

Press Clippings for January 25, 2023

– Elgin Courier-News

U-46 pushes back plan to move 6th-graders to middle school buildings until 2025-26 school year

Jan. 24, 2023

By Mike Danahey



Construction delays at Hawk Hollow Elementary School in Bartlett, seen here in August as teachers celebrate the first day of school, is pushing back School District U-46's plans to convert it into a middle school and move sixth-graders into the middle school system. (School District U- / HANDOUT)

Plans to move **District U-46 sixth-graders** into middle school buildings will be pushed back a year because of construction-related issues, officials said.

“The delay means that 6th grade will remain a part of elementary school for the next two school years and then become a part of middle school for the 2025-26 school year,” district **Chief of Staff Brian Lindholm** said.

ARCON Associations, the architectural firm converting **Hawk Hollow Elementary** in Bartlett into a middle school, recently advised the district that problems in scheduling electrical,

mechanical, concrete, steel contractors and obtaining needed materials was going to push their timetable back, he said.

The work includes construction of an addition, and the “longest lead time item at this point is the electrical transformer needed to power the addition,” Lindholm said.

In order to complete the work, plans to close **Hawk Hollow** at the end of the school year remain in place so the renovation and building work can be done, **Superintendent Tony Sanders** said in a message he posted online to parents.

Garfield Elementary School will also close at year’s end as planned, **Lindholm said**.

“It will be retired at the end of this school year, and then its students will begin attending either **Channing Elementary** or **Huff Elementary**, depending on where they live, for the 2023-24 school year,” he said.

Because of the delay, the district will be able to consider updates necessary at some of its other middle schools, especially Elgin-based **Ellis, Larsen, Kimball, and Abbott**, as they prepare to add a new grade level, **Sanders said** in his message.

Among the things they’re looking at as they plan out what’s needed to accommodate more students in buildings, **Lindholm said**, is confirming “the effective capacities of each building to support this shift, including instructional space, learning commons areas, science labs and cafeterias.”

Middle school boundaries also will need to be adjusted as they prepare to make **Hawk Hollow** the district’s ninth middle school and relocate about 2,500 6th-graders into the other middle schools by August 2025, he said.

Simultaneously, administrators will be assessing enrollment forecasts at the elementary and high schools to determine if any other boundary adjustments are needed, **Lindholm said**.

Additionally, they’ll have more time to redesign the middle school day, update curriculum and resources, develop plans for social-emotional learning and provide professional development for teachers, Sanders said.

Since sixth-grade is currently considered an elementary school level, sixth-grade teachers will have an additional year to earn the necessary endorsement needed to teach in middle school or apply for teaching jobs at the elementary level, he said.

Hawk Hollow's switch to a middle school is not predicated on the April 4 election referendum in which voters will be asked to approve the sale of \$179 million in building bonds to pay for up to \$380 million in capital improvements, but other changes are, the superintendent said.

He also reiterated that voters need to be aware that approving the bond sale will not result in property taxes going up.

For an overview of the proposed facility and program updates, go to www.u-46.org/Page/19297.

Mike Danahey is a freelance reporter for The Courier-News.

– Examiner of Barlett –

Dist. U-46 Board approval continues ACE funding

Jan. 25, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The Board of Education in **School District U-46** voted 6-0, board member Veronica Noland being absent, on \$88,000 in funding for the Alignment Collaborative for Education (ACE) at its Monday, Jan. 9 meeting.

The amount was the same as requested last year by ACE, but its 73 percent higher than the \$51,000 approved in 2021.

In a letter with this request from Nancy Coleman, ACE's executive director, and Bill Wright, ACE's board chairman, ACE states it has reached "over 6,000 students for the calendar year 2022," and the goal is for over 8,000 by May 2023.

ACE expects \$233,645 in revenue for 2022-2023, but no ACE budget was provided. Last year, ACE said it had \$220,000 in revenue with 65 percent going towards two full-time staff, Coleman and executive assistant Adriana Armstrong. A third staff member has been added, according to the letter.

"**School District U-46's** funding of \$88,000 generously supported 38 [percent] of Alignment's needed operational budget with the remaining 62 [percent] being funded from business, community, municipal, and post-secondary support," the letter stated.

“With that level of support, Alignment was able to add a program manager, Edgar Montes, to the Alignment team, allowing the organization to offer more programming resulting in serving a record number of students.”

ACE, comprised of business and government entities with a stated purpose to serve **U-46**, was founded in 2013 with an original promise that it would be fully funded through private donations, but **U-46** taxpayers remain the largest individual funders of ACE.

That promise is no longer valid as Coleman made no promises last year not to ask for future increases from the taxpayers saying “the more students that we serve, the more funding that we’re going to need.”

– Examiner of Barlett –

Completed projects listing provided to U-46 trustees

Jan. 25, 2023

By Seth Hancock

There was over \$24 million spent on capital projects in **School District U-46** last summer.

That was according to **Patricia Waldau, director of plant operations**, who presented a summary to the Board of Education earlier this school year.

“It was a particularly trying construction year with several unprecedented challenges, from the operating engineer’s union strike, material delays and supply chain issues,” **Waldau said**. “But I’m happy to report that even with those obstacles, the plant operations team was able to complete a robust list of capital projects and generate substantial savings from the energy efficiency programs and incentives.”

Included was the first phase of an update at **Streamwood High School** for its pathways program. Auditorium lights were replaced at **Bartlett High School**.

There were flooring projects, such as library carpet replacement and tiling projects at seven schools, gym floor refinishing at three schools, athletic facilities and stadium upgrades at three high schools, interior upgrades (ceiling, office renovations, etc.) at six buildings, chiller replacements at eight schools, boiler replacements at five schools, parking lot repaving at four locations, exterior upgrades (sidewalk, roofing, etc.) at eight schools and building access and security controls (security access and playground cameras) at 14 schools.

The district saved \$554,820 through incentives and rebates on various projects. It also received \$99,113 through a demand response “reduction event,” **Waldau said**, in which all secondary schools participated in reducing energy consumption on July 6.

“Demand response provides the opportunity for the district to play a significant role in the operation of the electric grid by reducing or shifting our electricity usage during peak periods,” **Waldau said**.

Waldau said the district uses a consultant, ClearResult, for energy management. Additionally, eight sites were Energy Star certified which means the buildings performed in the top 25 percent nationwide with similar buildings for energy conservation.

U-46 also has its own energy incentive program where it awarded five locations for energy conservation resulting in prizes from the district including a roof ladder, custom entry mat, chair dolly/desk mover, commercial freezer, projector screen, revamped sign and snow blower.

– Daily Herald –

Boys basketball: Top 20

Jan. 23, 2023

Boys basketball

Records through Jan. 17

Team Comment

1. Benet (22-1) Beat Kenwood in front of packed house
2. Rolling Meadows (20-3) Christie 29 in Brother Rice loss
3. Hinsdale Central (19-3) With nearly 3,000 on hand, beat Lyons
4. WW South (19-2) Meredith 27 at Night of Hoops win
5. Downers North (18-3) Knocked off 16-6 Bolingbrook
6. Libertyville (16-4) Warren snaps 13-game winning streak
7. Geneva (18-3) Gets shot at DuKane lead Friday vs. WW South
8. Stevenson (15-4) In tight race for NSC crown
9. Burlington Central (19-4) After Hampshire scare, blows out **S. Elgin**
10. Prospect (12-9) Knocked off Stevenson, nearly Meadows
11. Barrington (16-2) Key MSL game Thursday vs. Fremd
12. Fremd (13-7) Chance to avenge 2-point loss to Barrington
13. Palatine (16-6) Good non conference test Saturday vs. Warren
14. Lake Park (13-7) No stopping Cerese
15. Metea Valley (17-6) In 3-way tie for DVC lead
16. Naperville North (14-9) Elite defense last week
17. Warren (12-10) Daniels 14 points in Libertyville shocker
18. Glenbard West (11-8) On a 3-game losing streak

19. Huntley (14-5) Good non conference win vs. Boylan
20. Hersey (14-9) Get 2nd shot vs. Rolling Meadows Thursday
Others to watch: Neuqua Valley 16-7, Grayslake Central 19-3, Marmion 14-7, Crystal Lake
South 16-6, Lake Zurich 13-8, Glenbard North 13-9, Kaneland 20-4, Fenton 18-4, West Aurora
14-10, **South Elgin** 13-9

– Chicago Tribune –

Basketball scores for Aurora, Elgin, Naperville and Lake County

Jan. 24, 2023

By From Staff Reports - Aurora Beacon-News

MONDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Genoa-Kingston 57, Somonauk 53

Genoa-Kingston (8-13): Josh Bunting 20 points. Nate Kleba 19 points.

Somonauk (7-16): Coleton Eade 25 points. Carson Bahrey 12 points.

Hoffman Estates 72, **Streamwood** 40

Morris 60, Newark 45

Vernon Hills 61, Woodstock 32

Vernon Hills (11-12): A.J. Morgan, Milan Raval 15 points.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

CHOPS BILLINGER SHOOTOUT

Brooks 59, **Larkin** 48

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Antioch 67, Round Lake 24

Barrington 58, **Streamwood** 23

Burlington Central 75, **South Elgin** 45

Glenbrook North 92, Yorkville Christian 44

Yorkville Christian (6-16): David Douglas Jr. 30 points.

Grayslake North 73, North Chicago 48

Grayslake North (9-12, 4-3 Northern Lake County): Dominic Jankowski 22 points. Jayden
Hunt 14 points. Uros Mitrovic 11 points.

Harvest Christian 69, Richmond-Burton 47

Hinckley-Big Rock 38, Winnebago 36

Hinckley-Big Rock (19-5): Ben Hintzsche GW 3-pointer with 5.1 seconds remaining.
Indian Creek 62, Westminster Christian 40
Indian Creek (6-15): Jeffrey Probst 32 points. Logan Schrader 10 points.
Kaneland 62, LaSalle-Peru 52
Kaneland (20-4, 10-0 Interstate Eight): Johnny Spallasso 19 points. Gevon Grant 18 points.
Troyer Carlson 13 points.
Lakes 57, Grant 52 (OT)
Lakes (14-6, 6-1 Northern Lake County): Brock Marino 24 points. Tyler Anderson 11 points.
James Kania 10 points.
Grant (6-12, 3-3): Ayden Sheppard 19 points.
Northridge 74, Elgin Academy 62
Palatine 62, Mundelein 33
Plainfield East 50, Neuqua Valley 45
Prospect 41, Stevenson 40
Stevenson (15-4): Christian Uremovich 14 points.
St. Charles North 59, Bartlett 58

BATAVIA NIGHT OF HOOPS

Hillcrest 69, Oswego East 60
Hinsdale Central 54, Batavia 49
York 63, St. Charles East 57
Wheaton Warrenville South 77, Larkin 43

WRESTLING

UPSTATE EIGHT MEET

Local teams: 1. South Elgin 250.5, 4. East Aurora 135, 5. Bartlett 112.5, 7. Elgin 93, 9. (tie) Larkin, Streamwood 75 each.

Local winners: 106: Demetrios Carrera, South Elgin. 113: Julius Avendano, Elgin. 132: Andre Rios, South Elgin. 138: Leo Rosas, South Elgin. 145: Nico Clinite, South Elgin. 152: David Miranda, Larkin. 170: Fabian Ramirez, Elgin. 195: Jace Wolf, Streamwood. 220: Bryan Romero, East Aurora. 285: Adam Lambaz, Elgin.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

BOYS BASKETBALL

Batavia 68, Wheaton North 52
Benet 48, Carmel 45
Burlington Central 59, Hampshire 58
Burlington Central (18-4, 9-1 Fox Valley): Andrew Scharnowski 22 points.
Deerfield 49, Maine East 47

Deerfield (15-5, 5-1 Central Suburban North): Quinn Schimanski 18 points. Drew Rodgers 10 points.
Dundee-Crown 65, Crystal Lake South 63
Geneva 68, Glenbard North 52
IMSA 75, DePue 34
Jacobs 64, Cary-Grove 47
Joliet West 64, Yorkville 56
Yorkville (18-4, 7-3 Southwest Prairie West): Jory Boley 13 points. Jason Jakstys 11 points.
LeBaron Lee 10 points.
Kaneland 73, Elgin 44
Kaneland (19-4): Troyer Carlson 21 points. Johnny Spallasso 16 points.
Lake Forest 66, Waukegan 58
Lake Forest (13-8, 5-2 North Suburban): Noah Portalatin 20 points.
Waukegan (10-11, 2-5): Nehemiah Dunn 24 points. Carter Newsome 20 points.
Lake Park 68, St. Charles East 57
Marmion 51, Montini 35
Marmion (13-7, 3-4 CCL White): Trevon Roots 20 points, 4 rebounds. Jabe Haith 10 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists. Henry Dalmann 10 points, 9 rebounds.
Metea Valley 67, DeKalb 63
Mundelein 59, Zion-Benton 46
Naperville North 47, Neuqua Valley 35
Naperville North (14-9, 4-2 DuPage Valley): Luke Williams 17 points.
Niles North 59, Highland Park 41
Oswego 58, Plainfield East 53
Oswego East 75, Plainfield South 57
Plano 53, Sandwich 46
Plano (7-16, 3-7 Interstate Eight): Davione Stamps 18 points. Sam Sifuentes 12 points.
Sandwich (13-11, 6-4): Dylan Young 12 points, 11 rebounds.
Rockford Christian 83, Genoa-Kingston 48
Genoa-Kingston (7-13, 1-3 Big Northern): Hayden Hodgson 17 points.
Romeoville 68, West Aurora 53
West Aurora (14-9): Terrence Smith 18 points. Josh Pickett 12 points.
St. Edward 59, Aurora Central Catholic 39
Stevenson 48, Lake Zurich 42
Stevenson (15-3, 6-1 North Suburban): Brandon Sorokin 15 points. David Sulnius 14 points.
Lake Zurich (11-8, 3-4): Anton Strelnikov 12 points.
Vernon Hills 65, Maine West 44
Vernon Hills (10-12, 3-3 Central Suburban North): Milan Raval 15 points. Nolan Lazor 14 points.
Warren 50, Libertyville 45
Warren (12-10, 4-3 North Suburban): Alex Daniels 14 points.
Libertyville (16-4, 6-1): Jack Huber 11 points.
Waubonsie Valley 50, Naperville Central 33

Wauconda 47, Grayslake Central 42

Wauconda (10-8, 3-3 Northern Lake County): Braeden Carlson 18 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals.
Cayden Mudd 16 points.

Grayslake Central (19-3, 6-1): Dennis Estepp, Michael Monahan, Jake Gibson 9 points.

Wheaton Warrenville South 57, St. Charles North 32

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Cary-Grove 50, Jacobs 32

Crystal Lake South 49, Dundee-Crown 34

Deerfield 76, Maine East 8

Deerfield (19-4, 8-0 Central Suburban North): Lexi Kerstein 16 points, 5 assists. Nikki Kerstein 12 points, 6 assists. Aubrey Galvan 10 points, 7 steals, 6 assists.

East Aurora 63, **Elgin** 19

Hampshire 53, Burlington Central 52

Burlington Central (14-8, 6-4 Fox Valley): Page Erickson 18 points, 5 assists, 4 rebounds.

Emma Payton 16 points, 7 rebounds.

Lake Forest 64, Waukegan 29

Mundelein 54, Zion-Benton 41

Mundelein (9-13, 3-6 North Suburban): Casey Vyverman 19 points, 5 rebounds, 3 steals. Rylan Foster 16 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals.

Neuqua Valley 52, Naperville North 42

Neuqua (16-9, 6-0 DuPage Valley): Caitlin Washington 20 points.

Niles North 55, Highland Park 47

South Elgin 66, **Larkin** 55

South Elgin (10-14, 7-5 Upstate Eight): Chloe Kmiec 29 points.

Stevenson 46, Lake Zurich 35

Stevenson (17-8, 7-3 North Suburban): Nisha Musunuri 19 points. Emory Klatt 15 points.

Vernon Hills 49, Maine West 40

Vernon Hills (14-9, 6-2 Central Suburban North): Grace Koepke 21 points.

Compiled by Josh Krockey.

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

– Elgin Courier-News –

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

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BOYS BOWLING SECTIONALS

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Compiled by Josh Krockey.
To read the full article, click [here](#).

– Daily Herald –

Fox boys basketball notes: Lothery, Harvest Christian soaring to new heights

Jan. 25, 2023
By Craig Brueske

Harvest Christian Academy might be one of the smallest high schools in the area with an enrollment of 165 (according to the IHSA).

That hasn't stopped the Lions from possessing one of the area's top boys basketball records -- now 19-5 after Tuesday's 47-40 showdown win over state-ranked South Beloit (16-5).

Coach Bryan Bradshaw's team, fresh off an impressive 69-47 road victory over Richmond-Burton last Saturday, also fields one of the area's top scorers in Ben Lothery.

Lothery, a 6-foot-1 senior guard who averages 21 points and 3.3 assists per game this season, continues to improve his all-around game, according to Bradshaw.

"Ben has grown as a scorer," said Bradshaw. "Early on in his career, he was a great three-point shooter. His knack for getting to his spot and in the paint has grown and made him more dangerous as an offensive threat."

How much of an offensive threat is Lothery?

In early December, Lothery poured in a career-high 38 points with seven 3-pointers during the Lions' 90-49 victory over Schaumburg Christian.

Last week, Lothery scored 22 points with five 3-pointers during the Lions' 49-41 overtime loss to Stillman Valley, then returned later that day and scored a team-high 28 points with six 3-pointers, and added 3 assists and 3 steals in Harvest Christian's 66-48 victory over North Boone.

"I always knew that Ben had a great eye for finding open spots and creating opportunities for him and others to score," said Bradshaw. "He has great knowledge of the game and can see plays develop before they happen."

While Lothery has thrived as the Lions' outside shooting threat, 6-4 junior forward Kaden Meeker has provided the team an inside presence.

Meeker scored 15 points with 8 rebounds against Richmond-Burton, and added a near carbon copy with 15 points and 7 boards in the Lions' 44-42 loss to Hinckley-Big Rock last Thursday -- Harvest's first home loss (8-1).

Other contributors include seniors Dan Winkleman, Antonio Wilder, and junior JJ Gonnam.

Gonnam scored 14 points against Richmond-Burton, while Wilder added 11 points on 3-of-3 shooting from beyond the arc, and Winkleman had 9 points on three 3-pointers.

Harvest Christian owns a 5-0 mark in Northeastern Athletic Conference play.

"Our mindset is on finishing the remaining games strong and secure one of the top seeds in our sectional," said Bradshaw. "We will try to be playing our best basketball when regionals roll around."

South Elgin update:

Despite last Saturday's 75-45 non conference loss to Burlington Central, **South Elgin** remains in Upstate Eight Conference title contention with 3 regular-season weeks remaining.

The **Storm** (13-9) improved to 10-1 -- tied with Fenton in the UEC -- with last Friday's come-from-behind, 58-56 home triumph over **Larkin**.

First-year head coach Phil Church's team owns a 5-1 mark in conference games decided by 7 points or fewer, with the lone loss coming at the hands of the Bison (61-60) on Dec. 20.

The UEC co-leaders meet again on Feb. 7 in Bensenville.

"I think I've got the most seniors that people play, regardless of whether they played a lot last year," said Church, who started an all-senior lineup with Sean Harvey, Mason Montgomery, Victor Sison, Jake Tiaokhiao, and Elias Cole Williams against **Larkin**.

"I think when you look at the scale of the conference right now, and we talk about probably the four purest players who are juniors. You've got two at Bartlett (Kelton McEwen and Nathan Searce), there's one at Fenton who is hurt (Xavior Gonzalez), and (Larkin's Jakob) Blakley.

"Next year, this conference is going to be loaded, so we'll take the wins while we get them."

Led by Cole Williams and 6-7 forward/center Harvey, **South Elgin** now finds itself as a team circled on opponents' schedules.

"I think it's a testament to guys who are under the radar and kind of have a chip on their shoulders," said Church. "Now, they're learning to play when that bulls-eye is on their backs."

Larkin update:

Larkin slipped to 9-14 overall following Saturday's 77-43 loss to DuKane Conference front-runner Wheaton Warrenville South (19-2).

One night earlier, the Royals let a 10-point, fourth-quarter lead slip away in their 2 point-loss to **South Elgin** despite a 28-point effort from junior guard Jakob Blakley.

Now, the defending Upstate Eight champions have set their attention to next month's postseason.

"We're out of the conference race now," said **Larkin coach Deryn Carter**, whose team is 6-5 in the UEC but 4 games in back of both Fenton and **South Elgin**.

"All we're trying to do is get ready for a regional championship. Hopefully, we're building up some scars and some calluses and we're ready to go come regional time."

First, the good news.

Elgin update:

Elgin (8-14, 1-10) has doubled its win total from a year ago (4-23) under the direction of first-year **Maroons head coach Brett Johnson**, and led by junior guard Maddox Hollian.

Now, the not-so-good news.

Weekend defeats at the hands of Kaneland (73-44) and Brooks (59-48) extended **Elgin's** losing streak to 8.

"I think it's a long process and hopefully come the end of the season and playoff time, we can continue to get better and learn from these losses," said Johnson.

The **Maroons** host **Bartlett** (14-8, 7-4) Friday night.

Scharnowski nears 1,000:

After scoring 34 points Tuesday in a 61-45 win over Dundee-Crown, Burlington Central senior Drew Scharnowski is 19 points away from 1,000.

– Examiner of Streamwood – Streamwood girls hoops still seeking consistency

Jan. 25, 2023

By Seth Hancock

The **Streamwood girls basketball team** struggled to slow down Glenbard East in a 55-22 Upstate Eight Conference loss on Friday, Jan. 20 at Glenbard East.

The **Sabres'** plan coming in was defense, and it worked for nearly the whole first half. Trailing 20-14 in the final minute before halftime, **Streamwood** was facing a manageable sixpoint deficit.

However, Glenbard East hit a pair of three-pointers in that final minute for a 12-point advantage at the break then outscored **Streamwood** 29-8 in the second half.

"We tried to focus on defense and went one-on-one with their top scorer, and we held her to two points in the first half," said **Streamwood coach Elizabeth Endriukaitis**. "We wanted to make everyone else hit their shots, and I think as soon as they hit those back-to-back threes they felt a sense of relief with that because we were doing a good job on them defensively."

Endriukaitis added: "The second half hits and they go on a run, and again we just can't get over that hump. We're still struggling with some individualism. We've got to get past that and play as a team."

Brianna Coffey led the Sabres with eight points, and Leana Williams and Jamia Gatlin both had six.

Endriukaitis said her squad, which is 2-19 overall and 1-10 in the UEC, needs to find consistency.

Streamwood had opened the week with a 60-29 UEC loss to East Aurora on Tuesday, Jan. 17 at Streamwood. The previous week, the Sabres fell 47-15 against West Chicago on Tuesday, Jan. 10 before battling in a tough 61-56 loss to Fenton on Friday, Jan. 13, both those UEC games at Streamwood.

“We went from scoring just 15 against West Chicago to giving Fenton a good run, and that was just an awesome game,” Endriukaitis said. “Then we struggle against East Aurora and Glenbard East. We’re like Jekyll and Hyde. We play well and then we struggle for two or three games straight. We just have to find consistency.”