



## District 203 Facts and Figures

### Background

- Sixth largest school system in Illinois with over 18,000 students in 21 schools: 2 high schools, 5 junior high (middle) schools, and 14 elementary schools
- Boundaries encompass 32 square miles, including parts of Lisle, Naperville, Woodridge, Bolingbrook and Warrenville, and falling within DuPage and Will Counties.
- Consistent focus on providing each student with a 21<sup>st</sup> century education, based on the District's mission: to develop students who are self-directed learners, quality producers, collaborative workers, complex thinkers and community contributors

### Very High Student Achievement...

- Highest overall State test scores among large PreK-12 (unit) school districts in Illinois
- Fifty-four National Merit Finalists (Class of 2007), the highest number in District history
- Forty-seven National Merit Semifinalists in the Class of 2008, representing 6% of the State total, while the District student enrollment is less than 1% of total State enrollment
- Class of 2007 ACT (college entrance exam) composite average was 25.1; Class of 2008 composite average is 25.2 - highest ACT scores in District history, with 99% of students taking the test
- Graduation rate of 96%
- Both high schools in the top ten public high schools in Illinois (excluding public schools in Chicago with selective admissions, i.e., "magnet" schools) on state PSAT exam (*Chicago Tribune*, Fall 2007)
- Both high schools rated "silver," in top 2-3% of public high schools in the nation (*U.S. News & World Report*, Fall 2007)
- Student achievement well-above state average, with 91.6% (reading) and 93.3% (math) of all students achieving a "meets" or "exceeds" on State tests
- Our high schools ranked first and third in a *Chicago Magazine* measure of school achievement (ACT) relative to per pupil student spending, when compared to all 233 non-magnet Chicago-area high schools (*Chicago Magazine*, Fall 2007)
- On TIMSS-R (1999), District eighth grade students scored first in the world in science and sixth in the world in mathematics, among the 38 participating countries and consortiums

### ...at a Very Modest Cost

- District spending per pupil is \$9,881, only \$393 above the state average of \$9,488 (2007 State Report Card)
- According to a Fall 2007 *Daily Herald* analysis of 94 suburban school districts for the ten school years 1996-1997 through 2005-2006, District 203 was reported to have:
  - Second highest test scores at the 16th lowest cost per student
  - Total revenue that was 25.6% below that of the average district
  - Administrative cost (as percent of total revenue) that was 41.9% below the average district
  - Low debt - among the lowest of Illinois districts

### High Community and Parent Satisfaction

- Over 80% of residents would grade District 203 with an "A" or "B" (random telephone survey of 400 District voters, Fall 2007)
- Compared to those in similar districts across the nation, parent survey responses at all grade levels ranked District 203 first or second in the following categories: parent involvement, motivation, school morale, emotional safety and physical safety (School Perceptions, March 2007)

### Expert Instructional Staff

- 100% of District teachers and instructional assistants are "highly-qualified," using federal and state standards
- Fifty-five teachers in District 203 are National Board Certified, one of the largest numbers for an Illinois school district
- 69% of District teachers hold a Masters degree or better, compared to the state average of 52%
- A licensing agreement with a major publishing firm was recently signed to nationally market a District-developed early reading intervention program

### Student Excellence Inside and Outside the Classroom

Qualities of the District mission are manifested inside and outside the classroom at all age levels. Many elementary students participate in school-sponsored positive character and fitness programs, local and global community service, charitable giving and multicultural celebrations. In addition to those types of activities, junior high and high school students consistently garner an exceptional number of top state and national honors in a wide spectrum of academic, arts, athletic, technological and vocational clubs, contests and competitions.

For specific examples by school, see <http://www.naperville203.org/assets/highlights.pdf>

District 203 website: <http://www.naperville203.org>