JUST IMAGINE
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR DISTRICT 114 STUDENTS

GREAT SCHOOLS MATTER TO OUR FAMILIES AND TO OUR COMMUNITY

District 114 is committed to keeping our children at the heart of all of our planning. With our “All In” team model approach, we will be sharing our vision and mission in a four-part newsletter series.

In this edition, learn about:

1. District 114 “Day of Service” giving students an opportunity to serve our community
2. How we’re developing SEL (Social Emotional Learning) for all our students
3. Our “Ready Math” program and how it promote active, real-world problem solvers
4. How we are making sure our preschoolers are prepared for school in our Early Childhood programs

A peek at upcoming editions:

1. Updating our facilities
2. Improving our technology
3. Planning for our future
4. Connecting via social media with the D114 Community

D114 Day of Service—Impacting the community and raising money for our schools

The 4th Annual Day of Service kicked off on September 28 and every dollar donated directly benefits our students. Similar to a walk-a-thon, students seek donors and collect pledges, but instead of walking, students are sponsored for their service project within the Fox Lake community.

This year’s goal was $30,000 and thanks to our community’s efforts...we raised $44,140!

This charity and fundraising event not only raises much needed funds for our students but also gives student volunteers an opportunity to see how they can make a difference in our community.

The popularity and breadth of this event continues to grow exponentially each year with an added bonus by the Clinton Family Fund, who this year, matched donations after $25,000.

Lotus students volunteered at school with these projects:
- Decorating superhero capes for hospitalized children
- Making cards for veterans
- Baking dog treats for local animal shelters
- Creating festive placemats for Cottages of Fox Lake residents
- Assembling care packages for Fox Lake Fire + Police

Stanton students volunteered at these community locations:
- The American Legion Post 703
- YMCA Camp Duncan
- Camp Henry Horner
- Feed My Starving Children
- Promote Fox Lake Project
- Lakefront Park Building
- Grant Township’s Fall Fest
- Fire Stations 2 and 3
- The Cottages
- Grant Community High School
- Perricone’s A Soup and Sandwich Joint
- Fox Lake Police Department

 FOX LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT 114  SECOND OF A FOUR-PART SERIES—NOVEMBER 2018

D114 IS INCREASINGLY GRATEFUL TO THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES WHO HELPED SPONSOR OUR DAY OF SERVICE:

- Access Elevator
- American Family Insurance, Gordon Kiesgen Agency, Inc.
- Benny’s Service Center
- The Clinton Family Fund
- Comfort Masters Heating and Air Conditioning
- Computer Aided Technology
- Culver’s Fox Lake
- Dam, Snell & Taveirne, Ltd.
- Dockers Restaurant and Lounge
- Education Association of Fox Lake
- Garber Toyota-Fox Lake
- Guardian Material Handling
- Ray Auto Group
- Royal Sheet Metal
- W. Brothers Roofing

The money raised will be used for educational assemblies and field trips, family nights, principal programs, athletic scholarships, school dances, the Lotus and Stanton libraries, Book Buddies, mentor programs, and other school-specific projects.

What a win for the students in District 114!
Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)… step by step!
As a community, we value educating the “whole child.” This means making sure that students have the academic skills as well as social-emotional tools to be successful every day.

What is social and emotional learning?
SEL is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Read more about SEL at www.casel.org/what-is-sel/

The district’s goals are for students to develop these skills, known as “social-emotional competencies”:
- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision-making

To insure our learners acquire these skills, we determined the best core resource program to help our students reach these goals is the “Second Step” curriculum.

Research shows that participating in Second Step lessons resulted in the following outcomes:

Pre-K students
- Increases executive functioning (skills allow us to set goals, plan and get things done)

Elementary students
- Improves prosocial skills, empathy, behavior, and conduct
- Lessen the need for interventions in adult conflicts
- Improved social competence

Middle School
- Lessens physical aggression (Ø 42%)
- Reduces bullying of students with disabilities (Ø 20%)

Learn more about Second Step
We are so excited about this program and what it will do for our students. Read more about Second Step, at www.secondstep.org/what-is-second-step

SEL in action
Two Stanton fourth graders practicing giving compliments. By filling out a “Compliment Skills” checklist, they can make sure to:
- Face the person when speaking
- Use respectful, sincere words
- Talk in a friendly voice

The receiver of the complement practices facing the person who is speaking, listening respectfully, and responding by saying “thank you.”

Preschool students practice Brain Builder!
Brain Builder helps students develop their conversations while they practice sharing.
They practice by using encouraging statements like “Please, can I have that toy?” and “Thank you!”

WHAT ABOUT SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)?
WHAT OUR STAFF HAS TO SAY:

“Second Step is really great; the kids get into the discussion and participate well.”  
– Cathy Jawnyj

“I love the new/updated Second Step program! It is full of great lessons on topics that we all, students and staff, need.”  
– Gizelle Wells

WHAT OUR STUDENTS THINK:

“Money alone doesn’t change the world, but passion, hard work, and dedication can!”  
– Allison Fritz and Danyelle Mason

“Empathy is knowing how someone else feels.”  
– Emerson Mathe
Getting ready with Ready Math!

Supporting our students’ math knowledge is an important district priority. After all, without math skills, where would any of us be? Last school year, we focused on studying the Common Core Math Standards and drafted clear student priorities for our teachers. We then used this information to help select a core math resource, something District 114 has not had in place for quite some time. All our math teachers weighed in and were part of the decision to implement Ready Math for the current 2018-19 school year.

Ready Math is designed to help teachers create a classroom where students at all levels become active, real-world problem solvers. Through teacher-led instruction, students develop math thinking skills, talk with each other about math, and build strong math habits.

This program not only teaches students key math skills, but it also shows them how to think about and use math in everyday life. The district and staff are very excited about this program and will closely monitor how our students excel and will provide updates.

District 114 achieves “Commendable” status by State despite financial shortfalls

The Illinois State Board of Education recently released its new school ESSA report card which evaluated our students’ academic gains as compared to other Illinois students. Under this new system—Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), each Illinois school will land in one of four categories (exemplary, commendable, underperforming, or lowest performing). District 114 achieved “Commendable” status.

ESSA designations are based on the following:

- 20% Chronic student absenteeism
- 20% Proficiency in English Language Arts + Math
- 55% Progress in English Language Arts + Math, and overall progress with our English learners
- 5% Participation in the Climate Survey

Step-by-step we are moving toward reaching “Exemplary” status. In order for all of our students to continue to learn and grow, we have identified critical areas to focus on:

- Launch improved programs in literacy, science, and social studies to support all students’ academic needs
- Upgrade our aging facilities
- Support and retain our valued teachers

With ongoing support from our community, “JUST IMAGINE” what we can achieve!

FUNDING OUTLOOK

$9.2M TARGET FOR ADEQUATE FUNDING
$7.5M CURRENT FINANCIAL RESOURCES

According to the Illinois State Board of Education, District 114 is at 82% financial capacity to meet expectations.

“We are thrilled to receive this recognition and are one of the only local school districts where each school reached “commendable” status. We appreciate our students hard work and our dedicated staff who have risen to these challenges despite our financial gap.”

—Heather Frizzielie, D114 Superintendent

A peek at preschool
Our early childhood programs work with 3-5 year olds to make sure they are school-ready in all ways.
District 114 offers half-day programming with our “Preschool for All” and Early Childhood Special Education classrooms.

We also offer a full-day program in our Blended Early Childhood classroom.
If you are interested in one of these programs or if would like your child to be evaluated to see if they need extra support, contact Paula Kvacik at Lotus Elementary School at (847) 973-4000.

CONNECT WITH US
#District114Proud

¿Quiere recibir los boletines futuros en español?
Haga contacto con: heather.friziellie@foxlake114.org