



Connect 31

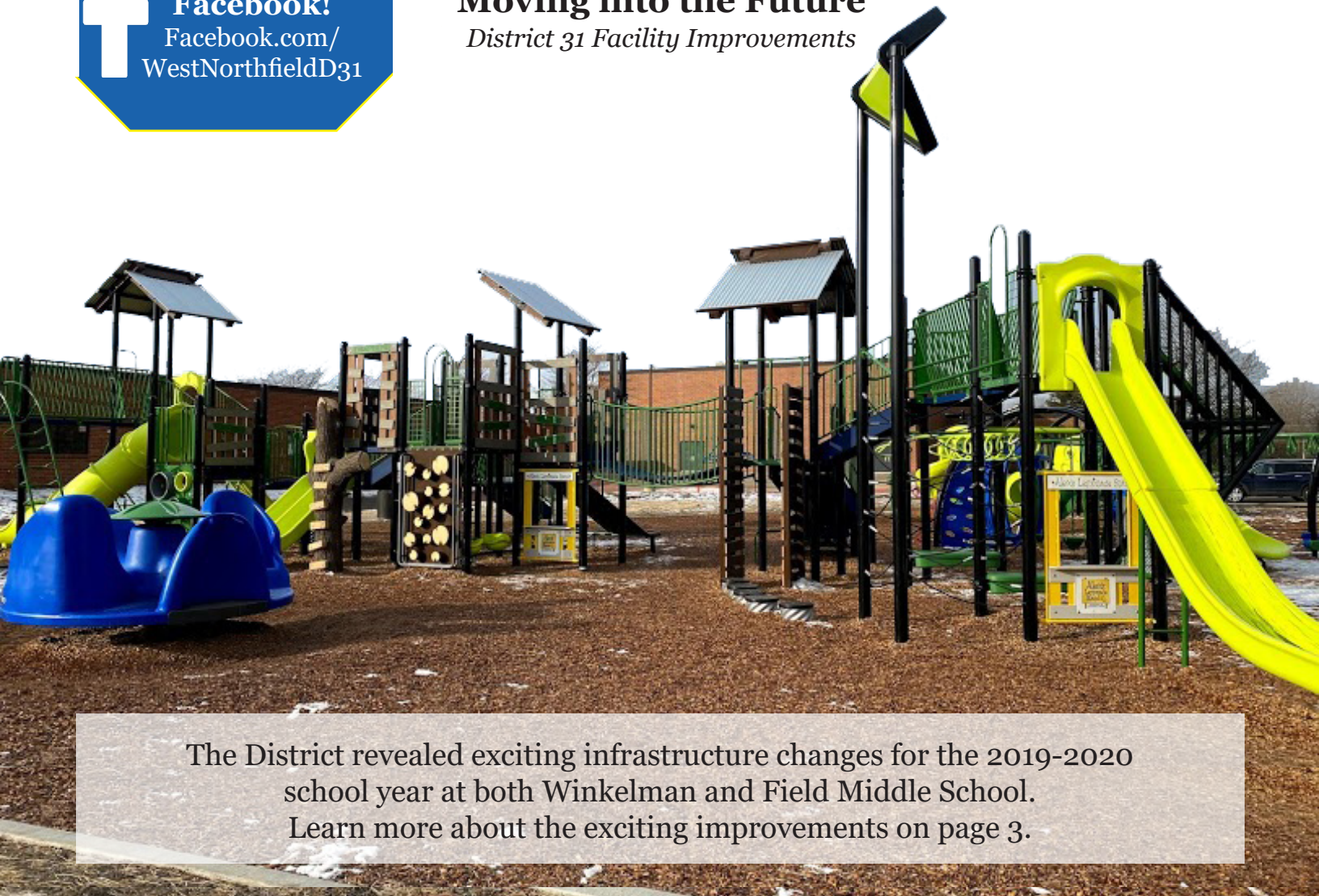
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Inspiring Minds, Building Futures, Together

Spring 2020



Moving into the Future *District 31 Facility Improvements*



The District revealed exciting infrastructure changes for the 2019-2020 school year at both Winkelman and Field Middle School. Learn more about the exciting improvements on page 3.

What's Inside...



Breakfast Available for Winkelman and Field Students... Page 4



Register for Little Wildcats Preschool... Page 5



Wildcat Calendar... Page 6

District 31's Response to COVID-19

In March, 2020 District 31 joined other public entities in Glenview and Northbrook in the Glenview/Northbrook Coronavirus Response. We worked collaboratively and proactively to share timely, accurate information. The Glenview-Northbrook Coronavirus Task Force was created in early March and is made up of representatives from the municipalities, schools, township, park districts and libraries in our communities. Members come together regularly to share information and resources about the novel coronavirus, and the illness that it causes, COVID-19. A joint website (<http://www.glenviewnorthbrookcoronavirus.info>) was created with vetted information and resources for all community members.

On March 17, District 31 began E-Learning opportunities after the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) mandated all Illinois schools to stay closed March 17 through March 30, 2020 (later revised to April 8).

During the closure, District 31 is providing a variety of support to District 31 families including technology support, educational support, breakfast and lunch opportunities, and remote family-activity suggestions. The District has also encouraged students to share their experiences by sending photos (view some shared photos below).

As this is being written, the future is still unknown. The latest District 31 Coronavirus updates are available on the District website at www.district31.net/corona.



Letter from the Superintendent



Dear District 31 Community,

I am excited to highlight all of the positive changes that have been underway in our district including infrastructure investment, new programs and initiatives, and new leadership. But through all these changes one thing remains the same - our dedication to the students in District 31 and our community.

One of the changes I would like to highlight is our commitment to improve communications within the district with regular newsletters, website updates, and a greater presence on social media. Please stay connected with the District and always feel free to reach out directly to me via phone or email.

Dr. Erin Murphy
District 31 Superintendent

Stay Connected

Website



The District website www.district31.net is the number one source for the latest school information.

Skyward



Skyward provides student class schedules, attendance records, progress reports, and other important information.

Text Alerts



As a District 31 parent you will automatically receive text alerts with important reminders or emergency information.

eMail



As a District 31 parent you will automatically receive email communications.

Facebook



“Like” the District’s Facebook page [facebook.com/WestNorthfieldD31](https://www.facebook.com/WestNorthfieldD31) to keep up with the latest District news.

Newsletter



The District mails a bi-annual newsletter to the entire district with school updates.

Call



Call the District between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F at **847.272.6880**.

Visit



Stop by the District Office, **3131 Techny Road**, between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F.

New Bus Company North Shore Transit to Begin in July 2020

Following a competitive bidding process, the Board of Education approved a three year contract with a new bus company, North Shore Transit. North Shore Transit is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cook-Illinois Corporation. Cook-Illinois Corporation is the largest family-owned and operated school bus company in the country and ranks within the top ten overall in the entire country. With over 2,200 school buses operated every day exclusively in the Chicago land area, North Shore Transit has the resources and knowledge to provide superior school transportation.

North Shore Transit will begin providing bus services for School District 31 on July 1, 2020.



Winkelman News

Extended Care Program

Winkelman now offers after school care during the new Extended Care Program. The program began in the 2019 - 2020 school year with the introduction of Monday Early Release days.

The Extended Care Program provides students with the flexibility to stay at school and participate in activities such as physical activities, art activities, social emotional learning, exposure to career and college options, technology time, and math activities.

To learn more about the Extended Care Program or to sign up, please contact Winkelman School at 847-729-5650.



Winkelman Retirees

District 31 thanks the following Winkelman staff members for their exemplary service to the students and community!

Kay Conway, Special Education, 26 Years of Service
Chris Braun, School Clerk, 23 Years of Service
Kate Manos, EL Teacher, 13 Years of Service

Breakfast at Winkelman

Breakfast options are now available at Winkelman School! Students at both Winkelman and Field have access to breakfast items such as cereals, bagels, whole grain cereal bars, yogurts, and muffins. Breakfast comes with milk and whole fruit at the price of \$2.50. Families who are part of the free/reduced program are welcome to take advantage of breakfast as well.

The program has been a huge success with great participation and appreciation from students who now start their day feeling great and ready to learn!

Special Education Enhancements

The Special Education Department has made a number of adjustments to improve communications and enhance overall service to students

- Staff members facilitate individualized education meetings to provide a student-centered approach and to encourage a partnership with parents.
- Draft Individualized Education Plans are sent out prior to Individualized Education Program meetings in order to promote parental feedback and to help parents come prepared.
- Lead special education teachers have been

implemented in each building to support and facilitate the collaborative partnership in educating all students.

- Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSD) and District 31 partnered to provide supports in a co-service delivery model. Several students that attended other school districts for NSSD programs now attend District 31, through a co-service delivery model. All Kindergarten classrooms also receive occupational therapy support to provide motor strategies to all students and to assist our preschool stu-





Administrative Staff Changes Lead to Innovation and New Beginnings

Dr. April Miller was named Field Middle School Principal. Principal Miller brings over 18 years of experience as an educator.



Science Stars

The Field Middle School Science Olympiad team took home multiple wins at the regional Science Olympiad competition in March. The team placed 1st in Meteorology, 3rd in Machines and Fossils, and 4th in Disease Detectives, and Density Lab.



Field Retirees

District 31 thanks Field staff member Tom Leehy for his exemplary service to the students and community!

Tom Leehy, Science,
31 Years of Service



Music to My Ears - Celebrating Field's Award-Winning Band

The Field Wind Ensemble (Ensemble), led by Director of Bands Mike Miller, has received a Superior Rating, the highest score, for the past 20 years at the Illinois Grade School Music Education Association (IGSMA) District Contest and a Superior Rating for the past 2 years at IGSMA State Contest.

The Ensemble has been invited to the invitation-only University of Illinois SuperState Band Festival for the past 7 years. Only the best junior and senior high school concert bands from across the state are invited to perform. The Ensemble was designated as the best middle school band performing at the 2018 SuperState Band Festival and invited to perform at the 2019 Festival as the Junior Honors Band.

Each year students also audition and are accepted into two Illinois honors bands, the Illinois Music Educators Association (ILMEA) Junior Honors Band and the All-Illinois Junior Band (AIJB). The past two years, Field had 22 students accepted into the ILMEA Junior Honors band and 19 students accepted in the the AIJB. Congratulations to all of Field's talented young musicians!

dents in successfully transition.

- West Ed consulted with District 31 to complete an audit. Based on this audit, the District developed a Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports leadership team to develop more defined District-wide procedures and process. As a result, a parent advisory group was formed. Addi-

tional in-district supports and services for all students will continue to be explored.

Resources for parents are available at District31.net/SpecialEd.



District News

District 31 Facility Improvements

Recognizing that the aging infrastructure at both schools was in need of updates, the Board of Education committed to reviving the interior and exterior of both buildings in order to match the high-quality instruction received by the students, as well as ensuring student safety within the schools. Utilizing bonds, the Board of Education invested approximately eight million dollars in projects over a two year period.

Improvements at Winkelman included:

- An eight room addition to house more classrooms
- New paint, flooring, and furniture in the Learning Center
- New ceilings, lights, painting, and flooring through the building
- Updated student and staff bathrooms
- New playground
- Parking lot improvements (coming summer of 2020)

Improvements at Field included:

- New paint, flooring, and furniture in the Learning Center
- New ceiling, lights, painting, and flooring through the building
- All student bathrooms updated with new tile and fixtures
- Remodeled District office space
- Newly created playspace for students with basketball hoops, tables, wall ball, gaga, etc.
- Newly configured parent pick up circle and bus circle, along with other parking lot improvements
- Facade enhancements

Quest Food Service Now Offering Auto-Replenish Option

Quest Food Service and District 31 are now offering auto-replenish for automatic payments to your student's meal accounts. Visit <https://district31food.revtrak.net> and click on Make a Payment to set-up auto-replenish payments to your student's meal account. Log in to your Web Store account or create an account if you are a new user. Instructions are available on the District website.



New Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Department

The Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Department, new this school year, serves both Winkelman and Field communities by facilitating conversations around the relationship between the curriculum, assessment, and instruction to help meet the needs of our diverse community. Coordinators have been developing teams to build a consistent, coherent curriculum and assessment system K-8. Differentiation Specialists focus on in-depth study of assessment data to support teachers and students on their growth journeys.



Community News

Message from the PTO

District 31's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a group of parents and teachers working together to support District students through academic and community programs and events. The PTO focuses on building community and enhancing education to benefit all stakeholders.

What does the PTO do for the community?

PTO Fundraisers support over 60 volunteers teaching art enrichment in the classroom each month and support more than 50 4th and 5th grade students in the Annual Science Expo. The PTO also helped 3rd grade teachers organize the Living Wax Museum and provided author visits for the middle school. Through the PTO philanthropic program, Project Reach, the community provided winter gear for nearly 25% of the District's student population in addition to snacks in each elementary classroom for those who need them. The PTO's Book Bash program provides books from the book fair for families in need. Lastly, the PTO supports and recognizes the District administrators, teachers and staff.

How can I support the PTO?

Help support the District 31 PTO by participating in one of the many community events including Sports Nights, Dances, and Family Bingo, Taste of District 31, or the Art Fair. You can also support the PTO by volunteering or becoming a PTO member. Learn more at **District31.net/PTO** or email the PTO president, Meredith Estes, at **d31pto@gmail.com**.

LITTLE WILDCATS



PRESCHOOL

Located at

Winkelman School

1919 Landwehr Road
Glenview, IL 60026

Check Us Out!

We are a high quality, play-based, blended program fostering pre-academic & social skills, as well as language & motor development

Teachers certified in teaching Early Childhood, Special Education, and English Language Learners

Classrooms use Creative Curriculum, which aligns with the Early Learning Standards

Classes meet Monday - Friday

- AM Session: 8:30 - 11:00am
- PM Session: 12:30 - 3:00pm

Class Size

- 16 or less
- Minimum of 3 staff members

Closely follows the District 31 school calendar

For more information or to schedule a tour, contact Anne Carreon at acarreon@nssed.org or 847-831-5100, ext. 2137

To register, visit : West Northfield School District 31
3131 Techny Road Northbrook, IL

District 31 Education Foundation Supports School Infrastructure Investment

The Education Foundation presented a \$120,000 check to the District at the 2020 Winter Benefit to complete the Play Matters For All Kids Initiative funding commitment – these funds helped pay for the new Winkelman playground and Field Quad.



Left to right: Board Member Nancy Hammer, Board Member Jeffrey Steres, Ed Foundation President Darrin Stern, Superintendent Erin Murphy, Board Member Maria Vasilopoulos, Board Member Bob Resis, Board Secretary Daphne Frank, Board President Melissa Valentinas. Photo Credit: Greg Nico Garibay

The Education Foundation focuses on capital campaign needs of the school. If you would like to join the Education Foundation or learn more, please email **edfoundation@district31.net**.

Inspiring

TOGETHER

BUILDING

District 31 Schools



Winkelman School

Preschool - Grade 5
1919 Landwehr Road
Glenview, IL 60026
847.729.5650



Field Middle School

Grades 6 - 8
2055 Landwehr Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
847.272.6884

Administration

Dr. Erin Murphy - *Superintendent*

Mrs. Catherine Lauria - *Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations*

Dr. Janine Gruhn - *Director of Special Education*

Dr. April Miller - *Field Principal*

Dr. Erica Berger - *Winkelman Principal*

Mr. Nino Alvarez - *Winkelman Assistant Principal*

Board of Education

Melissa Choo Valentinas - *President*

Laura Greenberg - *Vice President*

Daphne Frank - *Secretary*

Robert Resis

Nancy Hammer

Jeffrey Steres

Dr. Maria J. Vasilopoulos

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

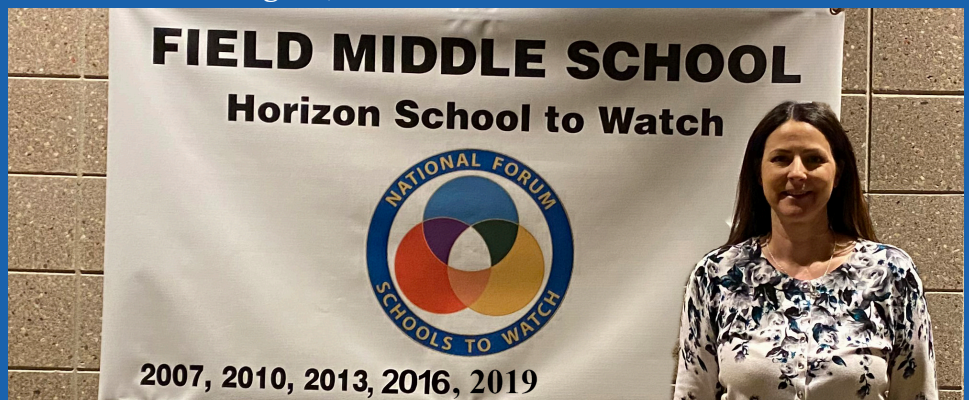
School Spotlight

2020 Illinois Horizon School to Watch!

Field Middle School has been re-designated as a 2020 Illinois Horizon School to Watch (IHSTW). Schools who earn this national designation demonstrate exemplary middle-level programming through academic excellence, responsiveness in meeting student social-emotional needs, and providing an organizational structure that supports best practices in early adolescent education.

Participating schools are evaluated by representatives from the National Forum and engage in ongoing self-evaluation using the Schools to Watch rubric. Schools also participate in the Association of Illinois Middle-grade Schools (AIMS) networking events, present at Association workshops and conferences, and provide leadership as part of the AIMS Network.

Field has held the honor since the school was designated in 2007. Less than 40 Illinois middle schools have been designated. Field will be recognized at the National Forum Annual Schools to Watch Conference in Washington, D.C this summer.



Field Principal Dr. April Miller celebrates the redesignation status of Field.

Questions? Contact Superintendent Dr. Murphy at emurphy@district31.net or call 847.272.6880.