

NEWSLETTER

FROM SUPERINTENDENT DAVID F. LARSON, Ed.D.

Congratulations, 2024 GRADUATES!



We are very proud of our 2024 graduates. We wish them all the best as they begin a new chapter in life.



Class of 2024



1,259

TOOK AP OR
DUAL CREDIT

1,777

GRADUATES

264

SEAL OF BILITERACY
RECIPIENTS

86%

ENROLLING IN A
COLLEGE OR
UNIVERSITY

26

ENLISTING IN THE
MILITARY

97

WILL COMPETE IN ATHLETICS
AT COLLEGIATE LEVEL

5

NATIONAL MERIT
FINALISTS

SOME OF THE SCHOOLS THEY WILL ATTEND

AURORA UNIVERSITY
BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF DUPAGE
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY
ELMHURST UNIVERSITY
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
NOTRE DAME
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
U OF I AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON



SUPERINTENDENT
David F.
Larson, Ed.D.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRESIDENT
Margaret
DeLaRosa

LARSON, SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT DISCUSS GLENBARD DISTRICT 87'S NEW SCHOOL DAY STRUCTURE

Summer is upon us – a time for rest, travel and outdoor activities. While we are enjoying the sunshine and warm weather in the present, we are also looking forward to some big changes coming to Glenbard District 87 in the fall.

Our four high schools will adopt a hybrid block schedule twice a week, and we will move our start and dismissal times later each day. These changes are part of our focus on providing students with a high-quality learning experience that meets their needs and prepares them for life after high school.

We are confident that our hybrid block schedule and changes to start and dismissal times will enhance our students’ learning experience and best prepare them for their future endeavors.

Glenbard Bell Schedule 2024-25, with A-B-C Lunch times

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
PERIOD	LENGTH	PERIOD	LENGTH	PERIOD	LENGTH	PERIOD	LENGTH	PERIOD	LENGTH
1	8:00 - 8:43	1	8:00 - 8:43	1	8:00 - 9:30	4	8:00 - 9:30	1	8:00 - 8:43
2	8:48 - 9:31	2	8:48 - 9:31					2	8:48 - 9:31
GLENBARD HOUR	9:34 - 10:14	3	9:36 - 10:19					GLENBARD HOUR	9:34 - 10:14
3	10:17 - 11:00	4	10:24 - 11:07					3	10:17 - 11:00
4	11:05 - 11:48	5	11:12 - 11:55					4	11:05 - 11:48
5	11:53 - 12:36	6	12:00 - 12:43	A LUNCH 11:10 - 11:50	11:10-1:25	A LUNCH 11:10 - 11:50	11:10-1:25	5	11:53 - 12:36
6	12:41 - 1:24	7	12:48 - 1:31	B LUNCH 11:58 - 12:38		B LUNCH 11:58 - 12:38		6	12:41 - 1:24
7	1:29 - 2:12	8	1:36 - 2:19	C LUNCH 12:45 - 1:25	(includes lunch in A, B or C)	C LUNCH 12:45 - 1:25	(includes lunch in A, B or C)	7	1:29 - 2:12
8	2:17 - 3:00	EARLY RELEASE/PLC	2:23 - 3:05	5	1:30 - 3:00	6	1:30 - 3:00	8	2:17 - 3:00

WHAT IS CHANGING

Starting in the 2024-25 school year, we will implement a **hybrid block schedule on most Wednesdays and Thursdays**. The schedule will feature:

- Four 90-minute periods.
- Students will attend their odd period classes on Wednesday and their even period courses on Thursdays.
- 40-minute lunch periods will occur during the third block.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays will retain the same schedule as this past year: eight periods per day, with Glenbard Hour (student support time) on Mondays and Fridays. Each high school will now feature three lunch periods.

Glenbard will also be **moving school start and dismissal times 30 minutes later each day** of the week:

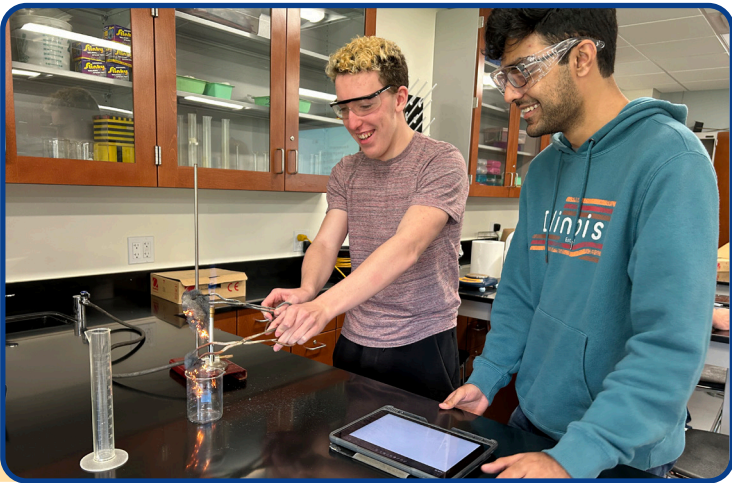
- New start time = 8 a.m.
- New dismissal time = 3 p.m.
- The length of the school day does not change.
- Early dismissal on Tuesdays will continue for teachers to participate in Professional Learning Communities. This is a time that teachers collaborate to discuss ways to achieve better results for the students they serve in common subject areas.
- Research indicates a later start time has physiological benefits for adolescents that lead to better engagement and increased student learning.

HYBRID BLOCK AND DEEP LEARNING EXPERIENCES

We are excited to launch a hybrid block schedule that will provide our students with **deeper learning experiences**. This schedule will also intentionally develop Glenbard’s Profile of a Graduate competencies within the classroom. Our vision of a Profile of a Graduate is a student who communicates, thinks critically, creates, collaborates, embraces diversity and is self-empowered.

The increased opportunities for deep learning drove our decision to adopt the 90-minute block. This extra time in each class will **benefit our students in numerous ways**:

- Deep learning and authentic experiences for all students;
- Additional time for projects, labs and other hands-on activities;
- Experiences in classes that mirror college and work scenarios;
- Focus on fewer subjects per day on hybrid block days (four classes instead of eight);
- Less starting and stopping, transition time between classes;
- Less time on refocusing and warming up to a new subject and class;
- More time for collaboration between students.



The hybrid block schedule will allow for additional class time for science labs and other hands-on activities.

PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Changes of this magnitude require patience and persistence. Students, teachers and staff will all be going through an adjustment period at the beginning as they navigate the new schedule. However, Glenbard teachers and administrators are putting in the work to make this a successful transition.

Throughout the 2023-24 school year, our talented educators participated in the district’s **numerous professional development offerings**. These sessions prepared them to effectively plan and teach for deep learning in a block period. They learned about topics such as: student-led discussion and activities; student supports within the class; student choice; and teaching about our Profile of a Graduate. This focused professional development will continue in the 2024-25 school year.



Class experiences that mirror college and work scenarios are among deeper learning experiences available in the new schedule.

BUILT-IN STUDENT SUPPORT TIME

This past school year, we introduced the Glenbard Hour into our school day schedule. The twice-weekly Glenbard Hour is a **designated time that allows students to access teachers for academic support**.

Most Glenbard Hour sessions are devoted to student agency, where they use this time in areas that benefit them most. Examples include::

- Students getting help from their teachers;
- Test and lab retakes;
- Future planning through college/postsecondary presentations;
- Extending students’ learning;
- Students collaborating with peers;

The Glenbard Hour also features advisory sessions on topics such as:

- Course selection;
- Postsecondary planning;
- Career exploration.



The hybrid block schedule will provide our students with more opportunities for deep learning experiences.

Glenbard superintendent to retire in 2025; superintendent search in progress

Glenbard District 87 Superintendent David Larson, who has been Glenbard superintendent since 2012, will retire at the end of the 2024-25 school year. Board of Education President Margaret DeLaRosa said, "Dr. Larson is an education leader who has consistently exceeded district goals. He initiated and nurtured a culture of academic achievement, equity, innovation and instructional excellence. We are excited to have Dr. Larson in place through the 2024-25 school year as we select our next leader and work through a successful transition of leadership."

Dr. Larson's contributions have greatly impacted student achievement. Here are a few examples:

- He led a multi-year strategic work planning process that includes building-led targets, metrics, customized tactics, and strategies that resulted in strong teaching and learning practices that focus on student academic achievement.
- Physics and Algebra II with Trigonometry course sequence for all students
- Continually achieving high levels of Advanced Placement and Dual Credit participation
- Outperforming in ACT/SAT scores
- Increased college enrollment and college completion
- Facilitated a student, staff and community engagement process to develop Glenbard's Profile of a Graduate, which identifies the knowledge, skills and experiences students need to prepare for their future.
- Guided Glenbard's successful 2024 facility improvements referendum, which will allow the implementation of Glenbard's new 10-year Master Facility Plan.

Dr. Larson's background:

- Educator for 44 years, the past 25 as superintendent.
- Prior to Glenbard District 87, he served at three school districts in Michigan, the Singapore American School, and the Palm Beach County School District in Florida.

In preparation for Dr. Larson's retirement in summer 2025, board members are working with BWP & Associates to conduct a superintendent search for the next superintendent. Board members are committed to finding a strong candidate pool and ultimately the best person to lead Glenbard District 87 in the future.



Board of Education President Margaret DeLaRosa and Superintendent David Larson with student Charlotte Chilton



Suggested Reading 2024-25

Our students have their summer reading. Here are suggestions for parents!

Join us at our weekly virtual events -- FREE and open to all. Visit GPSParentSeries.org



FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

Each summer, we complete capital improvement projects at our buildings. Crews are busy working on capital improvements at our four high schools. In addition, we are working on our 10-year facility master plan.

Capital improvement projects for summer 2024 include the following:



GLENBARD NORTH

- **Major roof replacement; solar installation to follow**
- Renovations to three science labs
- Exhaust fan replacement
- Restroom renovation
- Fire /alarm panel replacement



GLENBARD EAST

- **Restroom renovations**
- Mechanical unit improvements
- Maintenance shop flooring repair and epoxy coating
- Larger projects at East are planned for summer 2025



GLENBARD SOUTH

- **Stadium turf and track replacement**
- Renovations to three science labs
- Theater carpet replacement
- Tuckpointing
- Retaining wall reconstruction
- Parking lot and drive lighting replacement
- Two rooftop units replacement
- Controls replacement
- Fire/alarm panel replacement



GLENBARD WEST

- **Tuckpointing/roof wall rebuild**
- Restroom renovation
- Emergency generator
- Biester field house roof replacement
- Biester field house rooftop unit replacement
- Biester field house fire alarm/panel replacement

FUTURE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

As part of the 10-year facility master plan, we anticipate issuing bonds in spring 2025 for approximately 50% of the \$183 million referendum work that was approved by voters in March 2024. The remaining funds are not anticipated to be needed until 2027.

We will monitor market conditions to ensure the district receives competitive interest rates and receives bond proceeds in time for when construction takes place.

A limited number of referendum projects will start in summer 2025. Bid specifications for summer 2025 projects must be completed by late summer 2024.

Projects in summer 2025 will include updating basic infrastructure, improving classrooms and enhancing safety and security.

Space needed to address changing learning environments

- Areas for **Profile of Graduate learning experiences**, including project development and student presentations.
- **Flexible student breakout collaborative work spaces**, per longer instructional block schedule class periods
- **Access to student resources**, including college and career counseling
- **Versatile spaces** for student clubs and community group events

GLENBARD BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Typically, the Board of Education meets twice a month on a Monday evening. Meetings are open to the public. During the school year, meetings rotate among the four Glenbard high schools and the administrative center. Also, a board meeting is held at the Technology Center of DuPage in Addison and at the Center for Senior Citizens in Glendale Heights. Board meeting dates, locations and agendas are available at glenbard87.org under the School Board tab.



Board of Education Vice President Robert Friend, (from left) Parliamentarian Kermit Eby, member Hetal Lee, President Margaret DeLaRosa and members Rosemarie Montanez, Martha Mueller and James Shannon with Superintendent David Larson.

DAVID LARSON, Ed.D.
Superintendent

JOSH CHAMBERS
Assistant Superintendent
for Human Resources

SETH CHAPMAN
Assistant Superintendent
for Finance and
Operations/CSBO

JANET COOK
Assistant Superintendent
for Student Services

MELISSA CREECH
Executive Director
for Teaching and Learning,
Innovation and Instruction

PATRICK MCGILL
Executive Director for
Teaching and Learning,
Curriculum and Pathways

PRESIDENT
Margaret DeLaRosa

VICE PRESIDENT
Robert Friend

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Kermit Eby

Hetal Lee

Rosemarie Montanez

Martha Mueller

James Shannon

630.469.9100
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STAY CONNECTED

You can keep up with Glenbard information throughout the year. **Visit glenbard87.org** and enter your email address in the "Click here to sign up for Glenbard 87 news" in the blue bar near the bottom of the page. You will receive news about students' achievements, upcoming events, Board of Education discussions and actions and more.

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

Non-Profit
Organization
**U.S. POSTAGE
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Glen Ellyn, IL

GLENBARD HIGH SCHOOLS IN TOP 22% OF ILLINOIS SCHOOLS IN U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S BEST HIGH SCHOOLS RANKINGS

Glenbard District 87's four high schools are ranked in the top 22% of Illinois schools in U.S. News & World Report's 2024 listing of America's Best High Schools. Among 673 Illinois high schools ranked, Glenbard West is ranked 24th in the state; Glenbard South is ranked 48th; Glenbard North is ranked 100th and Glenbard East is ranked 147th. Schools are evaluated based upon their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college. Note: the rankings include selective enrollment high schools.

Superintendent David Larson said, **"It is affirming that our high schools are consistently recognized for providing a challenging course sequence, as well as students' success in a variety of Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses."** Among our goals are students passing one or more Advanced Placement exams during their time with us and juniors taking Physics and Algebra 2 with Trigonometry or higher science and math courses. We are grateful for the support of our students' families. In partnership with our talented faculty and staff, they are helping students prepare for success after high school."



Glenbard District 87's four high schools are ranked in the top 22% of Illinois schools in U.S. News & World Report's 2024 listing of America's Best High Schools.

Glenbard Township High School District 87 does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Glenbard offers classes in several college preparedness courses, as well as career classes at TCD, admission to which is non-discriminatory. Lack of English-language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in those programs.