



# GLENBARD TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 87 NEWSLETTER

FROM SUPERINTENDENT DAVID F. LARSON

MARCH 2017

## Signature events celebrate 100th anniversary

For the past few months, we have celebrated Glenbard District 87's 100th anniversary and tradition of excellence. It has been rewarding to take time to honor Glenbard's history and legacy.

Students, staff and community members participated in the following signature events:

- Centennial Celebration
- Retro-themed Pack the Place at each school
- Centennial Art Show and Choir Concert

### Centennial Celebration

We kicked off the 100th anniversary events with the Centennial Celebration, which featured displays of events at all of our high schools over the decades. Alumni, community members and current and retired staff members filled Glenbard

East's auditorium foyer and enjoyed poring over photos, yearbooks, theatre programs and other memorabilia that tell the story of Glenbard District 87. It was wonderful to see friends reconnecting at this event and to hear their stories and fond memories of Glenbard.

### Pack the Place

Each winter, our schools host Pack the Place to support winter sports. As part of our 100th anniversary, the schools added a retro theme and encouraged fans to dress for the era that their school opened. We are fortunate to have great support for our students, and it was wonderful to see extra spirit at each of the Pack the Place events.

### Centennial Art Show and Choir Concert

In February, our fine arts faculty presented a spectacular district-wide celebration of

art and choral music. The art show featured 100 pieces of beautiful art by students from our four high schools, and the choir concert featured every choir student in Glenbard – more than 600 students! A special highlight was this massive choir in the world premiere of "We Are," which was commissioned for this occasion. This song, by composer Michael Engelhardt, incorporates text from each school's traditional song. Former choir directors returned for this concert and conducted hundreds of choir students to celebrate 100 years of Glenbard education. We have a deep appreciation for the fine and performing arts, and it was wonderful to celebrate our tradition of high quality arts education with so many of our students, faculty, retired faculty and community members.

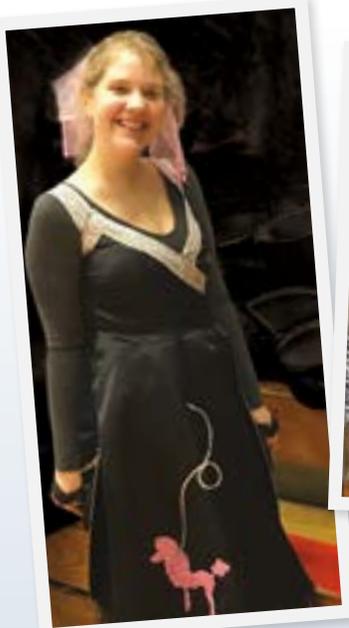


Superintendent  
David Larson

community members.

We also hosted a district-wide Centennial Band Concert in spring 2016 and Centennial Orchestra Concert in fall 2015.

Building upon a solid tradition of educational excellence, I am confident that the next 100 years of Glenbard District 87 will bring exceptional opportunities for our students. ■



Each school's Pack the Place had a retro theme, and fans dressed for the era that their school opened.



The district-wide celebration of art and choral music included an art show with 100 pieces of art and a choir concert that featured every choir student in Glenbard.



Three generations explore Glenbard's history.

# A message from Board of Education president

The past few months have been very busy for the Board of Education. We continue to monitor each school's progress in their achievement of the long-term goals established by the Board. We also continue to ensure the outstanding financial stability and encourage the education of every student entrusted to our care. Additionally, we are interacting with our state legislators to ensure that funding for education remains in place and is fair for the taxpayers of District 87.

It has been an outstanding time of recognition for Glenbard High School District 87. We continue to be asked to speak locally and nationally about all the great work we are doing to enhance the education of our students, as well as the family support provided through the highly successful Glenbard Parent Series (GPS)

programs. In addition, we have celebrated many student successes in the areas of academics, art, music, athletics and more.

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Glenbard High School District 87 efforts. We couldn't do it without your support. We all should be very proud of the help we have given Glenbard High School District 87 to inspire and empower students to succeed. ■



Board of Education President Rich Heim

## Capital improvement projects progressing

In just a few months, we will continue with capital improvements to our buildings as part of our 10-year master facility plan. This summer marks year four of our plan, and at the conclusion of the summer we will have spent more than \$75 million on capital improvements. Voters' support of our March 2014 referendum was key to making funding available for our master facility plan.

### Sample of Summer 2017 Projects:

- Significant energy efficiency mechanical improvements at Glenbard North, including new chiller, two low-pressure steam boilers, multiple air handling units, LED lighting and partial roof replacement
- Restroom renovations in all buildings
- Asphalt paving and roof replacement above auditorium at Glenbard East
- Boys P.E. and athletic locker room renovations at Glenbard South
- Auditorium sound system improvements at Glenbard West

### Major Projects Completed:

- ✓ Air conditioning added to Glenbard East and Glenbard West
- ✓ New energy efficient mechanical equipment (boilers, chillers and air handling units) installed at Glenbard East, South and West
- ✓ New science classroom wing at Glenbard West
- ✓ Parking lot replaced at Glenbard North
- ✓ Press box replaced at Glenbard South

## FINANCES AT A GLANCE

# 80%

OF GLENBARD'S  
**DOLLARS**  
ARE SPENT ON  
**CLASSROOM**  
INSTRUCTION AND  
PUPIL SERVICES

# \$200K

ANNUAL SAVINGS DUE TO NEW  
ENERGY EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT

# \$16,150

OPERATING EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL  
AS COMPARED TO THE CHICAGO METRO AVERAGE  
FOR HIGH SCHOOLS OF \$17,289 (2014 - 2015 DATA)

# \$61.5M

OF \$100M MASTER FACILITY PLAN  
TARGET INVESTED IN THE PAST 3 YEARS

# 10 YEARS

OF ACHIEVING FINANCIAL RECOGNITION  
STATUS – HIGHEST STATUS – FROM  
ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

# AAA

FROM MOODY'S

# AA+

FROM STANDARD & POOR'S

STRONG SCORES  
FROM CREDIT  
AGENCIES

# 4

 THIRD-PARTY  
PROVIDERS

SIGNIFICANT OUTSOURCED SAVINGS  
IN TRANSPORTATION, FOOD SERVICE,  
MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY

# Points of Pride



**Glenbard South** closed its enrollment gap in Advanced Placement courses that exists between middle-income and upper-income white and Asian students and their low-income, black and Hispanic peers. Glenbard South has joined less than 1% of high schools nationally to close their Advanced Placement enrollment gaps. Our other three high schools are on track to do the same.



**Glenbard East** juniors and seniors may earn up to 15 college credits while still in high school through the Early College Initiative, our partnership with the College of DuPage that aligns with our focus on preparing students to be college-ready and career-ready.

**Glenbard West** students are learning in the new classroom wing, which includes chemistry and physics classrooms, a green roof, photography lab and darkroom. The addition was made possible by the community's support of our March 2014 referendum, which funds capital improvements to all of our buildings.



This year, all students are using iPads as their primary learning tool. We're teaching students to use technology to communicate, collaborate and dig for deeper knowledge.



**Glenbard North's** production of "Smokefall" was selected for the Illinois High School Theatre Festival. This is an incredible honor that Glenbard North has not had since 1992. Students' participation in extracurricular activities is one of our strategic priorities.



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Glenbard Township High School District 87  
596 Crescent Boulevard  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No.293  
Glen Ellyn, IL

**Administration**

David Larson, Superintendent  
Josh Chambers, Assistant Superintendent  
for Human Resources  
Jeff Feucht, Assistant Superintendent  
for Educational Services  
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**Board of Education**

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GlenbardDistrict87

@GlenbardDist87

# Greater access to AP changing the trajectory of students' lives

We remain committed to closing the enrollment gap in Advanced Placement courses that exists nationwide by race and family income. We are leading the state in reform in this area. Glenbard South has joined less than 1% of high schools nationally to close their Advanced Placement enrollment gaps. Our other three high schools are on track to do the same.

We encourage students to take on the challenge of an Advanced Placement course to demonstrate the level of skill needed to enter college or the global workforce. New Illinois legislation enables students who earn a 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam to receive college credit at all public colleges and universities in Illinois.

## Achievements

- In the fall, the White House and U.S. Department of Education recognized us for our commitment to closing the AP enrollment gap.

- This year, 874 traditionally under-represented Glenbard juniors and seniors are taking Advanced Placement classes. This semester, 3,337 students are taking at least one AP class. Forty-two percent of our seniors pass one or more AP exams during their four years with us. We serve approximately 8,100 students.
- This year, we made significant one-year increases in AP enrollment, including:
  - 157% increase in African American low income juniors and seniors
  - 82% increase in Hispanic juniors and seniors
  - 53% increase in low income white and Asian juniors and seniors
- Since 2007, we have doubled enrollment in our Advanced Placement courses while our students have maintained a 72% passing rate on AP exams, far exceeding the state and national averages.
- For the sixth consecutive year, the Washington Post named all four of our high schools to its list of America's Most

### Challenging High Schools.

- Last year, we were one of seven school districts in Illinois selected to partner with Equal Opportunity Schools to close the enrollment gap in Advanced Placement courses.
- We partnered with state education officials to help Illinois earn a first-in-the-nation statewide grant to expand the work of Equal Opportunity Schools to more school districts in Illinois.
- In December, we hosted AP Equity and Excellence Symposium for 150 area educators.

We have a Board of Education goal that at least 60% of students will take and pass one or more Advanced Placement exams. Through intentional recruitment efforts, student supports and a focus on a growth mindset, we are identifying more students to take Advanced Placement classes and preparing them to pass an Advanced Placement exam. ■