



September 29, 2023

Greetings FSD Parents/Guardians & Staff,

In the past two weeks, I have been invited to two Senior Night events where outgoing seniors are honored by their younger peers in the presence of their parents. It is a memorable event that celebrates the achievements and journeys of our incredible seniors. It is also an event filled with pride, reflection, and a touch of nostalgia. As these seniors are presented with a basket of goodies and mementos, I am reminded of the true importance of the work that we all do as educators, parents/guardians and community to applaud these wonderful and vibrant young adults for the milestone that they have reached. Senior Night is also a time to shine a spotlight on their growth as individuals, their resilience in navigating a tough world that seems unforgiving at times, and yet having a great amount of hope for the bright future that lies ahead.



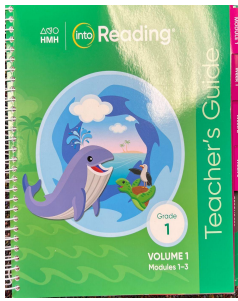
For the many other Senior Nights that have been held and are yet to be held this school year, I will continue to be reminded and be inspired by the potential and promise of these remarkable Pretzels. It is also a great opportunity for seniors to express their gratitude to teachers, friends, and family who have supported them along the way.

Hispanic Heritage Month

As we continue to celebrate HHM, we have cultivated a variety of ideas and resources for our educators to honor Hispanic heritage month through their lessons. Through history, reading, music and even virtual field trips students have the opportunity to learn more about Hispanic culture and the impact it has on our world.



New ELA Curriculum



We are in our second month of implementing our new English Language Arts curriculum, HMH *“Into Reading and ¡Arriba La Lectura!”* in grades kindergarten through 6th. Our district wide goal states that by the end of June 2024, all K-6 reading teachers will implement HMH *¡Arriba La Lectura!* and *Into Reading* curricula with integrity and our teachers are rocking it!

Our students are connected to the right instruction - with daily lessons that include a mixture of whole group, small group, and individual practice. Our students are being provided with a consistent standards-based rigorous curriculum no matter where they go to school. They are experiencing writing that will help develop their cognitive skills. Student engagement has increased because they are exposed to high quality content and activities that are strong components of the HMH curriculum.

Moving forward, we will continue supporting teachers through continuous professional learning sessions, conducting learning walkthroughs, and coaching throughout the year. Teachers are participating in Teaching and Learning Cycles within their Professional Learning Communities to internalize modules and review data and common assessments to inform instruction.

National College Board Student Recognition

5 Freeport High School students were acknowledged at last week’s Board of Education meeting because of their recognition by the National College Board. This recognition will go on their college application as colleges use it to identify academically exceptional students.

National African American Recognition Award
Grant Barnes

National Rural & Small-Town Recognition Award
Rachel Salazar, Max Krezminski, Ryan Coon & Thalia Eden McDougal

Grant, Ashley, and Ryan were present at the board meeting with their parents and received certificates of recognition. Congratulations to each of these students and their families.



Special Recognition of Dr. Patrick McDermott

Dr. Patrick McDermott, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Finance was recognized by Dr. Mike Jacoby from IASBO (IL Association of School Board Officials) for his 3 years of service on the IASBO Board of Directors. As an outgoing director IASBO provides a donation to an organization

selected by Dr. McDermott. He chose the Freeport Public School Fund. Their treasurer, Amber Cummins, was in attendance to accept a \$1000 donation. Congratulations and thank you Dr. McDermott for your service to IASBO and for representing FSD with distinction.

Around the District

Here's a special snippet of a few things going on "[Around the District](#)" over the last couple of weeks, including our [District Fall Institute](#), and the [Homecoming Parade](#) which was enjoyed by hundreds of spectators and parade participants from across the District and the community.

Facebook users check out our page for many more of the daily exciting things going on "[Around the District](#)". Academics, special recognitions, other extracurriculars, classroom learning, field trips, special events, we cover it all! You can also follow us on X (formerly [Twitter](#)).

~Upcoming Events & Opportunities~

The organizations & events listed below are not sponsored by or affiliated with FSD 145

The **Freeport Park District** is excited to share the following events: The [Oakdale Fall Festival](#) (a fun event for the whole family), and the [Autumn Leaf Run](#). Register for the run [here](#).

The Freeport Branch of the NAACP invites you to their Gospel Fest on Saturday, October 7 at the Jeannette Lloyd Theater. Get your tickets [here](#) or at the door. [<view flyer>](#)

REMINDERS

FSD Employment Opportunities

FSD has job openings for the current school year. For more information on job openings and to apply [visit our website, fsd145](#).

Upcoming Notable Dates:

October 9 - Columbus Day/Indigenouness Peoples' Day - FSD Closed

October 10 - Full Day School Improvement Day - No Student Attendance

I cannot express enough how much I appreciate each of you. A strong home-school connection sets the stage for students' success. We are committed to "All Kids" and invite you to be "All In" with us. Have a fantastic fall weekend.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anna Alvarado,

Superintendent of Schools