



# Center Cass School District 66 Summer 2023 Newsletter

**CHALLENGE, INSPIRE, EMPOWER**  
each learner to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally -  
today and always.

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Thank you for the continued support of our students and staff. As you read our Summer 2023 newsletter, you will see that students are the number one priority in Center Cass. Due to your financial support, we have added staff to meet students' academic, social, and emotional needs; as well as updated curriculum, developed staff, improved facilities, and have begun to establish financial health. Not only are the aforementioned actions best practice, they are also tenants of our Strategic Plan. Our Strategic Plan is our "north star" and guides our actions in preparing students for the future. You can read more about the District's Strategic Plan by clicking the button on our website.

Inside the newsletter and website, you will also see students and employees engaged in a variety of activities that we believe challenge, inspire, and empower them to be successful. We are working diligently to establish a culture of ownership, learning, growth, and achievement for our students and staff. As we progress on our journey toward excellence, we will keep you informed via mailed newsletters, online news releases, social media posts, and parent/community events.

School districts that excel, have communities that excel. Our success is your success. We understand the importance of our partnership and will do our best to bring our community a high quality school district in which it can be proud.



**Dr. Andrew Wise**  
awise@ccsd66.org

I hope you enjoy the updates and photos. Please reach out to me if I can be of assistance. Looking forward to a successful 2023-2024 school year!

## FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

We would like to thank our families and residents for supporting Center Cass Schools. A good community deserves strong schools and it's our goal as a board to deliver on the promises we make to our community. As a part of those goals, our Board seeks to provide our students with an excellent learning experience and to provide our residents with a quality school district, today and in the future. We will strive to accomplish our mission by supporting the District's Strategic Plan; by being focused on student learning, employee development, safe and secure facilities, and ensuring we develop and maintain a fiscally responsible fund balance. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Dr. Wise (awise@ccsd66.org) or any of your local Board of Education members (ccsdboardofed@ccsd66.org). We are looking forward to a great 2023-24 school year and sharing highlights with you throughout the year along with updates as we make progress toward our goals.

Sincerely,

President Liane Raso  
(lraso@ccsd66.org)  
and the D66 Board of Education

### Directors

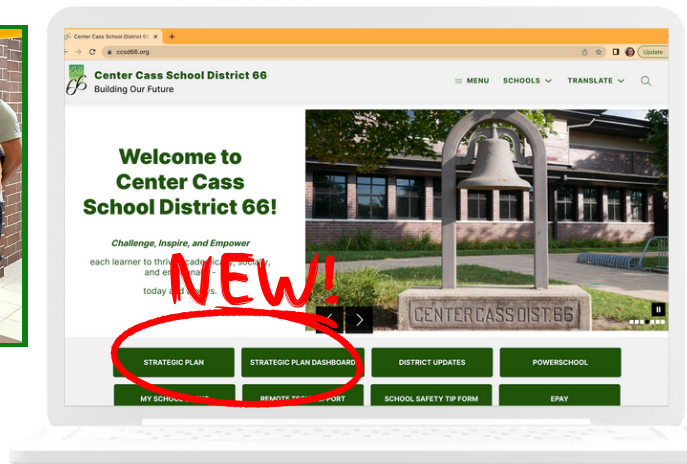
Learning - Kim Liles  
Student Services - Sean Rhoads  
Technology - Keith Roberts  
Transportation & Maintenance -  
Tom Tiede  
[www.ccsd66.org/staff](http://www.ccsd66.org/staff)

### Principals

Elizabeth Ide - Katie Johnson  
Prairieview - Jake Little  
Lakeview - Dr. Mark Orszula



**D66 Board of Education**  
From Left: Megan DuPass,  
Doug Wiley, Donna Sobotka,  
Brian Liedtke, Liane Raso,  
Tiffany Watson, Chris Esposito



# Congratulations



## Class of 2023

# Happy Retirement



**Janet Schultz**  
2nd Grade  
Teacher



**Mark Pagel**  
Prairieview  
Principal



**Betsy Spizzirri**  
Special Education  
Teacher

Thank you for your commitment and service to CCSD66!  
Wishing you the best in retirement!

## Points of Pride from 2022-2023



Passed a referendum to provide students and teachers with the proper resources and educational environment to achieve success. Also to restore fund balances and financial health.



Welcomed over 800 Very Important People (mainly grandparents) into Elizabeth Ide and Prairieview classrooms and beyond at VIP Day on Friday, May 12th.



TEAM 66 Education Foundation provided over \$9,000 in funds this spring to enrich the learning experience for CCSD66 students.



1st place in Lakeview Sports were girls swimming in conference, boys swimming in conference & boys soccer in regular season conference and boys volleyball champions.



The media work of several 6th grade Lakeview students was recently recognized for the Illinois Art Education Association 2023 Video and Animation Showcase.



In May, D66 was awarded the distinction of a 2023 Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM).



The Marching Spartans hosted the first annual Lakeview Homecoming Parade for students at Lakeview, Prairieview as well as community members.



Full restoration of activities including dances, clubs, intramural sports, and athletics.



The Lakeview Jazz Band placed first in the St. Louis invitational at Six Flags and the Symphonic Band placed 3rd.



# SUMMER FUN IN CCSD66



Touch-A-Truck with the DWFD at the June 14 Checkout



Guest reader Mrs. Hull at the June 14 Checkout



Meet & Greet Principal Johnson at the June 28 Checkout



Bobby the Book Boa! He lives outside the Ide Library and growing daily!



Making Bobby the Book Boa at the June 28 Summer Checkout

Special thanks to Ms. Hendron for organizing the Summer Checkouts at Ide and making it a great opportunity for students to stay connected, meet new friends, interact with the community and D66 educators including Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Aleo, Ms. Halper, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Ms. Tracy, Mrs. Sulima, Principal Johnson, Mr. Rhoads, Mrs. Powers, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Holtrup, Principal Little, Mrs. Forsman and Ms. Beseth.



Read with a Therapy Dog at the June 28 Summer Checkout



Building firefly houses with Mr. Rhoads at the July 12 Checkout



Volunteer CCSD66 Band Students Celebrate 4th of July in Bruce Lake. A decades long tradition in CCSD66!



Mr. Tedeschi & Mr. Ohlsen leading the band in Bruce Lake on the 4th of July

# SPARTAN FEST *Career Day*

In May, students were able to choose from over 40 careers and participate in 3 interactive sections to learn more about the careers of the presenters. From pilots to editors to doctors... D66 parents, family and community members showed up to inspire. Thank you to Amy Burrows for organizing this amazing event and more thanks to the following for volunteering their time for our Lakeview Spartans.

- |                        |                        |                      |                               |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Det. Sgt. Nick Skweres | Mrs. Anita Gajula      | Mr. Mahesh Ananth    | Ms. Jennifer Adelman-McCarthy |
| Dr. Ben VanDusen       | Mrs. Brandi Will       | Mr. Martin Klara     | Ms. Kate Jakubas              |
| Dr. Sarah VanDusen     | Father Fouad Saba      | Mr. Matthew Burrows  | Ms. Kelly Nowaczyk            |
| Dr. Julie Bruce        | Mrs. Dana Maksimovich  | Mr. Osman Ahmed      | Ms. Lenore Vidal              |
| Dr. Michael Nommensen  | Mrs. Elizabeth Uribe   | Mr. Paul Chawla      | Ms. Rachel Lazich             |
| Mr. Bill Thompson      | Ms. Abby Lechner       | Mrs. Gabriela Chawla | Mr. Robert Shaunassey         |
| Mr. Brian Peterson     | Ms. Aby Shaughnessy    | Mr. Steve Shearer    | Ms. Rekha Murthy              |
| Mr. Eric Ellis         | Ms. Alexandra Marchese | Mrs. Holly Shearer   | Ms. Sara Maslar-Donar         |
| Mr. Jim Hines          | Ms. Beth Tomas         | Mr. Tim Bein         | Ms. Vina Otocky               |
| Mr. Joseph Tshulos     | Ms. Emily Cortez       | Mrs. Laura Bein      | Mrs. Ilka Nunez               |
| Mr. Tony Casaros       | Sgt. Phil Kringle      | Mr. VanDeCastelee    |                               |



It was an exciting end of year in CCSD66! The LV Choir amazed the community with their portrayal of The Addams Family in their annual musical. The 8th Graders celebrated with a family BBQ catered by Chuck's and welcomed back their dance at Carriage Greens before graduation. 5th Graders graduated from their Too Good for Drugs program lead by Corporal Albright of the DuPage County Sheriff's Office before a final "Clap-Out" of PV along with Mr. Pagel. 8th Graders also made-up for lost time during Covid by being "Clapped-Out" this year by the entire Prairieview school. Field Day fun was had by Ide and PV before wrapping up the year and enjoying summer.





Introduction and singing at Ide



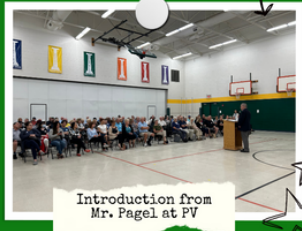
In classrooms at Ide



On the way to classrooms at Prairieview



In classrooms at Ide



Introduction from Mr. Pagel at PV

VIP Day  
May 12

One of the most special days of the year! On Friday, May 12 we were able to welcome the student's Very Important People into their Ide and PV learning environment. It was a day full of activities, pride and excitement.



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE



This Spring, TEAM 66 was proudly able to fund 8 grant requests totaling \$9,850. These grants will enrich the learning experience for our CCSD66 students immediately. The following were our grant recipients and their requests:

- Towers of Inquiry, Learning and Sustainability in the Lakeview LRC - Charity Colins
- 3D Printing Upgrade - Erika Meyers
- String Studies Upgrade - Jennifer Rickert
- Health Education Skeletal System Model - Andrea Conley
- Careers in Photography - Magen Newman
- 2nd Grade Multicultural Book Nook - Missy Holtrup
- Number Racks for 2nd Grade - Marissa Powers
- Calming/SEL Corner - Leeann Harper



Operating as divisions of TEAM 66, the PTOs, offer many other events, activities and supplies including field trips, assemblies, classroom start-up funds and many more. TEAM 66 plans to offer more community-wide events during the 2023-2024 school year in addition to some great fundraising opportunities. For more information, scan the QR code above or go to the TEAM 66 website at [team66ef.com](http://team66ef.com)

Together Everyone Achieves More!

### 2023-2024 STUDENT BELL SCHEDULE

ELIZABETH IDE  
7:40am - 2:20pm

PRAIRIEVIEW  
8:10am - 2:50pm

LAKEVIEW  
8:40am - 3:30pm

### REGISTRATION REMINDER!



Scan here or go to [ccsd66.org/page/registration-2023-2024](http://ccsd66.org/page/registration-2023-2024) for helpful information about lunch, supply lists, insurance and more!

### Important Dates to Remember

Thursday, August 3  
Meet and Greet with Mrs. Johnson (6-7pm @ Ide) & Mr. Little (7-8pm @PV)

Monday, August 7th, 6-7pm  
PTO Kindergarten Playdate

Monday, August 14th  
Meet the Teacher for Kindergarten from 3-4:30pm, 3rd from 3:30-5pm & 6th from 4-5:30pm

Tuesday, August 15th  
Supply Drop-Off for 1st & 2nd from 3-4:30pm, 4th & 5th from 3:30-5pm, 7th & 8th 4-5:30pm

Wednesday, August 16th  
First Day of School

Wednesday, August 23rd  
Early Dismissal

Monday, September 4th  
No School - Labor Day

Wednesday, September 20th  
Early Dismissal

Monday, October 9th  
No School

Tuesday, October 10th  
No School

Wednesday, October 11th  
Early Dismissal

# HOW GRANT MONEY AND REFERENDUM DOLLARS ARE BEING SPENT



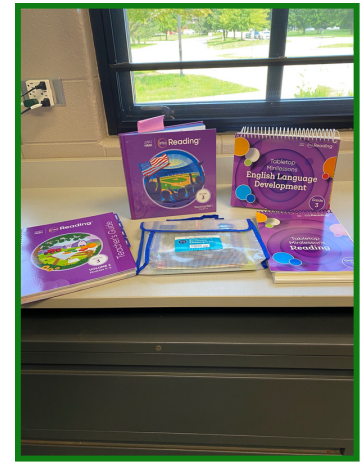
## New Technology

170 New Chromebooks purchased.



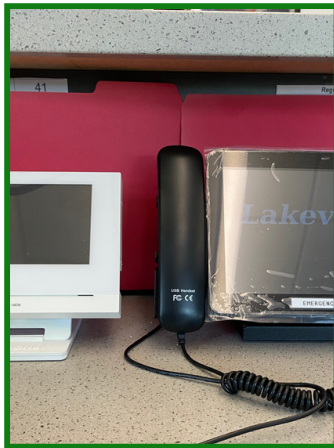
## Lakeview Roof Preservation

Replace sections of where moisture can compromise the roof deck to extend life of roof.



## New ELA Curriculum

This resource aligns with each of the five components of the Science of Reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension).

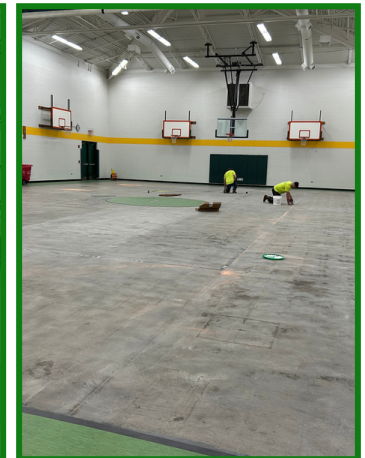


## New Intercoms and Digital Displays at Lakeview



## New Gym and Multi Purpose Room Floor at Prairieview (In Progress)

The old gym floor was a safety concern from its 20+ years of wear and tear.



## Planned Projects for Summer 2024

- Replace intercom system at Prairieview
- Replace/upgrade fire alarm systems at all schools
- Update intruder alarm systems at Prairieview and Lakeview
- Replace fire doors at Elizabeth Ide
- Enhance door and window security



## Upgraded Lighting Project

D66 upgraded to LED lighting via a grant through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program. Special thanks to Cindy Thomas and ALSET Lighting.



## New Water Heater at Lakeview

From the ISBE School Maintenance Project Grant in the amount of \$50,000, the water heater was able to be replaced with a new functional unit.

# WELCOME NEW FACES TO DISTRICT 66



**Katie Johnson**  
Principal  
Elizabeth Ide



**Megan Calhoun**  
Special Education  
Teacher  
Elizabeth Ide



**Andra Oancea**  
1st Grade Teacher  
Elizabeth Ide



**Michelle Strohm**  
Teacher  
Elizabeth Ide



**Nicole Homeier**  
ECE Teacher  
Elizabeth Ide



**Emi Maren**  
Social Worker  
Elizabeth Ide &  
Prairieview



**Brett Foley**  
Special Education  
Teacher  
Prairieview



**Tara Herndon**  
3rd Grade Teacher  
Prairieview



**Katie Finucane**  
4th Grade Teacher  
Prairieview



**Julie Dudasik**  
5th Grade Teacher  
Prairieview



**Kelly Heniff**  
5th Grade Teacher  
Prairieview



**Monika Soltys**  
EL Teacher  
All Schools



**Maggie Kane**  
Guidance Counselor  
Lakeview



**Jordan  
Tamayo Urgello**  
Math Teacher  
Lakeview



**Margaret Bultman**  
FACS Teacher  
Lakeview



**Kevin Noonan**  
Science Teacher  
Lakeview

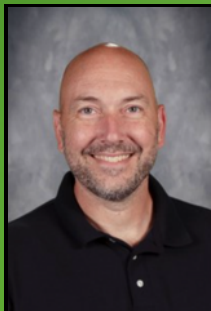


**Teagan Halik**  
Special Education  
Teacher  
Lakeview



**Kathryn Marks**  
Social Worker  
Lakeview

# FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES



**Jake Little**  
Principal  
Prairieview



**Carrie Fitzgerald**  
Student Coordinator  
Lakeview



**Ashley Sanchez**  
STEM Teacher/Coach  
All Schools



**Colleen Nino**  
Interventionist  
Prairieview &  
Lakeview



**Kim Swaekausti**  
Interventionist  
Prairieview &  
Lakeview



## Fall Newsletter Preview...

- Annual School Report Card
- Audited Financials
- Comparative Data
- Strategic Plan Update
- First Semester Update

### HOW TO STAY CONNECTED WITH DISTRICT 66

**PHONE**

630-783-5000

**FAX**

630-910-0980

**WEBSITE**

[ccsd66.org](http://ccsd66.org)

**FACEBOOK**

Center Cass School District 66

**TWITTER**

@ccsd66

**MOBILE APP**

Center Cass School District 66

## WE ARE HIRING!

If you or someone you know are interested in joining our amazing team and exceptional learning community, please scan the QR code below or go to our website and click on employment under the main menu.

