

December 17, 2018

CCSD 89 families:

Whether you're dreading it or celebrating it, I'm sure almost everyone in your house is aware there are only four more school days until winter break. During those two weeks away from school, I hope your family will have time to relax and reflect.

In our house, we have an end-of-year tradition of gathering as a family to watch a holiday movie, then talking about the year's highs and lows. It's awesome to celebrate my sons' successes and great to hear the strategies they are using to overcome their challenges.

Parents often ask how they can get their kids to say more than "fine" about their school day. This time of the year - with the calendar rolling over and students out of school - is a good chance to practice.

Ask your child: what were their highlights from this year? And what did they struggle with? Then, pick one of those struggles and discuss how the whole family can set a goal to help the child find greater success. It can also help if you are open to sharing your own successes and struggles. It gives your kids a model to follow.

Remember: the conversation is what's valuable. You are helping your kids practice self-reflection – a life skill they are just beginning to develop. Some conversations will be richer than others. But the more you practice, the more it will become an independent habit for your children. And, no matter what, your kids will feel validated because you are taking them and their concerns seriously.

The professional highlight of my year was the time I spent with your children and your families. As we close out 2018, I would like to thank all of the people who make Community Consolidated School District 89 a great place to learn.

I hope you enjoy a happy and relaxing break! We will see your students again on January 7.

Here are some important reminders:

### **Thank you for your gift card donations!**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated to the district's annual gift-card collection. CCSD 89 families donated an incredible \$9,180 in gift cards this year. Your generosity is going to make a huge difference for the more than 200 families in our district who are getting by with very limited resources. Your donations will make life a little easier, a little more cheerful. Thank you also to our Parent-Teacher Councils for coordinating this wonderful effort.

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#### **Board of Education**

Tim Jedlicka  
Jay Lerch  
Haydee Núñez  
Scott Pope  
Beth Powers  
La Sridhar  
Ben Yates

#### **Superintendent**

Emily K. Tammaru, Ed.D.  
**Assistant Superintendent  
for Learning**  
Robert Langman, Ed.D.  
**Assistant Superintendent  
for Finance & Operations**  
Maureen A. Jones, CSBO

#### **Arbor View School**

David Bruno, Ed.D., Principal  
**Briar Glen School**  
Mitch Dubinsky, Principal  
**Park View School**  
Barb Peterson, Principal

#### **Westfield School**

Stacey Hewick, Principal  
**Glen Crest Middle School**  
Kim Price, Principal  
John Batiste, Assistant Principal

### **Share your thoughts on ‘Angst’ documentary**

I hope your family was able to attend the powerful screening of “Angst” and the subsequent panel discussion about how anxiety is affecting a greater number of elementary and middle school students. If you attended the November event, we would love to get your feedback. Please consider participating in this short survey: <http://bit.ly/angstaudiencesurvey>

### **Video: Good Morning, kindergarten!**

Want to put a smile on your face for the rest of the week? Check out this short video of Julie Cufaude’s kindergarten students starting their school day. Throughout the year, every student gets to be the classroom greeter and welcome their classmates with a handshake, hug, or fist bump. Watch this wonderful tradition: [https://youtu.be/zrNL04nPI\\_k](https://youtu.be/zrNL04nPI_k)

### **Community blood drive: January 9**

You can fulfill that first New Year’s resolution – and get a free bowl of pasta – by donating blood at Glen Crest Middle School on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. The blood drive will be open from 2 to 6:30 p.m. in the school’s cafeteria. Anyone who donates on January 9 will receive a coupon for a free Noodles and Co. entrée with the purchase of a Coca-Cola Freestyle drink. To learn more, go to [www.ccsd89.org/blood](http://www.ccsd89.org/blood)

### **Did you get the snow day call?**

Our district uses a “call-out” system to notify families of any school closings. If you did not receive a phone call for the November 26 snow day, it means the district does not have the correct contact information for you. Please update your information with your school office. If there is a closing, information will also be posted on the district’s website ([www.ccsd89.org](http://www.ccsd89.org)), Facebook page ([facebook.com/CCSD89](https://facebook.com/CCSD89)), and Twitter account ([@CCSD89](https://twitter.com/CCSD89)).

Because of the November 26 snow day, one day has been added to the end of the school year. The district builds five emergency days into the school calendar. This is the first emergency day the district has used in the 2018-19 school year. The last day of the school year is now scheduled to be Thursday, May 23.

### **Board of Education highlights**

The Board of Education met at 7 p.m. Monday, November 19. The board heard a presentation about how the Glen Crest Middle School Teen Advisory Board promotes literacy in the schools. The Board also reviewed and updated several Board policies, and discussed the levy. You can read highlights from the November meeting here: <https://bit.ly/2EtzbRr>

The Board will meet again at 7 p.m. Monday, December 17, at the District Office, 22W600 Butterfield Road, Glen Ellyn. All meetings are open to the public. Full agendas and minutes for all board meetings can be found at [www.ccsd89.org/board](http://www.ccsd89.org/board)

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Tim Jedlicka	Emily K. Tammaru, Ed.D.	David Bruno, Ed.D., Principal	Stacey Hewick, Principal
Jay Lerch	<b>Assistant Superintendent for Learning</b>	<b>Briar Glen School</b>	<b>Glen Crest Middle School</b>
Haydee Núñez	Robert Langman, Ed.D.	Mitch Dubinsky, Principal	Kim Price, Principal
Scott Pope	<b>Assistant Superintendent for Finance &amp; Operations</b>	<b>Park View School</b>	John Batiste, Assistant Principal
Beth Powers	Maureen A. Jones, CSBO	Barb Peterson, Principal	
La Sridhar			
Ben Yates			

### Upcoming events

- December 17:** Board of Education meeting  
**December 18:** Winter band concert 7 p.m.  
**December 21:** Mid-term  
**December 24:** Beginning of winter break  
**January 7:** School resumes after winter break  
**January 9:** Blood drive at Glen Crest 2- 6:30 p.m.  
**January 14:** Board of Education meeting  
**January 18:** Half day for students (School Improvement Day)  
**January 21:** No school (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Thank you for all you do to support learning for life in CCSD 89!

Sincerely,



Dr. Emily K. Tammaru  
Superintendent

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