



Academic Achievement Through Equity

Six Schools • Three Communities • One District • Better Together

Cossitt Avenue School

Every Student, Every Day; No Exceptions, No Excuses



MENU

SCHOOLS



LANGUAGE

Cossitt Avenue Newsletter

1.29.2023



Table of Contents

PTC Info

Important Documents

Principal's Message

Dear Cossitt Families,

What could honestly be more fitting on a snowy weekend than to cuddle up to a fire with some warm cocoa and have a listen to a 55 minute podcast talking about math.

Fear not intrepid warriors.

As a lifelong school math struggler, I am here to affirm the magic and beauty of this wonderful podcast. (I purposely chose the “school” to put into the last line ahead of “math struggler”).

Like so many things in our profession, the essence and curiosity of learning (with completely pure intentions) is all too often bled dry with traditional class work, with the end result being that we inadvertently blow out the candle.

What I found most fascinating about this podcast is the exceptionally relevant reminder that math is a means to an end. Or I should say more in keeping with the podcast, mathematical thinking is a means to an end.

As both a parent and educator, I have very much found myself at times getting bogged down, deep into the weeds, with math curriculum questions, cut scores, and assessment trends. Without attempting to minimize the importance of any of these, I do feel like we would be wiser and more effective in our profession if we were to do a better job of keeping our eyes on the ball.

Knowing that in actuality, ALL learning and subjects in schools should be viewed as springboards towards the grander and more important focus on living a good life and being a wise and thoughtful person.

Sometimes it just feels like Math should be treated more like mathematical thinking and rather than shrinking the focus onto a slide to put into a microscope that limits our view, we should be more adventurous and ambitious with wanting to reawaken our children to the fascination of looking for and seeking out patterns that will inevitably help them make more sense of the world around them.

In other words, let's think about trading in our microscopes for telescopes.

All in all, not a bad way to spend our exploration time together each day in math.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/96-steven-strogatz-thinks-you-dont-know-what-math-is/id1525936566?i=1000592945671>

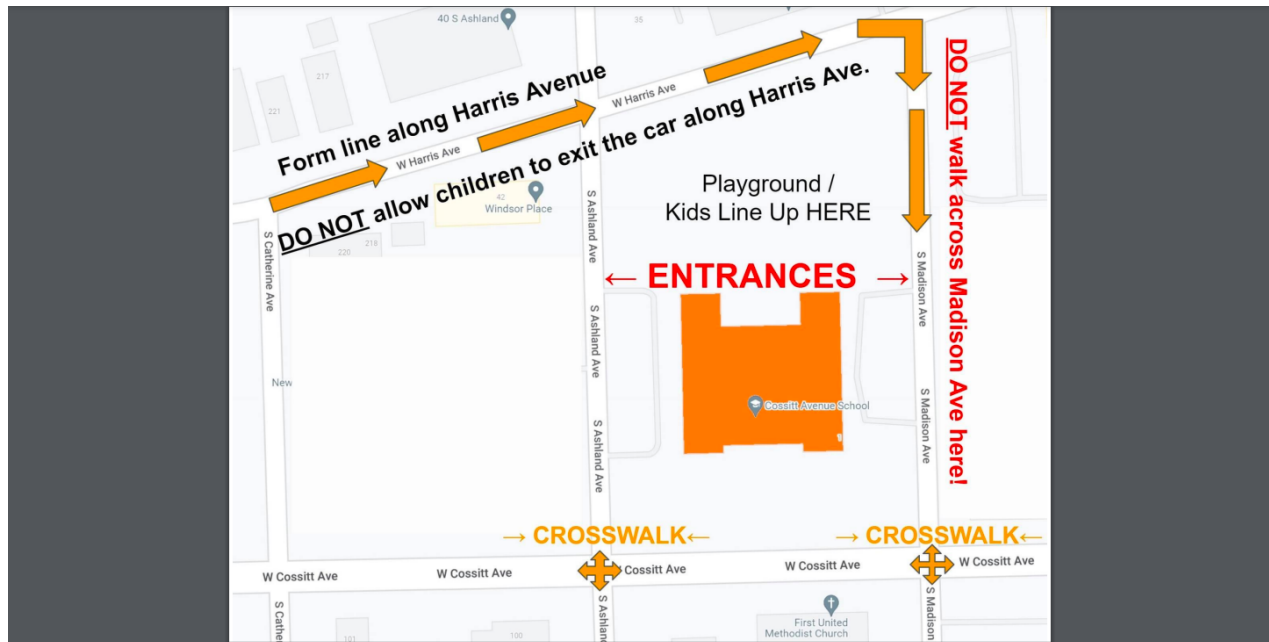
Mr. Michael Michowski

Principal, Cossitt Elementary

School Traffic, Drop-Off, and Pick-Up

In order to create a smooth start and finish to our days, please review the Traffic Map included below. Please note that the parking lot will be closed at 8:00 a.m. to keep all students safe as they walk to their respective line up areas for safety purposes. DO NOT park and leave your vehicle running on these streets. The line must continue to move!! Please feel free to contact the main office (co-office@dist102.k12.il.us) with any questions.

View [Map](#) Here



Important Dates:

- **Monday, Feb 20th** - Presidents Day - NO SCHOOL
- **Tuesday, Feb 21st** - Kindergarten Info Night BARNSDALE (FULL DAY PROGRAM)
- **Wednesday, Feb 22nd** - Kindergarten Info Night COSSITT (1/2 DAY PROGRAM)
- **Friday, Mar 3rd** - No School, Teacher Institute Day
- **Saturday, Mar 4th** - Science Center STEM Expo
- **Thursday, Mar 23rd** - 4th - 6th Spring Concert at Park Jr. High
- **Week of Mar 27 - Mar 31** - NO SCHOOL - Spring Break

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT




KINDERGARTEN PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

School year 2023-2024

- Students living in the Forest Road, Cossitt, and Ogden Ave boundaries attend Full-Day Kindergarten at Barnsdale
- Students in Congress Park boundary attend Full-Day at CP
- Families interested in Dual Language attend Congress Park



We encourage all families who are new to the Kindergarten process to attend an informational meeting. Registration will open in early March

BARNSDALE ROAD

- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023
- 7:00 p.m.

COSSITT

- Half-Day Kindergarten
- Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.



CONGRESS PARK

- Full-Day Kindergarten
- Dual Language
- Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

OGDEN AVE

- Half-Day Kindergarten
- Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.


*If you are in the Forest Road attendance area and interested in the half-day program, you may attend the meeting at Cossitt School.

NOCHES DE INFORMACIÓN PARA PADRES DE KÍNDER

Año escolar 2023-2024

- Los estudiantes que viven en los límites de Forest Road, Cossitt y Ogden Ave asisten al jardín de infantes de día completo en Barnsdale
- Los estudiantes en el límite de Congress Park asisten a CP de día completo
- Familias interesadas en lenguaje dual asisten a Congress Park



Alentamos a todas las familias que son nuevas en el Proceso de kindergarten para asistir a una reunión informativa. Las inscripciones se abrirán a principios de marzo

BARNSDALE ROAD

- Día Completo de Kinder
- Martes, Feb. 21, 2023
- 7:00 p.m.

COSSITT

- Medio Día de Kinder
- Miércoles, Feb. 22, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

CONGRESS PARK

- Día Completo de Kinder
- Lenguaje Dual
- Martes, Feb. 21, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

OGDEN AVE

- Medio Día de Kinder
- Miércoles, Feb. 22, 2023
- 6:00 p.m.

*Si se encuentra en el área de asistencia de Forest Road y está interesado en el programa de medio día, puede asistir a la reunión en la Escuela Cossitt.


FASTBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

It is that time of year when we conduct another round of FastBridge, our universal reading and math screener, with our kindergarten students. FastBridge will give us an updated snapshot of your child's early literacy and math skills compared to their peers across the nation. Information gathered this round will include skills such as word segmenting and decoding words, as well as number sequencing and decomposing (breaking apart numbers into smaller parts), among other skills. This screener continues to be only one piece of your child's assessment portfolio. You will receive scores in February and be contacted if your child's comprehensive profile indicates the need for any additional support.

KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES


AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

We will be offering 3 more classes this winter for after school programming, Please see the fliers below and click on the link and code to register.



Stage Stars

Winter 2023 Cossitt Avenue School




Grades 3-6

Lights, Camera, Act- Does your child have a "dramatic side"? You might have a budding Stage Star in your family! Our drama class introduces students to the craft of stage acting with a skilled theater instructor. During this exciting class, students will learn theatrical skills, improv basics, and participate in interactive drama games. This class provides opportunities for students to have fun, express themselves, gain confidence, and interact with others, all within the context of theatre arts.

Schedule: 7 Tuesdays, January 31st - March 14th, 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM


To sign up for Stage Stars, please visit <https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup>.
 You will need to enter the course code **CAS1.31.23** to register. Please register by 10pm PST on 1/25 for the early bird price of \$133.00.
 If you have difficulty registering, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at 847-482-9999 or registration@learningmeansfun.com
 All participants must conduct themselves in a manner that allows all students to fully participate during the class without impeding their experience. We have a no refund policy, unless there is insufficient enrollment. No make-ups will be scheduled for inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds. It's the parents' responsibility to remind the children about the classes.
 If schools are closed during the program session, classes will pivot to all-virtual sessions. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds made.
 Program provider has experience in virtual delivery.



Chess Scholars

Winter 2023 Cossitt Avenue School

No Experience Needed




Grades K-6

Develop your child's intellect through the royal game of chess! Current research has shown a strong link between chess and academic performance in a variety of areas, including mathematics and language arts. Chess has been proven to enhance children's motivation, concentration, focus, social skills, and creativity. Each class will consist of a fun, interactive teaching period and guided practice time. Both beginner and experienced players are welcome and will learn under the guidance of an experienced Chess Scholars coach.


Schedule: 7 Thursdays, February 2nd - March 16th, 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

To sign up, please visit <https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup>.
 You will need to enter the course code **CAS2.2.23** to register. Please register by 10pm PST on 1/27 for the early bird price of \$133.00.
 If you have difficulty registering, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at 847-482-9999 or registration@learningmeansfun.com
 All participants must conduct themselves in a manner that allows all students to fully participate during the class without impeding their experience. We have a no refund policy, unless there is insufficient enrollment. No make-ups will be scheduled for inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds. It's the parents' responsibility to remind the children about the classes.
 If schools are closed during the program session, classes will pivot to all-virtual sessions. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds made. Program provider has experience in virtual delivery.



S.T.E.A.M.

Winter 2023 Cossitt Avenue School



Grades 1-5

Interactive!

This exciting program from Afterschool Enrichment Solutions brings together elements of science, art and math in a hands-on, action-packed environment! Students will conduct experiments, play educational games, and unlock their creativity through building challenges and projects. No experience necessary!

Schedule: 7 Wednesdays, February 1st - March 15th, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

To sign up, please visit <https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup>.
 You will need to enter the course code **CAS2.1.23** to register. Please register by 10pm PST on 1/26 for the early bird price of \$136.50.
 If you have difficulty registering, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at 847-482-9999 or registration@learningmeansfun.com
 All participants must conduct themselves in a manner that allows all students to fully participate during the class without impeding their experience. We have a no refund policy, unless there is insufficient enrollment. No make-ups will be scheduled for inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds. It's the parents' responsibility to remind the children about the classes.
 If schools are closed during the program session, classes will pivot to all-virtual sessions. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds made. Program provider has experience in virtual delivery.

REGISTRATION LINK and CODES:

[LEARNING MEANS FUN SIGN UP](https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup)

Stage Stars Code: **CAS1.31.23**

STEAM Code: **CAS2.1.23**

Chess Code: **CAS2.2.23**



Registration is now open

On March 4th, **STEM EXPO** will showcase the talents of District 102 students in the areas of **Science, Technology, Engineering** and creative **Making**. We know that our students are creative and inventive, so use those skills to do a project at home and share it with us. This event is designed to show off those talents in the scientific areas.

Who: All students grades K-6

When: SET-UP: is Friday, March 3 4:00 - 5:30 pm

EXPO: Saturday, March 4, 2023 9:00 am - Noon

Where: Forest Road School Gym

901 N Forest Road, LaGrange Park

For more information, link to our [STEM EXPO website](#)
Do you have your project planned? [Go ahead and Register here](#)

All exhibitors will receive a participation certificate and a STEM EXPO t-shirt. Register on or before Feb 17th to be guaranteed your t-shirt size. Exhibits will not be judged; exhibitors will be assigned a 1/2 hour time period when they will be required to be at their table to answer questions and explain their project to an EXPO Official.

Do you have questions? Call the Science Center 708-215-6405 or email Mrs. Hohl, hohlvi@dist102.k12.il.us or Mrs. V, vaiciuliske@dist102.k12.il.us

We are happy to help!

Are you receiving the Tiger Times?

The Tiger Times is the newsletter of the Cossitt Parent Teacher Council (PTC). It is e-mailed every Friday at 2:30 pm and includes information about parent participation opportunities (i.e. room parent/ holiday party sign up), student or all school activities (i.e the Back to School Party), and grade specific events (i.e. the upcoming 3rd grade Bike Rodeo).

If you opted out of being in the D-102 directory, then your email was not included on the Tiger Times distribution list. To start receiving the Tiger Times emails, contact cossitttigertimes@gmail.com. Please include your preferred email address and the grade level(s) of your child(ren).

**Note: This will not affect your D-102 Directory preferences.

SHIELD TESTING

District 102 is offering weekly SHIELD testing for students who have parent consent.

You can find the sign-up for this on the front page of the district website or with the below link.

Testing began this past week. If you are still interested please use the link below.

[Dist 102 SHIELDS Testing Sign-Up](#)

Morning Arrival Information

Arrival is on the Blacktop on the north side of the building. All students will line up with their classes. Teachers will be outside with signs for easy location. The lines are marked on the blacktop going west to east, Kindergarten - 6th grade. Please see the attached document to make sure that you are familiar with the procedures.

[Arrival Line-Up](#)

***Regular school day (Mon, Tues,
Thurs, Fri)***

8:15 a.m. Enter Bell

Wacky Wed school day (Wed)

8:15 a.m. Enter Bell

8:20 a.m - Classes Begin

8:20 a.m - Classes Begin

10:55 a.m. - Lunch Dismissal

11:20 a.m. - Lunch Dismissal

11:50 p.m. - Classes Begin

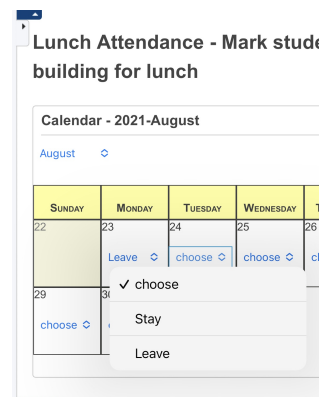
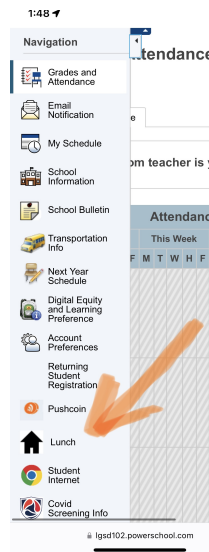
12:15 p.m. - Classes Begin

2:30 p.m. - Dismissal

3:15 p.m. - Dismissal

Going Home for Lunch??

If you want your child to leave campus for lunch. You need to make sure that you check them out in the Parent Portal on PowerSchool as well as remind your child as well, so they can let their teacher know. If your child is not checked out in PowerSchool, we will not let your child leave the building. Lunch pick up is at 11:20 and line up is at 12:05 on the blacktop. Your child may not enter through the main office, they need to enter from the blacktop.



Other Lunch Reminders:

- If your child needs a brown bag school lunch (\$2.95), you need to email the office (co-office@sd102.net) by 9:00 AM. We have to submit our lunch order to our provider so they can arrive on time.
- We no longer provide eating utensils. Please make sure that your child has the appropriate eating utensils packed in their lunch.

Health Office News:

District 102 Health Services believes in supporting optimal health to enhance learning. Please be sure to communicate with your school's health office regarding school absences, medications, and any health diagnoses so we may assist in supporting your child's success in school. Forms, and additional health services information can be found on the district's website under Parents: Health Services:

Medications in School:

When it is deemed necessary by a licensed health care provider and parent to give medication in school, District 102 policy and state guidelines must be adhered to. All medication authorization forms need to be renewed each school year. All prescriptions require a medication authorization form to be filled out by the health care provider. Please note: Inhalers must be sent in the original box along with the parent portions of the authorization form filled out. Please contact the health office for questions.

Reporting absences: 708-215-6241 - Leave a Message

All absences should be reported to the health office prior to 8:20 a.m. Please add your school's health office phone number/email to your contact information (coattendance@dist102.k12.il.us 708-215-6241) for reporting absences or other health communication needs. You will need to leave a message. When reporting absences, please state your child's name, teacher, grade, and reason for absence. A nurse will return your call as needed.



Academic Achievement Through Equity
Six Schools • Three Communities • One District • Better Together

Find Us

Cossitt Avenue School
115 W Cossitt Ave
La Grange, Illinois 60525
Phone: (708) 215-6200
Fax: (708) 579-5485

School Hours

8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. | Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday

11:20 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. | Lunch Hours

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Wednesday

10:55 a.m. - 11:50 p.m. | Wednesday Lunch
Hours

Schools

LaGrange 102 IL
Barnsdale Road School
Congress Park School
Cossitt Avenue School
Forest Road School
Ogden Avenue School
Park Junior High School
Science Center

Stay Connected



