many continuing members. We are honored to be one of the beneficiaries of the Taste of Wilmette through the Chamber of Commerce this year. The event takes place on Thursday, September 27th from 5:30-7:30pm at the Wilmette Golf Club. More information can be found on the Chamber of Commerce website. Our Fundraising Committee is busy planning upcoming events including the 5th Annual “Attire to Inspire” Fashion Show, which will be held this year in the evening from 7-9 pm at the Michigan Shores Club. As in past years, there will be a runway show and several local merchant booths offering the latest fall fashions and trends. Fifteen percent of the proceeds will be donated to the Foundation. The ever-popular Family Bingo Night will be on December 7th from 6-8 pm at the Masonic Lodge. All ages are welcome (children under 11 must be supervised) to come play bingo, win prizes, and enjoy some delicious local fare. Please remember that all Foundation events help fund Gripp Grants, named in honor of D39 math

teacher Phyllis Gripp. We invite D39 teachers, staff, parents, and students to apply for grants. This year’s application deadlines are October 26th and March 8th. Go to www.d39foundation.org to see some Gripp Grants that have been funded in the past as well as instructions on how to apply. The Science Olympiad program for students in 5th-8th grade is also in the planning stages. There will be challenging enrichment courses in a variety of STEM disciplines, all voluntarily taught by community members and D39 teachers. Registration will begin in mid-October and classes begin in early December. Please keep a lookout in your mailbox for our Annual Appeal, which will go out later this fall. We greatly appreciate the tremendous support we receive from the Wilmette community and D39 staff each year. Thanks to all of you, we are able to provide D39 students with many innovative and creative opportunities! Please visit our website at www.d39foundation.org, to learn more about donating.



WJHS students collaborate to find the solution to the Breakout EDU box awarded through a Foundation Gripp Grant

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are interested in your ideas, feedback, and suggestions, whether or not you have children in our schools. Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Email us at opinion@wilmette39.org or contact Dr. Ray Lechner at 847-512-6030. Mail can be sent to the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, IL 60091.