

# 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: <a href="mailto:communications@sd308.org">communications@sd308.org</a> or through this link....thank you!

# February 26, 2021 #TogetherWeGotThis

# February 26.....

**National Pistachio Day** - Known as the "happy nut" in China and the "smiling nut" in the Middle East, pistachios have a unique, small shape but pack a powerfully nutritious punch. These vibrant green nuts let you snack your way to good health by containing as much protein as an egg per serving as well as many other valuable nutrients. Pistachios grow as seeds on small trees originating from Central Asia and the Middle East.

#### **Tonight: 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.

# Reminder: Monday, March 1 - Remote Planning Day

While many individuals will likely not experience any symptoms, or very mild symptoms following their second vaccination 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 a school day, Monday, March 1 will be used as a Remote Planning Day.

#### **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.
- 2/28 2nd Dose Pfizer- Yorkville High School, Yorkville, IL
  - Appointments available 8:30am 3:30pm <u>Click Here To Register</u>
- 1st Vaccine Appointments: Check on the Kendall Co Health Dept <u>website portal</u> for appointment openings as they become available.
- 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.

#### **Board of Education Public Forum**

The Board of Education is hosting a Public Forum on Monday, March 1, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Oswego East High School. For more information please click here.

#### **Retirement and 25-Year Recognition**

Please congratulate our 2020-2021 Retirees and 25-Year Recognition Honorees! Combined, these individuals have dedicated 587 years with SD 308. Those retiring are: Karlene Anderson (HC), Debra

Boyle (OH), Jenell Bumby (WC), Kathleen DeRose (Maintenance), Stacey Eucker (OH), Daniel Hallahan (TR), Ruth Hanson Hale (BR), Rebecca Hebert (HM), Terri Hughlett (Transportation), Richard Johanns (FC), Sharon Kahl (TH), Kathleen Kalous (LB), Julie Kirchner (HC), Marcia McCarthy (OP), Jacqueline Mecklenburg (BR), Mary Murphy (CH), Frank Tieri (OH), and Charles Wood (DAC). Those celebrating 25 years with the district are: John Bachio (TH), Lesli Barron (OH), Lauretta King (DAC), Anna-Marie Kontos (HC), Jennifer Kunsch (MU), Rachel Maxwell (TR), Debra Metcalf (OH, and Joan Mundsinger (FC). "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Maya Angelou For a complete listing of individuals being recognized, please click here.

#### Climate for Learning Framework Presentation

Dr. Heidi Podjasek, Director of Social Emotional Learning, presented the Climate for Learning Framework (CLF) to a national audience at the Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Practices (CRSP) Learning Network Cohort Roundtable. The virtual event was hosted by our equity partners the Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center. Dr. Podjasek shared the district's CLF with an overview of each component, and how each component works together to create a climate for learning that is responsive, inclusive, and equitable for all students. Faith Dahlquist, Associate Superintendent shared the rationale for the framework, and LaTonya Simelton, DEI Coordinator addressed how the framework aligns with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts.

# **Working Together for Students**

On Wednesday, February 24, the Oswego Gear It Forward 2338 team came to visit Churchill Elementary. They met with the teachers and students in the Life Skills Program, in order to introduce a ball-launching device that can assist the students in being able to better participate in the general education PE classes. One of the challenges that the teachers and staff have had in the past is having access to modified equipment and tools. The Gear It Forward team was very generous to offer their time, knowledge and ingenuity. Several of the LSP staff met with several Gear It Forward students and one of their staff sponsors via an online meeting to collaborate and brainstorm ideas on what types of devices could be used to help further the inclusion process with the general education students. Both the LSP and Gear It Forward teams look forward to continuing this collaboration in order to promote inclusion for all students! Take a look at the great pic!

## Black History is iconic. It's moving. It's powerful. It's transcendent.

<u>Black Renaissance</u>: a one-of-a-kind celebration of Black creativity and culture that pays tribute to those who have shaped Black History and continue to influence our world today. Watch for exclusive performances, inspiring stories, and special appearances by some of today's most influential voices Presented by YouTube Originals in partnership with Google Arts & Culture, only on YouTube. For more information about the art and stories shown in Black Renaissance, check out the US Black History collection on Google Arts & Culture which features more than 200 stories about Black art, history, and culture from 80+ expert partners, from the Studio Museum in Harlem to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. <a href="http://g.co/blackhistoryus">http://g.co/blackhistoryus</a>.

#### We're Hiring!

Elementary schools throughout the district have various positions open for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year (<u>Click here for flyer</u>). 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: <u>Teaching Assistant</u>, <u>Custodian</u>, <u>Recess Supervisor</u>, <u>Dedicated Building Substitute</u>. For a complete listing of all positions open in the district, please visit <u>www.sd308.orgs/jobs</u>.

## 5Essentials is Underway

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

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**Facebook...**Follow and "like" the <u>Community Unit School District 308</u> page on Facebook. If you have any great happenings you would like to share on the district's fb page, please email <u>communications@sd308.org</u> (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 <a href="https://www.sd308.org/Stories.">www.sd308.org/Stories.</a>.

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, March 15, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Oswego East High School. You can live stream the meeting from home at www.sd308.org.

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time.

We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

~Barack Obama