

## Superintendent: We are excited to start another great school year in CCSD 89

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year!

Every staff member at Community Consolidated School District 89 is incredibly excited to start this year's educational adventure. We can't wait for the doors to open on the first day as students greet old friends, meet new friends, and take on this year's challenges. We can't wait for our classrooms to be filled with the learning and laughter that makes our work so rewarding.

As many of you know, 2023-24 was my first year as superintendent of this district.

The last 12 months have been a joyous whirlwind. I loved building relationships with students, staff members, and families across the district.

I had so many amazing experiences in our district, including reading to elementary school students, serving as the scorer for middle-school volleyball games, and listening to amazing musical performances.

Everywhere I went, I saw students actively engaged in their learning, staff members who supported their development, and families who showed up to support our schools. This is truly a special place to work. I am grateful for the opportunity and support.

Our team also took on some big challenges last year.

The elementary teaching staff implemented a new curricular reading resource "Into

Reading", a rigorous that challenged students to read and write with confidence. We saw some very promising results during the first year. We will pilot a companion reading resource - "Into Literature" - at the middle school this year.

In 2023-24, Northwestern's Center for Talent Development began a comprehensive review of our gifted and advanced learning supports across the district. The results were presented at our June board meeting and we plan on starting to work on those recommendations during this school year, starting with defining our purpose.

We also deepened our partnership with the staff at Glenbard South High School so that our students can have the best possible transition to secondary education.

Finally, this was the second consecutive summer of major summer construction at our schools. I would like to thank our community for their patience with the work.

This summer, we were able to complete major work at all five schools, including lighting, and heating and air conditioning work at Briar Glen; new parking lots at Arbor View and Glen Crest; and a new kitchen at Glen Crest. (see page 2 for more information) Because of your support, our students will learn in buildings that are safer, healthier, and more energy-efficient.



**Doug Eccarius**  
Superintendent

These are some of the "big" projects we tackled last year but I don't want to lose sight of the sometimes-unnoticed victories we see every day: The girl who read her first chapter book; the student tried out for a new sports team or joined a new club; the boy who played the violin for the first time.

These are the sorts of 'small' accomplishments that are life-changing for the student who makes a discovery about their potential. Every member of this community is a part of making those pivotal moments possible.

As we look ahead to this year, our staff will be having discussions about ways to further reduce bullying and develop empathy. We will also be looking at ways to decrease the distractions associated with smart devices.

Our focus for the year will center on "being intentional" with our work. I will challenge the staff to break out of routines and ask: how can we take intentional steps to make the learning environment the best it can be for each student, each day?

I hope this is something that you can discuss in your home as well. How are your students making intentional choices with their learning and social-emotional development?

As we return to school, it is a time of joy and inspiration. I can't thank you enough for all do to support students and each other. Please join us for a great school year!

Sincerely,  
Doug Eccarius  
Superintendent

## Be prepared: Make sure your student is ready for the 2024-25 school year!

### School calendar

The first day of school for students will be Wednesday, August 21!

The first day is about one week later than previous years due to construction. See the 2024-25 calendar at [www.ccsd89.org/2425calendar](http://www.ccsd89.org/2425calendar)



### School supply lists

The school supply lists for the middle school, four elementary schools, and the CCSD 89 preschool are available at: [www.ccsd89.org/supplies](http://www.ccsd89.org/supplies)



### Get registered

Did you just move to the CCSD 89 community? Make sure your student is registered for the 2024-25 school year! Get started and see what documents you need at [www.ccsd89.org/register](http://www.ccsd89.org/register)



### School hours

The school day at Glen Crest Middle School is 7:50 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.

The school day for elementary school students is 8:50 a.m. to 3:35 p.m. Preschool hours are 8:30 to 11:10 a.m., 12:30 to 3:10 p.m.



### Health forms

Glen Crest athletes and students entering pre-school, kindergarten, second grade, or sixth grade should submit health forms. Make sure you know what is needed: [www.ccsd89.org/health](http://www.ccsd89.org/health)



### Lunch information

Find lunch menus for your school, nutrition information, and the forms to apply for free- and reduced lunch at [www.ccsd89.org/lunch](http://www.ccsd89.org/lunch)



# CCSD 89 AT A GLANCE

**2,199**  
STUDENTS

**22%**  
LOW INCOME

**10%**  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
LEARNERS



**FIVE**  
SCHOOLS

ALL NAMED  
COMMENDABLE OR  
EXEMPLARY  
BY STATE OF ILLINOIS

## HIGH ACHIEVEMENT, ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES

Percent of CCSD 89 students  
above national 50th percentile

Grade	Math	Reading
1st	77%	70%
2nd	87%	77%
3rd	89%	74%
4th	78%	68%
5th	73%	72%
6th	71%	68%
7th	77%	68%
8th	76%	67%



**Glen Crest Middle School**  
Advanced art  
Advanced culinary  
App creation  
Entrepreneurship  
Graphic design and digital media  
Performing arts/drama  
Robotics  
Voice composition

**16 CLUBS**  
**12 ATHLETIC TEAMS**

**54%** OF STUDENTS COMPLETED  
A HIGH-SCHOOL-LEVEL MATH  
CLASS WHILE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

## EXCELLENT TEACHERS

### ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Fiscal responsibility:** The Association of School Business Officials awarded CCSD 89 the Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the organization's highest honor for transparency and integrity. This is the 24th consecutive year the district has earned the ASBO Certificate of Excellence.
- **Reading resources:** The district implemented the "Into Reading" elementary reading resource to provide standards-based, flexible, and innovative learning experiences built on best teaching practices and educational research.
- **Excellent governance:** The CCSD 89 Board of Education earned the "School Board Governance Recognition" to highlight the Board's commitment to effective governance through participation in board development programs. The recognition honors school boards that have a full-board commitment to obtaining the knowledge, skills, and abilities critical to good governance.



**149**  
TEACHERS

**66%**  
HAVE A MASTER'S  
DEGREE OR HIGHER

## CCSD 89 summer construction schedule – 2024 update

In June of 2022, more than 71 percent of the voters supported a school district proposal to complete essential health, safety, and accessibility projects in CCSD 89 schools. Significant construction was completed in the summer of 2023.

Crews will begin 2024 work on the last day of the school year. This is a summary of major projects at each school.

🔵 Work completed in summer of 2023

🟢 Work scheduled for summer 2024

🟡 Potential future work

### ARBOR VIEW

#### 2023 work:

- 🔵 Replace multiple heating, ventilation, and air conditioning rooftop units; add one rooftop unit
- 🔵 Replace coal tar/asphalt roof with rubber roof
- 🔵 Relocate and redesign the school's main entrance
- 🔵 Replace boilers that provide heat to school
- 🔵 Replace/repair deteriorated exterior, interior doors
- 🔵 Replace ceilings, lights, wheelchair lift, cafeteria tables
- 🔵 Replace phone system



#### Future work:

- 🟢 Replace parking lot, bus lane, blacktop
- 🟢 Repair storm drain, sidewalks
- 🟡 Remodel kitchen

### BRIAR GLEN



#### 2023 work:

- 🔵 Replace phone system
- 🔵 Redesign school's main entrance

#### Future work:

- 🟢 Replace heating/air conditioning air handlers
- 🟢 Replace boilers and chillers
- 🟢 Replace exterior windows, exterior doors
- 🟢 Replace ceilings, floors, lights, cafeteria tables
- 🟢 Replace fire alarm system
- 🟡 Replace playground blacktop
- 🟡 Remodel kitchen
- 🟡 Replace parking lot, deteriorated sidewalks

### GLEN CREST

#### 2023 work:

- 🔵 Redesign and relocate the school's main entrance
- 🔵 Replace multiple heating, ventilation, and air conditioning rooftop units
- 🔵 Replace coal tar/asphalt roof with rubber roof
- 🔵 Replace deteriorated exterior doors
- 🔵 Install new wheelchair lift
- 🔵 Replace boilers that provide hot water to school
- 🔵 Replace phone system



#### Future work:

- 🟢 Replace parking lot, re-seal blacktop
- 🟢 Repair sidewalks, rails, steps at entrances
- 🟢 Replace water main to building
- 🟢 Remodel kitchen

### PARK VIEW

#### 2023 work:

- 🔵 Replace multiple heating, ventilation, and air conditioning rooftop units
- 🔵 Replace deteriorated doors, windows
- 🔵 Replace phone system
- 🔵 Replace ceilings and lights
- 🔵 Replace skylight

**Note:** 2024 summer school will take place at Park View.



#### Future work:

- 🟢 Re-seal parking lot
- 🟡 Remodel kitchen
- 🟡 Remove berms behind school
- 🟡 Replace storm drain

### WESTFIELD

#### 2023 work:

- 🔵 Replace two heating, ventilation, and air conditioning rooftop units and one rooftop chiller
- 🔵 Replace coal tar/asphalt roof with rubber roof
- 🔵 Replace deteriorated doors, windows
- 🔵 Replace phone system
- 🔵 Replace ceilings and lights



#### Future work:

- 🟢 Replace blacktop play area
- 🟢 Re-seal parking lot
- 🟡 Remodel kitchen

*Note: Future work may be re-evaluated based on construction costs.*

## Student musicians earn high ratings at middle school solo/ensemble contest

Twenty seven CCSD 89 musicians were recognized for outstanding musical performances at the Illinois Grade School Music Association solo and ensemble contest.

### First-place solos: Division I rating - perfect score

Grace Williamson (violin) fifth grade  
Mila Fousias (piano) sixth grade  
Matthew Park (cello) seventh grade  
Madelyn Govertsen (viola) eighth grade  
Micah Williamson (cello) eighth grade

### First-place solos: Division I rating

Hope Loney (cello) fifth grade  
Myles Clarin (saxophone) sixth grade  
Caleb Edwards (French Horn) sixth grade  
Olivia Loftsgaarden (flute) sixth grade  
Lilah Moore (cello) sixth grade  
Julia Ricci (clarinet) sixth grade

Elena Rubinas (percussion) sixth grade  
Sam Bailey (French Horn) seventh grade  
Vaughn Barbalic (cello) seventh grade  
Kayla Curran (flute) seventh grade  
Sofia Galetta (flute) seventh grade  
Layla Jones (trombone) seventh grade  
Caroline Sarther (flute) seventh grade  
Henrik Torling (clarinet) seventh grade  
Zoey Poi (viola) seventh grade  
Joude Bounama (clarinet) eighth grade  
Charlotte Edwards (trumpet) eighth grade  
Nora Martinez (clarinet) eighth grade  
Sam Parayno (percussion) eighth grade

grade  
Logan Sassi (cello) eighth grade

### First-place ensembles: Division I rating

Caleb Edwards and Carter Killackey (French Horn duet) sixth grade

### Second-place ensembles: Division II rating

Icy Apura and Zoey Poi (French Horn duet)



## Eighth-grade girls basketball completes undefeated regular, tournament season

The Glen Crest eighth-grade girls basketball team completed an undefeated season by winning the DuPage Metro Valley Association Conference tournament. The team finished the season with 19 wins and zero losses.

Glen Crest coach Danny Sheridan admired how each player knew their role on the team and that commitment elevated the entire team. The team also had a deep bench; reserves were able to get significant minutes

throughout the season, including the championship game.

"They really just genuinely enjoyed each other's success and played for each other," Sheridan said.

Members of the eighth-grade girls basketball team were: Julia Alcala, Alexis Baygood, Paige Bogue, Molly Clarin, Emma Eirich, Erin Fitzgerald, Bella Herbert, Cailin Kiley, Lilly Pagano, Aleksa Svarogina, Aspen Usalis, and Kaylie Zeman.

## Athletes earn medals at Special Olympics

Four Glen Crest student-athletes earned medals at the Special Olympics track and field meet held in April:

- **Srisharan Burra:** second place in the 50-meter dash, third place in softball throw
- **Quinn Ruden:** third place in the 50-meter dash, sixth place in softball throw
- **John Scheer:** first place in the 50-meter dash, fifth place in softball throw
- **Jason Stephens:** fourth place

in the 50-meter dash, sixth place in tennis ball throw  
Glen Crest students Michael Benjamin and Maya Fousias also trained with the Special Olympics team.

Glen Crest physical education teacher Kelly Nordlund worked with the athletes for several weeks to prepare for the meet.

"It's such a great day, and I feel so lucky to be a part of it," Nordlund said. "You can't stop smiling the whole day."

## Volleyball: seventh-grade boys are champs

The Glen Crest seventh-grade boys volleyball team was DuPage Metro Valley Association Conference champions after finishing the season with a 9-1 conference record.

Glen Crest head coach Caroline Stauber said the team was solid in all aspects of the game.

"There wasn't one thing that they couldn't do at a high level," Stauber said. "They always pushed each other to get better and they really worked well together as a team."

Stauber was especially impressed because many of the boys had never played volleyball outside of PE classes or backyard games before this season.

Members of the team were: Nihal Bellamkonda, Charlie Benes, Ryan Breault, William Gantar, Leo Garcia, Owen Hopkins, Alexander Ivanov, Chris Karr, Anthony Molina Flores, Samuel OBrill, Vaughn Schmidt, Nic Siguenza, Owen Stauber, Tyler Urbanowicz, Leo Vicens-Nolasco, and manager Noah Felman.

## 27 Glen Crest athletes earn conference championships at track and field meet

Twenty Glen Crest students earned individual or relay championships at the DuPage Metro Valley Association Conference track-and-field meet. The eighth-grade boys finished first as a team. The following students earned conference championships:

### 8th grade boys

Anthony Baldauf – long jump (19 feet)  
Elijah Donahue – 100 meters (11.78 seconds)  
Vincent Gary Jr. – 110-meter high hurdles (16.84 seconds)  
Alan Pikul – high jump (6-foot-1)  
Giancarlo Pietrasanta – 800 meters (2 minutes, 17 seconds)

Evan Rubinas – 1600 meters (5 minutes, 8 seconds)  
Gary Jr., Elijah Donahue, Owen Martinez, Baldauf – 4x100 relay (49.37 seconds)  
Pikul, Gary Jr., Baldauf, Donahue – 4x200 relay (1 minute, 44 seconds)  
Rubinas, Patrick O'Reilly, Daniel Alcala, Pietrasanta – 4x400 relay (4 minutes, 5 seconds)

### 8th grade girls

Ellie Konzelman – discus (78 feet, 7 inches)  
Alivia Perez Allen – shot put (24 feet, 5 inches)  
Mia Siguenza – 1600 meters (5 minutes, 53 seconds)

### 7th grade boys

Andrew Woods – 1600 meters (5 minutes, 26 seconds)  
Logan Yates – 110 meter hurdles (19.02 seconds)

### 7th grade girls

Amelia Kendra – 1600 meters (6 minutes, 12 seconds)  
Megan Littman – 110 meter hurdles (19.54 seconds)  
Ashlyn Johnson, Amelia Kendra, Estelle Eltigani, Sara Jakobsze – 4x400 relay (4 minutes, 45 seconds)

## Many families can track student bus travel with app

Many CCSD 89 families will be able to track their student's bus trips to and from school through a free busing app.

Parents can download the FirstView app. The app can show an estimated number of minutes until the bus arrives at a bus stop, and when a bus arrives at school. Families can also set the app to send out customized alerts when the bus is a certain distance or number of minutes away from their child's bus stop.

The app only works for students riding First Student buses. It is not available for special education (Hopewell) transportation, early or late buses, or student field trips.

Learn more: [www.ccsd89.org/busapp](http://www.ccsd89.org/busapp)



## Before- and after-school care for elementary students

CCSD 89 partners with organizations to provide before- and after-school programs for elementary school students. The Butterfield Park District (ReckKids) and the B.R. Ryall YMCA (Safe 'n Sound) both run programs in CCSD 89 schools. More information on both programs is at [www.ccsd89.org/beforeafter](http://www.ccsd89.org/beforeafter)

Families should contact the Butterfield Park District and B.R. Ryall YMCA directly with questions about those programs.



## Registration for 2025-26: preschool expected to open in January, kindergarten in February

Families interested in having their student attend tuition preschool in the 2025-26 school year will begin registration in January 2025. Families will need to provide an original birth certificate and proof of residency to be placed in a lottery for pre-school openings. Families not selected in the lottery are put on a waitlist.

Registration for kindergarten students who will be new to the district in the 2025-26 school year is expected to open in February 2025. All new students will also have to provide an original birth certificate and prove residency.

More information about registration will be posted on the district's website ([www.ccsd89.org](http://www.ccsd89.org)) in December.

Registration for returning students is expected to open in April 2025.



## Board will consider e-learning option for emergency days

CCSD 89 could have more options for how to continue learning when extreme weather keeps buildings closed. At 7 p.m. on August 19, the Board of Education will hold a public hearing to review and adopt an e-learning program for the 2024-27 school years. If approved, the e-learning plan will give the district the option to use e-learning (online learning) in place of in-person learning on emergency days.

### About e-learning

If the Board supports the district applying for an e-learning certificate, it would give CCSD 89 the option to hold classes online when the schools are closed due to an emergency. It would not mandate the use of e-learning.

When extreme weather is anticipated, the superintendent would consider several factors to determine if schools should be open, closed, or e-learning. E-learning days would apply to all of the district or none of the district -- not for individual students. E-learning can help families manage the school-year calendar while still providing consistent educational opportunities to students.

In a survey taken in February, 68 percent of parents and 76 percent of staff supported the district having an e-learning option in place. The final plan was developed with input from CCSD 89 staff.

If the Board approves the three-year e-learning plan, it will be in place during the 2024-25 school year.

The district will send out a notice if the schools are closed. If there is no notice posted, schools are open on a regular schedule. In an emergency, you will be contacted at the phone number and email address on file with the school, so it is important that the school has current contact information.

Learn more: [www.ccsd89.org/weather](http://www.ccsd89.org/weather)

## Community can donate blood on August 28 at Glen Crest

Community members are invited to donate during the next blood drive at Glen Crest Middle School, 2 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 28. Appointments are honored first. Blood donation is a simple four-step process: registration, medical history, donation, and refreshments. The entire process, from arrival to exit, takes about an hour.

The next Glen Crest blood drive is scheduled for November 6. Register or learn more about blood donation at [www.ccsd89.org/blood](http://www.ccsd89.org/blood)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG  
19

### Staff returns to buildings

All CCSD 89 staff members will start the 2024-25 school year with two days of planning meetings

AUG  
19

### Board of Education meeting

Administrative Center  
22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn  
7 p.m.

AUG  
21

### First day of the school year!

Welcome back! Students will start the 2024-25 school year on Wednesday, August 21

AUG  
28

### Blood drive at Glen Crest

Community invited to donate blood at Glen Crest Middle School  
2-6:30 p.m.

SEPT  
2

### No school

All CCSD 89 schools closed for Labor Day. All schools will re-open a normal schedule on Tuesday, September 3.

SEPT  
7

### Tentative Board of Ed workshop

Administrative Center  
22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn  
8 a.m.

SEPT  
13

### Preschool screenings

Health and school screening for students not yet enrolled in CCSD 89. Appointment: (630) 545-3300

SEPT  
23

### Board of Education meeting

Administrative Center  
22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn  
7 p.m.

OCT  
10

### Evening conferences

All CCSD 89 schools will hold evening conferences. Principals will share info on scheduling a conference.

OCT  
11

### No school

All CCSD 89 schools will hold conferences. Principals will share info on scheduling a conference.

OCT  
14

### No school

All CCSD 89 schools will be closed for Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day. School resumes October 15.

OCT  
21

### Board of Education meeting

Administrative Center  
22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn  
7 p.m.

Go to [www.ccsd89.org/calendar](http://www.ccsd89.org/calendar) for the latest information or to download the 2024-25 school year calendar

# Student spotlight: 2024-25 Student Board Members: Emma Waldbusser and Brooke Wills

Two outstanding young leaders were selected as the next Student Representatives to the CCSD 89 Board of Education. Eighth-grade students Emma Waldbusser and Brooke Wills will begin their one-year term in August.

Waldbusser and Wills will represent their classmates at the monthly Board meetings. Student Board Members do not vote at meetings; they report on the celebrations and challenges of CCSD 89 students. Student Board Members also often organize initiatives involving other students.

## Emma Waldbusser

Even when she was a student at Park View Elementary, Emma Waldbusser was already interested in the Student Board Member program. Now that her opportunity has arrived, the 13-year-old views this position as a unique opportunity to represent students while also helping her classmates learn more about their district.

"I've always wanted to help," she said. "I've looked up to our Student Board Members and I think it's a great program."

At Glen Crest, Waldbusser has been involved in Builders Club, cheerleading, choir, cross country, orchestra, Student Leadership Coalition, and track and field. Outside of school, Waldbusser plays travel softball and is active in her church's youth groups.

Glen Crest literacy teacher Meghan Riley said Waldbusser stands out for her thoughtfulness in her academic work and personal relationships.



"Whether it is going the extra mile to help a struggling classmate or checking in with me to see how I'm doing, she consistently demonstrates a deep sense of empathy and care for those around her," Riley said.

When she gets older, Waldbusser would like to be a pediatric nurse.

## Brooke Wills

Brooke Wills believes the Student Board Member position is an opportunity to develop her leadership and public skills. But most of all, she sees this as a chance to give a voice to all CCSD 89 students, from kindergarten to eighth grade.

"I have always been outgoing and good with talking to people, especially adults," Wills wrote in her student board application. "I would love to put that to use and be helpful to the district."

Glen Crest science teacher Maggie Moran praised Wills' kindness and inclusivity. Wills is a friend to everyone she meets, Moran said.

"Brooke demonstrates exceptional integrity and moral courage, standing up for what is right even when it is not the popular choice," Moran wrote. "Her principled stand and ability to lead by example inspire those around her."

Outside of school, Wills, 13, is heavily involved in travel softball – both as a player and mentor to younger players. She also volunteers at an animal rescue and babysits for other families. She was a student patrol member at Westfield Elementary School.

As an adult, Wills would like to be a counselor or therapist who works with children.



*Note: In order to reduce costs, CCSD 89 mails its publications by postal routes. This means a few individuals who are not in the district's attendance areas may receive this newsletter.*

Stay connected with CCSD 89!

X (Twitter): @CCSD89

facebook.com/CCSD89

youtube.com/@CCSD89

Postal Customer  
\*\*ECRWSS\*\*

- www.ccstd89.org  
22W600 Butterfield Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
(630) 469-8900  
**CCSD 89 schools**  
**Arbor View School**  
22W430 Ironwood Drive, Glen Ellyn, IL  
(630) 469-5505 [www.ccstd89.org/orborview](http://www.ccstd89.org/orborview)  
**Briar Glen School**  
1800 Briarcliffe Blvd., Wheaton, IL  
(630) 545-3300 [www.ccstd89.org/briarglen](http://www.ccstd89.org/briarglen)  
**Park View School**  
250 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL  
(630) 858-1600 [www.ccstd89.org/parkview](http://www.ccstd89.org/parkview)  
**Westfield School**  
25125 Mayfield Lane, Glen Ellyn, IL  
(630) 858-2770 [www.ccstd89.org/westfield](http://www.ccstd89.org/westfield)  
**Glen Crest Middle School**  
725 Sheehan Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL  
(630) 469-5220 [www.ccstd89.org/glencrest](http://www.ccstd89.org/glencrest)



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