

W 39 EXPRESS

Dear District 39 Community,

The 2015-16 school year is underway! With the hard work of summer staff, each building was ready to welcome students.

The bigger summer projects included a new driveway at Highcrest, and we already see an improvement to the traffic flow for drop off and pick up. Romona is in the midst of an addition that will provide four new classrooms; completion is expected in December. At Central, library, media, and technology have been combined to create a great new 21st Century learning space. Students and staff are excited to make use of the variety of learning environments and innovative tools and devices available. We plan for similar improvements at all of our schools.

Our teacher institute day this year included an excellent keynote speaker - Ann Cummins Bogan from the Consortium for Educational Change. There is an upcoming state requirement to include student growth as part of teacher evaluation. District 39 is viewing this as an opportunity to consider ways our instruction can have an even greater impact on students.



Dr. Lechner greets Highcrest students on the first day of school



D39 staff help students set up their iPads.

We now have all 6th-8th grade students participating in the 1:1 Learning Program. Parents and students were invited to iPad distribution day in the Highcrest cafeteria before school opened. District staff were on hand to help students get acquainted with their new devices. 1:1 learning has provided greater opportunity for differentiation, communication, creativity, and organization. Through Schoology, a learning management program, parents and students share information about assignments and student progress with teachers. Plans are to include 5th graders next year.

While I know D39 parents are aware, I want to be sure the larger Wilmette community knows about the D39 Angel Fund. Through donations, this fund provides support toward school expenses for D39 families in need. The Angel Fund provided more than \$14,000 for children last year, and this year's requests have already left the fund depleted. You can find the link for the Angel Fund under "Current Topics" on the District's homepage.

Your partner in education,

Raymond E. Lechner

Raymond E. Lechner, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Wilmette Public Schools District 39

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615 Locust Road
Wilmette, IL 60091
(847) 256-2450
www.wilmette39.org

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District 39 Educational Foundation Update

The D39 Educational Foundation will be hosting the 2nd annual Fall Fashion Show "Attire to Inspire" on Thursday, September 17th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Michigan Shores Club. Parents and teachers will be modeling the latest back-to-school and fall trends. Proceeds benefit the Foundation's Gripp Grant Program.

Save-the-date for Family Bingo Night on Friday, October 2nd at the Masonic Lodge in Wilmette. This event is fun for the whole family with food, treats and great prizes!! Last year's grand prize winner went home with a Beats speaker!

Attention science enthusiasts! The Foundation will again be sponsoring the prestigious national Science Olympiad program for District 39. Registration will take place in October. Junior Varsity and Varsity teams will compete at invitational and regional competitions around the Chicago area. The Foundation will also offer a variety of science enrichment courses for students seeking a low-key and fun science experience. A wide range of programs from all STEM disciplines will be offered, each taught by an expert volunteer from the community or a member of the D39 faculty.



Family fun at last year's Bingo Night

Watch your mail this fall for the Annual Appeal. The programs and projects the Foundation brings to District 39 would not be possible without the generous support of our donors! For more information please visit www.d39foundation.org.

District 39 Board of Education

Alice D. Schaff, President	schaffa@wilmette39.org
Kimberly W. Alcantara	alcantak@wilmette39.org
John M. Flanagan	flanagij@wilmette39.org
Tracy A. Kearney	kearneyt@wilmette39.org
Cindy Levine, Vice President	levinec@wilmette39.org
Frank D. Panzica	panzicaf@wilmette39.org
Mark Steen	steenm@wilmette39.org
Ray Lechner, Ph.D., Superintendent	lechnerr@wilmette39.org

District 39 Schools - 2015-2016

CENTRAL	Rebecca Littmann, Principal Julie Anderson, Assistant Principal	littmanr@wilmette39.org andersoj@wilmette39.org
HARPER	Dr. Susan Kick, Principal	kicks@wilmette39.org
MCKENZIE	Dr. Denise Welter, Principal	welterd@wilmette39.org
ROMONA	Julie Anderson, Assistant Principal Cindy Anderson, Principal	andersoj@wilmette39.org andersoc@wilmette39.org
HIGHCREST	Andy Pohl, Assistant Principal Julie Pease, Early Childhood Coord. Kelly Jackson, Principal	pohla@wilmette39.org peasej@wilmette39.org jacksonk@wilmette39.org
WILMETTE JUNIOR HIGH	Aaron Dubnow, Assistant Principal Chimille Dillard, Assistant Principal	dubnowa@wilmette39.org dillardc@wilmette39.org
	Kelly Jackson, Principal Lori Naumowicz, Assistant Principal Eric Resis, Assistant Principal	jacksonk@wilmette39.org naumowil@wilmette39.org resise@wilmette39.org

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Whether or not you have children in our schools, we are interested in your ideas, feedback, and suggestions. Send them along via email to 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.

New Administrators

AARON DUBNOW

Aaron Dubnow is the new 5th Grade Assistant Principal at Highcrest. He holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a master's in administration and supervision from National Louis University. Aaron has been teaching in D39 since 2008, most recently in 8th grade science, and he has also coached the WJHS track team.



from left: Chimille Dillard, Aaron Dubnow, Eric Resis, Tony DeMonte

CHIMILLE DILLARD

Chimille Dillard joins D39 as the 6th Grade Assistant Principal at Highcrest. She holds a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from the University of Illinois - Chicago, a master's in secondary education from DePaul University, and a master's in educational administration from Governors State University. Previously, Chimille taught science in the Chicago Public Schools and at Homewood Flossmoor High School where she was also Science Department Chair.

ERIC RESIS

Eric Resis is the new 8th Grade Assistant Principal at WJHS. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Southern Illinois University and a master's degree in elementary education from DePaul University. Eric first joined D39 in 2001 as a paraprofessional. He has been a 6th grade teacher since 2003.

TONY DEMONTE

Tony DeMonte is the new Technology Director for D39. He holds a certificate in Administration and Supervision from Dominican University, a master's degree in technology in education from Lesley University, and a bachelor's in elementary education from Northern Illinois University. He is working toward a superintendent endorsement from Western Illinois University. Previously, Tony was Coordinator of Instructional Technology for Zion Elementary School District 6 in Zion, Illinois. Before that, he was Assistant Principal in an elementary school and a kindergarten teacher for several years. He has taught graduate courses and authored Interactive Whiteboards in the Elementary Classroom. He serves on the school board in Woodland Community Consolidated School District 50 and is a governing board member for the Special Education District of Lake County.

The Summer Enrichment Program

was the place to be for students over the summer. Completing another successful year, there were 587 students enrolled in 133 classes held at Wilmette Junior High or McKenzie Elementary School. This year, new class offerings included Improve Learning Through Improv, Minute to Win It, Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science, Summer with Shakespeare, Song Writing through Technology, and Social Thinking Academy.



Dr. Lechner learns from a student in Rocketry Revisited.

D39 Financials

The 2015-16 Budget was adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting on Monday, August 24, 2015 at 7 P.M. at the Mikaelian Education Center; recap is below and the complete budget is posted on the District website under Departments/Business Office. The District website includes a Dashboard (linked on the home page) that provides a variety of financial data with historical comparisons.

2015 - 2016 Budget

OPERATING FUNDS

(Operating funds consist of Education, Operations & Maintenance, Transportation, Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund/Social Security, and Working Cash Funds.)

Revenue		Expenditures	
Local	\$52,422,186	Salary, Wages & Benefits	\$43,832,250
State	2,863,106	State Teacher Pension Flow-through	10,984,127
State Teacher Pension Flow-through	10,984,127	Purchased Services	4,756,595
Federal	1,188,014	Supplies & Materials	3,654,739
Other	577,373	Capital Outlay	1,902,952
		Tuition & Other	6,285,528
Total Operating Funds	\$68,034,806	Total Operating Funds	\$71,416,191

- 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 one time planned construction projects: four classroom addition and new boilers at Romona, roof replacement and new driveway at Highcrest, and new library media technology center and large space air conditioning at Central.
- Projected Fiscal Year-End Operating Funds Reserve is \$32,797,607. The ratio of reserves to revenue is 45.9%. By way of comparison, as of 6/30/14, the Fiscal Year-End Operating Funds Reserve was \$34,128,637. The ratio of reserves to expenditures was 51.3%

NON-OPERATING FUNDS

(Non-operating funds consist of Capital Projects, Bond & Interest, and Life Safety Funds.)

Revenue		Expenditures	
Local	\$1,407,606	Purchased Services	\$4,000
State	0	Capital Outlay	15,000
Federal	0	Other Services	1,357,862
Total Non-Operating Funds	1,407,606	Total Non-Operating Funds	1,376,862
Other Sources - Transfers	5,131,356	Other Uses - Transfers	5,131,356

Transfers include:

1. \$4.1 million of construction costs move out of O&M to the Capital Projects Fund
2. \$1 million of debt service payments moves out of the Education and O&M Funds to the Bond & Interest Fund.

ALL FUNDS

Total All Revenues: <i>transfers not included</i>	\$69,442,412	Total All Expenditures: <i>transfers not included</i>	\$72,793,053
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