



**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!

**March 19, 2021**  
**#TogetherWeGotThis**

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### **Friday, March 19th - Illinois FIRST Robotics Day**

It was a little over a year ago that Oswego High School student, Maddie Lund, first presented Isabelle Thalman's (OHS graduate) proposal to Representative Bill Foster to create a "National FIRST Robotics Day." The "FIRST" in National FIRST Robotics stands for: For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. Since that time, the Robotics teams in SD 308 have continued to stay busy working with Rep Foster and Rep Kifowit. This Friday, March 19th, will mark the first year that Illinois recognizes Illinois FIRST Day, which is the bill that was first introduced as a proposal by our students. Please [click here](#), for the complete article. To help support Illinois FIRST Day, click on the various corresponding grade level material links, [Elementary](#), [Junior High](#), and [High School](#), and be sure to use the hashtag #FIRSTisforeveryone if you post on social media regarding this exciting day!

### **Spring Break is March 29- April 5**

Tuesday, April 6 is Election day and Teacher Institute Day, with no student attendance.

**Phase 3 Begins April 7:** [Click here](#) to view the summary document for this phase.

### **COVID-19 Information- NEW INFORMATION**

- **ISBE/IDPH released revised guidance that has resulted in several changes to our Safety Plan and COVID-19 procedures. Please review this [summary of changes](#).**
  - Option for testing out of early quarantine for close contacts.
  - Removal of several symptoms from suspect of COVID-19
  - Discontinuation of screening students at school upon arrival

**Our safety plan is available online and includes the latest guidance, [click here](#).**

- **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:** Check on the Kendall Co. Health Dept [website portal](#) for appointment openings as they become available. On April 12 vaccines in Illinois will be available to all residents 16 and older.
- **Updates from Governor Pritzker:** The Governor introduced a new phase, the Bridge, between Phase 4 and 5 of the Reopen Illinois plan, in addition to adding more capacity to many venues in Phase 4. The move to the Bridge takes 70% of IL seniors being vaccinated (today we're at 58%). Once 50% of residents 16 and older have been vaccinated and stable or declining COVID-19 metrics are recorded during the Bridge 28-day monitoring period, Phase 5 will be implemented, removing capacity limits altogether. All regions of the state will move through these next phases together based on statewide metrics.

- The Governor reiterated that the mask mandate will continue until the CDC no longer recommends it.
- To review more information on the Governor's announcement, [click here](#).

### **Those Who Excel/Teacher of the Year**

**Nominate someone today- nominations close on Wednesday, April 7 at 4pm.**

Please click on the links below to submit someone from SD308 for consideration as a nominee to be recognized by ISBE in either the Teacher of the Year or the Those Who Excel program.

[\*\*Teacher Of The Year Nomination\*\*](#) and [\*\*Those Who Excel Nomination\*\*](#)

### **Creations By Pathways - Spring Shoppe**

Mark your calendars for next Thursday, March 25, from 3-6pm! The Creations By Pathways - Spring Shoppe at DAC/EVA cafeteria will be open! Offerings include dog toys, candy cups, printed canvas, bag tags, trivets, coasters, decorated bottles, body scrubs, lotion, balm and much more. All items created and customized by their students. Cash, check or credit cards accepted! [Click here for flyer](#).

### **2021 OFEE Grant Form**

In keeping with OFEE's philosophy and goals, the foundation will present grants to selected programs, activities, and expenditures which enhance and support educational opportunities for students in SD 308 schools. Requests should be submitted electronically to [danielle\\_paul\\_ofee@yahoo.com](mailto:danielle_paul_ofee@yahoo.com) and be submitted with the cover sheet of [OFEE Grant Proposal Form along with the Proposed Grant Budget Form](#). Proposals must be submitted by Monday, May 1.

### **Bleeding Control Kits - Walmart Grant to OFPD**

Through a generous grant donation from Walmart, the Oswego Fire Protection District (OFPD) was able to purchase Bleeding Control Kits for all of our school buildings as part of the Stop The Bleed program. These kits will be placed with the AED units in each school. The American College of Surgeons (ACS) introduced the Stop The Bleed program as a national public awareness program in 2015. The number 1 cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding.

### **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. For a complete listing of individuals being recognized, please [click here](#).

### **SD 308 School Board Candidate Profiles**

The Oswego Education Association (OEA) created profile videos for each of the Board of Education candidates running for election. The videos include interview questions and a short introduction from each candidate. To view the videos, visit the [Information on the 2021 School Board Candidates](#) section located on the home page of the website.

### **Elementary Gifted Education Screening Process for School Year 2021-22**

The screening process for elementary gifted education services will be different for the 2021-22 school year due to the loss of learning time because of COVID-19. All third-grade students will be screened in the Fall of 2021. It is still our priority to provide enrichment for our top achieving students while we are doing the formal testing process. We will work with our gifted teachers and instructional coaches to support differentiated instruction during this time. For students in fourth and fifth grades, screening will also take place in the Fall for students who score at or above the 90th percentile on the fall district assessments in English/Language Arts and Math. This change in screening procedures

will ensure that we have greater equity and opportunity for advancement in the Gifted program. If you have any questions, please contact your building administration.

### **5Essentials is Underway**

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey is open 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>.

### **Tech Support**

The technology department will continue to offer Google Meet sessions on Mondays (7:45-9:00am) and Wednesdays (1:45-3:00pm) to answer any technical questions for issues you might encounter with regards to your hardware and software used for teaching. [Click here](#) to access: Call: 321-351-6712 / Pin: 122-023-605#

### **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](#)). For a complete listing of all positions open in the district, please visit [www.sd308.orgs/jobs](http://www.sd308.orgs/jobs).

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**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, April 12, 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).

*"Knowing is not enough; we must apply.  
Wishing is not enough; we must do."  
~Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe*