

Across the Board in D303

Notes from the District 303 School Board Meeting

January 9, 2023

All agenda items, documents, and recorded meetings are available to view on [BoardDocs](#).

School Board

Heidi Fairgrieve, President

Joe Lackner, Vice President

Becky McCabe, Secretary

Jillian Barker

Kate Bell

Matthew Kuschert

Ed McNally



Superintendent Report

Anderson LRC Receives Book Grant

Learning Resource Center (LRC) Director Melissa Majewski and LRC Assistant Leslie Gustafson were recognized for helping Anderson Elementary School earn first place and a \$5,000 book grant from the Alane Adams Count on Me Challenge.

The two worked with 4th and 5th students to brainstorm ideas for and create a video submission as part of the challenge. From the grant, they intend to distribute \$200 to each teacher and \$1,200 to the LRC to support the school's book collection.



[Watch Anderson's Winning Video](#)

[Learn more about the Count On Me Challenge](#)

Engine Challenge Team Competes at Nationals

The St. Charles East Engine Challenge Team is fresh off of a 17th place finish in the Hot Rodders of Tomorrow (HROT) National Championship, held during the Performance Racing Industry trade show in Indianapolis December 6 - 10.

The team was evaluated based on a comprehensive written test and how quickly it could teardown and rebuild a 5.7 liter Chevrolet V8 engine. They were one of only 30 teams across the country to qualify for nationals. "Every kid can be connected into our District in different and unique ways," said Superintendent Gordon. "Way to go to our East Engine Challenge Team!"

[Read more about the Engine Team's performance](#)



Community Partnerships

District 303 can do even more when we partner with our community and local organizations, and there are multiple examples of this happening routinely in our schools.

Davis-Richmond is partnering with Christ Community Church (CCC) and Kids Hope through weekly mentor visits to support young learners. Over break, CCC partnered with Colgate and Palmolive and delivered breakfast, lunch, snacks and hygiene supplies to many young families who are struggling financially. "This is the type of partnership that literally makes a difference in the lives of people on a day to day basis," said Dr. Gordon.



Preschool Program Lottery Now Open

The Preschool Program Lottery is open **January 11- January 25**. Parents with preschool aged children can enter their name in the lottery for a chance to enroll in the Fox Ridge Early Childhood Center for the 2023-2024 school year.

Parents will be notified by email on **January 27** if their child was randomly selected. Registrants not chosen will be placed on a waiting list and will be notified if a space becomes available. Please contact the Early Childhood Center at **331-228-4834** if you have any questions.

Enter the Preschool Program Lottery



2023-2024 Kindergarten Enrollment

IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE 5-YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2023,
IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN.

Kindergarten Enrollment Starts January 30

The District 303 kindergarten enrollment period for the 2023-2024 school year will take place between **January 30 and February 24**. If your child will be 5 years old by September 1, 2023, you can virtually enroll for the next school year by visiting the [New Student Enrollment & Registration](#) page of the District website.

On the site you will find:

- Information about All Day and Half Day Kindergarten
- The New Student Intake Form
- The Step-by-Step Guide for registration
- Health and Dental exams and immunization information
- Contact information for all elementary schools
- Fee information and waiver application

New Student Enrollment Page

Illinois House Bill 5188

During the Illinois Legislature's lame duck session, an amendment was introduced - which since did not pass out of committee - that would mandate all schools in Illinois to teach age appropriate sex education beginning in kindergarten.

During Monday's Board meeting, District 303 reiterated that it has and continues to believe school districts should have the option of whether or not to adopt such education. Superintendent Gordon stated that to date 70% of school districts, including District 303, have opted out of comprehensive sex education for this year. He added that the Illinois Association of School Boards, the Large Unit

District Association, and the Illinois Association of School Administrators have all taken the stance of "no" on this amendment.

Board President Heidi Fairgrieve encouraged anyone who has interest in this topic to contact their local state legislator. The State Senators who serve the District 303 area are Don DeWitte, Linda Holmes, and Karina Villa, and their contact information can be found at <https://www.ilga.gov/senate/>.

Library Selection Criteria

District 303 wanted to inform the community of its selection process for materials in school LRCs, which aligns with guidelines set forth by the American Library Association. School library staff give the due diligence of reviewing each piece of material to determine whether it is suitable for students at each grade level.

Criteria for selection includes:

- Appropriateness in subject area for the age and learning style
- Incorporation of accurate and factual content
- Favorable reviews or recommendations based on professional review
- Exhibit high degree of user interest
- Representation of different viewpoints and diverse perspectives
- A variety of content formats

Data Dashboard

Administration has worked with the Board to establish a routine summary on the health of District 303 through a Data Dashboard. This chart, which will be updated monthly on the District [website](#), provides an overview of nine important measurements in the categories of Academics, Operations and Belonging.



ACADEMICS



74%
of 3rd graders are reading on grade level
Percent of students on or above grade level on iReady

Winter 2022

- Mid or above grade level (42%)
- Early on grade level (32%)
- Below grade level (26%)

Source: iReady by Trimester



XX%
of 8th graders are on track to pass Algebra I
Percent of students with a C or higher

Pending grades from Quarter 2

Source: Quarterly Grades



XX%
of 9th graders are on track to graduate
Percent of students who have no more than 1 F in core class

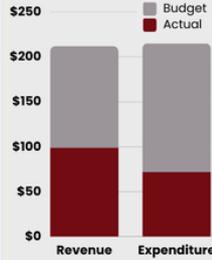
Pending grades for Semester 1

Source: Quarterly Grades

OPERATIONS

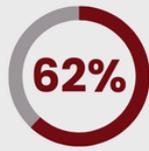
Budget to Actuals

in Millions (YTD 11/2022)



Operating Cash Balance

YTD 11/2022



Percentage of budgeted revenues

Source: Monthly Treasurer's Report



32,693

active devices connected to District network

Network Uptime

During Instructional Time 12/2022



Does not include any power outages, maintenance from third-party providers

Source: Intrusion Detection and Prevention



2.1 M

total square feet of facilities

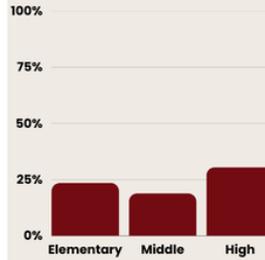
Facility Access



Availability of classrooms and facilities District-wide

Source: Wolf Architects and Engineers

BELONGING



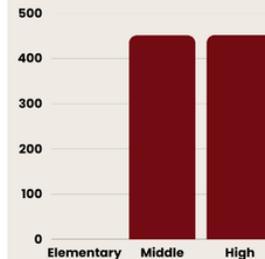
Attendance

YTD 12/2022

Percent of students who have missed 10%* or more of school for any reason, whether excused or unexcused

*YTD 8.4 days or more

Source: Daily Attendance



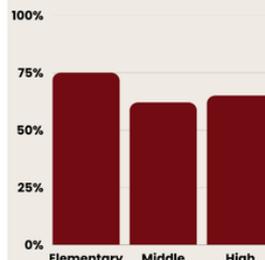
Discipline Referrals

Total YTD 12/2022

Incidents that disrupt the school day or learning environment by impacting others' sense of belonging and safety

Discipline referrals are not available at the elementary level at this time.

Source: Monthly eSchool Reports



Sense of Belonging

Fall 2022

Percent of positive student responses to SEL survey by Panorama (when scored 3.5 or higher on 1-5 scale)

Compared to National Sample
Elementary: 90th percentile
Middle: 99th percentile
High: 99th percentile

Source: Biannual Panorama SEL survey

Reports to Board

Listen Learn Return Update

The Board was presented with action steps for the **Operations Theme**, one of four prominent themes that emerged from its Listen Learn Return sessions. Overall, Operations Theme feedback expressed concerns about class and building sizes and overcrowding. These action steps follow three stages of development:

1. Public feedback
2. Current data and planning
3. Future plans and needs assessment



In recent months, the District has been focused on operations through its Facility Master Plan and Board-approved guiding principles that identify facility improvement priorities. In the coming weeks, the District will receive an enrollment and capacity study from RSP and Associates, which will further guide this work. This information will be presented at the Return meetings scheduled for **February 1**.

Moving forward, District administration will continue to provide updates on action steps from the other prominent themes that emerged from participant feedback (administration, staff, and student

services) when they become available. Additional feedback from the surveys, along with details on the process, participant demographic information and return meeting dates can be found on the Listen Learn Return [website](#).

View Listen Learn Return Presentation

Superintendent Committee Updates

The **Strategic Plan Development Committee** and **Equity Committee** did not meet in December and will resume their work in January.

Board Committee Updates

No Board committee meetings were held in December. The next committee meetings are scheduled for:

- **Learning & Teaching:** January 17
- **Business Services:** January 30
- **Policy:** January 30

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0.

The consent agenda includes items such as:

- Minutes from previous committee meetings
- Personnel Reports
- List of Bills, Treasurer's Report, and Payroll
- Gifts and Donations
- Mid Valley Contracts

[View full list and details on BoardDocs](#)

For Information

Informational reports are typically provided monthly to the Board. There is no action taken.

Topics for information included:

- District 303 Financial Report
- Mid Valley Financial Report
- FOIA Requests
- District Enrollment

New Business

An opportunity for Board members to bring up items that they would like to discuss at a future Board or committee meeting.

- No new business

BoardDocs

Agendas and meeting minutes from the School Board meetings are accessible online via BoardDocs.



Community Unit School District 303



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