

Dear Families,

Whether you've been with us for years or entering the District for the first time, we're excited to welcome you to Naperville 203 for the 2018-2019 school year!

A welcome back to school would not be complete without first touting some of our District achievements from last school year. The 2017-2018 school year was full of inspiring moments in and outside of the classroom.

Naperville 203 is paving the way for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) across the country. This year, we implemented a District-wide rollout of our SEL curriculum. We aim to teach the skills students need to develop self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, responsible decision making, and positive relationships with adults and peers. These social emotional learning skills prepare students to be college and career ready upon graduation.

For the first time, both high schools had Late Start once a week to allow teachers to collaborate in Professional Learning Communities. That initiative is only the beginning of a conversation as we continue to look at the how to best use our school day at all levels. We invite the community to Focus 203 to join our conversation on either September 19, 7-9 p.m. at the Naperville Central Cafeteria or September 20, 9-11 a.m. at Grace United Methodist Church.

Naperville 203 continues to make national rankings - named the Best School District in America by the National Council for Home Safety and Security and ranked overall third in the state, highest rated large unit district, by Niche.com.

These accomplishments are due to our outstanding students and staff who continue to strive for success in and out of the classroom.

34 NCHS and NNHS seniors were named 2017 National Merit Scholarship finalists, and five seniors received the 2017-18 National Hispanic Recognition Program Award.

Our students and staff inspire me on a daily basis by being amazing community contributors. Many schools raised money or items for schools, families, animals affected by the 2017 hurricanes.

Both NCHS and NNHS students brought home the hardware! At NCHS the Boys Water Polo team and Central Times reporter Megan Mehta took home first in IHSA State Competitions. The Girls Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Track and Field, Math Team, Ping Pong, and WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science & Engineering) were all state champions for NNHS. NNHS Girls Cross Country Team also finished second in the nation at Nike Cross Nationals. NCHS color guard member Emily Wilkinson was selected to perform at U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

I look forward to an amazing 2018-2019 school year full of students owning their education and teachers supporting them along the way.

A high-quality public education is a top priority of our community and remains a draw for families moving to the area. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to education and our students.

On behalf of the administration and Board of Education, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year!

Dan Bridges
Superintendent