2024 State of the Community





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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

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY LUNCHEON 2024

SPEAKERS

Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce

Catherine Peterson, President/CEO

BMO Harris (Event Sponsor)

Michael Rosean

Village of Lakewood

David Stavropoulos, Village President

City of Crystal Lake

Haig Haleblian, Mayor of Crystal Lake

AGENDA

11:30AM -12PM

Check-In & Networking

12PM

Welcome Message from Chamber President Catherine Peterson Lunch is Served

Village of Lakewood

David Stavropoulos, Village President

City of Crystal Lake

Haig Haleblian, Mayor of Crystal Lake

CRYSTAL LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

For 84 years, we have had the honor and privilege of being part of the Greater Crystal Lake community with the mission to support our local economy, advocate for businesses, nurture emerging leaders, and create opportunities to connect and create vital relationships.

One of our goals for 2024 is continuing to be the steward of promoting, marketing, and connecting our business partners to help them grow and succeed as we also continue to grow and find new and creative ways to serve our members.

As we embark on this exciting chapter for the Chamber, we'd like to give a heartfelt thank you to the members that have been with us throughout this time. Without you, we would not be the Chamber we are today. Our committed team: Jay Hyde, Director of Membership; Katie Sinde, Marketing Communication Manager, and Nikki Paolelli, Executive Assistant to the President and myself as President/CEO are ready to listen to our members ideas and concerns so that we can continue to grow as an organization.

We thank you for attending our State of the Community Luncheon today and hope that you'll connect with us to learn more about all the opportunities we have for our members to get involved with the Chamber!











2023 CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Over 100 Chamber Hosted Events Highlights:

40 Ribbon Cuttings 5
20 AfterFive Mixers
10 Membership Workshops
7 Annual Chamber Events

5 Business Builders Presentations4 Out 2 Lunch Outings3 Pride in Crystal Lake AwardPresentations

1 New Chamber Event: Crystal Lake Block Party!

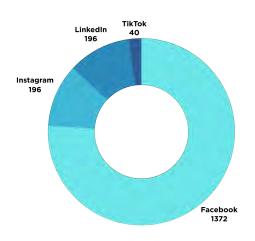


110 New Members Joined in 2023

Chamber Social Following Growth in 2023

Launched New Networking Group HOLA





2024 CHAMBER EVENTS

February	Leaders in Action Series February 7th-March 27th
April	Community Clean Up Day April 20th, 2024
June	40th Annual Golf Classic June 24th, 2024
July	Independence Day Parade July 7th, 2024
September	Crystal Lake Block Party September 15th, 2024

State of the Community





AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

This award is the highest form budgeting.

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

This is the 33rd consecutive year 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 is a major economic engine in Northeastern Illinois.

Growing Economic Environment

The City of Crystal Lake enjoys a resilient economy. Crystal Lake continues to be a strong magnet for national and regional retailers. According to the Illinois Department of Revenue last year, retail sales grew to over \$1.4 billion and Crystal Lake remained in the Top 20 for Chicagoland Metropolitan Area Retail Sales.

According to the Melanithy & Associates 2023 Retail Sales Report, Crystal Lake was:

- #1 in McHenry County for Auto Sales with over \$284 million in sales.
- · #1 in McHenry County for Drinking & Eating Establishments with over \$147 million in sales.

In addition to having the highest sales in McHenry County, Crystal Lake was also:

- 11th in the Chicagoland Area for Home Improvement Sales, with over \$115 million in sales.
- 13th in the Chicagoland Area for General Merchandise Sales, with over \$162 million in sales.
- · According to Naturally McHenry County, last year Crystal Lake had 448,480 visitors that traveled 50 miles or more to visit Crystal Lake.

Great Service at a Low Price

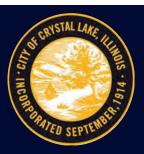
With strong financial stewardship and long-term planning, the City has a healthy fund of recognition in governmental balance while delivering high quality services to the community. The largest single source of City revenue is sales tax, which reflects current economic trends and the attraction of new retail and restaurants. The City has experienced a four percent increase in sales tax receipts over last year.

> The Crystal Lake City Council recently approved the 2023 Property Tax Levy. The approved 2023 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. The City has been fortunate to add significant new property construction to the tax rolls, reducing the overall impact to property owners throughout the community.

> 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 (2022 Levy).



Value for the Community



HIGHLIGHTS

Low Crime Rate

According to the Illinois State Police using Crime Reporting statistics, Crystal Lake has experienced an estimated 49.74% decrease in reported major index crime offenses from 2008 to 2023.

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

Fire Suppression

Protection Classification (PPC) survey that conducts an analysis of the structural fire suppression delivery system provided by the City.

The City's current ISO 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% of fire suppression services in the United States.

Building Code Effectiveness

The City received a 4 out of 10 ISO rating for commercial and residential properties, above the average rating of 6 for Illinois communities.

In 2023, the City's residents and businesses benefited from the services listed below provided by the City of Crystal Lake:

Community Development

· Construction permit inspections completed:13,706

Public Works and Engineering

- Resurfaced approximately 9.7 lane miles of roadway crack-sealed and an additional 26.5 miles of roadway.
- Replaced 4,053 feet of curb, 3,316 feet of sidewalk and eliminated
 1,137 sidewalk tripping hazards.
- Supplied 1.35 billion gallons of fresh water.
- Treated 1.40 billion gallons of wastewater.
- . Plowed 326 lane miles of roadway during each snow event.
- Cleaned 24.3 miles of sanitary sewer line, lined an additional 2.4 miles and acoustically tested 58.7 miles of sewer line.
- Planted 180 parkway trees and trimmed 2,981 parkway trees.

Police

• Responded to 26,590 calls.

Fire Rescue

- . Responded to 7,576 calls.
- . Served 4,952 patients.
- . Performed 414 plan reviews.
- . Performed 839 life safety and re-inspections.
- Public Education Events (total attendees): 15,808

Three Oaks Recreation Area

- 77,450 vehicles entered the park in 2023.
- . 75,963 guests visited the Swim Beach in 2023.
- . 6,471 watercraft rentals in 2023.







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

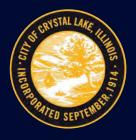
The City Council adopted a Procurement Ordinance which allows the City to take advantage of cooperative purchasing opportunities by becoming a member of various cooperative purchasing programs in addition to the State of Illinois Joint Purchase Program and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative.







Three Oaks Recreation Area



In 2023, Three Oaks Recreation Area continued to be a desirable recreational amenity. This is reflected in the continued high customer satisfaction ratings. The 2023 season saw an increase in beach attendees and pavilion rentals for the third consecutive year. The park is 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.
 Ninety-nine percent of surveyed guests are either likely or very likely to return to the park.
- The number of repeat guests continues to remain high. Guests who
 visited the swim beach at least once a month increased in 2023. Thirtyeight percent of guests surveyed rented a watercraft at least once per
 month.

Attendance

- 75,963 guests visited the Swim Beach in 2023.
- . Over 70,000 vehicles entered the park in 2023.
- Over 65 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 2023.

Media Attention

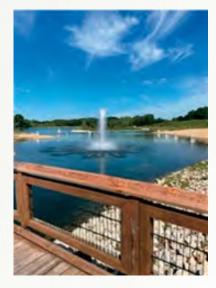
 Three Oaks Recreation Area ranked No. 1 on Trip Advisor's Top 20 Things to do in Crystal Lake.

Revenues and Expenses

• Part-time staff expenses, which accounted for 46% of all park expenses, were completely paid for by park use revenues.









City Investment in Business Community





HIGHLIGHTS

Investment in Business

- \$592,129 in City facade grants to businesses from 2010 to present
- \$4,630,792 in City sales tax sharing agreements from 2010 to the present
- \$4,600,000 in City Hotel/Motel Tax Funding awarded to community organizations from 2002 to present

2023 Business Development

- 1,100,122 SF of commercial occupancies
- . 666 new jobs created
- 41 new small businesses (< 20 employees)

Crystal Lake is a well-established community with an abundance of opportunities for new development as well as redevelopment. The city is home to approximately 4,000 businesses, providing a workforce of over 27,000 employees.

When it comes to business, Crystal Lake is the perfect blend of growth and excellent quality of life, making our community a hot spot for development in Chicagoland. Crystal Lake has seen major success with local small businesses, maintaining a 99% business occupancy rate in the downtown, and continued



attraction and growth of key national retailers along the Northwest Highway commercial corridor. In the past year, Crystal Lake welcomed national brands to the market including Guzman Y Gomez, Wingstop, Crumbl Cookie, Banfield, Hallmark, and Boot Barn. Other local brands to join the Crystal Lake market this year include Rookies Sports All-American Pub & Grill, Pots and Pies, Rosie's Gluten Free Sweets, Off the Vine and Crystal Lake Junction.

Housing is booming with a new array of modern living options. More than 1,000 new housing units will be added to the Crystal Lake community in the next few years.

Fun Facts

- Crystal Lake is one of the nine best Illinois small towns to visit for a weekend getaway by World Atlas.
- REJournals named Crystal Lake Among the Most Affordable Suburbs.
- WGN Radio featured Crystal Lake in the "Your Hometown" Segment.
- Chicago Parent named Crystal Lake a "Top Town" in 2023.







New & Expanded Businesses





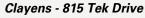


Mercyhealth - 875 S. Route 31

The 152,000 square-foot hospital and medical facility employs over 150 new people and provides 13 hospital beds in addition to three floors of medical offices and physical therapy services. The facility provides private inpatient rooms, intensive care suites, surgery suites, an oncology/infusion center, as well as, diagnostic services, including laboratory, radiology, and sleep studies along with now offering 24/7 emergency care in Crystal Lake.



With the addition of the brand new Mercyhealth hospital in Crystal Lake, the healthcare community has never been stronger. Crystal Lake is becoming the destination for health care services from hospitals, to urgent care and medical offices, with all major brands now represented in the market including Advocate Heath Care and Northwestern Medicine facilities.



Recently took over the former Springboard facility and specializes in the transformation of high-performance polymers and composites. The Crystal Lake facility has 204 employees, 88 machines and 18 lines making specialized plastic injection molding products for the medical field.



Guzman Y Gomez - 5459 Northwest Highway

A fast casual restaurant from Sydney, Australia, who has put their fresh spin on a taqueria. Opening their third US location here in Crystal Lake, it is known for their nachos, burritos, burrito bowls, salads, tacos, fries and guesadillas.



Wingstop - 5005 Northwest Highway, Unit 102

An American carry-out and delivery chicken wing chain with an aviation-theme. Offers a wide range of chicken wings sauced or tossed in special seasonings.



Crumbl Cookies - 5500 Northwest Highway, Unit C

Known for its variety and size of unique and tasty cookies. Each week's menu changes so dramatically that a visit to the store is a surprise-and-delight moment.



Banfield - 6340 Northwest Highway

Veterinarian office and pet hospital dedicated to your pet's wellness. Offering a wide range of pet care services including general surgery, dental care and x-ray services.



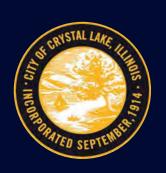
Rookies All American Pub & Grill - 72 N. Williams Street

A family friendly sports bar and grill known for their burgers and drinks opened its sixth location in Downtown Crystal Lake.

Hallmark - 6124 Northwest Highway

Offers a wide variety of home décor, unique gifts and something for every special occasion. Featuring cards for all occasions and their famous Keepsake ornaments.

New/Expanded & Future Businesses





BOOT BARN

Off the Vine - 129 N. Main Street

Owners of Vine and Plate bring the newest retail store in downtown Crystal Lake. Off the Vine offers a variety of wines, spirits, beer and merchandise. Perfect for treating yourself or finding a gift.

Boot Barn - 4423 Route 14

Opened its second Illinois store location in the Twin Ponds Shopping Center. Boot Barn offers the latest styles in cowboy boots, hats and clothing including brands like Carhartt, UGG and Free People, specialized in a wide variety of boots including work boots, dress boots and casual boots. Boot Barn has grown from a single store, opening in 1978, to over 220 stores in more than 30 states.



Crystal Lake Junction - 88 Railroad Street, Unit B

Adding new variety to the Crystal Lake restaurant scene, Crystal Lake Junction serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. In the morning, they offer breakfast sandwiches, pastries, espresso drinks and coffee and then for the lunch and dinner crowd, Mediterranean inspirations, burgers, protein bowls, and grilled cheeses alongside alcohol-free mocktails and picture worthy milkshakes!



Future Businesses

Krystyna's Deli/KD Market

A Polish grocery store that has been serving the Chicago area since 1998. Located at 29 Crystal Lake Plaza, KD Market will open next summer and be the grocer's largest store at approximately 41,000 square feet. The grocer's newest location will continue its traditional offerings but is also looking to expand its product selection to include a more diverse range of international foods and instore dining.



Starbucks

Developers are building a new building that will house a 2,500 square-foot Starbucks and a 4,500 square-foot dental office at the southeast corner of Randall Road and Meredith Drive next to the CVS near Crystal Lake South High School.



La Rosita - 230 Virginia Street, Unit 100

La Rosita, a family-owned chain of local markets and taquerias, recently expanded and is locating in the Country Corners Shopping Center. The new 40,000 square-foot grocery store will feature traditional offerings and an expanded selection of grab-and-go pre-made meals.



Sierra Trading Post - 5786 Northwest Highway

Sierra Trading is a bargain retailer like TJ Maxx but for outside gear and sporting clothes, offering a wide variety of known quality brands at discount prices.

Future/Planned **Developments - Housing**





Woodlore Estates

New home construction continues at the Woodlore Estates Subdivision. Over 463 permits of the 492 homes 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.



Enclave - 95 Crystal Lake Avenue

Brings a mix of amenity-rich rental townhomes and apartments to downtown. The 99-unit community is located downtown on a key corner close to shops and the Metra train station, and is connected to the McHenry County Conservation District Prairie Trail system.



Redwood

Redwood Crystal Lake is a 304-unit ranch-style townhome community located near Mercyhealth 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.



Woodlore Townes

An extension of Woodlore Estates, Woodlore Townes adds 47 townhomes to the community along Carpathian Drive. These for-sale townhomes feature all of the perks of Woodlore Estates with high-end finishes and access to amenities.



Clover Communities

Located at the southeast corner of Terra Cotta Road and Route 176, Clover will construct 121 age-restricted independent living apartment units. This development will provide Crystal Lake residents an opportunity to age-in-place.



Water's Edge

Water's Edge, Crystal Lake's newest and largest redevelopment project, is currently underway. This mixed-use development will offer 240 garden apartments and 20 luxury townhomes alongside amenities like a pool, sand volleyball, basketball, pickleball and a clubhouse. The new development is being led by Heartland Real Estate Partners and will bridge the natural beauty of Three Oaks Recreation Area with the vibrancy of the Northwest Highway key commercial corridor.

Featured Capital Improvement Projects





Congress Parkway Roundabouts

- Constructed full roundabout at Exchange Drive and a Mini-Roundabout at Federal Drive
- Reduce crashes and vehicle speeds at intersections
- · Landscaped center island at Exchange Drive
- Developer and Metra funding participation



Dole Avenue Reconstruction

- \$6.7 million dollar project to reconstruct 75-year-old roadway base
- · New, larger water main to improve water flow
- · Wider sidewalks, construct bike lanes at US 14 intersection
- Fall 2024 completion



Three Oaks Road/Sands Road/Lutter Drive Intersection Project

- · Anticipated spring 2024 construction
- Additional turn lanes and installation of traffic signals
- · Multi-use path along south side of Three Oaks Road
- \$1.5 million in federal funding and developer contributions



Re-Establishment of Crystal Creek

- Removal of the storm sewer pipe installed in the 1950s. This
 portion of the creek will be re-established.
- Project will reduce flooding and improve water quality.
- Construction anticipated to start in summer 2024 and be complete in summer 2025.

Annual Roadway Resurfacing Program

- The City is dedicated to maintaining its roadway network.
- In 2023, approximately 9.7 lane miles of roadway were resurfaced and an additional 26.5 miles of roadway were crack-sealed.
- Almost \$1.5 million was spent on the program in 2023.

City Officials



MAYOR

Haig Haleblain

COUNCIL MEMBERS

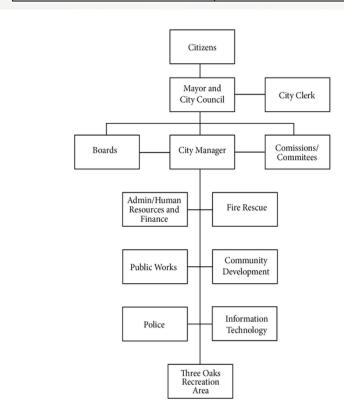
Ellen Brady Denise Smith Brett Hopkins Cameron Hubbard Mandy Montford Ian Philpot

CITY CLERK

Nick Kachiroubas

ADMINISTRATION

Eric T. Helm	City Manager
Nick Hammonds	Assistant City Manager
Jodie Hartman	Finance Director
Kathryn Cowlin	Director of Community Development
Julie Meyer	Director of Human Resources
Michael Magnuson	Director of Public Works and Engineering
James Black	Chief of Police
Craig Snyder	Chief of Fire Rescue
Steve Weishaar	Director of Information Technology



Outreach



The City of Crystal Lake is committed to delivering information to the public that is clear and 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 a "Transparency Portal" page, a one-stop location that directs 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 utilizes "QuestCDN", an electronic bidding notification and procurement system. QuestCDN 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 QuestCDN Electronic Bidding System. Vendors are able to view, and when applicable, submit bids and proposal requirements electronically using the system. There is no charge to vendors to use the QuestCDN Electronic Bidding System, however 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 online ESRI map. For residents seeking information about a particular property, the online map is an easy way to view an array of information on a specific property or the City overall. Online maps can be found on the City's website at https://bit.ly/48q4uqM.



2023 Highlights

01 NEW RedTail Golf Clubhouse

02 Capital Improvement Projects

03 Public Safety and Lake Patrol

04 Parks and Open Spaces

05 Community Events

06 New Lakewood Businesses



Crystal Lake 4th of July Parade

Welcome to Lakewood

This past summer, the Village of Lakewood celebrated its 90th birthday!

Much has changed since July 10, 1933, when residents of the Grafton Township R.F.D. No. 2 community found themselves in need of police, fire protection, and infrastructure and signed a petition to form the Village of Lakewood.

Now, The Village of Lakewood is an established residential community providing families with quality living in a natural setting.

Bringing more community-centered events to Lakewood, continued reinvestment in infrastructure, and prioritizing economic development in all forms are key goals for 2024.

Construction of RedTail Clubhouse



There is a lot of excitement about the new facility's expanded services for golfers and the food service options it brings to the community.

- 6,000 square foot permanent yearround clubhouse with an indoor event room for up to 150 guests
- New pro shop and two golf simulators for league play during the winter
- Bar & grille with updated menu options available for lunch, dinner or takeout
- A new West-facing outdoor patio for everyday use to enjoy food and toast to the dreamy sunsets
- A new South-facing patio that seamlessly flows from the indoor event space to accommodate larger groups or provide capacity for multiple events

Construction of a new permanent clubhouse for RedTail Golf Club began in October 2023. The new facility will replace temporary trailers that served the golf course and Village for over 30 years. While construction will not interrupt golf course events and operations, completion of the facility is scheduled for early May 2024.

RedTail Golf Club

- 240-acre 18-hole championship public golf course designed by world-renowned golf architect Roger Packard
- 220+ homes located on the perimeter of the golf course
- Golf course playable from April-December
- In 2023, RedTail Golf Course continued to exceed visitation expectations
 - -30,250 rounds of golf played
 - -Hosted over 170 local and national events (golf outings, tournaments, and private parties)
 - -Hosted 14 golf leagues (men's, women's, couples, and seniors)
 - -Served 5 McHenry County high school golf teams
 - -Hosted summer Junior golf clinic







Capital Improvement Projects

The Public Works Department is committed to enhancing the quality of life for residents by maintaining the infrastructure and ensuring our drinking water, roadways, sanitary and storm sewers and buildings are operationally safe and in proper working order. Key projects for the department in 2023 included:

- Water Tower Maintenance and Cleaning
- **Mell Maintenance**
- **A** Lift Station Pump Replacement
- Fire Hydrant Resurfacing
- Street Maintenance and Resurfacing
- Joint Storm Sewer Improvement with Crystal Lake
- Water Treatment Improvement for Corrosion Control

The Public Works Department is a full-service department employing 7 professionals with a total of 100 years combined experience in the Public Works field. The Department is responsible for maintaining:

72 Lane miles of road

 $30^{\,\text{Miles of water}}_{\,\,\text{\& sewer mains}}$

7 Sewer lift stations

2024 Capital Improvement Funding Priorities

- The Village of Lakewood received a generous \$250,000 infrastructure grant to advance capital projects in the Village of Lakewood.
- The Village has been working with local, state, and federal governmental officials to secure additional grants to aid in infrastructure projects.
- Extending water and sewer extension to Rt. 47 and Rt. 176
 will attract new businesses and provide revenue opportunities
 to Lakewood.
- The Turnberry Trunk project will aid in flood prevention by increasing the movement of stormwater out of the Gates and Turnberry neighborhoods.











Public Safety



The Lakewood Police Department is responsible for patrolling Crystal Lake from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend through an intergovernmental agreement between Crystal Lake, The Crystal Lake Park District, and the Village of Lakewood.

Lake Patrol

641 Hours patrolling the lake

103 Patrol days

831 Contacts with lake users

29 Watercraft tows

4 Water rescues



A new tiered fee structure for motorized watercraft based on horsepower will be implemented on April 1, 2024.

Motorized boat lake usage decal fees will have two components to fund lake safety and to supplement the growing lake ecology costs.



Both watercraft lake usage decals and Park District boat launch access keys will be sold ONLY at The Crystal Lake Park District in 2024.

The Lakewood Police Department continues to provide the very best service to its residents through continued efforts to foster community partnerships, improve traffic safety, prevent and reduce criminal activity, and promote officers' professional development.



2023 Highlights

- •Installed six flock cameras in May 2023. By year-end, 98 searches were conducted using these cameras providing critical information used in police cases.
- •In August 2023, a police drone was purchased to offer expanded capabilities to the department. In less than four months, the drone was deployed 15 times to assist with cases involving missing persons, trespassing, accidents, and fires.
- •Sergeant Matt Wiegel and Officer Jason Jaske celebrated 25 years with the Police Department.♥
- •The police department registered the first Emergency Operations Plan with McHenry County EMA.
- •Provided community support through events such as Truck or Treat, Shop with a Cop, and Take Back Drugs.
- •Received a grant to supply the department with new computers to improve officer efficiency.

Parks and Open Spaces

Development of Haligus Road Park

The Crystal Lake Park District received funding for the development of a park on Haligus Road.

The park site is 10 acres in size and located just south of the Village of Lakewood Public Works facility on Haligus Road. The Village of Lakewood donated the land to the Park District for developing the community park. The designed park proposes many exciting



features which may include pickleball courts, a playground, a demonstration garden, a shelter, a restroom building, an outer loop walking path with seating nodes, a soccer field, a basketball court, and paved parking. A walking path shall surround the park and run along the Kishwaukee River.

The design layout for the park will be finalized in 2024 and a fall ground-breaking is planned for construction.

Kishwaukee Fen

Friends of Kishwaukee Fen are passionate supporters of our natural history and heritage. The biodiversity of Kishwaukee Fen depends in large part on stewardship. They are part of Friends of Illinois Nature Preserves and believe that empowered, optimistic, can-do volunteer groups can restore health, quality, and sustainability to threatened natural areas.

On Kish Fen eco-restoration days, volunteers discuss and act on the greatest ecological priority based on the season. Brush cutting, invasive species management, seed collecting, prescribed burning, and rare plant monitoring are just some of the crucial stewardship tasks that volunteers perform. All volunteers are welcome! Visit www.kishfenfriends.org for more information and ways to volunteer.



Community Events

Lakewood Social

The Lakewood Social group founded by resident Ali Lisle continues to host unique and fun family events for Lakewood and surrounding communities. Check out Lakewood Social on Facebook!



Organized summer food trucks to bring fun food options to the community



Petals for Paws: Grew and sold tulips for a local animal schelter



Collected over 150 pounds of Halloween candy for Treats for Troops



The annual Witches Ride raised over \$15,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of McHenry County, with 425 witches of all ages participating





501c3 Non-Profit Organization to Host Lakewood Events



A 501c3 non-profit organization was established in 2023 to host and fund special community projects in the Village of Lakewood. Three community events are in the planning process for 2024. More information regarding these events will be released soon. Hope to see you there!



Blocktober Fest: September 28, 2024. Featuring the band 28 Days, food trucks, fireworks and more!



A themed fun run is in the scheduling process for June 2024



Unique food and drink events for the family

New Businesses in Lakewood



At Mission 516 and Sweet Feet Yoga, we are passionate about inspiring families to live healthy, joyful lives through chiropractic, yoga, and natural health.

At Sweet Feet Yoga, they inspire and empower kids and families in every stage of life, helping them to reconnect and truly be the best that they can be!

Ph. (224) 483-6941

8505 Redtail Dr. # A/B

Ph. (319) 331-3689

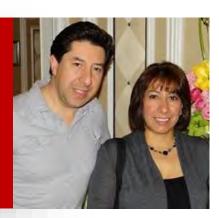
Simply Delicious Gourmet Catering

Simply Delicious Gourmet Catering understands your needs when planning a business luncheon, cocktail party, or open house.

They will assist with everything from the venue, floral arrangements, decorations, linens, table settings, transportation, menu planning, budgeting, and site tours to ensure you and your guests are well accommodated.

8525 Redtail Dr. #F

Ph. (847) 776-7609





Preschool and Daycare

The Nest Schools are proud to offer families the highest quality childcare and preschool programs. Their curriculum and program design incorporates the most current research in early development to best prepare children for their future in and out of the classroom.

8525 Redtail Dr. Ph. (815) 571-5009

Shanti Canine Spa

Shanti Canine Spa was created with the intent of providing a luxurious, stress-free, peaceful environment for your pet. Each pet is groomed according to their own needs. Offering full-service grooming or a bath and tidy.

8505 Redtail Dr.

Ph. (815) 526-3087



Businesses Directory

Crosspoint Lutheran Church

(815) 893-0888

www.cplakewood.info

Crystal & 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

ww.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.loumalnatis.com/lakewood

Mission 516 Chiropractic

(224)483-6941

www.mission516chiro.com

The Nest Schools

(815)571-5009

www thenestschool.com

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

Simply Delicious Gourmet Catering

(847)776-7609

www.simplydeliciousgourmetcatering.com

Shanti Canine Spa

(815)526-3087

www.shanticaninespa.com

Sweet Feet Yoga

(319)331-3689

www.sweetfeetyoga.com

Village Contacts

Village President

David Stavropoulous

Village Manager

Jean Heckman

Chief of Police

Mike Roth

Village Clerk

Jeanette Lobosco

Director Public Works

Gary Zickuhr

Benefits/Accounts Payable

Lisa Harenza

Accounting Clerk

Stephanie Raine

Building Clerk

Lexi Licht

Records Clerk

Joanne Schmoeller

2500 Lake Ave, Village of Lakewood, Il 60014 815-459-3205



Kenny Goodwin General Manager Jen Gatti

Project Manager / Business Development

7900 RedTail Drive, Village of Lakewood, Il 60014 815-477-0055

Board of Trustees

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2024

I. Organizational Focus

The Crystal Lake Public Library has served the community since Nov. 15, 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.

Crystal Lake Public Library is guided by the following mission statement: "We help people, of all ages and backgrounds, learn, enjoy and better their lives."

Crystal Lake Public Library Celebrates 110th Anniversary

Crystal Lake Public Library has been a community hub providing enrichment, education and entertainment for 110 years.

Most CLPL patrons visit the library for its extensive collection of books, audiobooks, video games, movies, music, TV shows, digital collection and learning resources.

Others stop by to apply for a U.S. passport, get a notary, use the copy machine, ask a reference question, attend a story time, or meet up with friends.

In its early years, the library focused on providing books "and culture and education" to the community. Today, CLPL literally has something for everyone. The library is constantly expanding beyond the traditional fare to provide patrons with new offerings, such as Wi-Fi hotspots (great for when you're on a trip or when your



internet goes out), computers, computer software classes and device assistance. The library has a large database of online resources. With a library card, patrons can obtain financial information, learn a new language, get homework help or learn a new skill or craft.

Library staff routinely bring information and resources to residents in the community. CLPL

staff visit local schools to talk about the importance of reading. They partner with local businesses to provide fun, entertaining programs in area parks and farms. And they deliver materials to people residing in adult living communities who aren't able to travel to the library.

After 110 years, CLPL continues to be your community place for lifelong learning.



Crystal Lake Public Library Programs Help Patrons Learn, Enjoy & Explore!

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

Here's what you can borrow with your library card:

Books: Regular, large print and digital **DVDs/Blu-rays:** Movies, TV, learning

Audiobooks: CDs and digital **CDs:** For all genres and ages

Digital Collection: Libby, Hoopla, Flipster, Tumblebooks

Library Database: Access to Consumer Reports,

Reference Solutions, Mango Languages, Linkedin Learning, Value Line

and other resources

Brainfuse HelpNow: Homework help, online resource **Creativebuq:** 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 Video Games, Playaway Launchpads



More services provided by the library:

Programs: CLPL's programs include story times for kids; computer classes for adults; children's concerts and community performances; expanded programs for teens; craft demonstrations; book reviews and reading recommendations; author webinars; trivia contests; seminars about gardening and travel; book clubs and social gatherings.

Reference and readers assistance: Ask our librarians for help with any question by calling 815.459.1687 or by using the "chat" feature on the library website, clpl.org. Our staff can help you find materials and can offer reading recommendations. 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 28 other area libraries.

Literacy programs: Book clubs; 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program; summer and winter reading programs; baby bags for our youngest patrons.

Notary Service: Available days, evenings and weekends

U.S. passport application service

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 110 years.

Accomplishments:

Intergovernmental Agreement with Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 Expands Library Access to Nonresident Students

Crystal Lake Public Library entered into an intergovernmental agreement with Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 in fall 2022. As part of the agreement, CLPL now offers a Student Access Card to students in grades K-8 living outside the city of Crystal Lake limits.

At the start of the 2023-2024 school year, District 47 students began registering for Student Access Cards, which allow them to borrow up to three books or audiobooks at a time from CLPL. The cards give students the opportunity to attend library programs and use educational online resources.

Students who qualify for a free or reduced lunch are eligible to obtain a full-access library card via the Illinois Cards for Kids Act.

The new initiatives aim to provide books and reading materials to as many area children as possible, with the ultimate goal of promoting

In exchange for the library providing the aforementioned services to nonresident students, District 47 agreed to allow the library to use school facilities for special programs.

lifelong learning.



Crystal Lake Public Library

Learn • Enjoy • Explore



Ill. 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:

First library building at 126 Paddock Street, built in 1952.

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

Instagram:

Crystal Lake Public Library and CLPL Teens

Linkedin

Crystal Lake Public Library

YouTube:

Crystal Lake Public Library

Goodreads:

Crystal Lake Public Library

ihaveaquestion@clpl.org

Clpl.org:

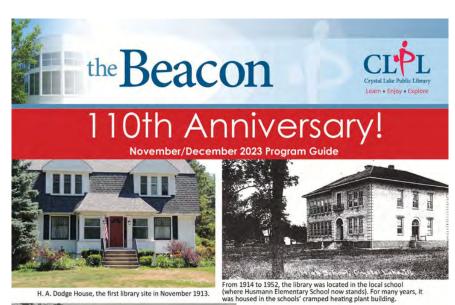
"Chat" on library website













Meet the Crystal Lake Public Library Board of Trustees



William Weller President bweller@clpl.org



Bonita Drew Vice-president bdrew@clpl.org



Mary Fisher Secretary mfisher@clpl.org



Cary Waxler Treasurer cwaxler@clpl.org



James Becker Trustee jbecker@clpl.org



Charles K. Ebann Trustee cebann@clpl.org



Stacey Lorenz Trustee slorenz@clpl.org



Rebecca Sisler Trustee bsisler@clpl.org



Chuck Stump Trustee cstump@clpl.org

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.



Executive Director



Becky Fyolek

Becky Fyolek serves as the library's executive director.

You can contact her at bfyolek@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



Dawn Dvorak Head of Youth Services 815.526.5179 ddvorak@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 Friday-Saturday Sunday

9 am-9 pm 9 am-5 pm 1-5 pm Location 126 Paddock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 www.clpl.org, 815.459.1687



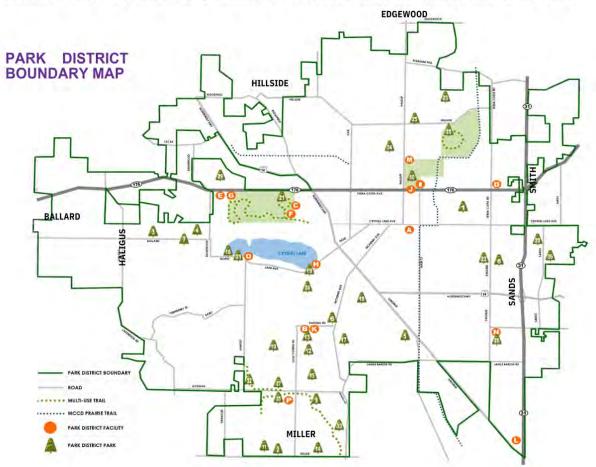


ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS

The Crystal Lake Park District is a separate entity of local government, accounting for approximately 5% of the local property tax bill. Charged with providing park and recreation services for approximately 50,000 residents in Crystal Lake, Lakewood, a small portion of Lake In The Hills and some unincorporated areas, the Crystal Lake Park District system includes 36 parks and 16 facilities spanning over 1,400 acres and program offerings of over 1,000 programs/events annually.

Some 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, 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. The Park District distributes three seasonal activity guides filled with programs and special events designed for participants of all ages. A nationally accredited, award-winning summer day camp as well as Extended Time program (before and after school child care) is annually filled to capacity.





MISSION STATEMENT

Enriching all lives through Recreation, Parks and Nature.

ANNUAL REVIEW

The Crystal Lake Park District services continue to see heavy and consistent use throughout the year. Summer camp and program numbers were exceptionally high and many special events drew record crowds. For the second year in a row, the Park Board of Commissioners levied less than allowed under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, saving taxpayers money on their property taxes not only this year but into perpetuity.

The Comprehensive Master Plan adopted in March of 2023, provided solid direction for the Crystal Lake Park District. Scope of work to be completed in fiscal year 2023-2028 includes an in-depth financial and operational review of the Racket Club, examining the future of the Barlina Road barn, feasibility studies to determine indoor space needs, indoor/outdoor aquatic facilities needs, a new maintenance facility, update of playground and shelter renovation schedules, a new park on Haligus Road, revised Crystal Lake monitoring plan, review of Park Police Department, field and court assessment studies and developing a master improvement plan for Lippold Park.

The Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency was formed and has held the first of three required meetings. The Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act requires units of local government that levy any tax, including park districts, forest preserve districts, and conservation districts to form a committee to study local government efficiencies and issue a report to the County Board. Items to be studied include governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdictions, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units. Collecting data, research, and analysis as necessary to prepare a written report that includes recommendations with respect to increased accountability and efficiency is also part of the process. The final report is to be filed with the County Administrative Office no later than 18 months after the formation of the committee.

The Park District, City of Crystal Lake and Village of Lakewood entered into an intergovernmental agreement that will contribute to the ecology of Crystal Lake. Crystal Lake watercraft usage fees are used to fund lake ecology, maintenance and safety patrol. Fees will increase in 2024 to cover additional lake maintenance needed above what the Park District already contributes on an annual basis. Beginning April 2024, lake usage decals and boat launch access will be sold at one location, the Crystal Lake Park District Administration Office.



CONCERTS IN THE PARK
This nine week series continues to be
a popular Tuesday night activity for
the area



POSITIVE PEBBLES
Families received rock painting kits
and placed inspirational messages on
rocks throughout our parks



'CADDYSHACK'
One of our adult only evenings
featured a costume contest, games,
food and experiential fun.



- Summer Camp reached the highest gross revenue on record of approximately \$800,000. The Park District employed 108 camp counselors who oversaw 3,902 campers during the 10-week camp cycle.
- The Concerts in the Park series remains a gem of the Park District. Great music and food trucks greeted record crowds this summer. There was an opening act for the first time, as Crystal Lake Kingpins performed before the Crystal Lake Community Band.
- The Park District created two new special events that were geared towards adults. Aloha Summer highlighted a Hawaiian-themed happy hour celebrating a beautiful summer sunset. In August, the iconic 80s movie 'Caddyshack' was featured on our big movie screen while interactive games, food trucks, and mini-golf entertained the crowd.
- The Park District teamed up with the Crystal Lake Public Library to host another popular Tot Sing-A-Long summer series.
- More than 2,000 kids attended the annual Truck or Treat Halloween event at Main Beach. The Village of Lakewood police, Crystal Lake police, fire, ComEd, and JA Frate were some of the local businesses that helped pass out candy to the attendees.
- The Lippold Family Golf Center had one of its best years ever. Driving range revenue was up 54%, while Mini golf sales were up 30%.
- Main Beach and West Beach continued to see strong attendance numbers. Resident beach admission was up 18%, while non-resident admission was up 32%.
- The Nature Center hosted 2000+ walkers at Veteran Acres for the annual Luminaria nighttime hike. This four-day event culminates in a night filled with hot cocoa, cookies with Mrs. Claus, and a candy cane forest.
- The Park District continued to host many large-scale events that brought crowds to the community. Those large-scale events included an Ice Cream Festival, CL Force Soccer Tournament, Crystal Lake South High School Cross Country Invitational, Special Olympics Polar Plunge, MCYSA international baseball tournament, and over a dozen midwestern baseball/softball tournaments.
- The Park Police Department hosted the Gary Svecjar Memorial Cops 'N Bobbers Fishing Derby at Shamrock Hills. Kids were paired with police officers from agencies across the area.



ALOHA SUMMER



SUMMER CAMP



COPS 'N BOBBERS



SUMMER SING-A-LONG



PROJECT UPDATES 2023

- Kamijima, Brighton Oaks and Lapins Parks received new playground structures and amenities.
- Rubber poured playground surface were installed at Woodscreek Park, Veteran Acres Park and Woodland Estates Park in the spring.
- Frank Repp baseball field (Veteran Acres) was renovated and new shed erected.
- New siding was installed at Lippold Family Golf Center and Maintenance Garage.
- New flooring was added at Barlina Preschool, Rotary and Grand Oaks.
- Spoerl Park dugouts, Barlina House Preschool offices and Main Beach building received fresh coats of paint.
- The customer service desk areas at Lippold Family Golf Center and Main Beach were renovated.
- Eighteen new baskets were installed at the Lippold Disc Golf course.
- New LED signs were installed at Grand Oaks and the Lippold Family Golf Center.
- A new building entry sign was mounted at West Beach.
- Wayfinding signage was added to Lippold Park. Fence repairs were made at Lippold's softball fields.
- Motorized window shades were added at Rotary Building.
- Parking lots were replaced at Barlina House Preschool, Grand Oaks and the Administration Office.

 Paved lots at Lippold Park and Indian Prairie were seal coated and striped.
- A new roof was fitted on the Main Beach building.
- Barlina Preschool offices, Grand Oaks Senior Room and Art Room now have new furniture.
- A Dixie Chopper for Lippold Park and a Field Pro Sandpro were purchased to improve athletic field maintenance.
- The Racket Club outdoor courts were removed and replaced, exterior court fence and walkway repaired.
- Flagpoles were repaired at the Rotary building, Spoerl Park and Lippold Park's softball fields.



VETERAN ACRES NEW PLAYGROUND SURFACE



LED ENTRY SIGN AT GRAND OAKS



OUTDOOR COURTS AT THE RACKET CLUB



FRANK REPP FIELD



CURRENT STATE OF OPERATIONS

The Crystal Lake Park District has emerged from the pandemic strongly with use of parks, programs and facilities at exceptionally high levels. Staffing continues to be a challenge but appears to be improving compared to last year. Numerous capital projects were accomplished this year. The pandemic and supply chain issues that slowed work down over the past two years have subsided enough to move forward on some projects.

ENGAGEMENT - HOW CAN AUDIENCE STAY INFORMED

The Crystal Lake Park District Marketing Department continues to stay on top of current trends and is always seeing ways to communicate with residents who may not be using Park District services or programs. Efforts include continued and expanded digital presence, print presence plus innovative approaches to signs and banners, face to face marketing such as social media and participant giveaways, information tables at special events and community engagement meetings and participation in community special events.

The Park District prints 3 seasonal Park Report newsletters which are distributed to residences in 60014 and 60014 zip codes (22,500). Each report is written with informative and topical information regarding current projects, frequently asked questions and other information which might not be viewed by recipients of the larger, seasonal activity guides. One Park Report newsletter per year is dedicated to the Popular Annual Financial Report, which includes funding and expenses for the fiscal year. A monthly e-newsletter named 'Connect' contains information about upcoming programs, events and park district seasonal information.



WEBSITE USERS: 13,271 AVERAGE UNIQUE VISITORS/MONTH

CONNECT E-NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS: 13,424 DIGITAL GUIDE UNIQUE VISITORS: 9,388 PER GUIDE

DIGITAL SUMMER CAMP GUIDE UNIQUE VISITORS: 3,555

DIGITAL MEDIA MONITORS: 5 FACILITIES

(ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, LIPPOLD FAMILY GOLF CENTER, GRAND OAKS RECREATION CENTER, LIPPOLD PARK'S SOFTBALL CONCESSIONS, RACKET CLUB)



PARK BOARD MEMBERS

The Crystal Lake Park District is governed by an elected Board of seven Commissioners who each serve a four-year team. 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 meeting 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.



President
eanderson



CATHY CAGLE Commissioner ccagle



JASON HEISLER Treasurer jheisler



MIKE JACOBSON Commissioner mjacobson



KAREN JOHNSON Commissioner kjohnson



LINDA MATTHIAS Commissioner Imatthias



SARAH MICHEHL Vice President smichehl



JASON HERBSTER Executive Director jherbster

Name@crystallakeparks.org



PARTNERING FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

At McHenry County College, we're focused on creating innovative strategies that support the College's mission – *Our Focus is Learning. Student Success is Our Goal.*

From adding new programs of study to building state-of-the art learning environments, expanding student assistance programs, removing barriers to advanced degrees, and more, MCC has continued to respond to the community's diverse and changing needs quickly and thoughtfully.

Over the years, we've found community members often express surprise when they learn about everything MCC has to offer. So many people have interacted with the College in some way—whether it's through a noncredit course, one of our events, ESL or Adult Education classes, workforce development programs, or one of our many degrees or certificates—and discover even more than they were looking for.

MCC is a central resource for our community, and we strive to deliver a welcoming, transformative experience for all. With every decision we make and every person we serve, we do it all with one goal in mind—to make our community a better place.

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



MCC HIGHLIGHTS

INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

- Continued progress on the Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation. The new 45,000 sq. ft. educational space will support advanced technology and manufacturing programs, including HVAC, robotics and mechatronics, welding, and more. With additional space accommodating an Incubator Lab and Maker's Lab, it offers the promise of being an epicenter for community engagement and inspiration. The Center will welcome students in Fall 2024.
- Expanded local access to bachelor's and advanced degrees through the creation of the University Center. MCC's partnerships with Aurora University, Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and Roosevelt University allow students to continue their education in a face-to-face environment, removing the sometimes-overwhelming barrier of having to travel to pursue a degree. The University Center is currently under renovation and located in the heart of downtown Woodstock.

ENROLLMENT

- Increased overall credit enrollment. Headcount increased by 4.5% from Spring 2022 to Spring 2023 and 2% from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023. MCC has seen steady enrollment increases in both headcount and credit hours each semester over the past seven years.
- Grew enrollment in dual credit programs by 4.3%. Dual credit classes allow high school students to earn both high school and college credit, saving them time and money. The program has grown 321% since Fall 2017.
- Celebrated the first cohort of graduates from our Dual Degree program. 21 students from Woodstock D200 and 14 from Harvard Community Unit School District 50 graduated with both their high school diploma and an associate's degree in Spring 2023.

STUDENT SUPPORT

- Awarded more than 858 scholarships providing over \$760,300 in assistance to MCC students.
 The Friends of MCC Foundation also supported students experiencing unexpected financial emergencies, awarding more than \$23,800 through the Student Success Fund.
- Expanded mental health support. In addition to offering on-campus or Talkspace therapy, MCC contracted with support platform Togetherall, which allows students to receive mental health support from trained student peers.

PROGRAMMING

- Expanded and optimized academic programs and classes. Added more certificates in Criminal Justice and offered new courses in Art, Math, Spanish, and Speech. The College has also been reviewing and enhancing curriculum for several career and technical education programs.
- Created three permanently endowed innovation director positions. Directors for the Liebman Institute for Science and Innovation, Foglia Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation, and Center for Agrarian Learning will create engaging, relevant programming for the community.
- Achieved success across MCC Scots Athletics programs. In 2023, the Athletics program had 26 ISCC All-Conference honorees, 9 All-Region 4 honorees, and one of the Baseball team members was recognized as the Region 4 Player of the Year. Academically, the program met their 3.0 GPA goal and had 27 students earn NJCAA Academic All-American status.
- Celebrated the return of Study Abroad. The
 first student to study abroad since the pandemic
 left for Canterbury, England in Spring 2023.
 Since then, 12 students studied abroad in various
 locations this summer, and two spent the fall
 semester in Seville, Spain.

MCC HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY

- Maintained a flat tax levy. The move saves taxpayers money and contributes favorably to the economic impact on the college district. Since FY 2013, there has been only one annual levy increase. The College also offers one of the lowest tuition rates across the state.
- Helped adult education students transition to college-level coursework. New bridge classes in Healthcare, Business, Manufacturing, and Administrative Office Management teach students the academic, employability, and technical skills needed to launch a new career.
- Connected 89 high school students with summer manufacturing internships. In partnership with the Manufacturing Pathways Consortium, the internships allowed students to experience a variety of high-skilled career opportunities at local manufacturers.
- Expanded noncredit programs. The Kids and College summer program was redesigned to align with MCC's career pathways, allowing for early career exploration through hands-on, engaging classes. MCC also added new personal development courses in art, beekeeping, health and wellness, home and garden, and more.
- Welcomed hundreds of community members to campus. Our Experts and Insights faculty speaker series, planetarium shows, concert series, plays, art gallery events, People in Need Forum, and Green Living Expo invited people from across the area to connect, discover, engage, and learn on MCC's campus.
- Hosted our first Community Block Party. The event, which took place at Sew Hop'd Brewery in Huntley, featured family-friendly entertainment, live music, food trucks, and opportunities for MCC alumni to connect.

GRANTS

Awarded more than \$5.5 million in grants:

- \$2,354,124 from the Illinois Community
 College Board (ICCB) with over \$700k to
 fund Adult Education, providing high-quality
 instruction, wraparound support, bridge and
 transition programs, and student services for
 adult education students. Over \$605k was
 awarded by the ICCB to fund the Pipeline for
 the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce
 (PATH) to strengthen and streamline healthcare
 pathways.
- \$297,023 from the Department of Education for Upward Bound to provide support and educational opportunities for first-generation and low-income Harvard High School students.

Supporting our community through grant-funded programs:

- No-cost counseling for more than 250 business owners through the Small Business Development Center (SBDC).
- 275 Adult Education learners gained skills in Reading, Math, and English language skills through instruction.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Tom Allen Vice Chair



Suzanne Hoban Vice Chair



Dale Morton Secretary



Alyssa Kueffner



Tess Reinhard



Elizabeth Speros



Molly Walsh



Liza Smith Student Trustee *2023 Student Trustee

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS

Board Meetings are held in Room A217 at the College. These meetings are open to the public.

Find the most current list of upcoming meeting dates, information packets, and videos of past meetings at www.mchenry.edu/board.

CONTACT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES mcctrustees@mchenry.edu

EXECUTIVE CABINET



Dr. Clint Gabbard *President*



Christina Haggerty
Vice President of Marketing,
Communications,
and Development



Timothy HopkinsChief Information Officer



Dr. Talia KoronkiewiczVice President of Student Affairs
Interim Vice President of
Human Resources



Dr. Arlene Santos-George Vice President of Academic Affairs



Robert TenutaChief Financial Officer/
Treasurer





96% D155's Graduation Rate

87% State's Graduation Rate





of graduates will continue their education

at four-year colleges and universities, two-year community colleges, and vocational and technical schools.

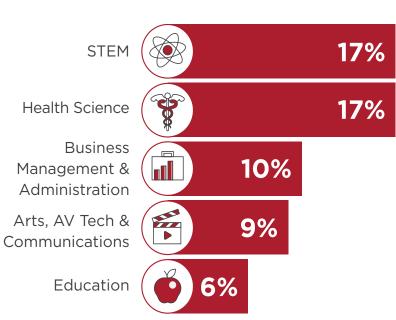




The class of 2023 is studying in

38 states, Washington D.C. & five countries

including Canada, Japan, Paraguay, & the Netherlands.





EXPANDING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



"

Going through the CNA program it showed me that I really enjoy nursing. Right after I passed my exam, I knew I wanted to start working right away. I applied to Fair Oaks and I started working there in the beginning of January."

Stephanie Gonzalez, Crystal Lake Central senior

D155's CNA Class Provides Career Pathway for Students

District 155 celebrated the official opening of the new Health Careers Lab — a state-of-the-art space at Crystal Lake Central High School which trained 47 students from across the district throughout the school year to become Illinois Certified Nursing Assistants. For the first time, Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital allowed high school students to complete their clinical hours at a hospital. The partnership between D155, Northwestern Medicine, and McHenry County is a collaborative approach to find creative solutions to assist with the workforce shortage in healthcare.

The district received a \$1.5 million grant from Advance McHenry County to implement this program and Northwestern Medicine donated beds, patient chairs, and other supplies to give students hands-on experience.



D155 Students Earn EKG Certification in New Course

Twelve students completed the new Electrocardiogram (EKG) Certification Course held at Crystal Lake Central. Students learned how to perform 12-lead EKGs, read ambulatory and event monitors, and take vital signs.

ff For a lot of us, going into nursing school, it will be something great to have on our application," said Cary-Grove senior Michelle Vega Sarabia. "It allows us to get right into the field of healthcare, and taking this class in high school lowers the cost for us."



38Dual Credit Courses

\$6.5M Estimated Cost Savings

Partnered with



IILLINOIS

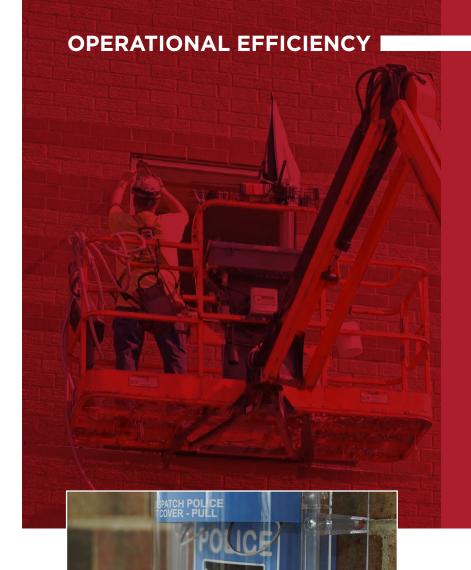




8 New Dual Credit Courses



6,502 Seats 175% Increase



The D155 Board of Education approved \$5,965,038 to complete 12 capital improvements projects across the district during the summer of 2023 — part of a continuing effort to improve the learning environment for students and maintain basic upkeep of facilities.

All four buildings have been equipped with Blue Point Alert Systems to enhance district safety and security. The rapid emergency response systems will immediately notify first responders, school leadership, students, teachers and staff of a threat.

Additionally, 115 third-floor windows have been replaced at Prairie Ridge and 831 lockers were installed during locker room renovations at Cary-Grove. A new library and dean's office were finished at the Haber Oaks Campus and stairs were configured to accommodate a new ADA lift at Crystal Lake Central.



- Locker Room Renovation
- Auxiliary Gym Roof Replacement
- BluePoint Alert Solutions Rapid Emergency Response System

Crystal Lake Central High School

- New ADA Lift and Stair
- Nurses Room Renovation
- BluePoint Alert Solutions Rapid Emergency Response System

Crystal Lake South High School

- Haber Oaks Break Out Rooms
- BluePoint Alert Solutions Rapid Emergency Response System

Prairie Ridge High School

- SPED Room Renovation
- Third Floor Window Replacement
- Storefront Entrance Work
- BluePoint Alert Solutions Rapid
 Emergency Response System





FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

D155 Receives International Financial Reporting Awards

The district was awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting (COE) from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) and a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the eighth year in a row for its 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). These Certificates represent the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

Balanced Budget

District 155 remains committed to fiscal responsibility and has received the highest designation for financial management for the last 20 years by the Illinois State Board of Education. The District 155 finance department provides accurate, reliable, and consistent financial data internally and for all stakeholders in our community. The district has produced balanced budgets with operating revenues exceeding operating expenditures for eight consecutive years, including the most recent 2022-2023 Fiscal Year. The district will continue to focus on providing resources to best educate our students while being mindful of our taxpayers.

D155 Tax Rate

Over the past year, the D155 tax rate remained materially flat at \$2.477 per \$100 of Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) in Tax Year 2022. Over the past eight years, the district tax rate has decreased, totaling a 20% decrease (see graph). During that same eight-year span, District property values have increased every year. District 155 has no control over housing assessments, and individual tax bills may fluctuate as property values increase or decrease.



District Budgeted Operating Expenditures

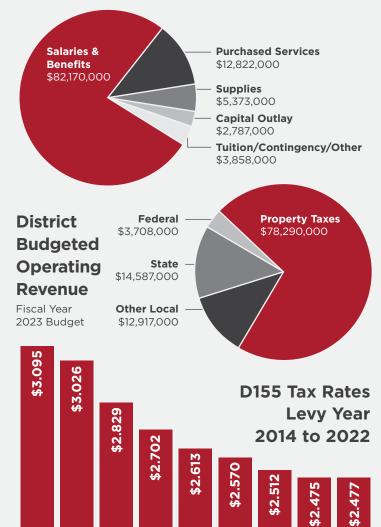
Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

2014

2015

2016 2017

2018



2019 2020 2021

2022

BOARD OF EDUCATION



Nicole Pavoris Board President

Ms. Pavoris was elected in April 2017 and her term expires in 2025.



Jason Blake **Board Vice President**

Mr. Blake was elected in April 2017 and his term expires in 2025.



Amy Blazier Board Member

Ms. Blazier was first elected in April 2015 and her term expires in 2027.



Steve Kieffer **Board Member**

Mr. Kieffer was first elected in April 2023 and his term expires in 2027.



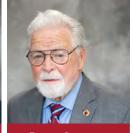
Mr. Ludwig was elected Ms. Macro was first in April 2017 and his term expires in 2025.

Board Member



Stephanie Macro Board Member

elected in April 2023 and her term expires in 2027



Dave Secrest Board Member

Mr. Secrest was first elected in April 2001 and his term expires in 2025

The board of education is a seven-member, elected body tasked with formulating district policies, employing and advising the superintendent, employing personnel, and making specific school decisions. The board convenes every month in public meetings to discuss district business and hear citizens' concerns. A schedule of these meetings is posted publicly in advance of these meetings. Along with the agendas and minutes, this schedule is available on the district's website. Each board member is elected to a four-year term, for which he or she is not compensated. Board members must reside in Community High School District 155's boundaries. Members can be contacted by email at board@d155.org.

2023-24 Administration

Dr. Neil Lesinski

Superintendent

Trey Breeden

Chief Technology Officer

Kimberly Bromley

Principal, Crystal Lake South High School

Erica Bruso

Director of Fiscal Services

Justin DeBolt

Director of Community Partnerships & District Safety

Julie Duncan

Coordinator of Off-Campus Programs, Haber Oaks

Dr. Eric Ernd

Principal, Crystal Lake Central High School

Kathy Gilbert

Director of Teaching & Learning, Curriculum & Pathways

Rachel Keesev

Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services

Dr. Steve Koch

Principal, Prairie Ridge High School

Josh Nobilio

Assistant Superintendent of **Human Resources**

Shannon Podzimek

Director of Communications and Community Relations

Rebecca Saffert

Principal, Cary-Grove High School

Troy Stinger

Director of Operations

Matt Timmerman

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Strategic Partnerships

Dr. Kevin Werner

Chief Officer of Finance and Operations



CRYSTAL LAKE ELEMENTARY DISTRICT 47

Empowering All Students- Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow











ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS

District 47 is the largest elementary school district and second largest employer in McHenry County with approximately 7,000 students and 1,400 staff. The district serves PreK through 8th grade students throughout Crystal Lake, Lakewood, Lake in the Hills, Cary, Woodstock, Huntley, Bull Valley, and McHenry in nine elementary schools and three middle schools. To accommodate transportation of its students District 47 iointly operates the Transportation Joint Agreement (TJA) with Community High School District 155.

EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

This year Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 achieved top rankings by U.S. News and World Report, recognized for outstanding education. This success is rooted in the district's commitment individualized to inclusive programming, fostering an environment where every student can thrive academically and personally, offering quality special education, gifted, bilingual, dual language, fine arts, STEM and enrichment programming. 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. Glacier Ridge PreK is a play based program supporting 250 students with pre-academic skills, social emotional skills, gross and fine motor, and language development.

OUR MISSION

The passion and commitment that the board of education, administration, teachers and support staff have towards fulfilling the district's mission of *Empowering All Students: Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow* 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.

PROGRAMS



- . Band (Grades 5-8)
- . ELL Programming (PreK-8)
- . Extended Curriculum (Grades 4-8)
- FUSE (Grades 6-8 STEM program)
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)
- Project Lead the Way (K-5 STEM program)
- Purposeful Play (Kindergarten)
- Reading Recovery
- Second Step Social-Emotional Learning (K-8)
- Spanish Dual Language (K-8)
- Special Education (PreK-8)

DISTRICT 47 ANNUAL REVIEW

Moments to celebrate as we continue to inspire our Learners Today- Leaders Tomorrow.

UNITS OF STUDY ELEVATES STUDENT SUCCESS

The district renewed its focus on literacy education this year with updated and engaging new materials aligned with the Units of Study. A committee of kindergarten through 5th-grade mono and dual language teachers across all buildings and grades, along with support staff members and administration, worked to ensure cohesion between the grade levels with a strong focus

on the Illinois Learning Standards and key concepts from Teacher Clarity. Scan the QR code to view a video and discover how the Units of Study are making a positive impact on both teachers and students.





Deep Dive with Dr. Hinz is a biweekly podcast

featuring interviews with staff, students, and



Communication is the foundation of a strong school district, and this podcast is one of the many ways to bridge the gap. Scan the QR to listen along!

D47 PODCAST

community members.



DISTRICT OUTPACING STATE: EL EXITS

A student is considered proficient in English and no longer classified as an English Learner (EL) if they achieve a score of 4.8 or above on the ACCESS for ELLs assessment. District 47 has had more students exit services than the state for the past two years.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Elevate Award Winners



語歌画 District 47's Elevate program recognizes employees who go above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of students, schools, and the community. Nominations are submitted by parents, staff, and community members. To read submissions for the Fall 2023 winners, scan the QR.

Faces of D47

District 47 was honored by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) with a Golden Achievement Award for the 'Faces of D47', a social media campaign shining a light on the incredible people that work in the district. Scan the QR to read why they love working in District 47.





D47 RECOGNIZED FOR PBIS IMPLEMENTATION

District 47 elementary and middle schools were recognized by the Midwest PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) Network in 2022-23 for their work toward implementing a framework leading to improved student outcomes related to academic performance and social-emotional competence.

2023 ILLINOIS SCHOOL REPORT CARDS

In the 2023 Illinois State Board of Education Report Card release, all District 47 schools earned Commendable designations, with one designated for Targeted Support. These summative designations are one way the State measures how well our schools are meeting the needs of all students.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

D47 and CLPL Partner for Literacy

As a result of an IGA between the district and the Crystal Lake Public Library, all students can get a Student Access Card, giving them access to: check out 3 books or audiobooks at a time, access to ebooks and databases, and register for library programs. Over 500 Student Access Cards have been given out by the library in the first 5 months of implementation.

Social-Emotional Health Series for D47 Families

District 47 takes a proactive approach to the social-emotional well-being and mental health of our students and their families, including hosting a virtual parenting series led by clinical consultant and powerful speaker Jackie Rhew. The sessions provide essential tools for parents to help them build resiliency, confidence, and emotional supports for their children.

D47 Offers Teens Safe After-School Options

District 47 is partnering with The Break Teen Center in Crystal Lake to provide a safe place for middle school students to have fun and connect after school. The district provides bus transportation to those interested.

District 47 Schools Support the Community

- D47 schools, the district office, and TJA donated a total of 5,173 pounds of food to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry, translating to over 4,300 meals.
- Glacier Ridge Elementary hosted 'Shop With a Cop' event, ensuring economically disadvantaged children experienced the best possible holiday season.
- West Elementary fourth grade class collected 761 books for an SEL lesson in class. All books were donated to local nonprofit A to Z Literacy Movement.

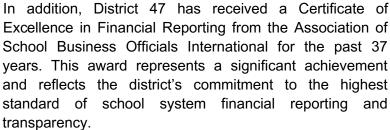


I am proud to affirm our unwavering commitment to community engagement. Our mission extends beyond the classroom walls; we strive to be a catalyst for positive change in the broader community. Together, we build a foundation of support, ensuring that our schools are not just institutions of learning, but pillars of community strength and collaboration.



FINANCIAL RECOGNITIONS

For fiscal year 2023 and multiple years prior, District 47 has received Financial Recognition status (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 ISBE.



2023-2024 BUDGET

On September 18, 2023, the District 47 Board of Education approved the 2023-24 budget. Within this budget, the board approved operational expenditures and the current year's salaries and benefits, which comprise over 72 percent of the district's total budget. While the majority of the D47 budget (approximately 79 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.

TAX LEVY

The money District 47 receives from annual property tax levies fund salaries and benefits per collective bargaining agreements; routine maintenance and improvements to aging facilities; educational programming and strategic planning initiatives; and overall operational costs. At a public hearing at the D47 board of education meeting on November 20, 2023, the board voted 7-0 to adopt the 2023 tax levy. The requested aggregate amount of total property taxes to be levied for 2023 is \$82,090,941.



BY THE NUMBERS



480,333 MEALS SERVED ANNUALLY



14 FACILITES TO MAINTAIN



679,000+ MILES DRIVEN ANNUALLY

LEVERAGING ALTERNATE FUNDING CHANNELS

Using a branch of ESSER funds, the district was able to provide 36 staff members with 30 hours each of training in the Orton-Gillingham 'decoding reading' technique to utilize in class, aimed to address students struggling with reading disabilities.

The IDEA grant was used to place BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) professionals in classrooms, offering coaching and onsite professional development to support teachers and building-wide initiatives.





CAPITOL IMPROVEMENTS

In 2023, the district is invested \$1.8 million in capital improvement projects. Work included updates like a new PreK playground at Glacier Ridge Elementary, new flooring at Husmann Elementary, and a new classroom in the updated Canterbury Elementary Library Media Center. In addition, facility maintenance in buildings throughout the district included flooring, painting, plumbing, intercoms, clocks, card reader system enhancements, casework, exterior storage sheds, masonry, fencing, pavement, and landscaping. Scan the QR to watch a video highlighting these improvements.

SAFETY INITIATIVES

The safety and security of students and staff remains a top priority for District 47. In 2022, a safety audit was conducted by school safety consultants that involved a facilities inspection and observation of drills and current safety practices at each school. Based on the recommendations of the safety audit, the district has been implementing changes to enhance overall safety measures and protocols. These include, but are not limited to, enforcing a locked door policy, creating comprehensive standard operating procedures for staff, secured and limited points of entry, and enhanced visitor management procedures.

ENGAGEMENT

D47 Board of Education



The Board of Education 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 5:30 p.m. and an open, public session at 7:00 p.m. The board can be reached at boe@d47.org.

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

D47 Executive Council



DR. KATHY J. HINZ
SUPERINTENDENT



DR. ERIC OLSON

ASST. SUPT. OF
HUMAN RESOURCES



CATHY NELSON ASST. SUPT. OF BUSINESS



ASST. SUPT. OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES



AIMEE KAPSER

ASST. SUPT. OF
CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION
& ASSESSMENT



KARI FIRAK

DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNICATIONS &
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

CONNECT WITH US

District 47 Office

CORE Center

300 Commerce Dr. Crystal Lake, IL 60014 815.788.5000

Dr. Kathy Hinz, Supt.

- www.d47.org
- (3 @ @d47schools
- @crystallakeschooldistrict47

Crystal Lake Elementary District 47 welcomes questions and feedback from the community. If you would like to receive future district and school updates via the district's community newsletter, "Focus on 47," send an email to communications@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.

Canterbury Elementary

875 Canterbury Dr. 815.788.5650 Stacy Graff, Principal

- www.d47.org/can
- (a) @canterburyd47

Husmann Elementary

131 W. Paddock St. 815.356.3400

Guy Sromek, Principal

- www.d47.org/hus

South Elementary

601 Gold Rd. 815.788.5400

Rachael Alt, Principal

- mww.d47.org/sou

Hannah Beardsley MS

515 E. Crystal Lake Ave. 815.788.5750 Carrie Coats, Principal

- www.d47.org/hbm
- n @ @hbmbears

Coventry Elementary

820 Darlington Lane 815.788.5500

Matt Grubbs, Principal

- www.d47.org/cov
- ♠ ⊚ @coventryd47

Indian Prairie Elementary

651 Village Rd. 815.788.5700

Jodie Moss, Principal

- www.d47.org/ips
- (3) @indianprairied47

West Elementary

100 Briarwood Rd. 815.788.5550 Beth Klinsky, Principal

- www.d47.org/wes

Bernotas Middle School

170 N. Oak St. 815.788.5600

Kellie Marks, Principal

- www.d47.org/rbm

Glacier Ridge PreK-5

1120 Village Rd. 815.788.4850

Dr. Anastasia Gruper, Principal

- www.d47.org/grs
- (f) (a) @glacierridged47

North Elementary

500 Woodstock St. 815.356.3450

Michelle Barrett, Principal

- www.d47.org/nor
- (f) (a) @starhuskiesd47

Woods Creek Elementary

1100 W. Alexandra Blvd. 815.444.4800

Amy Marks, Principal

- www.d47.org/wds

Lundahl Middle School

560 Nash Rd. 815.788.5450

Angie Compere, Principal

- www.d47.org/lms
- (A) (a) (a) (lundahllions

WWW.D47.ORG

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OUR CENTERPIECE SPONSOR



CENTERPIECES DESIGNED BY

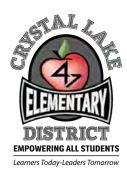


REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

















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