

Press Clippings - 10/30/2024

- Chicago Tribune -

Elgin News Digest: Pumpkin smashes at Hawthorne Hill and Elgin High School; Day of Dead Fest, Skeleton Trot Saturday at Elgin library

By: Mike Danahey

Date: October 30, 2024



Pumpkins can be dropped off for composting Saturday in city of Elgin events being held at Hawthorne Hill Nature Center and Elgin High School.

Pumpkin smashes at Hawthorne Hill and Elgin High School

The Elgin Sustainability Commission will host pumpkin smashes from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 2, outside the Hawthorne Hill Nature Center, 28 Brookside Drive, Elgin, and in the parking lot of Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive.

Items accepted for composting include pumpkins, gourds and corn stalks, according to a post on the city's website. Items should be free of candles, stickers, decorations, plastic, yarn or glitter. Acrylic paint is acceptable.

After the event, Waste Management will dispose of the items at Midwest Compost in Elgin. Elgin has held the event since 2016, over which time it's collected more than 34 tons of pumpkins, the site said.

Day of Dead Fest, Skeleton Trot Saturday at Elgin library

The Gail Borden Public Library Foundation and the U-46 Educational Foundation have teamed up to present a Day of the Dead Festival Saturday, Nov. 2.

Things will get underway at 8 a.m. with El Trote De Las Calacas — the Skeleton Trot — a 5K race and walk, with a route that begins and ends at the Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N.

Grove Ave., Elgin, according to a news release.

Following the race, the Day of the Dead Fest will open at 10 a.m. inside the downtown library. It will feature vendors, music, food, take-home crafts, a bilingual storytime, a costume contest for adults and children, an ofrenda honoring deceased friends and family, and other activities.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

- Chicago Tribune - Illinois school report cards 2024: Search high school results in Chicago and the suburbs

By: Kori Rumore

Date: October 30, 2024



Students change classes, Oct. 29, 2024, at Lincoln Middle School in Park Ridge.

In addition to the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, or IAR, the Illinois Report Card also includes data from the SAT, an Illinois Board of Education-sponsored accountability assessment given to high school juniors.

The test has four performance levels, distinct from the College Board's own performance levels, including:

- Level 1: Partially meets standards
- Level 2: Approaching standards
- Level 3: Meets standards
- Level 4: Exceeds standards
-

Students performing at Levels 3 and 4, according to the state board of education, are considered proficient in Illinois Learning Standards, which prepare them for college and careers.

Percentage of students in Chicago-area high schools who meet or exceed standards in the state-sponsored SAT assessment in 2024

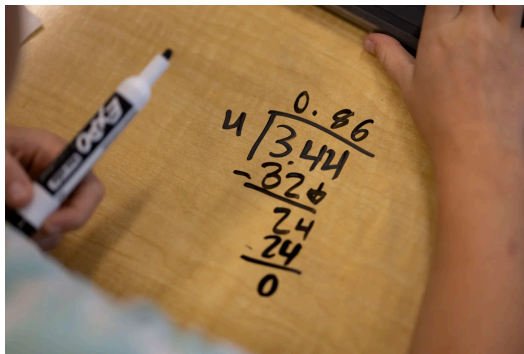
Includes schools in Chicago and suburban Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

- Chicago Tribune - Illinois school report cards 2024: Search elementary and middle school results in Chicago and the suburbs

By: Kori Rumore

Date: October 30, 2024



Students work on long division math problems during a sixth grade class, Oct. 29, 2024, at Lincoln Middle School in Park Ridge.

One of the key components of the Illinois Report Card is the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, which has been the state's federally mandated measurement of students' mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards in English language arts, or ELA, and math since 2015. The IAR test is given to students in grades three through eight in public school districts to examine "their readiness for what's next," according to the Illinois State Board of Education.

The IAR exam has five performance levels, including:

- Level 1: Did not yet meet expectations.
- Level 2: Partially met expectations.
- Level 3: Approached expectations.
- Level 4: Met expectations.
- Level 5: Exceeded expectations.

Students performing at levels 4 and 5, according to ISBE, have demonstrated readiness for the next grade level and are on track for college and careers — though proficiency is not the only metric the state uses when evaluating students' performance.

“It’s also important to know that in Illinois, ‘proficient’ means much more than just reading on grade level, so we should not equate the two,” said Jackie Matthews, executive director of communications for ISBE. “Our standards cover a depth and breadth of higher order language arts skills from writing, to logic, to critical thinking, and analysis. A student could very well be reading on grade level but not be ‘proficient’ in English language arts because they have not demonstrated mastery in writing, integration, evaluation or some of the other skills encompassed by English language arts.”

The following charts show the percentage of students scoring at levels 4 and 5 on the IAR exam in 2024. No information is displayed if a student group has fewer than 10 students.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

- The Examiner -

Select expense proposals await U-46 board action

By: Seth Hancock
Date: October 30, 2024

The Board of Education in School District U-46 is set to vote on \$437,380 in expenditure proposals at its upcoming meeting on Monday, Nov. 4. The items were presented on Oct. 21.

Included was a three-year proposal costing \$236,468, paid by operations and maintenance funds, with Cintas Fire Protection for state mandated annual inspections of fire alarms. The district’s recent contract expired on Jan. 28, 2024.

“This comprehensive process encompasses testing all fire alarm control panels, cleaning and testing each device, and verifying that all signals are accurately transmitted to the designated monitoring stations,” the proposal stated.

A proposal from Descon Signage for interior graphic installation at the district’s welcome center has a price tag of \$107,100 (education fund).

“This project is to create a welcoming and engaging space through the installation of interior graphics at the U-46 Welcome Center, which serves as the first stop for many of our district’s new families,” the proposal stated.

The proposal added: “Currently, the building’s interior walls are bare, creating an impersonal and stark environment. The purpose of this project is to transform the building’s currently blank and uninviting walls into a welcoming and engaging space that reflects the values and diversity of our district, fostering a positive first impression for families entering our

community.”

A contract renewal with Wayside Publishing will cost \$54,812 (education fund) to provide additional licenses for its world language curriculum that was approved by the board in 2019.

The proposal stated that students enrolled in Spanish have grown beyond the initial contract regarding the 2019 approval and “those initial licenses are fully expended.”

With Tooling U-SME, the district is asking for \$39,000 (education fund) for its “learning platform designed to prepare students for careers in the welding and precision manufacturing fields,” the proposal states.

- The Examiner -

Dist. U-46 expense items given formal approval

By: Seth Hancock

Date: October 30, 2024

The Board of Education in School District U-46 unanimously approved, with a 7-0 vote, of \$14 million in expenditure items at its meeting on Monday, Oct. 7.

Included were two proposals presented and approved that evening, the largest item being a three-year proposal costing \$13.3 million (education fund) with 22nd Century Technologies, LanceSoft and Geneva Hearing Services for special education staffing.

“In order to provide services to students in alignment with those outlined in their Individualized Education Programs, School District U-46 needs to partner with outside agencies for hard-to-fill positions,” the proposal states.

The three organizations from the proposal will provide 10 speech therapists, eight bilingual speech therapists, seven occupational therapists, seven registered behavior technicians, five school psychologists, four bilingual school psychologists, three social workers, three bilingual social workers, two special education teachers, two board certified behavior analysts, two vision itinerants, a certified school nurse, deaf and hard of hearing supervision, vision supervision and audiologic services.

Also presented and approved that evening was a 10-month proposal from Education Pioneers costing \$144,000 (education fund) for two “impact fellows,” the proposal states.

“The Education Pioneers fellowship is an opportunity for U-46 to take on highly-qualified candidates to assist in carrying forward important district initiatives including the strategic

plan, equity plan, and ongoing facilities planning work,” the proposal states.

The remaining items were all presented on Sept. 23 including a contract with Amira Learning costing \$270,840 to be paid through federal grant funds.

“Amira Learning is an artificial intelligence reading assistant that provides personalized literacy tutoring (in English and Spanish) to students at school, after school, or at home,” the proposal states.

The final two proposals are education fund items. Included is \$143,447 with Music Sales Digital Services for the MusicFirst secondary music curriculum resource.

“The MusicFirst Classroom suite of applications provides differentiated, leveled instructional tools to support the four creative processes included in the National Core Arts Standards and the U-46 Secondary Music curriculum,” the proposal states.

Costing \$56,700 is a contract with Transformative Educational Practices to provide “a job-embedded learning program for teachers using multimedia tools and platforms at Ontarioville Elementary School,” the proposal states.

The board also voted 7-0 to approve \$36.1 million in itemized bills.

- The Examiner -

School bus incident leaves two injured, one critically

By: Seth Hancock and Bruce Leighty
Date: October 30, 2024

A Bartlett High School student who was airlifted to an area hospital on Friday, Oct. 18 after a bus incident remains in critical condition but is stable, according to Bartlett police.

The incident occurred at the end of the school day on Oct. 18 when a male and female student were both struck by a bus and injured. Both the Bartlett Police Department and Bartlett Fire Protection District responded.

The female student was airlifted to Loyola Medical Center after initially being taken to Central DuPage Hospital, according to Deputy Fire Chief Brian Becker.

Fire district officials also said the male student had his arm run over and was taken to St. Alexius Hospital where he was listed in good condition.

Police Chief Geoffrey Pretkelis told The Examiner on Friday, Oct. 25: “The last update we received about the female student was she was still in critical but stable condition.”

The police are “still investigating this matter and will provide an update when the investigation is complete,” Pretkelis added.

The names of the injured students or any identifiable information, such as grade level, are not being released because they are juveniles, Pretkelis said.

The original press release from the police department: “On Friday, October 18, 2024, at approximately 3:20 p.m., the Bartlett Police Department and Bartlett Fire Protection District responded to Bartlett High School, located at 701 W. Schick Road, to investigate an incident where two students were struck and injured by a school bus during after school dismissal. Preliminary information indicates that a male and female student were running alongside a school bus that was pulling into the bus lane when they both fell and were struck by a school bus. The Bartlett Fire Protection District transported both students to local area hospitals. The male student suffered non-life-threatening injuries and was later released from the hospital, but the female student suffered life-threatening injuries and was later airlifted to another hospital, where she remains in critical condition. Bartlett Police continue to work with School District U-46 to investigate this incident.

- Daily Herald -

High school scores for Oct. 29

Date: October 29, 2024



Glenbard West's Angel Garnica (Left) and Geneva's Jackson Raby battle for the ball during the Class 3A St. Charles North Sectional on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024 in St. Charles.

Boys soccer
Class 1A sectional championships
at Chicago University
Cristo Rey Jesuit 3, Lisle 0
at Hinckley Big Rock

Aurora Central Catholic 2, Richmond Burton 1 (2OT)

Class 2A sectional semifinals

at Grayslake Central

Wauconda 3, Harvard 2

Prairie Ridge 3, Crystal Lake Central 0

at Rockford Boylan Catholic

Wheaton Academy 3, Belvidere North 1

Class 3A sectional semifinals

at Reavis

Hinsdale Central 3, Downers Grove South 1

at Stevenson

Glenbrook North 2, Glenbrook South 1

Hersey 3, Stevenson 2 (2OT)

at Naperville North

West Aurora 1, Naperville North 0

at St. Charles North

Geneva 4, Glenbard West 3

Conant 4, Bartlett 1

at New Trier

Leyden 3, Maine South 0

Girls volleyball

Class 1A regional quarterfinals

at Galena

East Dubuque d. Warren 25-11, 25-12

at Kirkland

Christian Heritage Academy d. Westminster Christian 25-7, 20-25, 25-23

at Serena

Aurora Christian d. Leland 25-22, 25-16

Class 2A regional semifinals

at Rosary

Timothy Christian d. Westmont 25-9, 25-12

Rosary d. Lisle 25-9, 25-12

at Regina Dominican

IC Catholic Prep d. Chicago Math & Science Charter 25-5, 25-4

Aurora Central Catholic d. Regina Dominican 25-22, 25-14

Class 3A regional semifinals

at Antioch
Prairie Ridge d. Cary-Grove 25-3, 25-22
Carmel d. Antioch 27-25, 25-19
at IMSA
Kaneland d. Englewood STEM 25-7, 25-2
at Crystal Lake Central
Crystal Lake Central d. Belvidere North 25-15, 225-22
Crystal Lake South d. Belvidere 25-16, 25-22
at Hinsdale South
Hinsdale South d. Noble/Mansueto 25-18, 25-14
Montini d. Hancock 25-8, 25-10
at Glenbard South
Glenbard South d. Lindblom 25-13, 25-8
at Lakes
Grayslake Central d. Wauconda 25-18, 25-7
Lakes d. Grayslake North 25-15, 25-19
at Ridgewood
St. Viator d. Intrinsic Charter 25-5, 25-3
at Sycamore
Burlington Central d. Sycamore 25-15, 25-18
Vernon Hills d. Chicago Amundsen 25-11, 25-10
at Wheaton Academy
Wheaton Academy d. CICS/Northtown 25-3, 25-7
Lake Forest d. Fenton 25-18, 25-17
at St. Francis
St. Francis d. Northside 25-13, 25-6

Class 4A regional semifinal
at Dundee Crown
Rolling Meadows d. Dundee Crown 25-20, 28-26
Buffalo Grove d. Hoffman Estates 25-16, 25-19
at Whitney Young
Downers Grove South d. Morton 25-3, 25-19
Willowbrook d. Whitney Young 25-18, 25-12
at Downers Grove North
Downers Grove North d. Proviso West 25-11, 25-12
Hinsdale Central d. Jones 15-25, 25-19, 25-21
at York
York d. Curie 25-12, 25-8
Riverside-Brookfield d. Glenbard East 25-19, 25-12
at Geneva

Metea Valley d. Bartlett 25-19, 25-17
Geneva d. West Aurora 25-12, 25-20
at Glenbrook South
Lane d. Elk Grove Village 25-20, 25-21
at Hampshire
Hampshire d. Rockford Jefferson 25-8, 25-11
at Conant
Stevenson d. Conant 25-20, 25-12
Palatine d. South Elgin 25-20, 25-11
at Lockport
Bolingbrook d. Waubonsie Valley 25-20, 23-25, 25-19
at Harlem
Huntley d. Rockford Auburn 25-13, 25-12
at Prospect
Barrington d. Schaumburg 25-5, 25-16
Prospect d. Hersey 25-23, 14-25, 25-17
at Naperville North
Benet d. Addison Trail 25-8, 25-10
Naperville Central d. Naperville North 29-27, 25-23
at Maine East
Maine South d. Leyden 25-11, 25-10
Glenbrook North d. Maine East 25-12, 25-14
at Lake Park
St. Charles North d. St. Charles East 25-16, 26-24
Wheaton North d. Lake Park 25-23, 25-23
at Round Lake
Libertyville d. Grant 25-10, 25-16
Jacobs d. McHenry 25-16, 25-23
at Wheaton Warrenville South
Glenbard West d. West Chicago 25-8, 25-16
Wheaton Warrenville South d. Batavia 25-21, 25-14
at Wheeling
Fremd d. Streamwood 25-5, 25-9
Lake Zurich d. Wheeling 25-22, 25-20
at Loyola Academy
Evanston d. Maine West 25-14, 25-16
at Yorkville
Oswego d. Neuqua Valley 25-8, 25-20

Girls volleyball
Class 1A regional quarterfinals

at Galena

East Dubuque d. Warren 25-11, 25-12

at Kirkland

Christian Heritage Academy d. Westminster Christian 25-7, 20-25, 25-23

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Aurora Christian d. Leland 25-22, 25-16

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at Sycamore

Burlington Central d. Sycamore 25-15, 25-18

Vernon Hills d. Chicago Amundsen 25-11, 25-10

at Wheaton Academy

Wheaton Academy d. CICS/Norhtown 25-3, 25-7

Lake Forest d. Fenton 25-18, 25-17

at St. Francis

St. Francis d. Northside 25-13, 25-6

Class 4A regional semifinal

at Dundee Crown

Rolling Meadows d. Dundee Crown 25-20, 28-26

Buffalo Grove d. Hoffman Estates 25-16, 25-19

at Whitney Young

Downers Grove South d. Morton 25-3, 25-19

Willowbrook d. Whitney Young 25-18, 25-12

at Downers Grove North

Downers Grove North d. Proviso West 25-11, 25-12

Hinsdale Central d. Jones 15-25, 25-19, 25-21

at York

York d. Curie 25-12, 25-8

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Prospect d. Hersey 25-23, 14-25, 25-17

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Lake Zurich d. Wheeling 25-22, 25-20
at Loyola Academy
Evanston d. Maine West 25-14, 25-16
at Yorkville
Oswego d. Neuqua Valley 25-8, 25-20

Upcoming events
Boys soccer sectional semifinal
Class 2A at DePaul College Prep
Noble/ITW Speer vs. Fenton, 7:00 p.m.
Class 3A at Streamwood
Elgin vs. Rockford East, 4:00 p.m.
Hampshire vd. Huntley, 6:00 p.m.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).