



Longfellow Longhorns

"A Great Place to Learn"

Rick Herrejon, Principal

BOARD OF EDUCATION INFORMATION

WEBSITE, *THE AUTHOR EARNS AWARDS*

The Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association recently honored CCSD21 with Awards of Excellence for the district's website, www.ccsd21.org, and its community newsletter, *The Author*. Both serve as ways to celebrate stories about our students and staff with the community.

FIVE YEAR PROJECTION REPORT

The Board received a report on five-year financial projections. The report is based on a set of assumptions about state and federal actions over the next five years, as well as sophisticated economic modeling of district staffing, enrollment, expenses and generated revenues. The five-year projection report is one of many ways that the Board and administration monitor revenues and expenses, and plan to responsibly utilize the community's resources.

The five-year projections incorporate recent cost-savings measures. Last year, CCSD21 achieved \$2.5 million in savings. The District continued to save that baseline \$2.5 million during the 2016-17 school year, while reducing spending by an additional \$4.1 million. In sum, the District anticipates realizing \$9.1 million in aggregated savings over two years.

NEXT MEETING

December 15, 2016 – 7:30 PM
Gill Administration Center

FACEBOOK & TWITTER

CCSD21 is on Facebook ([facebook.com/ccsd21](https://www.facebook.com/ccsd21)) and Twitter (@CCSD21). Links to each can be found at www.ccsd21.org.

Dear Longfellow Parents and Guardians,

Well it finally appears that winter has indeed, arrived. Along with the holidays comes hot cocoa, sledding and of course recess fun. Please remember that when there is snow on the ground, students can play in the snow **only** if they have the following: Snow pants, snow boots, and proper winter outdoor gear (coat, hat, gloves). Also, to be safe, please remind your student not to throw snow. Of course, we will continue to remind them daily of the expected outside behavior. Additionally, the rule of thumb for winter weather is that we go outside for recess when the wind chill is above 10 degrees and stay inside when the wind chill is below 0. When the wind chill is in the single digits (1 to 9), I personally go outside prior to recess and see how it feels and make a decision based on what is happening on that day. Some days (like this past Wednesday) there is a higher temperature (22) but with the wind felt like 6 degrees. On that particular day, it felt too windy and cold for the students to be outside safely so we stayed in! Other days, it might be 4 degrees and feel like 4 degrees. On that kind of day, we might be outside because the sun is shining and there is no wind. Single digits are determined on that day's morning. Please keep this in mind when sending your child to school, and when in doubt, plan for outdoor recess and send your child with their appropriate gear.

Thank you,

Rick Herrejon

Keep Learning Alive for Your Child Over the Winter Break

Your child looks at the calendar and imagines the joy of having no schedule for the whole winter school holiday. You look at the same blank squares on your calendar and have a mild moment of panic. Here are some activities that will keep him learning – and keep you from hearing "I'm bored" during the holiday break.

- Let your child discover the past by talking with grandparents, aunts, uncles, even you! Help him plan questions to ask, such as, "What was school like for you?" He can record the conversations, write them down or just listen. This will be a good resource and meaningful memento in the future.
- Assemble a list from your local newspaper/website of places to go and things to do. Every community has places that will interest kids. Check out a local museum (see if they have a day when admission is free). Look for free concerts you can attend. See if the local public library has any special story hours or performances.
- Select a movie based on a book. After you and your child finish reading the book, watch the movie. Discuss how the two were alike and how they were different.
- Prepare food together. Nearly every culture has some special foods associated with the holiday season. With your child, prepare foods you remember from your childhood. Share your memories, or do some research and prepare a dish you've never tried.

Excerpt from *The Parent Institute* www.parent-institute.com

Notable Quotes

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light."

- Aristotle Onassis

"Change your thoughts and you change your world."

- Norman Vincent Peale

Dates & Events

12/8 PTO Meeting

12/15 Board of Education Meeting

12/16 Holiday Sing-A-Long

12/19-1/2 Winter break

1/3 Classes Resume

Parent Pointers

Setting Goals

- Talk about goals you have set for yourself and how you achieved them.
- Guide your child toward a realistic short- or long-term goal that includes why it is important. Agree on a reasonable timeframe to achieve the goal.
- Display the goal in a prominent place. If the goal is measurable each day, post a chart and award a star for each day it is achieved.

Short Notes

Lost and Found....

As we have done for the past few years, any items left at the school's Lost and Found over the winter break will be donated to The Kid's Pantry...an organization servicing local families in need in the Northwest Suburbs.

If your child is missing any items of clothing, please be sure to check the Lost and Found before winter break. As a reminder, please make sure to write your child's name on all articles of clothing so that we can easily return them once they are found.

BE SAFE....BE RESPECTFUL...BE RESPONSIBLE

Health Office Notes

Health and Wellness:

Winter Woes: With the harsh winter weather, our bodies react in some not-so-pleasant ways. If your child suffers from frequent nosebleeds, try using an air humidifier in their room at night. Saline nose drops and petroleum jelly help to moisten the nasal tissues. If bleeding is severe or recurrent you should consult with your pediatrician.

At school, we encourage students to use baby wipes and to wash their hands frequently, especially after returning from the lunch hour. This routine can have a drying effect on the skin. Applying lotion to your child's hands often can help combat against cracked, red and painful knuckles. Another suggestion is for parents to send chapped stick to school with their child in order for them to apply as needed throughout the day. The Health Office does not provide chapped stick.

