

NewsBits



January 2020

Online application process coming soon at Iroquois Community School

Iroquois Community School will introduce an online submission form for student applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Online applications will open February 4 and close on April 15.

Parents will be notified by May 15 whether or not their child has been accepted to Iroquois Community School for the 2020-2021 school year.

Enrollment will continue to be based on space availability within class size limitations. In addition, those who have siblings currently in the school are given first priority.

If you would like for your child to be entered into the Iroquois lottery for Kindergarten, you must submit the online application. In addition, students entering Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year will need to register at their home school, based on their home address. Iroquois Community School will not be a site for Kindergarten registration this year.

Kindergarten Registration for incoming District 62 students is from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on February 4.

“We are excited to introduce this new online application platform for the purpose of making the process for enrolling at Iroquois Community

School more streamlined and efficient for our families,” said Principal Kelly Krueger. “We appreciate our parents’ patience and understanding and look forward to welcoming our new class of students next year.”

Iroquois Community School is a kindergarten through 8th grade year round (balanced calendar) public elementary school, which serves 485 students.



2020-2021
ANNOUNCING ONLINE ENROLLMENT
IROQUOIS COMMUNITY SCHOOL
OPEN FEBRUARY 4 THROUGH APRIL 15

Give us a holler

We hope you enjoy the winter edition of NewsBits. As always, feedback is welcome. Please e-mail Director of Community Relations Jennifer Tempest Bova: bovaj@d62

Donald Jones named Algonquin Middle School Principal



A veteran educator, Donald Jones was named the next Principal of Algonquin Middle School at the December 16 Board of Education Meeting.

“I am thankful and excited to join the staff at Algonquin and District 62,” said Jones. “I am eager to meet with staff, students and parents and get to work.”

Jones will officially begin August 1.

“We welcome Don Jones to the District 62 team and look forward to his contributions this fall,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Paul E. Hertel. “Mr. Jones is a dedicated instructional leader who is committed to supporting our middle school students both in and out of the classroom. His humble nature makes him a selfless leader and he will be a strong presence at our middle school.”

Jones is currently in his second year at George Washington Middle School in Lyons, Illinois. Before becoming principal, he served as an assistant principal, special education coordinator and special education teacher.

“Although I do not start officially until August 1st, I will be meeting with staff and parents in both the spring and the summer so we can hit the ground running once the students start in the fall,” said Jones.

Don lives in Evergreen Park with his wife Laura and his two young daughters.

Dr. Kermit Blakley named Chippewa Middle School Principal

With over 15 years of experience in education, Dr. Kermit Blakley was named the next Principal of Chippewa Middle School at the December 16 Board of Education Meeting. Dr. Blakley will replace John Swanson who will retire at the end of this school year after 13 years of service to the district.

Dr. Blakley will officially begin August 1.

“I am very excited to join an awesome team of leaders and staff in District 62,” said Dr. Blakley. “I look forward to meeting the students, parents and staff members to best serve the Chippewa Middle School, District 62 and Des Plaines community.”



Dr. Blakley is currently a principal at MacArthur Middle School in Berkeley. His teaching career began as a math and physical education teacher at Harbor Academy of West 40 Regional Safe Schools Program. He then was principal for five years at the alternative high school in Harbor focusing on social emotional learning, relationship building and academics.

“We are excited to welcome Dr. Blakley to Chippewa Middle School this fall,” said Dr. Hertel. “Dr. Blakley has extensive experience in education from curriculum design, to data collection, to social and emotional learning. He will be a wonderful addition to the Chippewa learning community.”

He and his wife Antrila have four children Kiara (29), JaDonta (25), Alexis (22) and Devin (19).

Heads Up

The Des Plaines Police Department seeks crossing guards. The position pays \$15.00 per hour.

If interested please contact Officer Heidkamp at (847) 391.5498, or click the following link: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/desplaines>

FinanceBits

The Board of Education adopted the 2019 tax levy in the amount of \$76,001,000. This is a 6.56% increase over the prior year and it is based on the increase in the 2018 Consumer Price Index, Urban (CPI-U) of 1.9% and the projected increase in new construction within the district. It should be noted that taxpayers on existing properties within the district will see an increase of approximately 1.9%

A public hearing was held on December 16 prior to the Board voting on the final levy.



Kindergarten Registration: Save the date

Kindergarten registration will be held February 4 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Parents should go to the school in their home attendance area to register their child. Kindergarten students who will enter District 62 for the 2020-2021 school year must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2020.

District 62 Education Foundation Footnotes

Save the date: On March 6, the District 62 Foundation will hold its annual fundraising event which is an evening of food, fun, and fundraising. The annual benefit will take place from 6 to 10:30 p.m. at Cafe la Cave. Cost: \$60 per ticket.

Congratulations to the winners of this year's [D62 grants](#). Over \$28,000 was given to the staff of District 62 this fall.

The mission of the Foundation is to enrich and enhance the learning environment for District 62 students. In that spirit, funding has gone toward such things as field trips, STEM/Robotic/Maker Space materials, lunch and after-school clubs for students, musical performance opportunities/instruments/enrichment, author visits, and much, much more. With growing support from the community and the continued generous support of District 62 staff members, the Foundation will continue its mission of supporting and enriching the educational lives of District 62 students.

The Foundation Board hopes to gain additional support and new members. For more information on ways to support the District 62 Foundation visit: www.d62foundation.com

Seeking substitute teachers



District 62 invites you to apply to serve as a substitute teacher. It's a perfect opportunity for those wanting to spend time with students, earn extra dollars and give back to public education.

Questions? Contact: Sylvia Ortega at ortegas@d62.org or 847.824.1136