

Letter from the Superintendent



Dear students and parents/guardians,

This past school year was undoubtedly one of the most challenging and unprecedented in the history of public education. Despite the adverse situation we faced from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, we were able to succeed because of our stakeholders. Thank you for your partnership, adaptability and support as we navigate this journey together.

As we plan for and transition into the 2020-21 school year, I want to assure you we will continue to follow federal, state and local guidance from Centers for Disease Control, Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, the Illinois and DuPage County health departments, the Illinois State Board of Education and the DuPage Regional Office of Education regarding social distancing, health and cleaning protocols. As this situation is fluid, and recommendations and amendments could be made during the school year, we have developed education models and structures to accommodate a variety of scenarios. These plans are ready to be implemented at any time to ensure a flexible environment in which student learning can be maintained virtually or in person.

While there are still questions and uncertainty, one thing is clear – the DuPage High School District 88 Board of Education, administration and staff will remain focused on accomplishing our mission of working for the continuous improvement of student achievement, and we will continue to demonstrate what it means to be District 88 Strong, Blazer Strong and Warrior Strong.

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Areas of focus for 2020-21:

It is our goal for the 2020-21 school year to ensure all of our students develop high-level skills and knowledge that will promote college, career and cultural readiness and prepare them for successful post-secondary experiences. As part of that commitment, we will continue to focus on our Strategic Plan and the Goals Supporting the District 88 Vision, which are:

1. Develop plans to improve student performance, close the achievement gap and actively monitor the acquisition of college, career and cultural readiness skills.
2. Focus on learning programs aligned to local, state and national standards, incorporating critical thinking, applied learning, interdisciplinary curriculum, authentic career-connected programs and digital learning initiatives.
3. Provide time and resources for ongoing professional growth and development programs that focus on learning standards, diverse learners, assessment and data practices, instructional strategies, social-emotional learning and culturally responsive teaching.
4. Create inclusive school-community partnerships that develop life skills, foster social-emotional development, promote overall personal well-being and embrace learning and activity before, during and after school hours.

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The schools of DuPage High School District 88 offer our students a meaningful and comprehensive educational program that provides a strong foundation for success beyond high school, and the 2020-21 school year will provide yet another opportunity to expand on our accomplishments. We look forward to maintaining our open, honest and transparent communication with all stakeholders, and we invite you to stay connected with us through the following methods:

- **Website:** www.dupage88.net (includes a calendar of upcoming events, a link to athletic events and more)
- **Electronic newsletter:** dupage88.net/newsletter
- **Facebook:** [Addison Trail High School](#) and [Willowbrook High School](#)
- **Twitter:** [@AddisonTrailHS](#) and [@WillowbrookHS1](#)
- **Phone:** 630-530-3981 (District Office), 630-628-3300 (Addison Trail) and 630-530-3400 (Willowbrook)

Thank you for your support of our programs and staff members and for your partnership in “Building Futures” for the students of DuPage High School District 88.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Helton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Scott J. Helton, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools, DuPage High School District 88