

NEWSLETTER

FROM SUPERINTENDENT DAVID F. LARSON, Ed.D.

SUPERINTENDENT
David F.
Larson, Ed.D.**DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES GIVE GLENBARD STUDENTS A HEAD START ON THEIR FUTURES**

In Glenbard High School District 87, our overarching mission is to equip our students for success after graduation. One of our main avenues to achieve this goal is expanding early access to college coursework.

Glenbard's free dual credit coursework complements our strong Advanced Placement (AP) program – 67% of the Class of 2024 took one or more AP class in their four years. This early college credit helps reduce tuition costs and speed up the time to college graduation.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRESIDENT
Margaret
DeLaRosa**Partners with College of DuPage**

Our strong partnership with the College of DuPage has been a critical component over the years. Since 2020, Glenbard and COD have offered dual credit general education coursework in:

- English 1101 & 1102: English Composition 1 & 2
- Speech 1101: Fundamentals of Speech Communications
- Math 1218: General Education Math

The dual credit opportunities allow our students to experience early college coursework, taught by Glenbard teachers during the regular school day. Students earn 3 college credit hours per course. These courses are widely transferable for college credit in Illinois and beyond.

Capstone Experiences

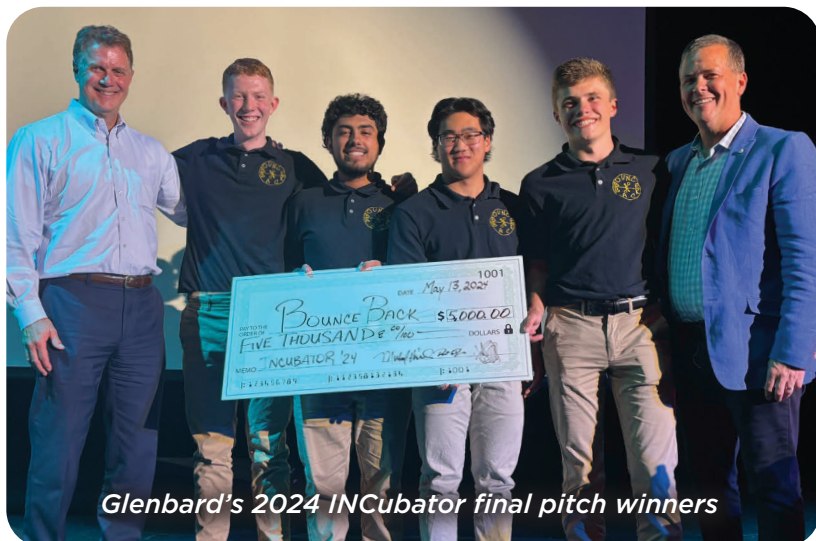
Our offerings in career capstone courses are designed to give students a deeper dive into a particular industry or career and earn college credit. Our dual credit capstone courses include:

- Intro to Education: Dual Credit 1100
- School Procedures: Dual Credit 1101
- Intro to Horticulture: Dual Credit 1100
- Intro to Sustainable Urban Agriculture: Dual Credit 2300

Our horticulture students are participating in field-based activities that provide a view of what future employment could look like in the career field. Glenbard students are also helping deliver instructional experiences at middle and elementary schools within our local sender school districts.

Additionally, Glenbard's INCubator program has expanded to all four of our high schools in 2024-25 through Dual Credit Entrepreneurship 1161. In this class, students work in small teams to develop a business idea. Mentors, coaches and the classroom teacher guide them through a hands-on, authentic entrepreneurial experience.

We're excited for our first district-wide entrepreneurship final pitch contest on May 7, 2025, and we're grateful for the continued support from local business experts and entrepreneurs.

*Glenbard's 2024 INCubator final pitch winners***Success in Numbers**

- Dual credit enrollments increased from 154 in 2020-21, to 2,848 in the 2024-25 school year. This is an equivalent of \$1.3 million in tuition savings for our students and families.
- In 2024, 62% of Glenbard seniors graduated with early college credit – a 16% increase over a 4-year span.
- In 2023, 40.3% of Glenbard seniors scored a 3 or higher on AP exams during their 4 years. This mark was significantly higher than the Illinois average (27.5%), and nearly twice the national average (21.7%).

GLENBARD DISTRICT 87 BOARD APPOINTS NEXT SUPERINTENDENT



Jessica Santee

The Glenbard Township High School District 87 Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of Glenbard South High School Principal Jessica Santee as Glenbard District 87's next superintendent, effective July 1, 2025. The board approved Santee's appointment on December 16, 2024. Santee will succeed Superintendent David Larson, who previously announced that he will retire at the end of the 2024-25 school year. Larson has been Glenbard's superintendent since 2012.

Santee experience:

- Principal at Glenbard South (2021-present)
- Assistant Principal of Instruction at Glenbard South (2019-2021)
- Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Instruction at Lisle Community High School (2016-2019)
- Division Chair for Research & Social Sciences at York Community High School (2014-2016)
- Social studies teacher (2008-2016) and Department Coordinator (2012-2014) at York

Santee said, "Glenbard District 87 is a community deeply committed to fostering student learning and engagement. We hold a shared belief that all students and staff have the capacity to learn, grow, and excel. This mindset of continuous improvement is at the heart of our strategic efforts and reflects who we are as educators."

I am honored to lead this remarkable district as we work collectively to expand access and opportunities for every student. Together, we will empower our students to discover their identity, aspirations, and pathways as they prepare for success beyond high school.

This is a transformative time for Glenbard, marked by the largest facility improvement projects in our district's history and significant advancements in dual credit opportunities and career exploration programs. I am excited to continue collaborating with our greater Glenbard community and am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your superintendent."

Santee education:

- Pursuing a doctorate in educational administration leadership from Aurora University
- Master's degree of educational leadership, principal preparation program from North Central College
- Master's degree of secondary education from University of Cincinnati
- Bachelor's degree in political science and criminology from The Ohio State University

Glenbard District 87 Board of Education President Margaret DeLaRosa said, "The board is delighted to offer the superintendent's position to Ms. Jessica Santee. Glenbard was fortunate to have an extremely talented group of candidates for this position and the input from our community. Ms. Santee demonstrates a deep understanding of where we are today, and a focused vision for the work ahead. We are excited for her future and the leadership she will provide to our students, faculty, staff and community."

As part of the superintendent search, Glenbard District 87 conducted an online survey and a series of focus group meetings with faculty, staff, students and community members to provide input and feedback.

Dr. Larson will collaborate with Santee for a smooth transition leading up to her official start date on July 1, 2025.

Santee recognitions:

- DuPage County, IL Principal of the Year: Illinois Principals Association; 2023-24
- Asked to co-author an article for the April 2025 edition of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) Principal Leadership Journal based on NASSP National Conference presentation, 2024. Article: Rethinking the School Day Schedule - A new way to emphasize deep learning and student support
- North Central College Leader of the Month: Educational Leadership; 2023
- Illinois Econ IL 3M Outstanding Economic Educator of the Year; 2016
- Japan Fulbright Memorial Scholar; 2007
- Korea Society Scholarship for Summer Institute: NYC; 2005
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award: University of Cincinnati School of Education; 2002



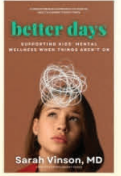
Upcoming Events



Better Days: Supporting Kids' Mental Wellness When Things Aren't OK

Sarah Vinson, MD

Thursday, March 6 at noon and 7 p.m.

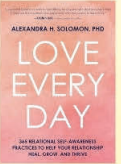


HYBRID EVENT -- Cultivating Healthy Relationships For Joy, Peace and a Meaningful Life

Dr. Alexandra Solomon

Wednesday, March 12 at noon and 7 p.m.

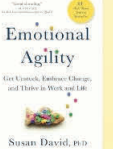
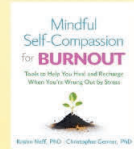
Noon program held at College of DuPage and over Zoom



Emotional Agility: Skills to Navigate Change and Embrace Self-Compassion

Dr. Susan David in conversation with Dr. Kristin Neff

Wednesday, April 16 at noon and 7 p.m.



This is So Awkward: Helping Kids Manage Today's Tween and Teen Culture

Cara Natterson MD & Vanessa Kroll Bennett

Wednesday, April 23 at noon and 7 p.m.



STUDENT LIFE AT GLENBARD



FACILITY MASTER PLAN – SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

The purpose of Glenbard District 87's Facility Master Plan is to identify and address capital improvement needs at our four high schools, which are between 52 and 102 years old. Voters approved Glenbard's \$183 million facility improvements referendum in March 2024.

The first phase of construction will begin at South in spring 2025, along with East and West in summer 2025. North will receive typical summer improvements before launching into their major addition next year.

To learn more about our Facility Master Plan and future construction plans for each school, visit our website: glenbard87.org/facility-master-plan



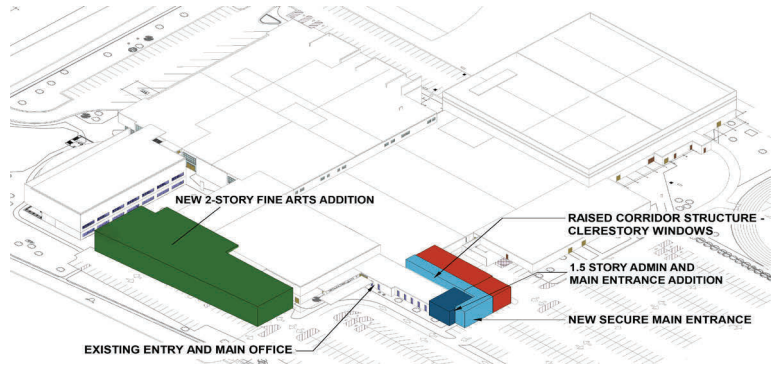
GLENBARD WEST HIGH SCHOOL



GLENBARD EAST HIGH SCHOOL



GLENBARD SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL



GLENBARD NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

BOARD APPROVES TAX LEVY RELIEF WITH \$750,000 ABATEMENT; DISTRICT RECEIVES FINANCIAL RECOGNITION FROM ISBE

In December 2024, the Board of Education approved the tax levy, which included a \$750,000 abatement (reduction) to provide relief to our taxpayers. Over the past three years, the board has approved abatements totaling \$4.25 million – including \$2.0 million last year.

The result of this year's abatement will be a shortfall in the Debt Service Fund, which will be covered by prior year cash reserves. There is no impact on the operating budget and the financial profile score rating. This approach ensures that we are able to fully fund instructional programming while ensuring that we are fiscally responsible to our community.

Glenbard District 87 is committed to fiscal responsibility. We are pleased with the results of the fiscal year 2024 audit. Highlights of the audit are as follows:

1. We achieved all major financial objectives:
 - Balanced budget in our operating funds;
 - Strong cash position; specifically, no short-term borrowing was required to meet obligations;
 - Solvency position realized with 197 days cash on hand achieved. This slightly exceeds the target 180 days established by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).
2. Our Annual Financial Report indicates that the district achieved financial recognition status from ISBE for the 18th year in a row. Financial recognition is ISBE's highest category of financial strength.

BYRNE NAMED NEXT GLENBARD SOUTH PRINCIPAL

On Feb. 10, the Glenbard District 87 Board of Education appointed Sean Byrne as the next principal at Glenbard South High School, effective July 1, 2025. Byrne will become principal after South Principal Jessica Santee assumes her new role as District 87 Superintendent on July 1.

Byrne has served as Glenbard South's Assistant Principal for Instruction since 2021. He was recently recognized in December as Assistant Principal of the Year for the DuPage Region by the Illinois Principals Association.



Byrne experience:

- Assistant Principal for Instruction at Glenbard South (2021-present)
- Department Chair for Science, Technology and Engineering at Glenbard West (2011-2021)
- Science Department Chair at Homewood-Flossmoor High School (2009-2011)
- Science teacher at Downers Grove South High School (2007-2009) and St. Ignatius College Prep (2000-2007)
- Worked extensively with The College Board to support the AP Seminar program. Served on the Development Committee, as a reader and APSI consultant (2015-2021).

"It is with great excitement and Raider Pride that I step into the role of Principal of Glenbard South High School," Byrne said. "Over the past four years, I have come to understand what a special community our school is. As principal, I plan to foster an environment where all students are empowered to reach their full potential, faculty and staff are supported in their professional growth, and the community is engaged in our school's success. We have an incredible team at Glenbard South and I am truly humbled by the opportunity to lead our continued growth."

Superintendent David Larson said, "Mr. Byrne's credentials and qualities as an educator make him an ideal fit as South's principal. He has wide-ranging and successful experiences as an assistant principal, department chair and teacher. We are excited to welcome him to the leadership team here in Glenbard."



Byrne education:

- Pursuing a doctorate in educational administration leadership from Aurora University
- Master's degree in school leadership from Concordia University (Ill.)
- Master's degree in teaching from University of Portland
- Bachelor's degree in biology (pre-med) and philosophy from Boston College

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER BOB FRIEND RECEIVES AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY AWARD



Bob Friend

Congratulations to Board of Education Vice President Bob Friend on earning the Agricultural Education Advocacy Award from the Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education (ILCAE). The award recognizes individuals for their advocacy, efforts, dedication and support for quality education programs in and about agriculture. Mr. Friend's efforts in supporting our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and, specifically, agriculture education at Glenbard have been nothing short of impressive.

"Mr. Friend has been an instrumental member of Glenbard's advisory council supporting agriculture education in District 87," said Mike Fumagalli, Glenbard Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning. "His 16-year commitment to the district not just as a board member, but also as an advocate of career-facing opportunities for students, makes him a deserving recipient of this award."



Bob Friend (RIGHT) holds his award alongside Glenbard's Mike Fumagalli (LEFT).

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

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

630.469.9100
glenbard87.org

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.



Walgreens in Glendale Heights is one of our community partners. To become a community partner, contact Transition Specialist, Erin Hoving at: erin_hoving@glenbard.org.

CONSIDER BECOMING A COMMUNITY PARTNER WITH US

Local employers who are community partners with us provide our students with rich employment experiences that help develop independence within the community. Community partnerships play a vital role in supporting Glenbard students in reaching their individual adult outcomes.

By having support in the community, students are able to optimize access to jobs, various transportation options, social opportunities, recreational facilities and events, as well as other opportunities that can help each student grow into their adult life.

To learn about becoming a community partner, please contact Transition Specialist Erin Hoving at erin_hoving@glenbard.org or 630-942-6783.

We value our community partnerships and appreciate the continued positive impact they have on our students' adult outcomes.

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.