

2022 State of the Community



Including reports from:

City of Crystal Lake
Village of Lakewood
Crystal Lake Public Library
Crystal Lake Park District

McHenry County College
School District 155
School District 47

CHAMBER UPDATE



Our Chamber has been thriving for more than 80 years, stemming from the strong roots established many decades ago. Our legacy has grown from many great leaders who have planted the seeds of change and have cultivated ideas and opportunities to create the business environment we have today. We continue to evolve and establish our future from those roots, leaving an ongoing legacy and a solid foundation where our business community can grow and thrive. Our Chamber's partnerships with our local government entities continue to play a vital role in the success of our business community. We want to express how grateful we are for the inclusive, collaborative, and proactive efforts of the current administrations and community leaders who share in our progress.

As you will read in this State of the Community booklet, the City of Crystal Lake, and the Village of Lakewood, along with many local governmental agencies, school districts, and so many dedicated public servants, have worked hard to continue to move our communities forward, despite the pandemic. Together, our city and village leaders continue to promote new residential housing development and encourage new business opportunities to choose the Crystal Lake area. They do this all while also supporting existing retail stores, restaurants, industrial and manufacturing companies, and offices with a reasonable, business friendly approach to zoning issues, and government regulations that is truly unique to the Crystal Lake area.

CHAMBER UPDATE



Our exceptional school districts continue to focus on being at the forefront of progress and innovation, providing new professional and workforce development educational opportunities for students and workers to help meet the needs of local businesses in our communities. The Crystal Lake Public Library prioritized the updating of their facilities and finding new ways to connect with and serve residents by offering new drive through library services. During its 100th Year Celebration, the Crystal Lake Park District expanded its program offerings to residents as the pandemic restrictions were lifted and even worked to add new parks including a proposed community park on Haligus Road in the Village of Lakewood.

To provide some context to the State of our Community today, it is important to include a reminder of what life was like just over a year ago, in January of 2021. Illinois was still under public health restrictions presented to us using the terms Phases 1,2,3,4,5 and Tiers 1,2,3. Each health region was assigned a Phase and or a Tier based on the positivity rates of Covid-19 cases in that area. For some areas this meant that gatherings were restricted to ten or few people, other regions could have as many as 25 people gathering. For both residents and especially local businesses, life was confusing and difficult.

As the year went on, the restrictions loosened and by summertime the restrictions were mostly lifted. Our community cherished the many moments, events, and opportunities to be together.

CHAMBER UPDATE



Throughout the spring and summer, the Chamber was able to hold in-person events and programs, even hosting the Annual Independence Day Parade in July which was attended by over 15,000 people and our Annual Golf Classic in June with 118 golfers. For the remainder of the year, we were able to hold many of our regular Chamber functions, including weekly networking meetings, bi-monthly “Out 2 Lunch” meetings, Business Builder presentations, Members in Motion networking scramble, monthly Board of Directors, Ambassador, and President’s Council meetings, all in-person with Zoom video conferencing as an option.

While we thought we would be out of the pandemic in 2021, the Chamber continues to adapt to changing regulations, the latest information and the growing concerns from our business community. We continually provided advice and recommendations to governments at all levels, communicated information to our business community, and supported our members. Our priority was on building community partnerships and planning events within the restrictions while also planning and planting seeds for the future.

In other areas of our organization, we focused on supporting our membership, building community partnerships, delivering various community and Chamber events, and enhancing our communications. We are here to serve and support the needs of every business in our region, investing time and resources to help businesses meet their specific needs.

CHAMBER UPDATE



Grand openings, events, advocacy, promotion, and community partnerships are the many ways we cultivate those relationships with our members and celebrate their successes, giving a helping hand when needed.

I would like to include a very special Thank You to the staff at the Chamber including Donna Sather, Lisa McLaughlin, Wendy Pratola, Nick Kubiak and Kristin Parkin for all of their hard work and dedication to the Chamber and our business community.

Throughout the past year, our Chamber remained firmly dedicated to its mission to promote and strengthen the local economy, represent business interests with governments and take political action, develop leaders, and provide opportunities to establish and build relationships. We are dedicated to building on our progress in 2022 and increasing our partnerships with our local government entities and our local business community. Only together can we move forward.

Gratefully,

Bill Eich, President/CEO

State of the Community 2022



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

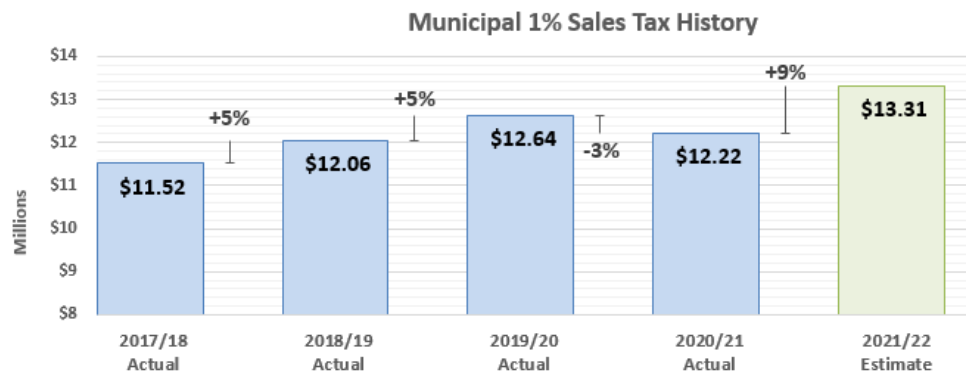
Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

This is the 30th year in a row that the City has received this award.

The City of Crystal Lake has a rich history, rewarding quality of life, and tremendous community spirit. Crystal Lake has been a major economic engine in Northeastern Illinois for the past decade. The City offers residents and businesses high-quality services at one of the lowest municipal tax rates in the area.

Stable Economic Environment

The City of Crystal Lake enjoys a stable economic environment. With the COVID-19 pandemic having a substantial effect on the global economy, the City has successfully navigated the financial consequences without reducing services. The largest single source of City revenue is sales tax, which reflects current economic trends with the additions of new retail and restaurants. Sales tax receipts have rebounded to higher than pre-pandemic levels.



Great Service at a Low Price

The Crystal Lake City Council recently approved the 2021 Property Tax Levy. The approved 2021 tax levy will supplement funding for the Fire Rescue Department and required pension obligations, as well as funding for school crossing guards. The property tax also includes the Crystal Lake Library's property tax levy.

When comparing surrounding communities that provide like services, Crystal Lake's portion of a property owner's tax bill is among the lowest. Since 1997, the City has not levied a property tax for the General Fund. As a result, only approximately 11% of the property tax bill is attributable to municipal services provided by the City of Crystal Lake (2020 Levy).



Good Things are Happening in Crystal Lake

Value for the Community



HIGHLIGHTS

Low Crime Rate

According to the Illinois State Police Uniform Crime Reporting statistics, Crystal Lake has experienced an estimated **62.70% decrease** in total reported index crime offenses from 2006 to 2021.

Enhanced ISO Rating

ISO is the leading supplier of data and analytics for the property/casualty insurance industry.

ISO ratings are based on the Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey that conducts an analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided in the City.

The City's current ISO PPC rating is 2 out of 10, with the lower rating being better.

The City's Class 2 rating placed the City within the **top 5.93%** of fire suppression services in the United States.

In 2021, the City's residents and businesses benefited from the services listed below provided by the City of Crystal Lake:

Community Development

- Sidewalk repair to remove tripping hazards.
- Building and Engineering performed **13,700** inspections.

Public Works and Engineering

- Resurfaced approximately **13.4 lane miles** of roadway
- Supplied **1.4 billion** gallons of fresh water.
- Treated **1.38 billion** gallons of wastewater.
- Plowed **326 lane miles** of roadway during each snow event.
- Cleaned **20.2 miles** of sanitary sewer line and **lined 2.6 miles** of sewer
- Planted **167** parkway trees and trimmed **2,291** parkway trees

Police

- Responded to **18,070** calls.

Fire Rescue

- Responded to **6,709** calls.
- Served **4,635** patients.
- Performed **269** plan reviews.
- Performed **294** life safety and re-inspections.

Three Oaks Recreation Area

- **96,825** vehicles entered the park in 2021.
- **23,113** guests visited the Swim Beach in 2021.
- **7,376** watercraft rented in 2021.



Good Things are Happening in Crystal Lake

Intergovernmental Cooperation



Intergovernmental cooperation takes many forms, including mutual aid agreements for police and fire services, intergovernmental service contracting, joint purchasing agreements, coordinated growth management planning, and regional provision of emergency services. One of the advantages of these types of arrangements is that they provide economies of scale and allow entities to do more with less.

The City has been a leader for years in intergovernmental cooperation. Some examples include:

Southeast Emergency Communications (SEECOM)

The City was a founding member of SEECOM, a regional public safety dispatch center.

Liability and Workers' Compensation Insurance Pool

The City is a participant in the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA), which allows municipal entities to band together for the purposes of reducing liability insurance costs.

Contracted Fire Rescue Services

Through a fee agreement, the City provides fire rescue services to the Village of Lakewood and the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District.

Health Insurance Pool

The City is a participant in the Intergovernmental Personnel Benefit Cooperative (IPBC) which allows municipal groups to band together for the purposes of reducing health insurance costs.

McHenry County Municipal Partnering Initiative (MPI)

The City is a member of the McHenry County MPI which is a purchasing collaboration of local governments in McHenry County. This is an initiative to reduce program costs through basic principles: bulk purchasing, the sharing of best practices, and the sharing of workloads. Any community could choose to opt out of a proposed project, maintaining the ability for communities to choose to do things their way while simultaneously allowing interested parties to cooperate and save on costs.

Joint Purchasing Agreements

The City Council adopted a Procurement Ordinance which allows the City to take advantage of cooperative purchasing opportunities by becoming a member of various cooperative purchasing programs in addition to the State of Illinois Joint Purchase Program and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative.



IPBC
Intergovernmental
Personnel Benefit
Cooperative

Three Oaks Recreation Area



In 2021, Three Oaks Recreation Area continued to be a desirable recreational amenity. This is reflected in the continued high customer satisfaction ratings. The 2021 season began with Covid-19 restrictions in place, but loosening restrictions over the summer helped the park have a return to normalcy. All amenities were available in 2021 and the park continued to be highly regarded by those who visit as a regional and national attraction.

Guest Satisfaction Remains a Priority

- Per customer survey information, guests continued to be very satisfied with customer service provided by staff at the beach and marina.
- The number of repeat guests continues to remain high. Guests who visited the swim beach at least once a month increased in 2021. 28% of guests surveyed rented a watercraft at least once per month.
- 99% of surveyed guests are either likely or very likely to return to the park.

Attendance

- **23,113** guests visited the Swim Beach in 2021.
- Over **90,000** vehicles entered the park in 2021.
- Nearly **70** percent of park guests are from areas outside of Crystal Lake.

Park Vendors

- The Quarry Cable Park, Board House, and Cottage on the Beach continued successful operations at the park in 2021 and will return in 2022.

Media Attention

- Three Oaks Recreation Area ranked **No. 1** on *Trip Advisor's* Top 20 Things to do in Crystal Lake.

Revenues and Expenses

- Part-time staff expenses, which accounted for 49% of all park expenses, were completely paid for by park use revenues.



City Investment in Business Community



HIGHLIGHTS

Investment in Business

\$538,574 in City façade grants to businesses from 2010 to present.

\$4,600,000 in City sales tax sharing agreements from 2010 to present.

\$4,426,917 in City Hotel/Motel Tax Funding awarded to community organizations from 2002 to present.

\$616,592 in City pandemic assistance grants to businesses.

2021 Business Development

- **390,715** SF of commercial occupancies
- **346,010** SF of new business occupancies
- **44,705** SF expanded/relocated businesses
- **526** new jobs created
- **86** new small businesses (<20 employees)

Crystal Lake is a well-established community with an abundance of opportunities for new development as well as redevelopment. There are **3,734** local businesses in Crystal Lake, providing a workforce of **26,418** employees.

Crystal Lake has quickly translated demand into quality growth – filling key commercial corridors, encouraging reinvestment in multiple shopping centers and developing new sites with retail, residential, industrial and healthcare facilities. Within the next year, Crystal Lake will see over 500 acres of greenfields developed throughout the City with housing developments, industrial buildings and medical facilities.

A new array of modern living options are entering the housing market. More than 1,000 new housing units are anticipated to be added to the Crystal Lake community in the next few years.

Crystal Lake continues to be a strong magnet for national and regional retailers. Last year alone residents spent over \$90 million at restaurants in Crystal Lake.

As the community has continued to grow, so does the demand for healthcare services. Mercyhealth selected Crystal Lake as the home of a new \$105 million hospital and multi-specialty medical campus, which is slated to open in the spring of 2023.



Good Things are Happening in Crystal Lake

City Investment in Business Community



New Manufacturer and Industrial Growth



Amazon Distribution Facility

245 S. Main Street
Plans to develop a new 186,000 square-foot fulfillment facility on a 63 acre site and will bring 500 new jobs to the Crystal Lake community.



CPSI Medical Supplies

CPSI Medical Supplies
975 Nimco Drive

A wholesale distributor and light manufacturer of glass



Dreisilker Electric Motors
545 Dakota Street

A proven leader in electric motor repair, generator and wind turbine repair.



G & W Technical
371 Prairie Street

Precision CNC machine shop provides OEM manufacturers with products in a variety of materials



CRYSTAL LAKE

Growing Crystal Lake Through Marketing and Advertising

Clearly Crystal Lake is a new marketing brand that was created and rolled out in an effort to continue to grow the business community and help market Crystal Lake on a regional and national level. The roll-out occurred as the pandemic began and enabled the City to continue to gain exposure and ensuring the City remained on companies' radars for growth opportunities. This helped generate a buzz among the development community and put the City in a great spot to continue to attract projects and new businesses as the country rebounds from the pandemic.

Over the course of the last 12 months the city generated the following exposure:

Crain's - 915,947 impressions and 620 clicks to our article & website

Nation's Restaurant News - Article sent to over 16,000 restaurants and business owners

Bisnow - 80,900 impressions and 742 clicks to our article & website

LinkedIn - 9,475 impressions and 30 clicks to learn more about our market

Learn more about Clearly Crystal Lake at our new website:

ClearlyCrystalLake.com



Good Things are Happening in Crystal Lake

New & Expanded Businesses



Raising Cane's - 5417 Northwest Highway

Opened its first McHenry County location and provides a new fast-casual chicken experience. The company has ONE LOVE — quality chicken finger meals and a cult following.



Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers - 5500 Northwest Highway, Unit A

Fast-casual restaurant new to McHenry County that specializes in various sandwiches, burgers and hot dogs that are cooked to order, as well as frozen custard.



Abalabix Books - 30 N. Williams Street, Unit A

A new independent bookstore stocked with new books for all ages is located in downtown Crystal Lake in the Brink Street Market.



Jalsa Bar and Restaurant - 1295 N. Randall Road, Unit 112

A progressive Indian restaurant & cocktail bar serving traditional Indian dishes, plenty of vegetarian options and a number of South Asian inspired dishes. Open for dine-in or take-out every day from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.



Sushi U - 5889 Northwest Highway, Unit A

A new modern sushi restaurant featuring a dine-in *All You Can Eat Sushi* special and an extensive menu of sushi and sashimi along with hibachi, ramen and teriyaki dishes for dine-in, take-out and catering.



Cheshire Cakes - 40 N. Williams Street, Unit 40L

An "Alice in Wonderland" themed bakery serving up creatively inspired and delicious cakes, cupcakes, cookies, cheesecakes, croissants and more!



McAlister's Deli — 5500 Northwest Highway, Unit E

McAlister's Deli is a counter-service and take-out deli known for their delicious sandwiches, soups, salads, stuffed baked potatoes and sweet tea.



Cantina 52 - 52 Brink Street

A new Mexican street taco restaurant and tequila bar featuring a wide array of hand crafted tequila cocktails alongside globally inspired fusion tacos with Mediterranean, Korean, and Cajun flavors.



Moontime Smokin' Que - 88 Railroad Street

Now offering dine-in service and serving up a wide range of smoked meats including beef brisket, chicken, pulled pork, pork tenderloin, baby back and St. Louis style ribs served up alongside homemade sauces and signature sides all made from scratch.



Chingon Tex-Mex BBQ - 540 E. Terra Cotta Avenue

New sit-down Mexican/BBQ restaurant serving up a wide range of traditional Mexican dishes alongside smoked barbecue specialties like brisket and ribs.



Neighborhood Butcher Shop - 19 Berkshire Drive

A family owned and operated wholesale meat and produce store open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Offering a wide variety of brats, fajitas, and other classic and custom cut meats, seafood and fresh produce.

Future/Planned Developments



Tasty Bistro - 374 W. Virginia Street

Crystal Lake's newest upscale sit-down restaurant opening soon featuring a wide variety of Asian specialty dishes and cocktails. Located in the heart of the Virginia Street corridor.



Edge Fitness will be opening its first McHenry County location in the Spring of 2022. The 52,000 square-foot fitness facility at 800 Cog Circle will feature cardio and strength training equipment, an indoor turf, yoga and spinning classes and a variety of other gym amenities.



95 E. Crystal Lake Avenue will be a new 99-unit luxury rental housing development with a mix of townhome and apartment units planned for the southwest corner of Crystal Lake Avenue and Main Street. The transit-oriented development will provide a new housing opportunity for residents who want to enjoy the ease of access to downtown shops, restaurants and the Metra line.



Coming in 2022, Redwood Crystal Lake is a 305-unit ranch style townhome community. The rental community will be located near Mercy Hospital and Walmart on Central Park Drive. The community will feature high-end finishes and is open to all age groups with a key feature of being ADA compliant throughout the development.



New home construction continues at the Woodlore Estates Subdivision. Over 290 permits have been issued and residents have moved in. Once completed, the subdivision will consist of 68 townhome units, 105 senior single-family homes, and 319 single-family homes. The senior single-family homes are ranch-style homes available to residents 55 years of age and older.



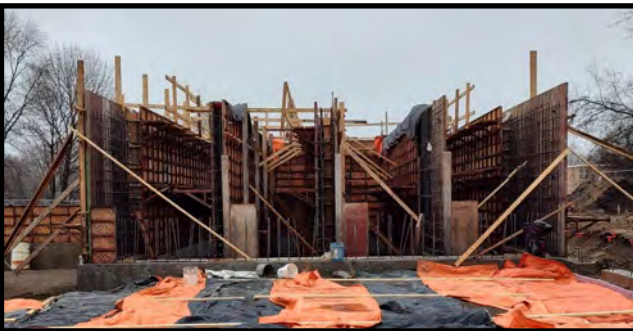
New luxury apartments are nearing completion in Crystal Lake! The Springs at Three Oaks is being built at 1120 Central Park Drive and will offer a townhome-like feel with high-end amenities including an outdoor pool and clubhouse, two dog parks, a community fire pit and gathering area.

Featured Capital Improvement Projects



McCormick Park Area Water Main Improvements

- Replaced water mains and valves with increased capacity to better serve residents and businesses
- Improved water flow into McCormick Water Tower



Water Treatment Plant 2 Reconstruction

- Improved water treatment capacity to accommodate future deep well
- Water quality improvements
- Completion in 2022



Pine Street/Oriole Trail Storm Water Project

- Acquisition of five homes to alleviate flooding
- Create over 170,000 gallons of storm water storage
- Native plantings and rain garden area
- 100% of costs covered by Illinois Department of Natural Resources grant



North Main Street at Illinois Route 176

- Construction of turn lanes and installation of a new traffic signal
- Resurfacing of Main Street
- Replace and upsize water main on IL 176 and North Main Street
- \$1.68 million in State and Federal grant funds

City Officials



MAYOR

Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBERS

Ellen Brady
Cathy A. Ferguson
Brett Hopkins

Cameron Hubbard
Mandy Montford
Ian Philpot

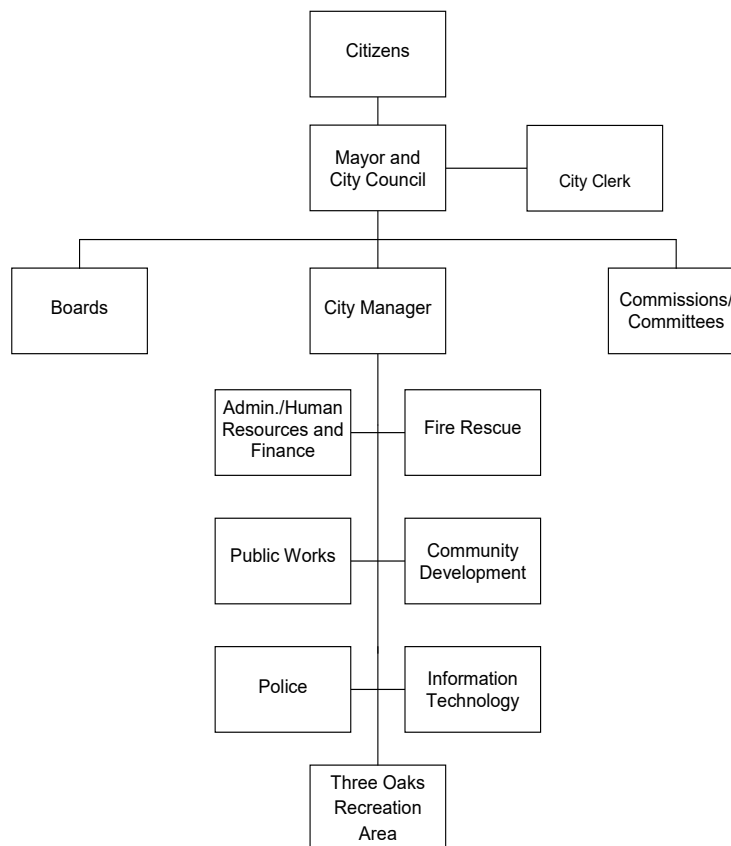
CITY CLERK

Nick Kachiroubas

ADMINISTRATION

Gary J. Mayerhofer
Eric T. Helm
Jodie Hartman
Kathryn Cowlin
Julie Meyer
Gregory A. Fettes
Michael Magnuson
James Black
Paul DeRaedt

City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Director of Finance/Treasurer
Director of Community Development
Director of Human Resources
Director of Information Technology
Director of Public Works and Engineering
Chief of Police
Chief of Fire Rescue



Outreach



The City of Crystal Lake is committed to delivering information to the public that is clear, timely, and promotes two-way communication between City officials and the Crystal Lake community.

The City publishes a monthly newsletter to provide residents with information about municipal programs, services, community events and actions of the City Council. In a continuing effort to keep residents informed about City news and events, residents can register to receive timely news about municipal services, City Council meetings, agendas, news releases, and more via e-mail.

Comcast and AT&T U-Verse provide the City with a 24-hour community access channel. Comcast and AT&T subscribers can tune in to view information about community news and events.

The City's website at www.crystallake.org offers several interactive tools designed to help foster better communication and efficiency, including E-News, online bill pay and licensing, online permit and development applications through ezApp, the City's Transparency Portal, and the Form Center for requests or concerns.

Public documents are uploaded to the City's website to help provide greater access to information for residents, businesses and visitors. The City has created a "Transparency Portal" page, a one-stop location that will direct residents to details about City spending and operations, including current and past year budgets and audits, salary information for all City employees, and City Council and Committee Meeting agendas and minutes.

Social Media



Electronic Bidding

The City uses "BidSync", an electronic bidding notification and procurement system. BidSync enables suppliers and vendors to identify, respond to, and potentially win bid opportunities with the City of Crystal Lake.

The City issues competitive solicitations for goods and services using the BidSync Electronic Bidding System. Vendors will be able to view, and when applicable, submit bids and proposal requirements electronically using the system. There is NO CHARGE TO VENDORS to use the BidSync Electronic Bidding System but vendors need to register. Vendors can also register through the City of Crystal Lake's website.

Interactive Maps

In response to the surging demand for online access to a wealth of public information, the City has taken great strides in providing this information in easy to access maps via the City's GeoCortex portal. For residents seeking information about a particular property, GeoCortex is an easy way to view an array of information on a specific property or the City overall. Maps can be accessed at www.crystallake.org/our-community/helpful-maps.



Good Things are Happening in Crystal Lake

INSERT PICTURES



STATE OF COMMUNITY 2022
VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD

2500 LAKE AVENUE | LAKEWOOD, IL 60014 | 815-459-3025



6 Lakes



650 acres of open space including the Kishwaukee Fen Nature Preserve



1500 homes



4,283 residents



6 businesses with opportunity for growth



4 golf courses



1 restaurant



1 church

\$388,300
Property Value
(Median)

\$144,240
HH Income (Median)
1st in McHenry County
22nd in Illinois
Top 3% nationally



COMMUNITY

LAKEWOOD PAST-PRESENT

The Village of Lakewood is situated 50 miles northwest of downtown Chicago, nestled between the City of Crystal Lake, Village of Lake in the Hills, City of Woodstock, and Village of Huntley.

In the summer of 1933, residents of the Grafton Township R.F.D. No. 2 community found themselves in need of police, fire protection and infrastructure. 51 residents of 'R.F.D No. 2' signed a petition to form the Village of Lakewood. The community living in this in this ½ square mile of land in McHenry County voted for change and the Village of Lakewood was formed.

Similar community involvement occurred in the spring of 2021. With a new administration and board, the Village of Lakewood is focused on maintaining or replacing Village infrastructure and assets while identifying new opportunities for the Village.

Today, the Village of Lakewood consists of 19 distinct neighborhoods located in 5 square miles with many opportunities for family fun and recreation. The Village of Lakewood's primary goal is to remain a friendly community providing families with quality living in a natural setting. We are looking forward to all the great possibilities for our community as we approach 100 years in 2033.

The Village of Lakewood is a non-home rule municipality functioning under the President-Trustee form of government. Village staff are committed to providing the most effective, cost-efficient, and high-quality municipal services to residents.

Public Safety ● Water & Utility Services ● Recycling & Refuse

Building Permits & Enforcements ● Resident Notification System

Snow Removal ● Community Events





PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE PROTECTION

The Police Department is responsible for meeting the law enforcement needs of the community relating to general patrol, crime prevention, communications, community services and events, accident and criminal investigations, records, training and continued development for officers, and fiscal management.

The Lakewood Police Department is a highly skilled team of professional and community-minded law enforcement professionals with a growth forward vision as the Village of Lakewood's population, business development and recreational facilities grow in 2022.

In eight short months, Chief of Police, Mike Roth, and his team have worked tirelessly to complete their vision for resident and business safety in Lakewood. In the coming year, focus will be on the continued training and development of officers including mental health interventions.



Full-time Officers



Responded to 1,772 police calls



Supported 12 local events with security and safety initiatives



Performed 532 hours of lake patrol on Crystal Lake

2021 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Added additional police staff to support community growth, flexibility in coverage, changing roles and increased community engagement
- Developed an internship program for a Community Service Officer
- Adopted Lexipol Public Safety and Training practices
- Implemented traffic calming and pedestrian safety initiatives on Lake Avenue
- Replaced police equipment including bullet-proof vests, body cams and police squads
- Provided security planning and detail for Lakewood's very own American Idol Finalist Grace Kinstler's Hometown Celebration
- Assisted other agencies with police support and security for public safety events and recreational activities
- Researched and provided recommendations regarding the impact of golf carts to the community, assisted in drafting the ordinance and developed a golf cart registration program
- Held DEA National Drug Take Back Event





Implementation of departmental KPI's



Implementation of a resident feedback survey to collect input on proposed golf cart ordinance



Creation of a resident liaison position to foster resident engagement and feedback



Coordination and support of Village events

- American Idol Hometown Celebration
- Lakewood Youth Service Organization 4th of July Parade
- Development of new park with Crystal Lake Park District
- Restoration of Kishwaukee Fen and Nature Preserve
- Lakewood October Fest
- Cocoa with Santa and Toys for Tots



ADMINISTRATION

VILLAGE HALL

Mrs. Jean Heckman, Village Manager, oversees the coordination of all Village service departments to provide the most cost-effective delivery of municipal services to residents. Starting her role as Village Manager on April 29, 2021, she and her team have accomplished much in this short time including a full review of Village operations to identify areas of improvement, potential efficiencies, and future needs. Similar to a Chief Operating Officer at a Fortune 100 company, Mrs. Heckman continues to navigate through all day-to-day operations and future planning for the Village. Goals for this year are optimize performance through process refinement, high-performing cross functional teams, and physical space initiatives to meet the needs of residents, staff, and business partners.

2021 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed a financial review committee that includes independent CPA financial oversight and new financial auditors. Consolidated Village accounts to ensure all are ICS insured and covered by the bank's positive pay program to protect against fraud
- Modernized and expanded the use of technology and digital tools in all departments to ensure business continuity and efficiency in work
- Initiated development of Lakewood's 1st strategic long-term plan
- Implemented costs savings alternatives in utility billing, IT service provider and audit services and painting of Village Hall through staff and residents
- Restructured the Village Building department to address challenges of the permit review process, including contracting a new building inspector, clarification of permit requirements, review of permit fees and implementation of software to improve timeliness of inspections
- Expanded civic infrastructure through organizational changes, improved employee satisfaction and teamwork, and improved communication with all stakeholders by growing the resident email, website, and text caster notification subscription base by more than 50%, coordinated weekly "Top 5" departmental expectations to the board
- Collaborated with local partners on parks, services, grants, development, and strategic planning





Maintained 5 wells and 1 water tower supplying 190,171,000 gallons of fresh water



Coordinated inspections and made repairs to earthen dam



Processed 179,513,000 gallons of wastewater



Cleared snow from 35 miles of roadway for each snow event



Repaired / replaced 55 street signs

PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE

Public Works is responsible for maintaining the streets, equipment, fresh water, sewer system and public property within the Village limits. This department is also responsible for snow plowing, brush pickup, hydrant flushing and similar services.

Mr. Gary Zickuhr, Public Works Director, and his team continue to exceed all expectations for keeping Lakewood's roads, areas, and its hidden infrastructure (water and sewer) safe, compliant, and operational. The Public Works department is Lakewood's unsung hero for keeping Lakewood 'working'. In 2022, public works will have a greater reliance on real time data and technology to prioritize infrastructure resource allocation and decision-making.

2021 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Implemented an electronic work order service system to track and monitor completion of daily work tasks - creating efficiencies and cost savings
- Updated all 7 lift stations with digital tools for more efficient monitoring and emergency notification. Rebuilt Lake Avenue lift station
- Developed road program in conjunction with Baxter & Woodman to grade all 35 miles of Village roads for maintenance and repair planning
- Graded all Village manholes and concrete structures to develop maintenance and repair plan
- Developed a Civil engineering internship program to aid in providing opportunities to young professionals while addressing Village needs for infrastructure mapping and quarterly EPA storm water reviews
- Oversaw resurfacing of 3 Village streets
- Painted village hall with resident volunteers
- Reviewed 130 tree permits, removed 30 dead Village owned trees which are slated for replanting
- Developed a sewer line cleaning and maintenance schedule
- Performs routine maintenance on # vehicles in village fleet





94 golf events



3 high school teams practice and tournaments



8 golf leagues



36 non-golf events (parties, showers, meetings)



Enhanced spirit and Wine menu



Menu designed for high quality food with fast service



REDTAIL GOLF OPERATIONS

What started off as a difficult governing decision in 1991, for a municipality purchasing an unfinished golf course, turned out to be a valuable attraction to potential home buyers and an asset to residents who enjoy the game of golf.

Mr. Kenny Goodwin, RedTail General Manager, and his team continually focus on the customer experience and working toward creating the best golfing experience possible. The food and beverage offerings at RedTail are also appealing to non-golfers and serves as a destination for many residents.

RedTail Golf Club has made many operational and course changes to create efficiencies and cost savings without compromising value and customer experience. Forecasted growth is strong for 2022 and more operational improvements are planned.

The team at RedTail Golf Club is looking forward to exciting changes in in the next few years as staff are working toward solutions to replace assets and structures that have exceeded their useful life. The impressive financial success of the golf club over the past two years will aid in making these plans a reality. Importantly, no municipal funds or taxpayer dollars will be used for these projects and a portion of profits has been set aside for future cash flow challenges.

2021 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Implemented cross-training of staff in all areas to maximize efficiency and enhance overall experience, including 8 staff members certified in food safety
- Converted 3 holes from sand to grass bunkers to reduce player frustration and to decrease labor without impacting the course
- Edged sandtraps around all greens
- Implemented a five-step irrigation program to all holes to improve the green complex. Top dressing, rolling and cut program and divot repair program to ensure greens are in top condition



PARKS

HALIGUS ROAD PARK



aviger@crystallakeparks.org

The Crystal Lake Park District is in the early planning stages for a new community park on Haligus Road in Lakewood. The park site, which was donated by the village of Lakewood, is 10 acres in size and located just south of the Village of Lakewood's Public Works facility on Haligus Road. Hitchcock Design Group has been hired by the CLPD to design a master plan for the park and will be lead additional public input sessions in 2022. The park will be open to all Crystal Lake Park District residents.



KISHWAUSHE FEN NATURE PRESERVE RESTORATION



Kishfriends@gmail.com



Completed 6 workdays in 2021 and scheduled 6 additional workdays through March 2022
(Volunteers welcome)

The Land Conservatory of McHenry County is helping to educate and organize stewardship of the Kishwaukee Fen Nature Preserve located in the Village of Lakewood. The ecological integrity of the fen is dependent upon the ground water supply from the surrounding uplands. The area surrounding the preserve is buffer, part of which is being restored to native vegetation. The fen features a high-quality plant community including many plants favoring calcium rich environments and the rare Baltimore checkerspot butterfly, solely dependent on turtlehead for its larval food supply which resides in the Kishwaukee Fen Nature Preserve.



Current Businesses

Cross Point Lutheran Church
(815) 893-0888
www.cplakewood.info

Crystal Woods & Craig Woods Golf Clubs
(815) 338-3111
www.crystalwoodsgc.com

Excelsior Salon & Spa
(815) 321-2099
www.vagaro.com/us04/reflections11

Edward Jones
(815) 356-5401
www.edwardjones.com

Gardens of Woodstock
(815) 337-2509
www.gardensofwoodstock.com

Kolze's Corner Garden
(815) 338-1475
www.kolzescornergardens.com

Leix Dental
(815) 604-6104
www.leixdental.com

Lou Malanti's Pizzeria
(815) 477-8100
www.loumalantis.com/lakewood

Rebecca McCarthy School of Dance
(815) 893-4069
www.rebeccamccarthyschoolofdance.com

RedTail Golf Club
(815) 477-0055
www.redtailgolf.com

Turnberry Golf Club
(815) 455-0501
www.turnberrycc.com

DEVELOPMENT

TRAVEL CENTER

A travel oasis on Rt. 47 and Rt. 176 is currently in the early stages of development. The Oasis, anchored by Amoco, will be home to a convenience store, Subway, and Dunkin' Donuts.



BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Village of Lakewood has made commercial development a top priority for Lakewood's future economic growth.

The Planning & Zoning Commission is open to review the zoning of open spaces that would be best suited for development.

Lakewood is uniquely positioned to have a large amount of undeveloped land along the growing and developing corridor near Rt. 47 and Rt. 176 and is actively moving forward with the design, planning and financing options for providing sewer and water to this area.

Both Huntley and Woodstock have enjoyed the beginning stages of commercial development on Rt. 47 with Lakewood delightfully sitting between these communities.

Over the coming years, an IDOT project to align Rt. 47 and Rt. 176 will ease traffic and make for a safer intersection. This area has the potential for large commercial, retail, and residential growth in the next 5 to 10 years. Lakewood is actively seeking forward thinking developers who are interested in opportunities for this next hot area. Please contact the Village Manager for more information.



www.village.lakewood.il.us



(815) 459-3025



www.facebook.com/Vlg.Lakewood



2500 Lake Ave.
Village of Lakewood, IL 60014



Monthly Board Meetings
2nd and 4th Tuesdays

CONTACT



VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Dave Stavropoulos
david.stavropoulos@village.lakewood.il.us

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

boardoftrustees@village.lakewood.il.us

Brian Augustine
Tricia Babischkin
Janet Barron
Ryan Berman
Michael Fischer
April Runge

VILLAGE CLERK

Jeanette LoBosco
jlobosco@village.lakewood.il.us

CHIEF OF POLICE

Mike Roth
mroth@village.lakewood.il.us

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSIONERS

planningandzoning@village.lakewood.il.us

John O'Hara –*Chairman*
Larry Galizi
Andy Knapp
Brian Mattick
Paul Shamoun
Sheldon Smith
Bill Wayne

ADMINISTRATION

VILLAGE MANAGER

Jean Heckman
jheckman@village.lakewood.il.us

DIRECTOR PUBLIC WORKS

Gary Zickuhr
gzickuhr@village.lakewood.il.us

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MGR

Sue Villie
svillie@village.lakewood.il.us



REDTAIL GOLF CLUB

(815) 477-0055
www.redtailgolf.com

GENERAL MANAGER

Kenny Goodwin
kgoodwin@redtailgolf.com



I. Organizational Focus

The Crystal Lake Public Library has served the community since 1913. The Library began with a collection of books and magazines in the vacant H. A. Dodge home on Pomeroy Avenue. As demand for services grew, the Library was moved to larger spaces over several decades. In 1952, a small stand-alone Library was built at its current site at 126 Paddock Street. Eventually, the small building was leveled, and a larger facility was constructed in 1965. Two building additions/expansions followed, one in 1984 and another in 1995.

The Library is **Your Community Place for Lifelong Learning.**

Crystal Lake Public Library is guided by the following mission statement:

“Helping people, of all ages and backgrounds, learn, enjoy and better their lives.”

Library Continues to Serve Community During Repairs Project and COVID

With the onset of COVID in spring 2020, the Crystal Lake Public Library staff quickly transitioned to offer programs and services virtually. Programs are prerecorded and available on the Library’s YouTube channel to watch at anytime, or offered via Zoom. Surprisingly, by sharing the programs online, the Library has reached more people than ever before. Staff also created Take-and-Make craft kits for all ages, which patrons can pick up at the Library and make at home.



CLPL staff hosted story time programs outdoors to provide a safe environment for children and caregivers.



Once the Repairs Project was completed in

June 2021, patrons

could again visit the Library in person to borrow materials, use the computers, study in a quiet space, and seek reference assistance. The Library began offering outdoor story times at local parks (thanks to a collaboration with the Crystal Lake Park District) and at private businesses (such as the Dream Riders horse farm). Staff continue to seek innovative ways to provide patrons with the programs they have grown accustomed to.

Pictured left: Library story times held in 2021 at area parks, such as Veteran Acres Park, often drew more than 100 children, parents and caregivers per event.

Residents and businesses located within the city of Crystal Lake are eligible for a Crystal Lake Public Library card.

Here's what you can typically borrow with your Library card:

- Books:** Regular, large print and digital
- DVDs/Blu-rays:** Movies, TV, learning
- Audiobooks:** CDs and digital
- CDs:** Classical, rock, kids
- Electronic resources 24/7 on website:** eBooks, eMagazines, audiobooks, movies and music
- Digital collection:** OverDrive, TumbleBooks, Hoopla, Flipster
- Library database:** Access to Consumer Reports, Reference Solutions, Mango Languages, LinkedIn Learning, Value Line and other resources
- HelpNow:** Homework help, online resource
- Creativebug:** Art & craft video tutorials presented by experts
- AncestryLibrary:** Family history research
- Foreign language materials:** Spanish and Polish
- Literacy and STEM kits, Puzzles**
- Wi-Fi Hotspots:** Use at home or on the road wherever you need Wi-Fi!
- Video Games, Playaway Launchpads, Kindle Fire Tablets**

Homework Help CDs
BOOKS
 Audiobooks Blu-rays
 DVDs STEM
 Wi-Fi Hotspots Kits
 eLibrary Creativebug

More services provided by the Library:

- Virtual programs:** Story times for kids and adults; cooking and craft demonstrations; book reviews and reading recommendations; author webinars; trivia contests; Zoom seminars about gardening and travel; virtual book clubs and social gatherings.
- Reference and readers assistance:** Ask our librarians for help with any question, or call 815.459.1687, or use the "Chat" feature on the Library website, clpl.org, to find materials, answers, referrals, and reading recommendations. Or, visit clpl.org to fill out a book recommendation request form.
- Library card:** Obtain/renew a card in person or online, visit clpl.org.
- Library consortium:** View and reserve materials on the CLPL catalog and 27 other area libraries.
- Literacy programs:** Book clubs, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, summer and winter reading programs.
- Robust Wi-Fi**
- Free internet and computers**

Visit the clpl.org calendar for a list of upcoming programs!



II. Annual Review:

The Library saves residents money.

The Library promotes early literacy.

The Library teaches children via STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) programs.

The Library offers programs that enhance residents' lives, from art to technology.

The Library meets residents' ever-changing needs for technology and resources.

The Library is green in nature, as it has promoted the sharing and reuse of materials for the past 107 years.

Accomplishments:

Building Repairs Project Completed: New Features Include Drive-up Service Lane

Crystal Lake Public Library completed a seven-month-long Repairs Project in June 2021.

The following repairs and renovations were made:

- A new drive-up service window and materials return drop were added to provide convenience and safety for patrons
- RFID technology was implemented, and a new automated materials handling system was installed, shortening check in/out process
- New self-checkout machines replaced outdated machines
- New story time/multipurpose room was built in Youth Services
- New DIY/multipurpose area was created in Adult Services
- Walkways and aisles were expanded to improve social distancing
- Portions of aging HVAC system were replaced, improving ventilation throughout the Library building
- Leaking windows and roof were repaired and/or replaced
- Interior and exterior lighting were improved to provide greater safety for patrons
- Spacious new sitting and study areas were created
- Shelving was redesigned to provide easier access to materials



III. Current State of Operations:

The Library Board exercises a high degree of fiscal conservatism with an emphasis on strategic planning. The Library receives 97% of its income from property taxes.

IV. Engagement:

The following print and digital resources are available to keep the public informed about Library programs, services and news:

Clpl.org: “Chat” on Library website

Beacon newsletter: Print newsletter mailed bimonthly to residents and businesses in the city of Crystal Lake; also available on clpl.org

Library Happenings eNewsletters: Sent monthly

Facebook: Crystal Lake Public Library

Spanish Facebook: Biblioteca Pública de Crystal Lake

Twitter: @CLPLToday

Instagram: Crystal Lake Public Library and CLPL Teens

YouTube: Crystal Lake Public Library

Goodreads: Crystal Lake Public Library

ihaveaquestion@clpl.org




the Beacon
Crystal Lake Public Library
Learn • Enjoy • Explore

January/February 2022

Library Reopens After Water Main Break Forces Closure

Crystal Lake Public Library reopened to the public Saturday, Dec. 4 after a water main break forced its closure for nearly two weeks.

Water began filling the building's sump pump well in mid-November. Eventually, water began seeping through the floor and wall in a mechanical room in the lower level of the building.

Contractors using sonar equipment located a break in a 37-year-old water pipe near the Paddock Street entrance. To make matters worse, the pipe, which is owned by the Library, ran beneath the area where the ComEd transformer box is located next to the building.

For that reason, the transformer box, concrete pad, bike rack, adjacent sidewalk and wheelchair ramp had to be removed before any repair work could take place. Water and electricity was cut off to most of the building, and the Library was closed to the public at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22.

Using heavy machinery, contractors excavated 12 feet below the surface to locate the break, eventually removing and replacing a 25-foot-long section of damaged piping. While repairing that pipe, contractors discovered another crack in a fire department connection line, a separate water pipe used during a fire emergency. A section of that pipe was also replaced.

Once all repairs were completed, a new section of the entrance ramp was constructed. The Library could not reopen without ADA-compliant access to the building. Many components of the Library's building and operations had to be brought back online including life-safety equipment, such as the elevator, sprinkler system and fire alarm alert system.

"The need to close the Library building to the public due to inadequate infrastructure is always disappointing," Library Director Kathryn I. Martens said. "A sound building and infrastructure are critical to continuity of library services." In the meantime, due dates for materials were extended by seven days so patrons wouldn't encounter late-return notices. With all repairs completed, the Library is open to the public and has resumed normal business hours.

Workers dig to locate the source of a water main break near the Library's Paddock Street entrance Nov. 24.

Library Board Trustee John Engebretson Retires After 30 Years of Service

John Engebretson has retired from the Crystal Lake Public Library Board of Trustees after 30 years of service.

A lifelong supporter and patron of libraries, John joined the CLPL Board in April 1991 as a way to give back to an institution he appreciated and respected.

"My initial reason for serving was to pay back the community for the good times we had at the Library," John said in an interview nine years ago, just after marking his 20th year on the board.

"It was a good fit with my experience. I felt I could use a few of the talents I had in a positive way."

Many people know John from Home State Bank in Crystal Lake, where he served as the facilities manager for more than 30 years. Prior to that, he worked in international banking for 23 years.

Just three years into his first term, the Library underwent construction of the 1995 addition, which added 13,000 square feet to the building along McHenry Avenue.

Continued to page 3

Waddle You Read?

2022 Winter Reading Program Starts January 17

See p. 6

Meet the Crystal Lake Public Library Board of Trustees



Charles K. Ebann
President
815.459.3375
charles.ebann@att.net



William Weller
Vice-President
815.455.2193
wweller@sbcglobal.net



Mary Alice Fellers
Treasurer
815.356.5933
mafellers@yahoo.com



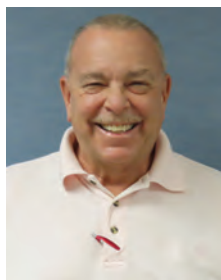
Rebecca Sisler
Secretary
847.727.6670
btimmons.sisler@gmail.com



James Becker
Trustee
815.459.3043
jbeckerlrc@gmail.com



Bonita Drew
Trustee
815.347.9357
bonbon48me@aol.com



Chuck Stump
Trustee
815.455.0698
cgs747@yahoo.com



Cary Waxler
Trustee
815.261.0856
ctwaxler@gmail.com

The Crystal Lake Public Library Board is comprised of nine city residents who are appointed by the mayor of Crystal Lake with the approval of the city council. The Library board is responsible for governing the Library including overseeing its budget, policies and strategic plan. Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.



Library Director



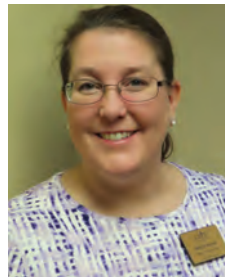
Kathryn I. Martens

Kathryn I. Martens has served as Library Director since 1990. Martens has been active with the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce since 1997. You can contact her at kmartens@clpl.org or 815.459.5102.

Crystal Lake Public Library Department Heads



Karen Migaldi
Assistant Director
815.526.5103
kmigaldi@clpl.org



Nancy Weber
Head of Adult Services
815.526.5151
nweber@clpl.org



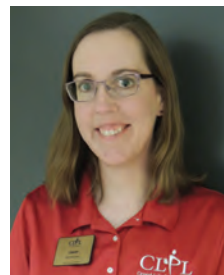
Julie Gibson
Head of Circulation Services
815.526.5132
jgibson@clpl.org



Becky Fyolek
Head of Youth Services
815.526.5179
bfyolek@clpl.org



Penny Ramirez
Head of Technical & Automation Services
815.526.5193
pramirez@clpl.org



Janet Windeguth
Business Librarian
815.526.5158
jwindeguth@clpl.org

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 9 am-9 pm
Friday-Saturday 9 am-5 pm
Sunday 1-5 pm

Location

126 Paddock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014
www.clpl.org, 815.459.1687

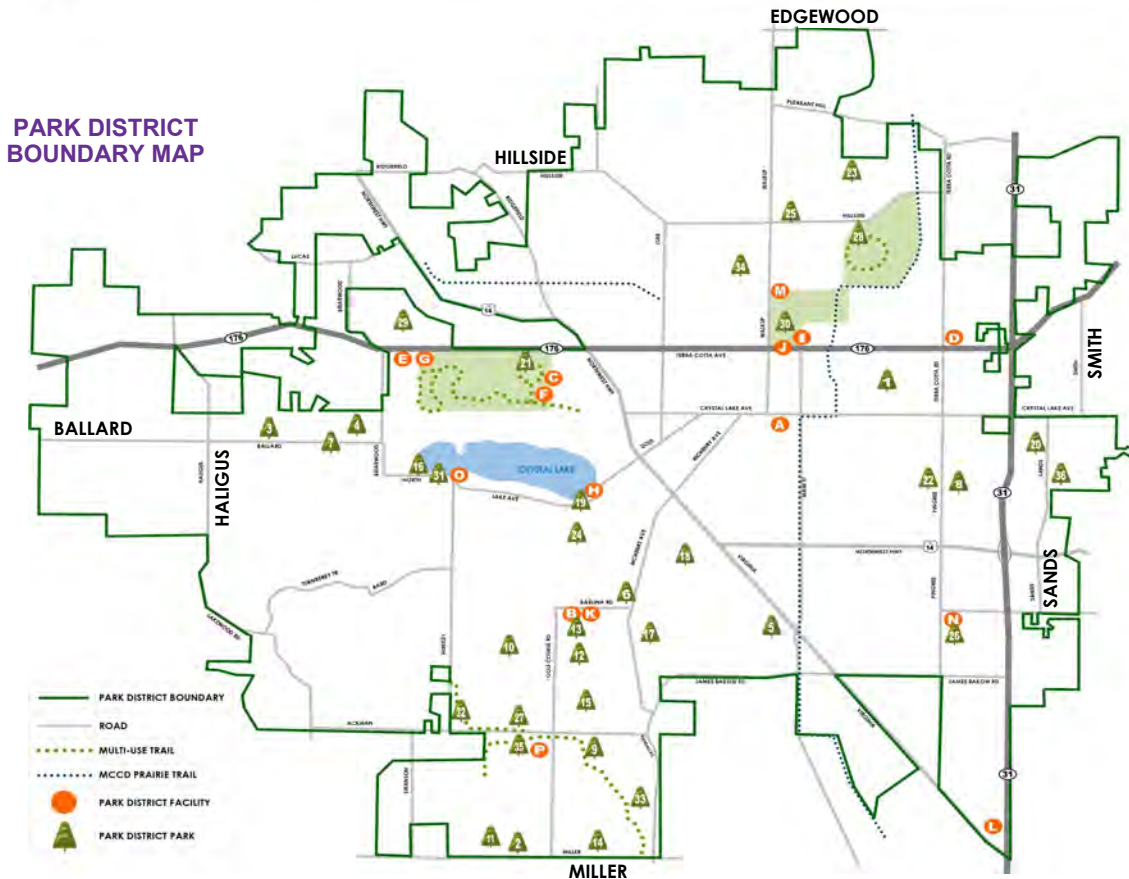


1. ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS

The Crystal Lake Park District is a separate unit of local government, accounting for approximately 5% of the local property tax bill. Charged with providing park and recreation services for approximately 55,000 residents in Crystal Lake, Lakewood, a small portion of Lake In The Hills and some unincorporated areas, the Crystal Lake Park District system includes 42 parks and 17 facilities spanning over 1,400 acres and program offerings of over 1,000 annually.

Facilities include the Nature Center, Main and West Beaches, Colonel Palmer House, Lippold Family Golf Center, Boncosky Softball Complex at Lippold Park, Grand Oaks Recreation/Active Adult Center, The Racket Club, Barlina House Preschool, the Rotary Building and numerous picnic shelters.

In addition to parks, facilities and programs, the district maintains miles of bike and hiking trails enjoyed by many throughout the year. Crystal Lake Park District provides 3 seasonal brochures filled with programs and special events designed for participants of all ages. The Crystal Lake Park District hosts a nationally accredited and award winning summer day camp program as well as an Extended Time before and after school program at District 47 Elementary Schools.



Mission Statement

Enriching all lives through Recreation, Parks and Nature.

2. ANNUAL REVIEW

With the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic this year, the Crystal Lake Park District has realized how important parks and recreation are to the community. Currently, enrollment in programs and use of parks and facilities have exceeded 2019 (pre-pandemic) numbers.

In 2021, the Crystal Lake Park District celebrated its 100 Year Anniversary. While it was a challenge to plan celebratory events throughout the year, several events engaging the community took place. Free activities and treats were featured at our Party in the Park Pop Up events. Staff from the Park District enjoyed hanging with local residents and educating many on “what’s new” at the district. A “Chair Fair” program inviting local residents and businesses to purchase and paint an Adirondack chair celebrating our anniversary was well received with more than 55 entries! The chairs were on display at Main Beach where beachgoers enjoyed using the chairs throughout the summer. And, as a pledge to our ongoing commitment to land stewardship, one hundred trees for ‘100 years’ were planted throughout the park system.



ARBOR DAY PARK POP UP



CONTESTS AT CONCERTS



ADIRONDACK CHAIR FAIR



Recreation Update 2021

- The Summer Concert Series at Main Beach returned with record crowds.
- Main and West Beaches were open for the full summer season with boat rentals being very active.
- Summer camps throughout the Park District were well attended and successful in engaging campers in face to face activities.



MAIN BEACH



EXTENDED TIME

- COVID-19 has led to a rise in tennis players. The Racket Club has increased membership and tennis lesson participation last year.
- The popular before and after school care Extended Time program was up and running in full capacity.
- Adult softball leagues at Lippold Park saw numbers back to pre-pandemic levels.
- The Lippold Family Golf Center experienced one of its best years at the miniature golf course and driving range.

- The seasonal program guide was published digital only during the pandemic but returned to print and digital for the 2022 Winter/Spring season.



SUMMER DAY CAMP



DRIVING RANGE



Project Updates 2021

- Renovation of the Veteran Acres tennis and basketball courts are under way.
- A district-wide pavement assessment report was completed to determine the priorities of future paving projects throughout the Park District.
- Plans to renovate the Main Beach concessions area have been developed.
- The Nature Center building is being renovated for better flow and function.
- Plans to replace playgrounds at Kamijima, Brighton Oaks and Lapins parks are in progress.
- A new park site on Haligus Road has been acquired.
- Ladd Park playground was replaced.
- Playground surfaces at Johns and Bird Parks were replaced.
- New entry signs were installed at Main Beach, Veteran Acres and Lippold Park.



LADD PARK PLAYGROUND



**NEW SURFACE
AT SAM JOHNS PARK**



**NEW ENTRY SIGN
AT LIPPOLD PARK**



**NEW TENNIS COURTS
AT VETERAN ACRES**



Current State of Operations

While operations have returned to pre-pandemic levels, the Crystal Lake Park District is experiencing difficulty in staffing some areas of operations. Applications for both full and part-time positions are minimal, similar to other businesses in our community. From a financial perspective, the Crystal Lake Park District has been able to navigate the pandemic well due to historically sound financial management. In addition, the Park District proactively eliminated expenses and implemented necessary cuts during the heart of the pandemic. With the ever-changing conditions presented by COVID-19, the Crystal Lake Park District staff have risen to the challenge of continued creativity and adapting to the evolving needs of the community while still providing the services, programs and events that residents have come to expect.

III. ENGAGEMENT - HOW CAN AUDIENCE STAY INFORMED

The Crystal Lake Park District Marketing Department continues to stay on top of current trends and is always seeking ways to communicate with residents who may not be using Park District services or programs.

Efforts include an ever expanding digital presence, continued print presence plus innovative approaches to face-to-face marketing such as Realtor Tours, info tables at special events and unique community engagement opportunities such as Popsicles in the Park during the summer.

Additionally, the Park District prints four seasonal PARK REPORTS which are distributed to households in 60014 and 60012 zip codes (22,500). Each report is written with informative and topical information regarding current projects, frequently asked questions and other pertinent facts which otherwise would be missed by not reading the seasonal brochure. One report is dedicated for the Popular Annual Financial Report, which includes funding and expenses for the fiscal year.



FACEBOOK
10,475 FOLLOWERS
21.2% INCREASE



INSTAGRAM
2,055 FOLLOWERS
34.4% INCREASE



TWITTER
455 FOLLOWERS
25% INCREASE

Website users: Average 26,600 monthly users; 19,100 monthly new users

Connect E-Newsletter Subscribers: 11, 508

Digital Guide Unique Visitors: 9,000 per guide (23% increase)

Digital Summer Camp Guide Unique Visitors: (46.8% increase)

Digital Media Monitors: 5 facilities



PARK BOARD MEMBERS

The Crystal Lake Park District is governed by an elected Board of seven Commissioners who each serve a four-year term. It is a volunteer, unpaid position. The District's Executive Director, Jason Herbster, manages and directs all staff and operations for the Park District.

Commissioners are elected to represent the community. As a community member, your input, ideas and feedback are critical. Please consider attending Board meetings, held every third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Administration Building, 1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue. You can find the Board meetings schedule as well as minutes from past meetings by visiting crystallakeparks.org/About Us/Board Information. You may reach the Board members or Executive Director via email at anytime.



CATHY CAGLE
President

ccagle@crystallakeparks.org



JASON HEISLER
Vice President

jheisler@crystallakeparks.org



DEBBIE GALLAGHER
Treasurer

dgallagher@crystallakeparks.org



ERIC ANDERSON
Asst. Treasurer

eanderson@crystallakeparks.org



KAREN JOHNSON
Commissioner

kjohnson@crystallakeparks.org



LINDA MATTHIAS
Commissioner

lmatthias@crystallakeparks.org



SARAH MICHEHL
Commissioner

smichehl@crystallakeparks.org



JASON HERBSTER
Executive Director

jherbster@crystallakeparks.org



MCHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

2021

YEAR IN REVIEW



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

2021 was a year of continued adjustment for everyone—McHenry County College included. We started the year offering five different modes of learning, with many students still taking classes online or in hybrid/blended formats—and by the Fall semester we were excited to safely welcome back more students than had been on our campus since the spring of 2020. While we continue to adjust and adapt to evolving circumstances, we, along with our students and community, are moving forward.

Moving forward is what we have always encouraged our students to do. Dreams and big goals can feel intimidating, overwhelming, and difficult to plan for. By helping our students simply focus on their next step—one class, one continuing education course, or one certificate—those goals start to feel in reach.

Taking inspiration from our students, we shifted and added resources where and when we needed to. We expanded our financial assistance programs, forged new partnerships to support our students' mental health, and worked throughout the district to expand dual credit and dual degree opportunities with our high schools. We invested in our community's future by finishing plans for a new advanced manufacturing and technology building designed to train skilled workers for jobs right here in McHenry County. We continued to reexamine our processes, eliminating unnecessary complications and focusing on what matters the most—our students.

We know with certainty that MCC will continue to adapt, create more opportunities for our community to be inspired, and always remain focused on our commitment to helping students achieve success.

To learn more about current program offerings, events, and college goals, visit www.mchenry.edu.



MCC 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Extensively planned for the new Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation (CATI).** After securing a \$2.5 million lead gift for the center, the College project team, in partnership with Ross Barney Architects and the state's Capital Development Board, worked to finalize the design and footprint, as well as expedite the overall project schedule. Plans have now been completed for this dynamic, new 41,000 sq. ft. educational space, which will support advanced technology and manufacturing program growth, preparing our community's future workforce. The Foglia CATI will combine "old" and "new" skills, opening its educational doors to both existing programs and the newest career and technical learning, including: HVAC; Welding; Logistics; CNC Machining; Engineering Technology; Advanced Manufacturing; Industrial Maintenance; Mechatronics; Metrology; and Artificial Intelligence. With additional space accommodating an Entrepreneurial Center, Fabrication Lab, and Maker Space, the center will offer the promise of being an epicenter for community entrepreneurial engagement, emerging workforce inspiration, and economically meaningful teaching and training. The College is scheduled to break ground in Summer 2022.
- **Expanded Dual Degree programs to Harvard and Huntley High Schools.** The program gives select high school students the opportunity to earn a diploma and an Associate of Arts degree at the same time, saving them time, money, and giving them experience in college coursework. Students take classes at both their high school and at MCC to give them a feel for college life.
- **Grew enrollment in dual credit programming by 41%.** Dual credit programs, which are courses taught in the high school that earn students both high school and college credit, went from 5,494 total enrollments in 2020 to 7,750 in 2021. MCC now offers dual credit at all 14 high schools in the county.
- **Partnered with a Diversity, Equity, Belonging, and Inclusion consultant who provided input and identified areas of focus to help the College create a more inclusive environment for students and employees.** As part of these efforts, MCC hired a new coordinator of student diversity and inclusion, and created a chosen name procedure that allows students and employees to identify themselves across many campus systems using a name different than their legal name or in a way that aligns more closely with their gender identity.
- **Increased overall enrollment by 12.17% from Fall 2020 to Fall 2021 and 2.5% from Spring 2020 to Spring 2021.** MCC was the only community college in Illinois to see five consecutive years of growth in both headcount and credit hours.
- **Awarded more than 600 scholarships providing more than \$531,000 in assistance to MCC students.** The Friends of MCC Foundation also supported students experiencing unexpected financial emergencies, awarding more than \$46,000 through the Student Success Fund.
- **Received more than \$4.1 million in grant funds.**
 - \$84,150 from the USDA's Local Food Promotion Program to determine the feasibility of developing a regional aggregation and processing facility, or food hub. This would both facilitate market access for local producers and create hands-on learning opportunities for students who want to pursue careers in food production.
 - \$65,531 from the Illinois Community College Board for expanding tutoring services and mental health support to help address the academic and social/emotional challenges students have faced throughout the pandemic.
 - \$25,000 from the Motorola Solutions Foundation to establish a scholarship for students enrolled in MCC's public safety training programs, with a focus on funding underrepresented populations to increase the diversity of first responders in McHenry County.



- **Provided extensive support to students and faculty through innovative grant-funded programs.**
 - 60 first-generation students graduate high school and transition to college
 - 35 students participate in paid work-based learning opportunities
 - 24 adults with barriers to employment find entry-level jobs in manufacturing, healthcare, or IT
 - 100 high school teachers in the county complete professional development to teach dual credit courses
- **Established new financial assistance for students in the form of the Scot Success Scholarship Campaign and 12 new scholarships.** The Scot Success Scholarship was established in partnership with a generous anonymous lead gift of \$500,000 to address the ongoing financial challenges that MCC students face, especially during the pandemic. The goal is to raise enough funds to award scholarships to every student who needs them. To date, \$1.42 million has been raised.
- **Produced success across MCC Scots Athletics programs.** MCC's Softball team won the ISCC Conference and also received honors for Pitcher of the Year, Player of the Year, and Coach of the Year. The Baseball team produced two All-Americans, and one student-athlete was recognized as the Region IV Player of the Year. The Volleyball team made it to the Region IV Championship, finished in 10th place in the NJCAA National Tournament, and had one All-American student-athlete. The Athletics department GPA met their overall goal of maintaining a 3.0 GPA.
- **Continued our commitment to safety on campus by following evolving national and state guidance on COVID-19 precautions.**

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Dispersed more than \$6.7 million in CARES Act funds to students facing significant hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Welcomed President Biden as he delivered remarks about the proposed American Families Plan. The President toured MCC's metals lab and met with students connected to MCC's Children's Learning Center and manufacturing programs.
- Expanded our transfer partnerships, adding a new Doctor of Pharmacy agreement with Concordia University–Wisconsin and enhancing our relationship with Arizona State University.
- Updated curriculum in many programs, including new classes in wine culture, social media advertising, messenger (chat) marketing, occupational Spanish, and more.
- Added a first-of-its-kind Motorcycle Technician Training Program that prepares students to take the industry-recognized certification exams. The program, offered in partnership with the Midwest Motorcycle Mechanic School in Woodstock, includes 360 hours of instruction that blends hands-on training, classroom instruction, and job shadow opportunities.
- Created three new CO/LAB spaces on campus for students, staff, and the community to connect, collaborate, and convene.
- Renovated and expanded the MCC Store with an inviting, open entrance and modernized display window, expansion of shopping space and offices, and fitting rooms to deliver an improved shopping experience.
- Partnered with Talkspace online therapy, allowing students to exchange unlimited video, audio, and text messages with a fully licensed therapist at no cost to them.
- Maintained a flat tax levy, saving taxpayers money and contributing favorably to the economic impact on the college district while maintaining quality of programming and services.
- Kept tuition and fee rates flat for FY 2022, responding to student need, allowing the college to provide education to more people in our community and ensure our students stay on track to accomplish their goals.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Mary Beth Siddons
Chair



Tom Allen
Vice Chair



Suzanne Hoban
Secretary



Diane Evertsen



Elizabeth Speros



Dale Morton



Molly Walsh

*2021 Student Trustees: , Edith Sanchez

EXECUTIVE CABINET



Dr. Clint Gabbard
President



Christina Haggerty
*Vice President of Marketing,
Communications,
and Development*



Dr. Talia Koronkiewicz
*Vice President of Student Affairs (Interim Vice
President of Academic and Student Affairs)*



Timothy Hopkins
Chief Information Officer



Robert Tenuta
Chief Financial Officer



Michelle Skinder
*Vice President
of Human Resources*



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. NURTURE.
Enter with promise. Leave with purpose.

Community High School District 155
815-455-8500
distmail@d155.org
www.d155.org

Organizational Focus

Enter with Promise. Leave with Purpose.



Community High School District 155 serves over 5,600 students at four comprehensive high schools and one alternative education campus. All four D155 high schools ranked in the top 10 percent nationally by U.S. News & World Report, which identifies the superior education our students receive. District 155 prides itself on producing well-rounded students offering 200 academic courses and more than 150 extracurricular activities.

To better prepare our students, District 155 is initiating a career experiences program focused on providing students with real-life career opportunities. Through the district's partnership with McHenry County College, D155 has 1,917 dual credit seats taken during the 2020-21 school year which represents a cost savings of just over \$2 million for our families. Equipped with a strong foundation, nearly 87 percent of district students continue their education after graduation.

The district's strategic plan focuses on five goals: student success, student well-being, workforce excellence, collaborative partnerships, and resource stewardship. District 155 remains committed to fiscal responsibility and has been awarded with the highest financial designation for financial management from the Illinois State Board of Education for the past 18 years. The district will continue to focus on providing resources to best educate our students while being mindful of our taxpayers.

Annual Review

Accomplishments:

- The Class of 2021 earned \$15,162,993 in scholarship money.
- Twenty-seven students from the class of 2021 are serving in the armed forces.
- Eighty-two percent of D155 teachers have a master's degree or higher and have an average of 15 years of teaching experience.
- The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) named Crystal Lake Central High School as a national Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP).

District 155 produces well-rounded students who are prepared to thrive during their post-high school educational endeavors and careers.

Beyond the classroom, District 155 provides a broad array of extracurricular opportunities for students. These opportunities help develop the community's teens into well-rounded individuals by emphasizing teamwork, creative thinking, worldliness, resiliency, and hard work. The schools' athletic teams continue to excel on the fields of play with several athletes earning IHSA All-State honors in the past year. On the stage, many of the district's singers and musicians have earned places in the all-state and all-state honors orchestras, bands, and choirs by the Illinois Music Educators Association. Likewise, the schools' professional-quality drama and musical productions continue to be the best entertainment value in McHenry County.

District 155 is strengthening its partnership with McHenry County College. MCC is the top school that D155 graduates attend. D155 partners with MCC to offer 28 dual credit courses including Autos II, Business Incubator, CNC Precision Machining & Engineering I, Culinary Arts II Commercial, Advanced Culinary Arts Commercial, Computer Business Applications, Metals II, Music Appreciation, Principles of Marketing, Spanish IV, and Virtual Enterprises International (VEI).

Persevering Through a Pandemic

Nearly everything about the way teaching and learning occurs in our community and country has been in a state of flux, and the COVID-19 pandemic brought an array of challenges to us all. Though the past two years have been full of rapid change and uncharted ventures, it was also a catalyst for collaboration and innovation. The use of technology broadened the boundaries of our classrooms as teachers were called upon to reimagine hands-on learning experiences. From using a GoPro to record interactive lessons or forming virtual connections with mentors and guest speakers across the country, to the many teachers and staff who worked tirelessly to provide a safe, in-person learning environment for 112 students in our STRIVE, Life Skills, FLS, FCS and Haber Oaks programs during the 2020-21 school year. Our educators continuously raised the bar of what they have to offer to our community at large.

The most obvious and constant theme of the year was surely our students' flexibility and ability to rise above imperfect circumstances during both remote and hybrid instruction. Despite the obstacles they faced, our students won scholarships, participated in international and academic competitions, volunteered throughout the community, achieved athletic recognition, and persevered on unfamiliar platforms of education. Most notably, the 1,311 graduates of the Class of 2021 demonstrated maturity and resilience that will prepare them for many avenues of college, career and life.



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. NURTURE.

Enter with promise. Leave with purpose.

Fiscal Responsibility

Due to prudent decision-making, the district remains in good financial standing. It has earned the highest level of recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education for each of the past 18 years. The district has produced balanced budgets with operating revenues exceeding operating expenditures for four consecutive years, including the most recent 2021-22 Fiscal Year.

For a sixth year in a row, D155 received financial recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association and Association of School Business Official International for its June 30, 2020, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

District 155's Board of Education has taken action to save taxpayers \$23 million to provide taxpayer relief since 2010. The board has approved over \$119 million in strategic capital investments to improve the district's aging schools over the last 15 years.

District 155's Board of Education approved a projected 1.7 percent 2021 tax levy increase, net of debt service abatement, that is less than the rate of inflation to provide funds to cover expanding curriculum opportunities for students including the career experience program and the nursing program and pandemic-related inflationary pressure.

Engagement

The district has developed a Career Experience Program (C.E.P) based on student, parent, community and staff feedback during the district's strategic planning process. The Career Experience Program will focus on providing students opportunities to learn valuable skills for the workforce and explore careers before making a personal and financial commitment after high school.

The vision for the district's program includes four critical pieces:

- Career Awareness
 - Classroom connections, career assessments
- Career Exploration
 - Field trips, guest speakers, virtual job shadows
- Career Preparation
 - Coursework, employment skills, work program
- Career Experiences
 - Internships

The Career Experiences Program will benefit all 5,600 high school students and their families in District 155. With the cost of college continuing to rise, we want our students to gain valuable skills and explore career opportunities before making a financial commitment after high school regardless of the career they decide to pursue. There are additional benefits to local businesses that partner with the district in Cary, Crystal Lake, Lake in the Hills and the rest of McHenry County who will fill short-term and long-term employment for students.

We look forward to engaging and collaborating with McHenry County businesses as we redefine student success by encompassing all aspects of career readiness.



Notable Alumni

Cary-Grove High School

Sam Dillon is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist.

Mike Glasder was a ski jumper on the 2018 US Olympic Team.

Quinn Priester was drafted in 2019 by the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Kate Wagner Kopkash, MD, is a surgeon at North Shore Medical Group.

Crystal Lake Central High School

Sean Evans hosts *Hot Ones*, a viral YouTube series. He interviews celebrities while eating progressively spicier chicken wings.

Grace Kistler was a finalist on season 19 of American Idol.

Emily Landon, MD, specializes in infectious diseases and leads infection control and prevention efforts at University of Chicago Medicine and serves as an advisor for Governor Pritzker during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Keith Wagner is president of Fabrik Molded Plastics, Inc. in McHenry.

Crystal Lake South High School

Ben Everard is a movie director.

Dennis Gardeck is a linebacker for the Arizona Cardinals.

Jon Jorgenson was in Mamma Mia on Broadway.

Hope Olson is an artist who has her work displayed in several galleries.

Prairie Ridge High School

Amy LePeilbet won a gold medal on the USA women's soccer team.

Nathan Looman is owner and CEO of Watcher Products Inc. located in Elgin.

Patricia Miller is CEO and visionary of M4 Factory in Woodstock a design and manufacturing house.

Adam Wallen is the McHenry County Director of Planning and Development.

The district encourages parent and community involvement. To learn more about the schools and find a schedule of upcoming events, please visit the district and school websites:

<p>District 155 Center for Education One South Virginia Road Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (815) 455-8500 distmail@d155.org www.d155.org Facebook: @CHSD155 Instagram: @CHSD155 Twitter: @CHSD155</p>	<p>Cary-Grove High School 2208 Three Oaks Road Cary, IL 60013 (847) 639-3825 www.d155.org/CG Facebook: @CaryGroveHighSchool Instagram: @carygrove_hs Twitter: @CaryGroveHS</p>	<p>Crystal Lake Central High School 45 West Franklin Avenue Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (815) 459-2505 www.d155.org/CLC Facebook: @CrystalLakeCentralHS Instagram: @clcentral_hs Twitter: @CLCentralHS</p>
<p>Crystal Lake South High School 1200 South McHenry Avenue Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (815) 455-3860 www.d155.org/CLS Facebook: @CrystalLakeSouthHS Instagram: @clsouth_hs Twitter: @CLSouthHS</p>	<p>Prairie Ridge High School 6000 Dvorak Drive Crystal Lake, IL 60012 (815) 479-0404 www.d155.org/PR Facebook: @prairieridgehighschool Instagram: @prairieridge_hs Twitter: @PrairieRidgeHS</p>	<p>Haber Oaks Campus 1200 South McHenry Avenue Crystal Lake, IL 60014 (815) 893-5300 www.d155.org/hoc Twitter: @HaberOaksCampus</p>

Beyond public engagement, District 155 continues to engage the elementary school districts which send students to District 155 high schools, including Districts 47, 3, 26, and 46.

Administrative Team

The administrative team establishes educational practices aligned with the vision of the Board of Education and community. The group oversees a highly engaged and successful organization that includes teachers, counselors, social workers, school nurses, psychologists, support staff, and school administrators. Administrators can be reached through the main number at their school or office or distmail@d155.org.

- Steve Olson, Superintendent
- Erica Bruso, Director of Fiscal Services
- Kimberly Dahlem, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services & Special Education
- Justin DeBolt, Director of Career Experiences
- George DiVenere, Chief Technology Officer
- Dr. Eric Ernd, Principal, Crystal Lake Central High School
- Dr. Steve Koch, Principal, Prairie Ridge High School
- Dr. Neil Lesinski, Principal, Cary-Grove High School
- Josh Nobile, Principal, Crystal Lake South High School
- Shannon Podzimek, Director of Communications & Community Relations
- Jay Sargeant, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources
- Scott Shepard, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services & Strategic Partnerships
- Troy Stinger, Director of Operations
- Matt Timmerman, Director of Teaching & Learning, Curriculum & Pathways

Board of Education Members

District 155’s Board of Education includes seven elected members who are dedicated to the district’s mission and to serving students and community.

The board of education meets monthly in public meetings to discuss important district business and happenings. A calendar of regular meetings is available on the District 155 website at www.d155.org. Additionally, several board committees meet in public session throughout the year. Agendas and public notices of these meetings are posted in advance.

The board can be contacted through email at board@d155.org or 815-455-8500.

 Adam Guss, President	 Jason Blake, Vice President	 Amy Blazier
 Ron Ludwig	 Nicole Pavoris	 Dave Secret
 Tom Vaclavek		

Crystal Lake Elementary District 47

District 47 employs approximately 1,200 highly qualified licensed and non-licensed educators, staff members and administrators. With one of the largest student enrollments in McHenry County of approximately 7,000 students, District 47 is comprised of nine elementary schools, three middle schools, an early childhood center, a central office (CORE Center) and a warehouse facility (Fetzner Center). The District spans an area of 44 square miles, which includes the entire city of Crystal Lake, Village of Lakewood, as well as small sections of Lake in the Hills, Cary, Woodstock, Huntley, Bull Valley, McHenry and unincorporated areas of the county. To accommodate the transportation of its students in an efficient manner, District 47 jointly operates the Transportation Joint Agreement (TJA) with Community High School District 155. Bus service is provided for both regular and special education programs.



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today-Leaders Tomorrow

District 47 Program Overview

The District 47 curriculum is based on best practices that exist in the educational community. The District continues to have more students meet or exceed standards than the state average on standardized tests and offers quality special education, gifted, bilingual, dual language, fine arts, STEM and enrichment programming to support the learning needs of all students. The District offers both half- and full-day kindergarten options for families with more than 99 percent of all families selecting the full-day option. The early childhood program serves approximately 150 students providing academic, speech and language, and physical and/or occupational therapy services along with tuition-based general education preschool opportunities. In addition, before- and after-school care is available for families at most elementary schools through the Crystal Lake Park District. The District has worked to provide these and other quality programs while at the same time fulfilling its commitment to fiscal responsibility.

The passion and commitment that the Board of Education, administration, teachers and support staff have towards providing educational excellence for all students continues to be a driving force behind providing the community with knowledgeable, wise, productive citizens. The District is committed to preparing students for their next steps -- high school, college and career -- in an ever-changing world.

District 47 Board of Education

The Board is the legal governing body of the District and consists of seven elected members serving a typical term of four years without compensation. Board meetings are usually held the third Monday of the month at the CORE Center, 300 Commerce Dr. in Crystal Lake. Meetings begin with a closed session at 6 p.m. and an open, public session at 7 p.m. *Note: This year, due to the pandemic, some meetings have been held virtually via Zoom.*



Emily Smith: esmith@d47.org



Rob Fetzner: rfetzner@d47.org



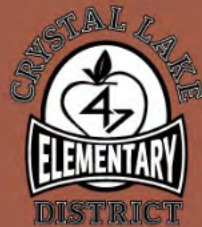
Tim Mahaffy: tmahaffy@d47.org



Betsy Les: bales@d47.org

Board of Education

December 2021



Debbie Barton: dbarton@d47.org



Jonathan Powell: jpowell@d47.org



Ryan Farrell: rpfarrell@d47.org



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS
Learners Today-Leaders Tomorrow

District 47 Executive Council

The District 47 executive council consists of six employees who oversee various departments and manage the critical daily functions of the district.

Dr. Kathy J. Hinz

Superintendent



Dr. Greg Buchanan

Assoc. Supt. of Human Resources



Christina Moran

Asst. Supt. of Student Learning



Dave Jenkins

Asst. Supt. of Technology Services



Cathy Nelson

Asst. Supt. of Business



Denise Barr

Dir. of Communications / Public Engagement



District 47 Highlights & Accomplishments

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



In July, students from Bernotas Middle School participated in the annual Crystal Lake 4th of July parade.



To celebrate Hannah Beardsley's 25th anniversary, HBMS students and staff decorated a float and participated in the Festival of Lights parade in downtown Crystal Lake on November 26.

IN-PERSON LEARNING



District 47 was thrilled to kick off the 2021-22 school year with in-person learning on August 18. Students are enjoying being back in school seeing friends, participating in activities and learning in the classroom instead of online. This year through a process called MTSS (multi-tiered system of supports), teams of district and school leaders are in the process of reviewing data gathered through state and local assessments to measure the academic progress and social-emotional well-being of each student. This coordinated, holistic approach provides a consistent framework for implementing needed interventions and supports, and, ultimately, identifies priority areas for the district as a whole and for each school.

ELEVATE: D47's NEW STAFF RECOGNITION PROGRAM



At the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, District 47 launched a new district wide staff recognition program called Elevate. The goal of the program is to identify and recognize District 47 employees who, in their contributions and service to the district, uphold and exemplify the district's mission, vision and core values and who are making a difference in the lives of students, schools and the community. Any District 47 staff member is eligible for recognition and



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS
Learners Today-Leaders Tomorrow

anyone (students, staff, parents and community members) can [submit a nomination](#). A link to the nomination form can be found on the district website at www.d47.org/elevate.

This fall, 23 nominations were received and reviewed by the district's staff recognition committee and seven winners were chosen. We congratulate the following November 2021 Elevate winners:

- **Allison Bailes**, third grade teacher, Woods Creek Elementary School
- **Nicole Bolos**, bilingual reading interventionist, North Elementary School
- **Erika Gumesindo**, administrative assistant, Canterbury Elementary School
- **Amy Lilly**, assistant principal, Canterbury Elementary School
- **Michele Manno**, paraprofessional, Hannah Beardsley Middle School
- **Carlos Velazquez**, custodian, Canterbury Elementary School
- **Kristin Ziemba**, social-emotional learning coordinator, South and West Elementary Schools

2021-2022 Financial Snapshot

Financial Recognitions

For fiscal year 2021 and multiple years prior, District 47 has received the status of Financial Recognition (the highest designation level) by the state of Illinois. This recognition is based on the annual financial report that is completed each year. A district in the financial recognition category requires little or no review by the Illinois State Board of Education.

In addition, District 47 received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting recognition from the Association of School Business Officials International for the 36th consecutive year. This award represents a significant achievement and reflects the district's commitment to the highest standard of school system financial reporting and transparency.

2021-2022 Budget

On September 20, 2021, the District 47 Board of Education passed the [2021-22 budget](#). Within this budget, the board approved operational expenditures including [federal ESSER funds](#) (see below), as well as the continuation of Health and Life Safety Projects and strategic planning initiatives. While the majority of the District 47 budget (approximately 74 percent) comes from local revenue sources, the district continuously looks for grant opportunities to fund initiatives as well as ways to streamline state and federal money that is provided to the district. All debt (2010 Build America bonds, 2018 and 2019 debt certificates) will be paid from the district's operating funds, eliminating the need for property tax previously levied for the debt service fund.

Student Fees

There was no increase in [student fees](#) for the 2021/22 school year. As in previous years, the district purchased many school supply items in bulk to help offset back-to-school costs for families.

Tax Levy

After a public hearing at the District 47 board of education meeting on December 13, 2021, the board voted 7-0 to adopt the 2021 tax levy. The requested aggregate amount of total property

taxes to be levied for 2021 is \$79 million. The district will also be applying for the Property Tax Relief grant from the Illinois State Board of Education. A total of \$49.7 million is available as part of the grant program statewide and the district can apply for up to \$6.4 million.

Property tax revenues help school districts fund all operations, including salaries and benefits (72% of the FY22 budget), which honors provisions in employee collective bargaining agreements; capital improvements, such as the addition of HVAC to schools and a furniture replacement plan for all District 47 schools; and instructional initiatives. Other ongoing, necessary improvements include repairing and replacing structural elements, such as roofs, doors and windows, and upgrading electrical and plumbing systems.

“Priority has been placed upon the capital improvements of the HVAC systems for the health and safety of our students and staff this year in light of the pandemic,” said Nelson. “We will continue to be vigilant, resourceful and fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars.”

For more information about our tax levy, visit the [D47 website](#).

COVID ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) Funding

To help address costs incurred by school districts as a result of the pandemic, the federal government established the [ESSER/Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#). In **Phase 1**, District 47 received \$515,170, which was used to purchase technology devices for students in grades PreK-2. The additional devices provided continuity of instruction as classrooms moved from school buildings to a remote setting in March of 2020 and throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Federal funding has continued for two additional phases. The **second phase, referred to as ESSER II**, was intended to help schools address learning loss and prepare for reopening, which included testing, repairing, and upgrading projects to improve air quality in school buildings. District 47 received \$2,130,551 in funding, which will be used to add air conditioning at Husmann Elementary School and Lundahl Middle School and to improve and enhance air quality in classrooms and offices throughout the district’s facilities over the next several years. HVAC projects had an initial estimate of \$19.5 million, which will be funded partially through ESSER II and ESSER III/ARP (see below) funds. Remaining funding needed for HVAC projects will be obtained through other district operational funds.

The third phase, ESSER III/American Rescue Plan (ARP), requires school districts to allocate at least 20 percent of funds given to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and to ensure that those interventions respond to students’ social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.

District 47 was granted a total of \$5.1 million in ARP funding (federal and state allocation combined). The large share of this funding (\$4.8 million) will be used to continue HVAC projects and to support various areas of curriculum, which are outlined below. The remaining funds (\$336,497) were allocated by the state in accordance with evidence based funding. These funds may be used but are not limited to support for learning loss, summer enrichment, and after school opportunities.



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS
Learners Today-Leaders Tomorrow

- **Academic interventions:** The district will implement resources and materials to support English language arts and reading interventions in both English and Spanish.
- **Social-emotional curriculum:** Second Step is a research-based program that allows teachers to integrate social-emotional learning lessons into their universal instruction. The program has been implemented at the middle school level. To help support the social-emotional development for younger learners, District 47 purchased and implemented the Second Step curriculum for students in grades K-5 this school year.
- **Equity training:** At the September 21, 2021 Board of Education meeting, the Board approved a two-year professional development leadership series for the Board and district/school leadership teams. The program, set to begin during the 2022-23 school year, will be provided by Corwin Deep Equity. Click the link for more information: [Board Presentation September 20, 2021 Corwin Deep Equity Professional Development .pdf \(702 KB\)](#)

What Challenges Does District 47 Face?

Staffing shortages, adhering to health and safety protocols, and ensuring adequate academic and social-emotional support for students post-pandemic has made this year uniquely challenging for District 47 and all public schools. Hard-to-fill positions include bus drivers, paraprofessionals, substitutes (teachers, paras and nurses) and lunch/playground supervisors. The impact of staffing shortages in the schools has resulted in scenarios where teachers get fewer breaks throughout the day and may have additional responsibilities, principals must teach or support classrooms when there's a sub shortage, and nurses work longer hours to perform their regular duties in addition to contact tracing due to COVID exposures.

Maintaining in-person learning during this pandemic has required herculean efforts by administrators, teachers and staff, as well as an incredible amount of flexibility, understanding and support from families. Some of these ongoing efforts are outlined below:

- District 47 was one of the first school districts in McHenry County to implement SHIELD surveillance PCR testing for students and staff at the beginning of the school year. SHIELD testing has helped provide early detection of the COVID-19 virus and prevent the spread of the virus in our schools.
- This year District 47 developed a partnership with an outside organization to offer free PCR testing to all staff, students and their families at the district's CORE Center.
- Our superintendent and school nurses continue to collaborate weekly with the local and state health departments to learn about important updates related to the pandemic. School nurses spend countless hours each week contact tracing and communicating with families impacted by COVID. Superintendent Dr. Hinz continues to maintain the district's [COVID-19 dashboard](#) -- a one-stop-shop for COVID-19 data which includes confirmed cases and quarantines in District 47 as well as health metrics for the zip codes we serve and McHenry County as a whole.
- The district's operations team and custodians continue to work diligently to maintain health and safety protocols, including cleaning and disinfecting surfaces frequently, refilling hand sanitizing stations, and rearranging desks and furniture to create social distancing in classrooms and lunchrooms.

Connect with Us

Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 welcomes questions and feedback from the community. If you would like to receive future district and school updates via an electronic newsletter ("The Communicator," published three times per year), please email Denise Barr, Director of Communications and Public Engagement, at dcbarr@d47.org. We invite the community to learn more about District 47 by visiting www.d47.org and/or following District 47 and its schools on social media.

District 47 Office

CORE Center

300 Commerce Dr.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
815.788.5000
Dr. Kathy Hinz, Supt.
www.d47.org
Twitter: CrystalLakesd47
Facebook/IG: D47schools

District 47 Schools

Canterbury Elementary

875 Canterbury Dr.
Stacy Graff, Principal
815.788.5650
www.d47.org/can
Twitter: CanterburyD47
Facebook/IG: CanterburyD47

Coventry Elementary

820 Darlington Lane
Matt Grubbs, Principal
815.788.5500
www.d47.org/cov
Twitter: CoventryD47
Facebook/IG: CoventryD47

Glacier Ridge Elementary

1120 Village Rd.
John Jacobsen, Principal
815.444.4850
www.d47.org/grs
Twitter: GlacierRidgeD47
Facebook/IG: GlacierRidgeD47

Husmann Elementary

131 W. Paddock St.
Guy Sromek, Principal
815.356.3400
www.d47.org/hus
Twitter: HusmannD47
Facebook/IG: HusmannD47

Indian Prairie Elementary

651 Village Rd.
Jodie Moss, Principal
815.788.5700
www.d47.org/ips
Twitter: IndianPrairie47
Facebook: IndianPrairie47
IG: IndianPrairieD47

North Elementary

500 Woodstock St.
Michelle Barrett, Principal
815.356.3450
www.d47.org/nor
Twitter: StarHuskies
Facebook: StarhuskiesD47
IG: NorthD47

South Elementary

601 Golf Rd.
Rachael Alt, Principal
815.788.5400
www.d47.org/sou
Twitter: SouthD47
Facebook/IG: SouthD47

West Elementary

100 Briarwood Rd.
Beth Klinsky, Principal
815.788.5550
www.d47.org/wes
Twitter: D47West
Facebook/IG: D47West

Woods Creek Elementary

1100 W. Alexandra Blvd.
Amy Marks, Principal
815.444.4800
www.d47.org/wds
Twitter: WoodsCreekD47
Facebook/IG: WoodsCreekD47

Bernotas Middle School

170 N. Oak St.
Kellie Marks, Principal
815.788.5600
www.d47.org/rbm
Twitter: BernotasVikings
Facebook/IG: BernotasVikings

Hannah Beardsley Middle School

515 E. Crystal Lake Ave.
Cathy Alberth, Principal
815.788.5750
www.d47.org/hbm
Twitter: HBMbears
Facebook/IG: HBMbears

Lundahl Middle School

560 Nash Rd.
Angie Compere, Principal
815.788.5450
www.d47.org/lms
Twitter: LundahlLions
Facebook/IG: LundahlLions

Wehde Early Childhood Center

1120 Village Rd.
Monica Furlong, Principal
815.477.6968
www.d47.org/ec
Twitter: D47_EC
Facebook: D47EC
IG: WehdeD47