



EMPOWER

2018 Community Report

203



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Letter from the *empower 203* Superintendent

On behalf of the Naperville Community Unit School District 203 Board of Education and administration, I am pleased to provide you with our 2018 Community Report.

We continue to make progress on our Focus 2020 Blueprint Commitments including leading as a model for integrating Social Emotional Learning (SEL) into curriculum across the country and looking at the how to best use our school day at all levels.

Naperville 203 continues to earn national rankings – named the Best School District in America by the National Council for Home Safety and Security, and ranked overall third in the state, the highest rated large unit district, by *Niche.com*.

These accomplishments are due to our outstanding students and staff who continue to strive for success in and out of the classroom.

34 NCHS and NNHS seniors were named 2017 National Merit Scholarship finalists, and five seniors received the 2017-2018 National Hispanic Recognition Program Award.

Our students and staff inspire me as compassionate community contributors. Many student groups raised money or items for schools, families, and animals affected by the 2017 hurricanes.

Both NCHS and NNHS students brought home the hardware! At NCHS the Boys Water Polo Team and Flight Yearbook Staffer Megan Mehta earned the top titles in IHSA State Competitions. The Girls Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Track and Field, Math Team, Ping Pong, and WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science & Engineering) were all state champions for NNHS. The Huskies Girls Cross Country Team also finished second in the nation at Nike Cross Nationals, and NCHS color guard member Emily Wilkinson was selected to perform at U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

I look forward to an empowering 2018-2019 school year full of students owning their education and teachers supporting them along the way.

A high-quality public education is a top priority of our community and remains a draw for families moving to the area. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to education and empowering our students.



Sincerely,
Dan Bridges, Superintendent

Board of Education

As president of the Board of Education, I have the honor of working with the dedicated members of the Board and District administration to provide an outstanding education to each of our almost 16,800 students. We know the education we provide for our students will help the children in our community reach their full potential. We remain committed to the prudent fiscal responsibility that our community expects and we work hard to ensure that our services are delivered in the most efficient way possible. In this community report, you will find information on our renovated Learning Commons, unique educational opportunities, the efforts we are undertaking to support all learners and families, as well as demographic and financial information. We are so proud of our students' accomplishments and the efforts of our dedicated staff. We know that our school district would simply not be the same without our community partners and residents who share a belief in the importance of educating our students.

Kristin Fitzgerald, *President*

2018-19 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS



Kristin Fitzgerald
PRESIDENT

TERM EXPIRES: 2021



Donna Wandke
VICE PRESIDENT

TERM EXPIRES: 2021



Charles Cush
BOARD MEMBER

TERM EXPIRES: 2021



Terry Fielden
BOARD MEMBER

TERM EXPIRES: 2019



Kristine Gericke
BOARD MEMBER

TERM EXPIRES: 2019



Paul Leong
BOARD MEMBER

TERM EXPIRES: 2021



Janet Yang Rohr
BOARD MEMBER

TERM EXPIRES: 2019

2018-19 BOARD MEETING *calendar*

The Naperville Community Unit School District 203 Board of Education meeting dates will be from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. All meetings will be held at the District 203 Administrative Center and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

2018

	6 AUG	4 SEP	1 OCT	5 NOV	3 DEC
16 JUL	20 AUG	17 SEP	15 OCT	19 NOV	17 DEC

2019

7 JAN	4 FEB	4 MAR	8 APR	6 MAY	3 JUN
22 JAN	19 FEB	18 MAR	22 APR	21 MAY	17 JUN

*Labor Day Monday 9/3/18

**Winter Break through 1/4/19

***Martin Luther King Day 1/21/19

****President's Day Monday 2/18/19

*****Spring Break through 3/30/19

*****Commencement Monday 5/20/19

BELIEFS, VISION & *mission*

OUR BELIEFS

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 believes an exemplary school district...

- › Values the dignity and uniqueness of each individual
- › Promotes responsible citizenship
- › Is the result of a collective partnership of students, staff, parents and community

OUR VISION

Building a Passion for Lifelong Learning

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors

Financials

empower commitment

Naperville 203 demonstrates sound fiscal responsibility and is committed to continued vigilance to ensure long-term financial stability. In fiscal year 2017-2018, at the direction of our Board of Education, the following actions occurred:



ELIMINATED INTEREST

Utilized \$9.5 M in long-term investment reserves to redeem all of the District's outstanding General Obligation School Building Bonds, Series 2008, in advance of maturity. This defeasance has the potential of eliminating more than \$3.2M in interest owed in future years.



LEVY ABATEMENT

Full abatement of the 2017 Debt Service levy, reducing the request on taxable property located in Naperville Community Unit School District 203, by \$2,714,675.



Social & Emotional Learning

Naperville 203 is paving the way for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) across the country. During the 2017-18 school year, we implemented a District-wide SEL curriculum.

In order to meet the needs of the whole child, standards were designed to explicitly teach the skills students need to develop self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, responsible decision making, and positive relationships with adults and peers.

Detailed grade-level snapshots illustrating vocabulary, skills, home connections, and additional resources can be found on the Naperville 203 website at <https://www.naperville203.org/Page/6224>.

“What we’re going to find as a result of our work are some really confident, self-directed kids who are great collaborative workers. I think we’re going to see our mission really come alive!”

– Megan Plackett

D203 SEL Vision Statement:

All students will utilize social, emotional, and academic skills in order to become resourceful and resilient life-long learners.

D203 SEL Mission Statement:

We cultivate resourceful, resilient citizens by teaching social emotional and academic skills in a nurturing learning environment.

D203 Beliefs about Social & Emotional Learning:

- › All students need a balance of academic and social-emotional learning.
- › Students learn and apply SEL skills when they are explicitly and intentionally integrated into daily lessons.
- › A positive school culture and climate is the foundation for all social & emotional learning.
- › All stakeholders are responsible for contributing to the ongoing development of SEL skills.

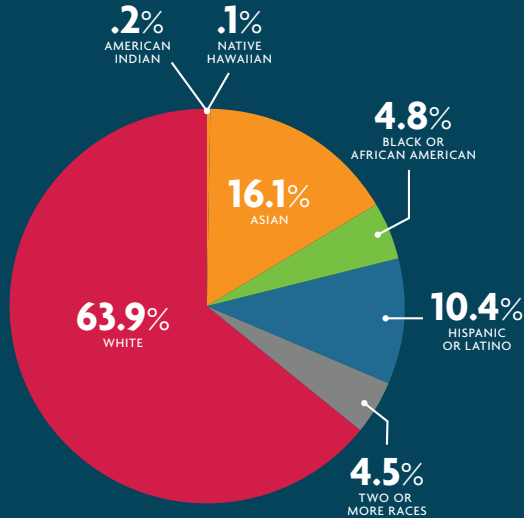
SIGNS OF *suicide*

Supporting students’ social-emotional well-being is essential to building a safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment. We understand a student’s mental health impacts how they engage in all aspects of life. From school to academic learning and the relationships they build with peers and adults.

Building on our *“Community Conversation about Suicide”* with Dr. Jonathan Singer last fall, Naperville 203 will be implementing Signs of Suicide (SOS) in grades 6-12 this fall. SOS is an evidence based program that is designed to increase students’ ability to seek help for themselves or for a friend. SOS integrates two key suicide prevention strategies; a curriculum that builds awareness of suicide and mental health issues and a brief screener to identify depression and other risk factors associated with suicidal behaviors.

STUDENT *composition*

Our student population continues to change. Demographic categories listed on this page are as reported by the State of Illinois School Report Card.



Student *empower learning* Demographics

16.5% (1.2% in 2000)
qualified for
FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

16,781
STUDENTS



11%
of our students qualified for an
INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN (IEP)
under the Federal Law,
Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act (IDEA).

1%
of our students
qualified as
HOMELESS
under the Federal
McKinney-Vento Act.

Over
75
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

6.1%
of our students were
categorized as
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING
under the Federal Law.



Achievement and Growth

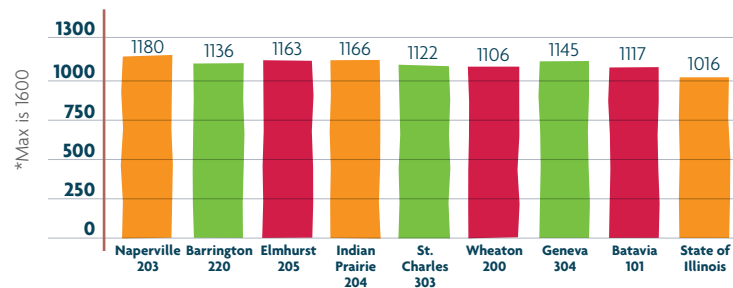
Naperville 203 is a high achieving school district and we use test scores as one means to measure student performance. We compare our test scores to other large unit districts in the west suburban area to gage our success.

As new assessments are mandated and the curriculum evolves, we continually review our suite of assessments to meet the informational needs for school and District improvement.

During the spring of 2018, students took the Partnership for Assessment for Readiness for College and Careers, or "PARCC." The following graphs illustrate (SAT and PARCC) Naperville 203 students' achievement. Eleventh grade students took the SAT.

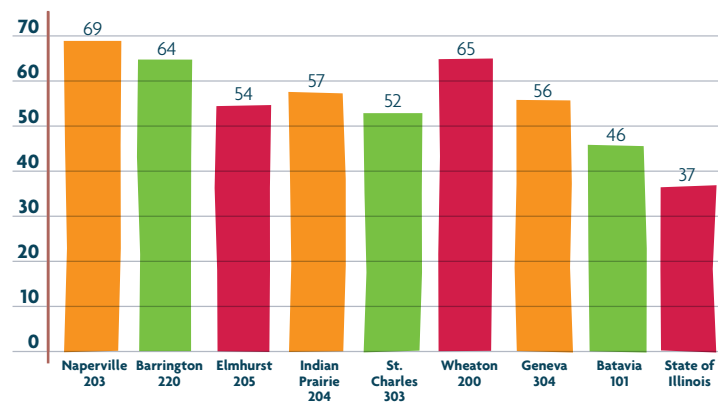
GRADUATING CLASS OF 2017

SAT Average Composite*



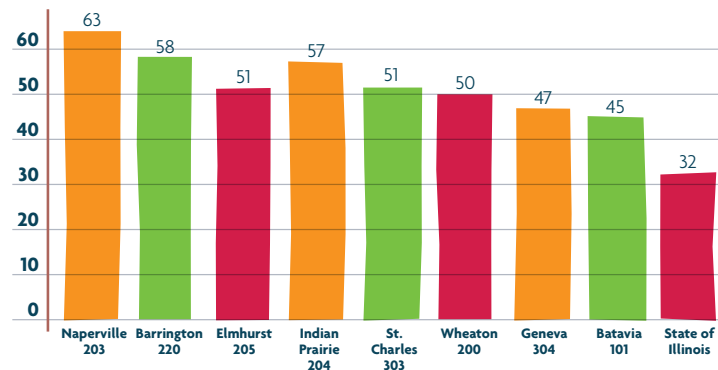
2017 PARCC ELA RESULTS

Percent Met or Exceeded



2017 PARCC MATH RESULTS

Percent Met or Exceeded



STUDENT

entrepreneurs



INCubator

empower innovation

Naperville 203 students and staff benefit from community partners who provide authentic learning opportunities to ensure each student receives a first-class education and graduates well prepared for the next phase of life.

Our high schools student entrepreneurs partnered with local business owners and community volunteers to develop unique products and services through the inaugural Business INCubator course.



The year-long course culminated in a “Shark Tank” style event where student teams pitched their ideas to a panel of investors to accelerate their business concepts.

This event was co-sponsored by the Naperville Education Foundation (NEF), fiscal agent for the community-funded INCubator program.

To learn more about how you can help student teams move their authentic business ideas from concept to start-up, please visit: <https://nef203.org/what-we-do/incubatoredu/>.



College and Career Counseling



Blueprint Commitment 1.20.A

Students in grades 6-12 will experience new learning opportunities and services to support their academic, social emotional, and college and career planning in the 2019-2020 school year. In April of 2018, the Board of Education approved a school counseling curriculum which provides unique opportunities for parents, families, and the greater community to partner with their schools in the post-secondary exploration and planning process.

Students will engage in lessons with their counselors and classroom teachers in whole class settings, small groups, and as individuals.

Academic lessons support students with increasing their potential to learn and apply critical thinking, decision making, and self-advocacy skills to personal and college/career goals. Social-Emotional development lessons will focus on the development of self-awareness and self-management skills, application of interpersonal skills- including the development of positive relationships- and responsible behaviors.

Post-secondary preparation will focus on helping students make connections between school and their transition to college and careers.

Consistent with new legislation in Illinois, students will select college and career experiences and exploration opportunities from a menu of options, and these experiences and artifacts will be captured in an online portfolio that follows their journey from 6th through 12th grade with the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Parents will be invited to provide feedback on school counseling services through school-based parent advisory councils. Parents and the greater community can support students' college and career development through internships and other career exploration experiences.



AUTHENTIC LEARNING *opportunities*

Students in the Naperville Central High School and Naperville North High School architecture classes have partnered with the City of Naperville and the Naperville Development Partnership for an architecture competition to redesign portions of the city. Students worked with local architects and City staff to create concepts to redevelop a portion of Ogden Avenue and 5th Avenue, as well as a new exhibit space for Naper Settlement. The course concludes with a model development gallery walk and student presentations before an authentic panel of judges including city staff, architects and community leaders.

These real world opportunities enhance student learning in and outside the classroom. They result from community engagement and collaboration with local partners who are dedicated to preparing our students for their future college and career paths.

Learning Commons

empower opportunity

Innovation drives the transformation of the teaching and learning landscape to meet the needs of today's learner within our newly renovated Learning Commons. We are midway in the process of a five year plan to renovate traditional Learning Resource Centers into a Learning Commons model. The shift to a Learning Commons philosophy across our EC-12 buildings allows for the library to be redefined and reinvisioned into a hub that continues to foster the love of literacy but also encourages student learning that is flexible, personalized, and inquiry-based.

The Learning Commons vision is grounded in research and articulated through four distinct focus areas: *Space renovation and curriculum are designed around Innovation and Creation; Communication and Collaboration; Inquiry and Research; and Literacy Growth.*





INNOVATION & CREATION

- › Students develop original content, invent new ideas, and design learning experiences using the best resources and technologies to engage thinking and creativity.
- › Students are exposed to project-based learning environments where student interests and goals drive content, process, and product.



COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION

- › Students learn to communicate and collaborate for a common goal, working in a variety of digital, print, and media environments.
- › Students engage in authentic tasks and inquiry that require them to interact, sustain dialogue, and learn collaboratively.
- › Student teams collaborate both virtually and physically to gather information and solve problems with the goal of completing tasks or creating original products.



INQUIRY & RESEARCH

- › Students engage in inquiry processes for the purpose of developing knowledge connected to disciplinary study or personal interests, applying a variety of tools and mediums to engage in the inquiry process and publish research.
- › Students use skills to access information, evaluate multiple sources, and use information effectively and ethically to demonstrate understanding or convey original thought.
- › Students engage in critical thinking through collaborating with peers, experts, and their teachers in physical and virtual environments.



LITERACY GROWTH

- › Students develop a love of literature and other modes of expression by exploring multiple genres, authors, and personal interests.
- › Students practice critical skills for gaining information from a variety of nonfiction text formats to support explicit classroom instruction.
- › Students deepen reading comprehension and written response connected to the disciplines studied by writing to convey thoughts and dialog with experts and peers to develop their own voice.



Early Childhood

empower growth

ABC

Kindergarten Readiness

Building a passion for lifelong learning begins by ensuring our youngest learners enter kindergarten ready and eager to learn. Research shows high quality early childhood education builds cognitive and social-emotional skills which lay the foundation for all future learning.

Since early learning plays such a critical role in the development of young children, we have made a commitment to ensure every child living in Naperville District 203 has access to high quality early childhood experiences that results in kindergarten readiness.

Our efforts to ensure Kindergarten Readiness include:

- › Expanding our current birth to five services to serve more children and families. In the last two years we have increased our at-risk programs through early childhood grants by increasing our home visiting program (Birth-3) by 83 percent and our preschool programs by 55 percent. We are proud to be able to open pre-K/EC full day classrooms in the fall of 2018.
- › Strengthening our partnerships with private and public community early childhood providers by establishing the early childhood collaborative.

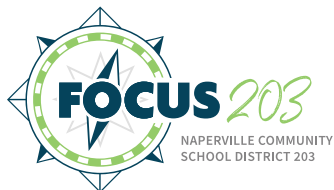
The collaborative is leveraging resources to build comprehensive services for our youngest learners by increasing access to developmental screenings for every Birth-age 5 child and creating common learning opportunities for private and public early childhood teachers.



Focus 203

The purpose of engagement

Community Engagement, at its core, is intended to solicit the hopes, ideas and thoughtful suggestions of a school district's stakeholders — its public — through meaningful dialogue and discussion.



Focus 203 is designed to:

- › Invite and engage the community in District planning and decision making;
- › Define priorities and opportunities for improvement to inform strategic planning; and
- › Continue an ongoing process for strengthening trust, communication and collaborative efforts with the full community.



FOCUS 2020 is the strategic plan for comprehensive improvement, designed in response to community feedback, best practice, and a vision for the future focused on these district leadership priorities:

1. Effective teaching and learning practices for all.
2. A high-performance culture focused on student learning.
3. Effective resource management to promote student learning.
4. Enhanced communication and community relations.

As part of Focus 203, we will hold multiple engagement sessions throughout the 2018-19 school year. Topics and additional details to come.

DISTRICT 203 *communications*

Connect with Us

Talk203 is an email and telephone notification system that helps the District and the schools better communicate with families. These communications include emergency messages, special events, school news updates, etc. Because Talk203 is connected to the student information system, no signup of Naperville 203 families is needed.

Community Member Sign-up

Interested community members are invited to sign up to receive District email messages by registering at <http://www.naperville203.org/cms/module/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=110>

Community members receive District information only; it is not possible to send Community Talk203 participants emails specific to particular schools.

HOW TO *volunteer*

Are you interested in volunteering?

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Naperville 203 Community Relations Department at (630) 420-6475 or contact the office at any of the schools to inquire about volunteering.

See the School Profiles section on our website, www.naperville203.org for school contact information.



Get *empower community* Involved



Home & School Association

Our mission is to encourage a cooperative partnership among students, parents and guardians, and staff to support and enhance the school experience. The program initiates various programs through donation of time and sponsorship to meet the ever-changing needs of our diverse student population.



School Family Community Partnership

An organization composed of staff and parent volunteers working together at every school to provide activities for students, families, and community members for the purpose of enriching the students' experiences and supporting each school improvement plan.



HURRAH (*Happy, Upbeat Retirees and Other Residents Actively Helping*)

Retirees serve as tutors, mentors, readers, and partners in our education process. All area retirees and residents can have a positive impact on today's youth, playing a part in helping students achieve educational goals.



High School Boosters

Programs at both high schools are supported by robust booster clubs, groups of parents whose organizational purpose is to support, encourage, and enhance the activities of students. Volunteer groups raise money at events to enhance the schools' already successful programs.



Naperville Education Foundation

The Naperville Education Foundation raises and grants funds for programs that enrich the educational experience of Naperville 203 students. With generous support from foundations, businesses, educational professionals, and individual donors, they provide financial resources that increase learning opportunities by supplementing school district budgets.



Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee

BPAC involves parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in English Learners (EL) programs in the District. Their goal is to participate in the planning, operation, and evaluation of EL programs.



School Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. is a parent volunteer organization devoted to inspiring and empowering black/minority students to reach their full academic potential within Naperville 203.



Business Partnerships

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 believes an exemplary school district is the result of a collective partnership of students, staff, parents, and community. Our commitment is to implement a school business partnership program that establishes relationships that provide students with authentic learning experiences.

MISSION makers

Every month, Superintendent Dan Bridges and the Board of Education recognize students with the Mission Maker Award.

Building staff nominates students they observe living the Naperville 203 mission of being self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors. Mission Makers are recognized for going above and beyond to initiate programs or activities to build awareness and community around key issues.

Mission Makers are invited to attend the Board of Education for special recognition for their accomplishments.



MARK YOUR
calendar

Important Breaks

Winter Vacation: December 24-January 4

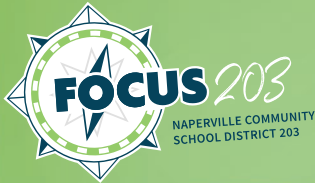
Spring Vacation: March 25-29

Classes End: May 24
(pending emergency days)

Join us!

Topics to be announced soon:

- January 30 & 31
- March 13 & 14
- April 24 & 25



Administrative Center
203 W. Hillside Road
Naperville, IL 60540-6589

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