



**Welcome to our district's Employee Newsletter!**  
**These bits of quick information, announcements and links will help keep you informed!**

**SD 308 Family! Together, We Got This!**

**Please submit content for Friday Updates to:**  
[communications@sd308.org](mailto:communications@sd308.org) or through this [link](#)....thank you!

**February 19, 2021**  
**#TogetherWeGotThis**

---

### **February 19.....**

**Fun facts** that happened on this day: Mickey Mouse was welcomed to China as part of the 30th anniversary of Disneyland and played 30 cities in 30 days (1985). Cherry Coke was introduced by the Coca-Cola Company (1985). The Soviet Union launched the *Mir* space station (1986). Kansas became the first state to prohibit all alcoholic beverages (1881).

### **February 26 - Teacher Institute Day**

#### **Monday, March 1 - Remote Planning Day**

While many individuals will likely not experience any symptoms, or very mild symptoms following their second vaccination (either Fri., 2/26 or Sun., 2/28), there will likely be some who may feel unwell for the day or two following injection. In order to best prepare for the potentially large absence of teachers, staff and substitutes on the school day, Monday, March 1 will be used as a Remote Planning Day. For the complete letter sent to staff on February 17, please [click here](#).

### **COVID-19 Information**

- **Report! (Step 1)** - Staff or students reporting symptoms, exposure, or a positive case must use the District [COVID Reporting Form](#) to communicate this information to the district.
- **Vaccine Appointments NOW OPEN!**
  - **2/26 2nd Dose Moderna** -Oswego East High School, Oswego IL  
Appointments available 10am-4:30pm [Click Here To Register](#)
  - **2/28 2nd Dose Pfizer**- Yorkville High School, Yorkville, IL  
Appointments available 8:30am - 3:30pm [Click Here To Register](#)
  - **2/23 1st Dose Moderna**- Open to all Kendall Co residents 65 years and older, educators and 1A. [Click Here to Register](#). (These fill fast!)
- **Vaccine Clinic Volunteers!** If you're interested in helping out at the clinic on Sunday, Feb. 28 at Yorkville High School (and didn't already complete the return volunteer form at the last event), please email [communications@sd308.org](mailto:communications@sd308.org).

### **We're Hiring!**

Elementary schools throughout the district have various positions open for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year ([Click here for flyer](#)). If someone you know is interested and would like more information on any of the following positions, please click on the position you are interested in: [Teaching Assistant](#), [Custodian](#), [Recess Supervisor](#), [Dedicated Building Substitute](#). For a complete listing of all positions open in the district, please visit [www.sd308.orgs/jobs](http://www.sd308.orgs/jobs).

### **Crosstown Challenge Trophy Presentation**

The Allied First Bank's Crosstown Challenge trophy for the 2019-2020 school year was presented to Oswego High School at the girls crosstown basketball game between OE and OH Wednesday night. Allied First Bank sponsors the Crosstown Challenge which is made up of head-to-head regular season competitions between OHS and OEHS boys and girls varsity sporting events throughout the regular season. In addition to OHS winning the trophy, each school's athletic department was presented with checks in the amount of \$2,500. Congratulations Panthers and thanks to Allied First Bank for their continued support! To read the full story, [click here](#).

### **Brianna McKinley, Boulder Hill Elementary - Named Finalist**

Congratulations to Brianna, psychologist at BH, for having been one of two finalists in the Illinois School Psychologists Association's (ISPA) Ted Smith Practitioner of the Year Award for 2021. To read the complete article, please [click here](#).

### **PRIDE**

The PRIDE "WheelofName" random drawings for February Teacher and Employee PRIDE winners took place on Wednesday, February 17th on the district's facebook page. Congratulations to the following individuals for having been selected, **TEACHERS:** Karen Jordan (HM), Kris Murgas (LC), Colleen Predl (OH), Stan Brown (PL); **EMPLOYEES:** Paige Leigh (HC), Susan Bliss (OP). Results and "WheelofNames" can be found on the district's [PRIDE Recognition page](#). Winner's will be announced at this Monday's Board meeting (02.22.21) and will be receiving gifts from our generous program sponsors: Allied First Bank, Huntington Learning Center, Chick-Fil-A, and Culver's.

### **5Essentials is Underway**

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey for students and [teachers](#) will be conducted February 3 through April 2. The [Parent Survey Supplement](#) will be conducted during that same timeframe. For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' Reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois>.

### **Upcoming SEL Events & Resources**

- A virtual film screening and panel discussion around the film The Next Chapter: Uncovering Stress Resilience focused on supporting children with anxiety, depression, and social media/screen-time. Online event, March 10, 6:30-8:30pm, [register here](#).
- A Parent/Caregiver book club will launch in April, with the first book Ready or Not: Preparing Our Kids to Thrive in an Uncertain and Rapidly Changing World by Madeline Levine.
- For more information [click here](#). Please contact Heidi Podjasek, Director of Social Emotional Learning, at (630) 636-3667 or [hpodjasek@sd308.org](mailto:hpodjasek@sd308.org) with questions or for more information.

### **Keep Pests Out of Offices/Classrooms**

With the temps outside being cold, our outdoor friends are looking for a warm place with a food source. If you have food in your offices/classrooms please be sure to store it in an airtight container to prevent pests from visiting. [Click here for more information](#).

### **PEGS Presents: Oswego SD 308 School Board Candidates Forum**

Meet the candidates, educate yourself and make informed voting decisions as you prepare for election day ([Click here for flyer](#)). Candidates scheduled to participate: Keisha Earl, Eugene Gatewood, Katie Heiden, Jennifer Johnson, Donna Marino, Latonya Simelton, Eulalia Valdez. Forum

will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 23 @ 6:00 via ZOOM. To join the Forum, go to:  
[www.sd308.org/PegsCandidateForum](http://www.sd308.org/PegsCandidateForum).

### **ICN Candidate Form Online**

ICN School District Engagement Committee is presenting a Meet The Candidates online forum on Feb. 26 at 6pm. The event features school board candidates from districts 203, 204 and 308. [Click here](#) to register.

### **20-Minute Talk Anti-Racism Vodcast Series**

The 20-Minute Talk provides an opportunity to understand and examine how educational stakeholders within the Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance (MAP) Center's 13-state region define and frame intersectional, anti-racist educational practice; how their own identities shape their understandings of anti-racist leadership; as well as provide key and unapologetic insights on what is required, beyond platitudes and toward concrete policies and practices, to realize racially just school communities. **Our own Toia Jones, Boulder Hill Elementary School Principal, is a featured speaker in Episode 2!** [Click here](#) for more information.

Episode One - February 2021: Introduction to the MAP Center's Anti-Racism Vodcast Series

Episode Two - March 2021: Antiracism in the Age of COVID-19

Episode Three - April 2021: Conversations with Antiracist Leaders

Episode Four - May 2021: Antiracism at the Intersections

Episode Five - June 2021: The Antiracist Imaginary for School Communities

Episode Six - July 2021: Hope, Healing, and Harmony for Antiracism

### **Chicago Children's Choir brings its annual Black History Month concert to the digital stage Feb. 25!**

*Black History Month Virtual Concert: Preserving and Persevering* explores how the power of Black music has been the cultural key in both preserving African traditions in America and in helping millions persevere in the face of racial injustice. The dynamic virtual educational program features powerful performances by CCC singers and GRAMMY Award-winning guest artists Lisa Fischer, Ranky Tanky, Chance the Rapper, Peter CottonTale and Cynthia Erivo following a behind-the-scenes pre-show of the educational experience leading up to the virtual event. All are invited to tune in to the free livestream on [this page](#) or on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) channels on Thursday, February 25 at 7pm. The pre-show begins at 6:45pm.

### **Employee Specials**

T-Mobile is offering a special corporate rate for SD 308 staff, details can be found on [this flyer](#).

-----

**Facebook....**Follow and "like" the [Community Unit School District 308](#) page on Facebook. If you have any great happenings you would like to share on the district's fb page, please email [communications@sd308.org](mailto:communications@sd308.org) (with a picture) and we will do our best to post it!

**News Stories....**As a friendly reminder, we always welcome "good news" types of stories sent to us through [www.sd308.org/Stories](http://www.sd308.org/Stories).

**Pass It On!....***(FOR STAFF)*..[Click here](#) or visit the Intranet/Communication's tab to send a Pass It On!

**Share A Smile :-)**... Share A Smile is **FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS....**share this with your parents, students and community members. An electronic “smile” card from them to any staff member in the district.

**Friday Updates:** All Friday Updates can be found on the Intranet under the [Communications Tab](#).

**BOE Meeting....**The next Board of Education Meeting will be on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Oswego East High School. You can live stream the meeting from home at [www.sd308.org](http://www.sd308.org).

*“The end is simply the beginning of an even longer story.”  
~Zadie Smith, English novelist, White Teeth (2000)*