



# 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



TRANSLATE

# Cossitt Avenue Newsletter

1.22.2023



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## Principal's Message

Dear Cossitt Families,

In my awareness of the need to periodically take a break from drifting too deep into the land of practicing philosophy without a license in these weekly bulletins . . . this week will look a little more like a traditional “upcoming news and notes” version.

This is mostly due to the fact that the transition from late January into early February ends up being very challenging with the yearly seasonal slog of no sunshine and our focus can sometimes drift a bit.

So, in looking ahead . . . just a reminder that our first in-person **K-3 concert** in a few years is **taking place at Park Junior High this Thursday at 6:00** (to be followed by the 4th-6th version on March 23rd). While I have always always thoroughly enjoyed this event, it is no exaggeration to say that having it return after the last few years being away is making it feel even more eventful.

We will also soon be sending out a link to the yearly **5Essentials Survey** later next month. This comes from the State of Illinois to all schools and is an opportunity for students, staff, and parents to share feedback related to their overall experiences with the home school. For parental feedback, the minimal threshold necessary to be included in the formal data collection is **20%**. Over the years, we have been fortunate to have almost always hit/exceeded that number. More to follow next month.

Also taking place in February (spoiler alert!) is **Valentine's Day**. Having evolved over the years from what had previously taken place, all elementary schools in the district have agreed to use the same level of expectations. This involves the standard passing out of cards to our classmates that may or may not include a small treat taped/attached to the card. Based on this date not including any formal parties, there isn't a need to provide for more food specific items that we had allowed for during this year's Winter and Halloween parties.

As we transition away from February and joyfully jump towards the beginning of March, a reminder that **Spring Parent Teacher Conferences will**

**be held on March 3rd.** Much like with the Fall conferences, there will be a letter sent home next month detailing the process for signing up.

And of course, before we send you all out to the blissful joys of Spring Break (March 27-31), our **3rd through 6th graders will be taking their IAR tests** (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) starting on **the week of March 6th.** As we get closer to this opening of the formal testing window for these tests, you will receive a more detailed breakdown of testing dates/times.

Hoping that everyone enjoyed their weekend time together. The light dusting of Sunday snowflakes reminded us that old man Winter is still lurking in the weeds.

More to follow . . .

Mr. Michael Michowski

Principal, Cossitt Elementary

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## Important Dates:

- **Thursday, Jan 26th** - K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade Concert at Park Jr. High
  - **Monday, Feb 20th** - Presidents Day - NO SCHOOL
  - **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
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## 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**

**FASTBRIDGE  
ASSESSMENT  
INFORMATION**

**KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES**

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.

## Calling 5th Graders MAGAZINE CLUB!

Do you love to write? Do you have an eye for editing your paper? Interested in people and events happening around Cossitt? Then join us at the Magazine Club!

This year we will be starting the first ever Cossitt Magazine Club. This club will be writing about events and people here at Cossitt.

### How often does it meet?

- All members will bring their lunch and meet **January, 26th** from **11:20-12:10**
- Depending on the group size, you will be assigned to work on a particular issue(s). You will then meet each Thursday in the month(s) that you are assigned. (A schedule will be provided in January once we pick groups)

### What will we work on?

- Interviewing Cossitt people to know and for events around school
- Researching topics and writing articles
- Voicing over articles for younger Cossitt Students to read along with
- Putting together visuals to make articles
- Editing and distributing editions

### When do we start?

Our first meeting will be Thursday, January 26th from 11:20-12:10. Please bring your lunch and your computer.

### How much does it cost?

There is a \$25 club fee payable on [Pushcoin](#) when signing up

### How can I sign up?

Please complete the signup on Pushcoin by **Friday, January 20th**. If you have any questions, please contact Candace Daly at [dalyca@dist102.k12.il.us](mailto:dalyca@dist102.k12.il.us)



# A NOTE FROM THE COSSITT MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We are so happy to announce that live performances are happening this year again! More detailed information will be sent out to grade level families as we get closer to show time!

**Kindergarten, First, Second, and Third grade** - January 26, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. in Park Junior High School Auditorium

**Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth grade** - March 23, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. in Park Junior High School Auditorium

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## COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS



Join us for our annual Family Fun Night on **Sunday January 22 from 5-6:30 pm at the LaGrange Park District Recreation Building.**

This is a free event with games, music and more! This PTC event is open to all Cossitt families and includes activities for all ages!

No sign up is necessary to attend, but kids don't forget to bring a parent or guardian as **this is not a drop off event!**

If your child is planning on attending,

a parent or guardian will need to be present.

**So, why not make that time go faster by volunteering with a friend or meeting a new one?**

We need volunteers to make this fun night happen!



Older siblings who may need school volunteer hours are also welcome to volunteer!

Click [here](#) to help out!



## 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](mailto:hohlvi@dist102.k12.il.us) or Mrs. V, [vaiciuliske@dist102.k12.il.us](mailto:vaiciuliske@dist102.k12.il.us)

We are happy to help!

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## 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](mailto: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.

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## 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](#)**

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## 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](mailto:co-office@dist102.k12.il.us)) with any questions.

View [Map](#) Here

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## 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.



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

8:15 a.m. Enter Bell  
8:20 a.m - Classes Begin  
11:20 a.m. - Lunch Dismissal  
12:15 p.m. - Classes Begin  
3:15 p.m. - Dismissal

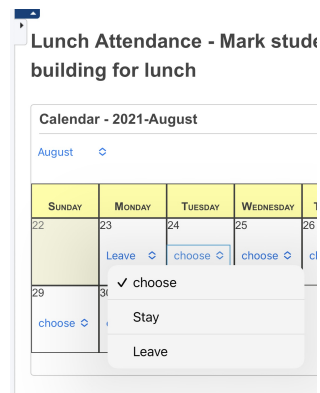
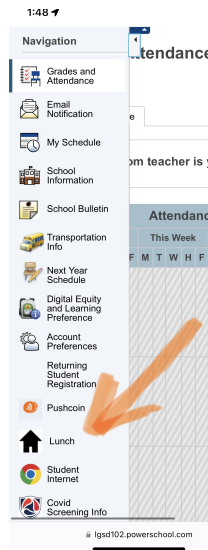
**Wacky Wed school day (Wed)**

8:15 a.m. Enter Bell  
8:20 a.m - Classes Begin  
10:55 a.m. - Lunch Dismissal  
11:50 p.m. - Classes Begin  
2:30 p.m. - Dismissal

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## 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.
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## 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:

<https://www.dist102.k12.il.us/HealthServices>

### 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.

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## 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.



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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

### 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



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

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