



GLENBARD TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 87 NEWSLETTER

FROM SUPERINTENDENT DAVID F. LARSON

NOVEMBER 2017

We are focused on students' drive, belonging & engagement

We are so proud of our students, faculty and staff for their hard work. They dig deep and see positive results. In our classrooms and extracurricular activities, we are focused on the following key areas:

- Instill Student Drive
- Belonging and Connectedness
- Engaged and Inspired

Instill Student Drive

- Growth Mindset
 - Every day, our teachers and staff remind students that when they work hard and stick with it when things get tough, their skills will improve and they will be successful. Students gain confidence in their ability to do more than they thought they could, and that confidence is key to their growth.
- Increased Enrollment in Advanced Placement
 - We continually work to increase the number of under-represented students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) classes, which are

Our teachers focus on skills that students will use at work and in college.



eligible for college credit. We believe that students from all backgrounds deserve the opportunity to take Advanced Placement classes, and we're proud of the steady growth in enrollment in these challenging classes.

- Partnership with Parents and Guardians
 - Our students often say they work hard in class because they look at the example their parents/guardians set and they want their parents/guardians to be proud of them. We appreciate parents and guardians working with our teachers to motivate students and help them set goals and persevere.

Belonging and Connectedness

It's affirming to hear students say that their teachers make their classes feel like a family. Our faculty and staff value all students' backgrounds and provide them with a genuine sense of belonging. Let's look at a few key factors:

- Pursuing Passion and Interests
 - We offer a multitude of clubs, sports, activities and elective classes. Students who participate in these activities feel a greater connection to their school and, in turn, have greater academic success.
- Social and Emotional Learning
 - Our highly talented educators use a comprehensive approach to working with students on:
 - Decision making
 - Relationship skills
 - Self-awareness
 - Self-management
 - Social awareness



Superintendent
David F. Larson



Board of Education
President Rich Heim

- Glenbard Parent Series
 - We are proud to be in a school district that has the nationally recognized Glenbard Parent Series. Each month, several free events are presented that help parents navigate through a variety of issues related to raising healthy, happy young adults.

Engaged & Inspired

If you sat in on a class at any of our high schools, you would be impressed with how the lesson is dramatically more engaging than what you likely experienced in high school.

- Students are involved in interactive activities, and teachers focus more on skills that students will use at work & in college and less on recall facts that students could Google.
- Our teachers are incorporating aspects of project-based learning.
- Through the use of technology, students are connecting with scientists, authors, artists and others across the globe to learn in a truly engaging way. For example, through a live video feed, our students had the opportunity to ask questions of a surgeon as he performed open heart surgery.

Each day, students' drive, belonging and engagement will shape their motivation and determine their level of success. ■

Critical capital improvements completed

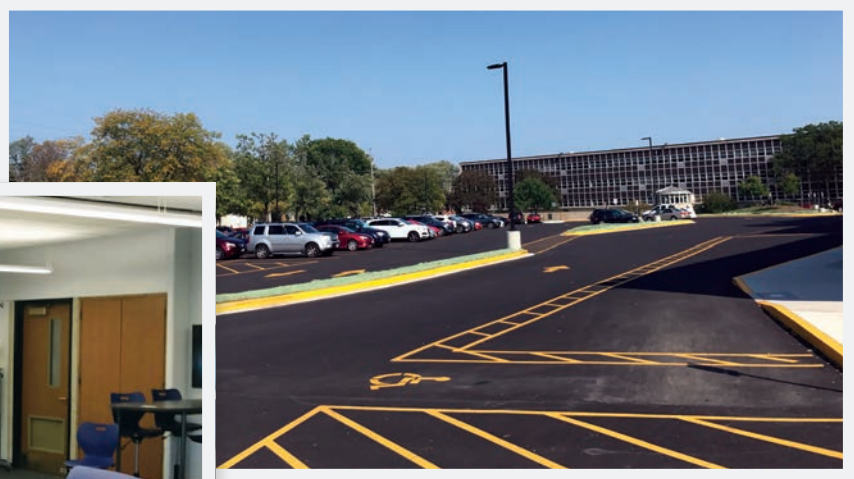
We continue to make progress with capital improvements throughout the district. Over the summer, we completed approximately \$20 million worth of improvements. Funding source: our operating budget and 2014 referendum. We are in year five of our 10-year master facility plan, which provides for critical

renovations and repairs to our four high schools. After the initial four years of our plan, we have spent \$80.4 million of our targeted \$100 million, 10-year plan. ■

Sample of projects completed over the summer:

Glenbard East

Roof replacement above auditorium; asphalt, curb & sidewalk replacement; restroom renovations; and new varsity softball field construction



Above: Glenbard East parking lot

Left: Glenbard East's business INCubator classroom

The community's support of our



Above: Glenbard South hallway flooring

Right: Glenbard South renovated weight room

Glenbard South

Boys P.E. and athletic locker room and weight room renovations, restroom renovations and student cafeteria lines update



Glenbard North

Significant energy efficiency mechanical improvements, including new chiller, four low-pressure hot water boilers, multiple air handling units, LED lighting and partial roof replacement and restroom renovations.



Above: Glenbard North energy efficient boilers



Left: Glenbard North energy efficient chiller

2014 referendum makes it possible for us to execute on our master facility plan.



Above: Permanent bleachers added at Memorial Field at Glenbard West

Glenbard West

Roof replacement over a wing of the main building; floor replacement in four classrooms and boys PE locker room shower; locker room added in Biester; and addition of permanent bleachers at Memorial Field.



Right: Glenbard West roof replacement

Advanced Placement classes changing students' life trajectories

We emphasize a growth mindset with students – teaching students that their skills can improve with hard work. As they develop their abilities and interests, we challenge them to stretch themselves by taking more rigorous classes, including Advanced Placement classes. Many universities and colleges offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying Advanced Placement exam scores. Students who earn a score of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam are entitled to receive college credit at any Illinois public university or college.

Challenging Work a Key to Future Success

We set a premium on taking an Advanced Placement class because we know the research that shows the positive impact that taking AP courses can have on a student's likelihood to be successful in college.

Among our Board of Education's goals is increasing the number of students who pass at least one Advanced Placement exam during four years in high school.

- Current: 44% of seniors in Class of 2017
- Goal: 60% of seniors in Class of 2018

Equal Opportunity Schools

Like high schools around the country, we have a gap when it comes to the number of low-income and minority students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses. We continue to work with the nonprofit organization Equal Opportunity Schools to close the enrollment gap in Advanced Placement courses that exists between middle and upper income white and Asian students and their low-income, black and Hispanic classmates.

We are proud of how our instructors have changed the life trajectories of hundreds of students by intentionally setting a goal to close the enrollment gap in our Advanced

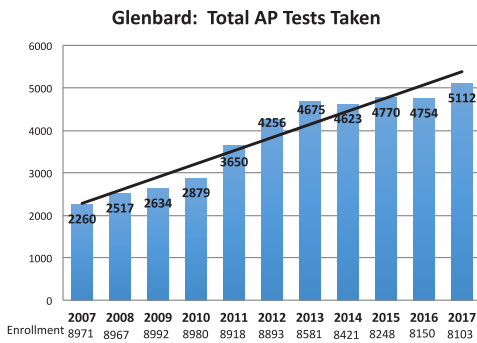
Placement courses by race and income. Last year, Glenbard South closed its enrollment gap, and we continually work to increase the number of under-represented students enrolled in Advanced Placement classes in all of our schools.

National Recognition

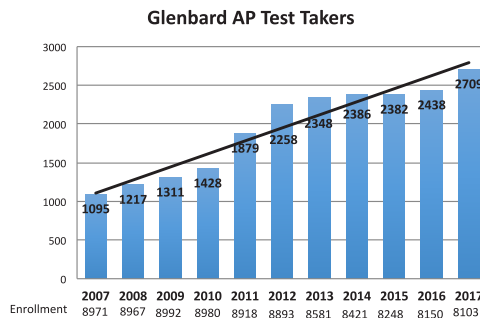
We've earned national recognition for our work related to Advanced Placement. For the seventh consecutive year, the Washington Post named all four of our high schools to its list of America's Most Challenging High Schools.

- Fewer than 10% of high schools nationally make the list.
- The list ranks schools through an index formula that uses the following ratio: the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Advanced International Certificate of Education tests given at a school each year, divided by the number of seniors who graduated that year. ■

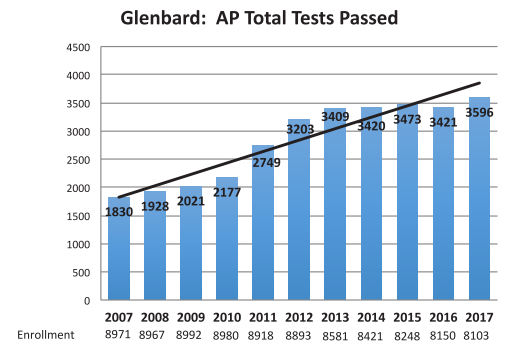
AP Tests Taken
126% Increase Since 2007



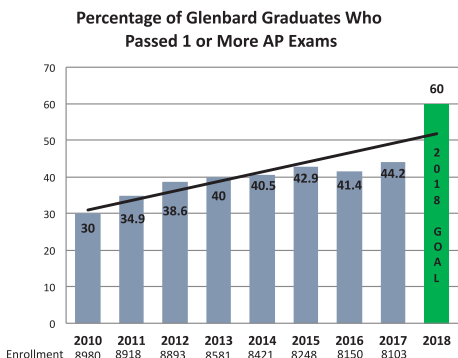
AP Tests Takers
147% Increase Since 2007



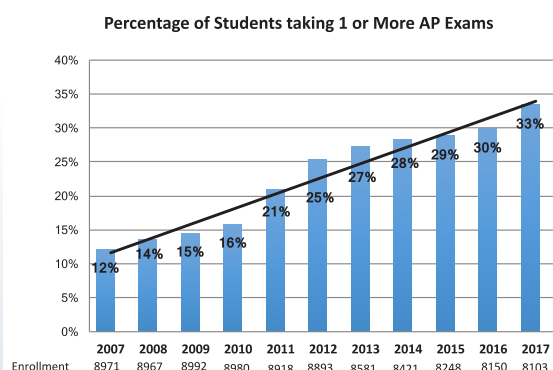
AP Tests Passed
97% Increase Since 2007



Equity and Excellence Percentage
47% Increase Since 2010



Percentage of AP Test Takers
174% Increase Since 2007



We emphasize a growth mindset with students – teaching students that their skills can improve with hard work.

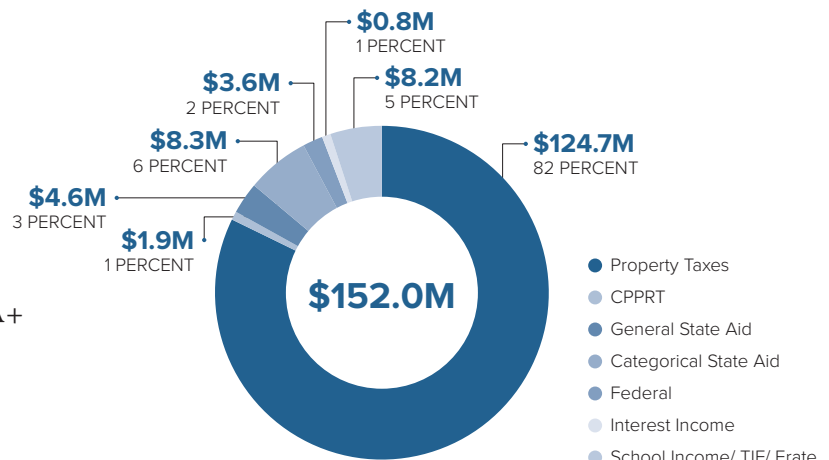
Finance Update

2016–2017 Financial Performance (audited)

- Achieved all major financial objectives, including:
 - Balanced budget in operating funds
 - Strong cash position. No short-term borrowing was required to meet obligations
 - Solvency position realized – 185 days cash on hand was achieved. This exceeds the 180 days target established by the Illinois State Board of Education.
- Achieved Financial Recognition status from the Illinois State Board of Education. This is the 11th consecutive year that we've earned the state's highest level of recognition.
- We've maintained strong credit ratings: Standard & Poor's AA+ and Moody's Aa1 – each one notch below the highest ratings.
- No control deficiencies identified in independent audit for 2016-17. (Exception: Financial Statement reporting was performed by audit firm)

Revenue

\$s in millions



2017–18 Budget

- Revenue = \$152,004,180
- Expenditures = \$166,592,246
- Deficit = \$14,588,066*

*We will spend \$13.5 million in our capital project fund, which is the primary reason for the total deficit referenced above. We are spending down capital project fund money that was received in prior fiscal years for phased project work, including major mechanical work at Glenbard North.

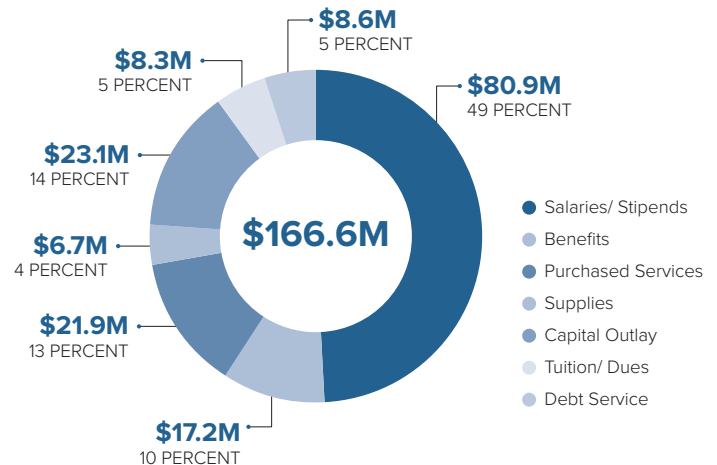
Outlook

The following political and legislative impacts could affect our ability to fund staffing and programs.

- State funding: Potential risk of loss of State funding if the State decides to reduce funding for education in the future.
- Pension cost shift: There have been discussions from the Legislature regarding pension cost from the State to local school districts. If enacted, this would increase our expenditures without a commensurate increase in revenue. ■

Expenditures

\$s in millions



Glenbard Parent Series provides practical tips, support for parents



We invite parents of middle school and high school students to attend the powerful Glenbard Parent Series (GPS) Navigating Healthy Families programs offered throughout the year. GPS shares real-world parenting skills by engaging nationally acclaimed speakers, parents and school staff. Each month we host free events during the afternoon, evening and on Saturdays. Check out the schedule of GPS events at www.glenbardgps.org

In addition to the regular monthly programs, the Saturday Series help parents and students navigate the college application process. Free continental breakfast and childcare are provided. We also offer a GPS Spanish series of programs and events hosted by the Families United for Students Excellence (FUSE) African American Parent Committee, which is co-sponsored by the DuPage County Branch NAACP. ■

Also, like GPS on Facebook at facebook.com/glenbardparentseries

Engaged learning prepares students for future

Our students are engaged learners who are learning more deeply and taking greater ownership of their learning. The following are a few examples of what this looks like for our students and teachers.

Business Incubator

Glenbard East is offering a Business Incubator class that brings together creativity, innovation, and expert entrepreneurial guidance in a course that allows students to jump-start their business ideas. Students are working in small teams, developing a business idea and collaborating with community business experts and entrepreneurs who are mentors and coaches. At the end of the school year, the class will culminate with Shark Tank-style pitches for potential funding for their business.

1:1 Learning Environment

Last year was the first year that all grade levels used iPads as their primary learning tool. Students are exploring and involved in deep learning tasks that were not possible before using iPads.

A cohort of 41 educators are iNNOVATORS, leading the way with professional development opportunities for teachers. They share strategies to leverage technology resources to support excellent instructional practices.

Our iNNOVATORS participate in sample learning experiences using best practices and then work with other teachers in their content areas to apply these frameworks.

The iPad and apps that students and teachers use lead to:

- Increased student-to-student collaboration
- Anytime, anywhere learning
- Improved writing and presentation skills

Leveraging Technology

The following is an example of how leveraging technology leads to more meaningful lessons that develop students' critical thinking, problem-solving and reasoning skills.

Glenbard South students in Speech with Advanced Technology class participate in a Shark Tank project that simulates the TV show. Students work in teams to come up with a new product. They collaborate to create:

- A product development plan, using Google Docs
- An introductory commercial, using iMovie
- A 3D prototype, using Tinkercad/3D printer and
- A sales pitch that will be presented to the so-called "sharks."

Students use creativity, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration skills to meet numerous deadlines throughout the project.

In just a few years, our students will be in the workplace. They are learning the value of working hard, collaborating, communicating, taking risks, being resourceful and exhibiting ingenuity and enterprise. ■



We value engaged learning. Our students are learning more deeply and taking greater ownership of their learning.

Core values at the heart of our work



We are focused on inspiring all students' passion, possibilities and drive.

We encourage students to pursue an area of interest.



We are focused on inspiring all students' passion, possibilities and drive. Our core values include:

- High expectations
- Belonging
- Engaged learning

We instill drive in our students and set high expectations. Our students:

- Embrace challenges
- Persist after setbacks
- Set & pursue goals
- Learn from constructive criticism

Important aspects of our culture of belonging include:

- Valuing all student backgrounds
- Service and leadership opportunities
- Elective courses
- Clubs, activities and athletics
- Student-to-student relationships
- Family atmosphere at school
- Social and emotional learning

Engaged learning involves:

- Deep learning tasks
- Interactive activities
- Leveraging technology
- Emphasis on thinking skills
- Project-based learning ■

More than 70% of our students participate in activities, which are connected to greater academic success.



Our students understand that hard work & perseverance lead to success.



Students are involved in deep learning tasks and are developing critical thinking skills.



Students who take rigorous classes are better prepared for college and careers.





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Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE

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Permit No.293
Glen Ellyn, IL

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Jeff Feucht, Assistant Superintendent
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Support our foundation, support our students

You can make a difference in our students' lives by donating to our foundation, the Partnership for Educational Progress (PEP). PEP provides supplemental financial resources for the public schools in our community. PEP is a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation.

PEP's Focus

PEP provides financial resources to support programs that enhance student achievement and enrich learning opportunities.

Examples of How PEP Supports Education

- Fund classroom grants for teachers to pursue new learning opportunities for students
- Provide grants for students in need to participate in academic and extracurricular activities
- Fund scholarships
- Fund safe post-prom activities

Donations

Support PEP at
<http://www.thepepfoundation.org/>

Your support will make a meaningful difference in our students' lives. Thank you very much for supporting our students.

SIGN UP FOR eNEWS

You can keep up with Glenbard information throughout the year. Visit glenbard87.org and enter your email address in the "sign up for e-news" box. You'll receive news about students' achievements, upcoming events, Board of Education discussions and actions and more.