

COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Learning for Life

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89 update

A PUBLICATION OF DISTRICT 89

SERVING GLEN ELLYN, LOMBARD AND WHEATON

Achievement and Finances Highlight School Year

Another exciting year in School District 89 is coming to a close, and we once again have many reasons to celebrate. Students excelled this year on standardized measures, the District's financial practices were recognized with a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 13th consecutive year, and satisfaction surveys given to parents, teachers and students showed strong marks in many areas.

The year also marked the continuation of a community-wide discussion about the future of District 89 and how declining financial resources are impacting the staff's ability to reach and teach a student population that is growing in diversity and in learning needs. Board of Education discussions about a possible tax rate increase have been ongoing since 2008. During the last three years, more than \$2.5 million in reductions and efficiencies have been implemented, along with managing state funding cuts. In spite of these budget changes, fund reserves are diminishing. The district has reached a point where the reductions are beginning to threaten the quality of the educational program offered to the community's children.

The Board continues to discuss projection data, educational needs and financial impacts for a voted referendum question tentatively planned for the spring of 2013. In researching the District's referendum history, an interesting news article from 1987 was found which included a quote from a Board of Education member at that time. Shortly after District

89's last successful tax rate referendum (November, 1986), Board Member Sandra Wondolowski spoke about the length of time the Board hoped to operate before the next request came before voters.

request will be occurring in the coming months. Information will continue to be available in periodic newsletters, on our web site, and through other electronic messaging. If you do not currently receive

"We just went to the taxpayers last year and told them that hopefully we would be able to go another eight years without asking for another tax increase."

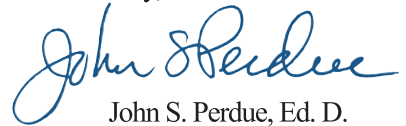
-Sandra Wondolowski, D89 Board Member; Chicago Tribune, 10/15/87

If the Board moves forward with a 2013 voted question, it will have been 27 years since the last tax rate referendum. All peer districts within the Glenbard feeder system have increased tax rates at least once during this time frame. District 89's ability to live within its means while offering an outstanding educational program for 27 years is a testament to the Board's insistence that education is delivered in the most cost-effective manner possible.

Important Board decisions regarding the level of rate increase

email updates from District 89, please contact the district office at (630) 469-8900 and provide an email address that can be added to our E-News list. You may also sign up to receive emails through the District 89 web site (www.ccsd89.org) through the E-News link in the orange section of the home page.

Sincerely,



John S. Perdue, Ed. D.
Superintendent

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Glenbard Feeder System Operating Referenda History

School District Name	Successful Operating Rate Referenda
Marquardt #15	2003 (.67)
Queen Bee #16	1993 (.30)
	2003 (.46)
Glen Ellyn #41	1988 (N/A)
	2001 (.55)
Lombard #44	2004 (.50)
Carol Stream #93	2004 (.93)
CCSD #89	1986 (.42)

SPRING 2012

Board of Education Moves Forward with 2013 Referendum Planning

District 89 has a long history of good financial stewardship. During these years, the District has also managed deficits amidst state funding cuts and escalating operational costs. The district's Community Finance Committee met for 18 months, and reviewed district revenues and expenses. They concluded that an operating rate referendum was needed in the District's near future. In April, a review of District finances was presented, and it was reported that without a referendum or additional sweeping cuts, the District's fund balance would decrease by an average of about 5.5% per year over the next decade. Expensive short-term borrowing would become a necessity by 2016-2017, and by 2020-2021 the District would have exhausted all of its reserves.

Two community forums were held in the fall of 2011. The majority of those who attended said they would like District 89 to regain a position of financial stability and to:

- Remain current in technology and technology-based instructional materials
- Maintain current programs for ALL learners
- Increase the school day to enhance learning outcomes for all students.

These three guiding initiatives have formed the framework for a proposed education rate increase question. The Board has indicated that new revenues should allow for the following:

- professional development
- new teacher mentoring
- maintaining a technology replacement plan
- bandwidth improvements
- a longer school day by 30 minutes,
- science instructional materials and the equivalence of one full time elementary science teacher
- restoring transportation funding for educational field trips
- textbook replacements.

Referendum discussions will continue throughout the summer months, with a final recommendation and board vote expected in the fall of this year.

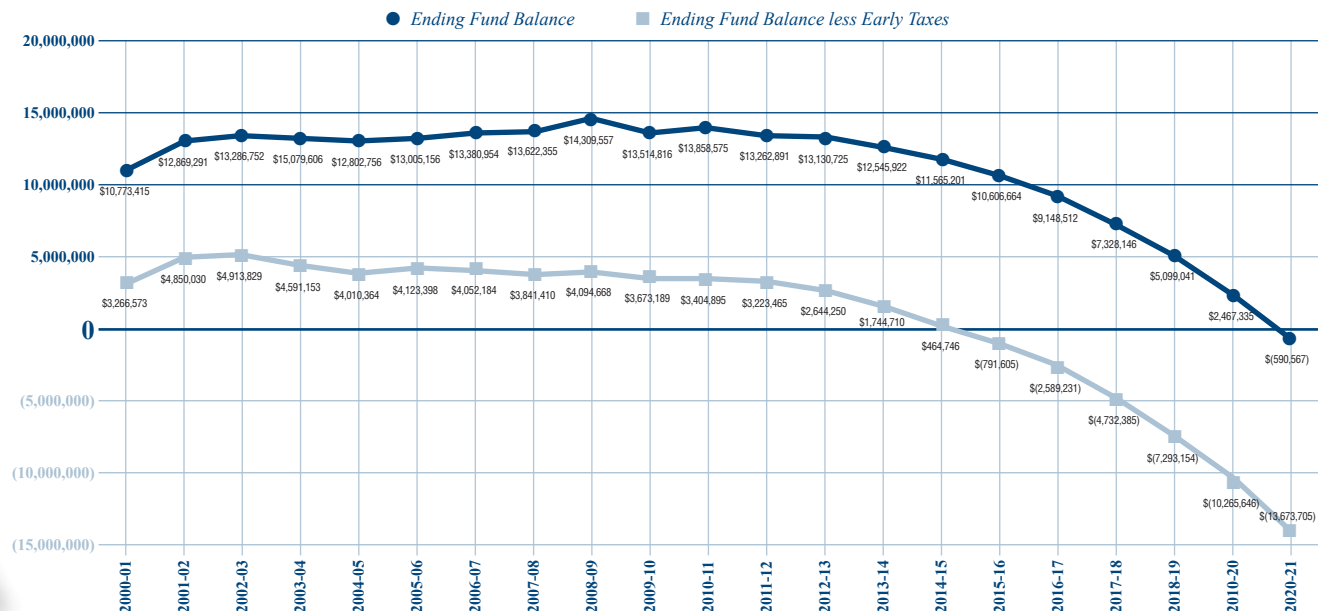
Reductions and Efficiencies 2009-2010 through 2011-2012

Area	Percent Reduction	Cost Savings
Administrative Staff	20%	\$268,800
Secretarial Staff	52%	\$189,490
Support Staff	20%	\$227,699
Custodial Staff	8.40%	\$77,500
Certified Staff	4.50%	\$491,430
Other Staff Changes (substitutes, vacations, overtime, attrition)		\$623,663
Other Reductions (supplies/materials, staff development, field trips, software, joint purchasing program)		\$286,306
Efficiencies (renegotiated custodial, food service and transportation contracts, energy conservation)		\$329,415
TOTAL		\$2,519,303

Fund Balance History and Projection

Base Model – 2000-2001 through 2020-2021

End of Year Fund Balance vs. EOY Fund Balance less Early Taxes



New Math Series Supports Common Core Standards

Beginning next year, students in grades K-5 will be learning math from a new textbook series called “enVisions Math” by Pearson. The series, which is aligned with the Common Core Standards for Math, features both text and digital materials.

The new textbook series adoption is part of District 89’s transition toward new learning standards that the State of Illinois adopted in 2010. According to Assistant Superintendent for Learning, Dr. Emily Tammaru, the Common Core Standards are more rigorous, and allow for a deeper learning experience than was offered through the previous Illinois Learning Standards. “We are aligning our curriculum to these new standards. In math the changes should lead to a more thorough understanding of subject matter for students,” she said.

The District 89 math committee evaluated numerous different materials and math series. They analyzed them using a national rubric, and piloted two series. After the review process, the decision to recommend “enVisions Math” for adoption was unanimous. According to Tammaru, the program incorporates strong mathematical practices while also requiring students to apply their knowledge to real world situations. “The program has a high level of rigor and will prepare D89 students for success in their future,” Tammaru said.

Teachers will receive professional training to ensure a smooth transition to the new series. In the fall of 2012, parents will be invited to attend a parent workshop that will provide an overview of the program.

Students from Jude Locke’s 4th grade class at Arbor View Elementary School participate in a differentiated learning center as part of a lesson from the new envision Math series.



Westfield Second Grader Adia McGee shares her heritage with Assistant Superintendent for Learning Dr. Emily Tammaru at the Westfield Cultural Fair.

Carolyn Kouwe Chosen as Glen Ellyn Chamber’s Outstanding Educator

The Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce recently honored Park View Learning Media Center Director Carolyn Kouwe as their 2012 Outstanding Educator of the Year.

Park View Interim Principals Kevin Diehl and Dr. Jackie Strum both applauded Kouwe’s efforts with students in the K-5 building and said she exemplifies what it means to be a gifted educator. They pointed to her daily interaction with students, her ability to assist them in selecting appropriate level books, teaching library skills required by district standards and expectations, analyzing Common Core Standards to best identify areas where the library can support learning with new resources, and mentoring the struggling learner, provides invaluable support to the teachers. Carolyn aligns LMC events with classroom activities, always anticipating the needs of students and staff alike. Park View School is fortunate having Carolyn’s willingness to work with the PTC organization and serve on many school and district-wide committees. She stays current on relevant research, and as a member of the District Technology Team, enthusiastically provides staff training and support where needed.



Park View LMC Director Carolyn Kouwe receives an Outstanding Educator of the Year award at a recent Glen Ellyn Chamber event.

State Legislators Considering Significant Changes to Transportation Reimbursement and Pension Funding

School Districts across Illinois are watching the budget process in Springfield very closely this year. As legislators work to formulate a budget for fiscal year 2013, there is talk of reducing or even eliminating important reimbursement funds for transporting students to and from school on buses. Discussions about shifting part of the State's pension obligation to local school districts are also taking place.

District 89 is legally required to offer transportation to students who live more than 1.5 miles from their school or who would have to cross a hazardous crossing to get to school. Last year, District 89 negotiated a 28% reduction in busing costs through a collabora-

tive bidding process with neighboring School Districts 16, 41 and 87. Through this partnership, an efficiency of scale was realized by all four districts, and District 89's base busing costs reduced by \$216,653.

In light of the State's financial problems, the Illinois State Board of Education is looking at changing the formula that is used to calculate a school district's reimbursement for busing students to and from school. If approved, the change would pave the way for state legislators to make further cuts or completely eliminate transportation reimbursement payments to school districts.

Over the last two years, transportation payments from the State

have been decreased by 25%. It has been reported in Springfield that the total amount of funding that will be made available for reimbursement in Fiscal Year 3013 will be further reduced. In fact, the Governor's budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2013 would reduce the appropriation for transportation reimbursement by 42% as compared to the fiscal year 2010 amount.

A proposal in Springfield to shift part of the State's pension obligation to local school districts is also receiving a lot of attention. It appears that Governor Pat Quinn, Senate President John Cullerton, and House Speaker Mike Madigan are all in favor of shifting approximately 1/3 of the

total pension liability to the budgets of local school districts. Discussions are ongoing about whether the shift should be phased in or implemented all at once. This shift would have devastating consequences for school districts. In District 89, absorbing 1/3 of the pension liability would translate to approximately \$900,000 per year in additional expenses that would have to be absorbed at the local level.

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