

NAME DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

CATEGORY Team

SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME DuPage High School District 88

SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 88

THOSE WHO EXCEL

Education Awards Program
2019-20 Application



Illinois

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Illinois State Board of Education

Communications

100 North First Street • Springfield, IL 62777-0001 • (217) 782-4648

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Communications Division
100 North First Street, S-404
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

**THOSE WHO EXCEL EDUCATIONAL AWARDS
PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM 2019-2020**

INSTRUCTIONS: Nomination forms must be typed or printed via computer. Copies of this form may be made for multiple nominations. Complete the form and return with required materials described in guidelines to above address. They must be postmarked or submitted electronically by close of business Monday, June 3, 2019.

CHECK ONE: (if other, specify title): Dr. Ms. Miss Mr. Mrs. Other (specify) _____

NAME OF NOMINEE (First, M.I., Last) (For Teams, please list TEAM name, not individual's)	How is name pronounced?
DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team	

HOME ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)	HOME TELEPHONE (Include area code) () -
	EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME OF PRINCIPAL (First, Last)	TELEPHONE (Include Area Code) () -	FAX (Include Area Code) () -
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ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)	NAME OF SCHOOL BUILDING FOR WHICH SERVICES WERE PERFORMED (Do not complete if nominee is Board Member or Superintendent)
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CHECK ONE: (if other, specify title): Dr. Ms. Miss Mr. Mrs. Other (specify) _____

NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT (First, Last)	TELEPHONE (Include Area Code) (630) 530 - 3989	FAX (Include Area Code) (630) 832 - 0198
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NAME AND NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR WHICH SERVICES WERE PERFORMED (Omit for private schools)	RCDTS Code R=00 C=000 D=0000 T=00 S=0000
DuPage High School District 88	19 022 0880 16 0000

ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)
2 Friendship Plaza Addison, IL 60101

NAME OF ORGANIZATION/INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTING NOMINATION (First, Last)	TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)
DuPage High School District 88/Dr. Scott Helton	(630) 530 - 3989

ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)	FAX (Include Area Code)
2 Friendship Plaza Addison, IL 60101	(630) 832 - 0198

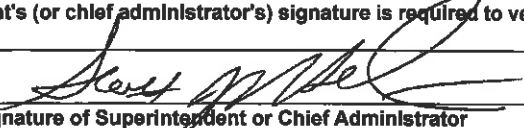
Check the category below for which the nomination is being submitted and provide the requested information. Only one nomination per category will be accepted.

<input type="checkbox"/> Student Support Personnel (Licensed)	CHECK ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> Media/Librarian/Audio Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance Counselor <input type="checkbox"/> Psychologist <input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse	<input type="checkbox"/> Speech/Language Therapist <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	TOTAL YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN INDICATED FIELD
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Service Personnel (Unlicensed)	CHECK ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> Cafeteria Worker <input type="checkbox"/> Janitor/Custodian <input type="checkbox"/> Bus Driver <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Aide	<input type="checkbox"/> Crossing Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION
<input type="checkbox"/> Only one may be selected. Board Member	NUMBER OF YEARS ON PRESENT BOARD	TOTAL YEARS SCHOOL BOARD EXPERIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Volunteer	(Submit required materials described in guidelines - no additional information needed on this form.)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Teacher (50% of time in classroom)	GRADE LEVEL	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION	TOTAL YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Career Educator	SUBJECT(S)		
<input type="checkbox"/> School Administrator	CHECK ONE: <input type="checkbox"/> Superintendent <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Superintendent <input type="checkbox"/> Principal (Asst. Prin.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PRESENT POSITION	TOTAL YEARS ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team	(Submit required materials described in guidelines - no additional information needed on this form.)		

This form must be included with required materials for all categories described in the guidelines. Incomplete nominations cannot be considered. A separate nomination form must be submitted for each individual nominated.

Only one nominee in a category per school district will be considered. The superintendent's (or chief administrator's) signature is required to verify that this is the only nomination in this category from this district.

6-3-19
Date


Signature of Superintendent or Chief Administrator

Nominator's Recommendation

At DuPage High School District 88 (comprised of Addison Trail and Willowbrook high schools), the safety and well-being of our students and staff is our No. 1 priority. As part of that focus, we partner with local officials and legislators who are part of our DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team (referred to as "Team" throughout this nomination) to ensure the protection of our buildings. This Team works to make sure we follow best practices with safety and security and that we're all on the same page with our procedures. As part of that process, the Team has hosted and implemented several events and initiatives.

- In March 2018, we hosted a School Safety Forum, where about 400 student leaders from 28 Chicago-area high schools came together for a day of conversation and planning regarding school safety. Participants shared their voices and thoughts on issues regarding this topic, left with an action plan and had an opportunity to speak with local and state civic leaders and legislators, as well as first responders. It truly took the whole Team to make this event a success – including all of the panelists who participated (from Village of Addison, Village of Villa Park, Addison Police Department, Addison Fire Protection District, Villa Park Police Department, Villa Park Fire Department, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and state representatives and senators); Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND); and District 88 social workers Jorge de Leon and Erik Engel.
- In April 2018, the Team hosted a Safety and Security Tabletop Exercise, where nearly 60 people came together to continue this critical work and conversation. The group consisted of first responders from the Village of Addison and the Village of Villa Park (including our school resource officers); local dispatchers; students from Addison Trail and Willowbrook; and representatives from Technology Center of DuPage, District 88 and Addison School

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

District 4 (including administrators, Board of Education members, deans, teachers, student supervisors and buildings and grounds staff members). The exercise consisted of a mock crisis situation and encouraged participants to think about and discuss what would take place and how they would respond.

- At the beginning of the 2018-19 school year, District 88 adopted new procedures to ensure our buildings follow best practices with regard to school safety. We worked with the Addison and Villa Park police departments to implement ALICE Training (which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) for our administrators, staff members and students.
- The Addison Police Department, District 88 and Addison School District 4 recently worked together and received a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for the School Violence Prevention Program. With the funding, District 88 and District 4 have bought and are installing pull stations similar to fire alarms, strobe lights and mobile panic buttons that will be placed throughout the schools and outside the buildings through BluePoint Alert Solutions.

It takes everyone working together to maintain and enhance safety and security at our schools, and I truly appreciate all those who are part of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team for their commitment to this crucial effort. That is why I proudly and enthusiastically nominate this Team for a Those Who Excel award.

Respectfully,



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

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

**Letter of Recommendation – Community organization
Richard Veenstra, Mayor of the Village of Addison**

As Mayor of the Village of Addison, my top priority is the safety and well-being of our residents. Ensuring the security of our village and community members is a critical aspect of the “Addison Advantage.”

One characteristic that makes Addison unique and of which I’m most proud is the level of communication and partnership among our intergovernmental agencies. They meet quarterly throughout the year and continue to work together to better the lives of all who live in Addison. We have developed trust and positive relationships that allow us to focus on what’s best for our residents. I often meet with other mayors and village presidents who express they wish their town/village/city functioned more like Addison, and they often look to us as a model to emulate.

The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team truly is an example of that collaboration. Our schools, including District 88’s Addison Trail High School, are a cornerstone of the community, and we’re pleased to work with District 88 to make sure our children are safe. We continue to host/coordinate security tabletop drills, mock crisis drills and trainings, and we provide police presence during school events, as well as a school resource officer. Our police department also recently partnered with District 88 and Addison School District 4 and received a school safety grant through the Department of Justice. With that funding, District 88 and District 4 will buy and install a rapid emergency response system through BluePoint Alert Solutions. This system includes pull stations similar to fire alarms, strobe lights and mobile panic buttons that will be placed throughout the schools and outside the buildings.

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

Legislators with a tie to Addison also are an important part of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team. State Rep. Kathleen Willis is an alumna of Addison Trail (class of 1980), and her four children graduated from the school as well. State Rep. Terra Costa Howard also is an alumna of Addison Trail (class of 1989). Their support is imperative as we implement security efforts to enhance safety within the schools.

Beyond those more formal settings and meetings, we also get together during community events. Every year, we attend District 88's annual Crosstown Classic Football Game, where community leaders, dignitaries, area first responders, veterans and current members of the military are introduced to the crowd to recognize and honor those who protect and serve in remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001. District 88 administrators and staff members frequently attend village happenings such as the Addison-Medinah Shriners Parade, the Village of Addison Rock 'N Wheels events and more.

As Mayor, you always hope for supportive and engaged school districts that are involved with and care about the community as a whole. You want education leaders who aren't afraid to tell you what they need, yet trust you enough to support your decisions. I have been fortunate to have just that in District 88, and I look forward to our continued partnership. That is why I'm proud to nominate the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team for a Those Who Excel award, as the team is truly deserving of this recognition.

Respectfully,



Richard Veenstra
Mayor, Village of Addison

**Letter of Recommendation – Administrator
Michael Bolden, Principal of Addison Trail High School**

School safety is a daunting task for all schools, teachers and administrators, and it is a daily thought and routine in education today. As Principal of a high school, school safety can often feel overwhelming and a challenge to plan and prepare for a building of more than 200 staff and 2,000 students. However, when you have positive relationships with local and state officials, the task of meeting the safety and security needs of your school are much more manageable.

The leadership of the Addison Police Department and the support of Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND) as part of our DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team has helped to make our building safer and has allowed our students to have their voices heard by state legislators. Their work has assisted our school to fully implement ALICE training for our staff and students. ALICE training is an enhanced form of the previous lockdown drills and stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. The Addison Police Department already had officers trained, and they were supportive in helping to train our key staff members. When planning the rollout to our entire staff, the department provided input and officers to present the tenants of the procedures, as well as officers for our Institute Day training.

The leadership and commitment of the Addison Police Department doesn't stop at its role in our new safety procedures. The officers also regularly support our ideas and initiatives. For example, the department, along with many other agencies, participated in a School Safety Forum in March 2018, where about 400 student leaders from 28 Chicago-area high schools came together for a day of conversation and planning regarding school safety. The police attended a

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

panel during the forum, where students had the opportunity to ask them questions, along with other police agencies, county and state elected officials.

Following the forum, our student leaders were provided the opportunity to follow up at the Illinois State Capitol with legislators who attended the event. This opportunity was coordinated by Peg Agnos. Her work and dedication to the students' desire to have a positive impact on school safety allowed them to meet with state representatives and senators to see what they are doing to make our schools and communities safer. There is no better way to see our democratic process in action than to be in Springfield when our legislators are in session. Peg made sure we met all those who attended the forum, and students received updates on bills and legislation.

As a community, we at Addison Trail High School are thankful for the relationships we have built with the police and our state legislators through the efforts of the Addison Police Department and the support of Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND) as part of our DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team. Their enthusiasm and this positive partnership are a model for other schools and communities to follow. Based on the collective work of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team, I cannot think of a more deserving group to receive the Those Who Excel award.

Respectfully,
Michael Bolden
Principal, Addison Trail High School

**Letter of Recommendation – Student
Kaitlyn Fox, Willowbrook High School student (class of 2019)**

As a high school student today, it's sad and disheartening that instead of walking into school and worrying about a test we have to take or tryouts for an athletic team, we're scared for our safety and wondering whether a shooting will take place that day. According to Education Week (www.edweek.org), there have been 13 school shootings with injuries or deaths in 2019 already, and 22 people have been killed or injured in a school shooting so far this year.

Instead of just hiding in fear, I'm proud to say our district, DuPage High School District 88, has stepped up to enhance the security of our schools and continues to work with local officials and first responders through the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team to help ensure our well-being. I'm even more proud they've allowed us as students to be involved with that process and to have a voice.

My peers and I were inspired by the students who survived the shooting in February 2018 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. They raised their voices and demanded action and change, and we wanted to support them and do the same. We were fed up with feeling helpless and like we had no control over our own safety, and we wanted to join other students in protesting. However, after speaking with our school administrators, they provided us with an even better way to share our thoughts and feelings. They worked with us and the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team to host a School Safety Forum in March 2018, where about 400 student leaders from 28 Chicago-area high schools came together for a day of conversation and planning regarding school safety.

During that event, we participated in a web mapping activity to discuss the positive aspects of our school, community and beyond, as well as areas that could be improved, and we brainstormed possible solutions to those issues. Area first responders, local and state civic

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

leaders and legislators attended the forum, and we were able to share with them our thoughts regarding school safety, as well as ideas on ways to make improvements. A group of those individuals then served on a panel, and we were able to directly ask them questions. NBC 5 and Fox News covered the event, which helped us spread our message even further.

In May 2018, the school administration took a group of us who attended the forum to Springfield to visit local legislators who participated in the question-and-answer panel. Our goal was to thank the legislators, tell them what we've been doing since our last meeting and follow up on their work to make schools safer. It was an amazing experience to see our efforts in action and to truly be part of the process to make positive changes with school security.

To make sure these important initiatives continue, we formed a Student Board of Communications to work with staff and administration on issues such as school safety and student health and well-being. Through that group, we collaborated with the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team to implement new safety procedures at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year. We helped the team provide ALICE Training to staff and students, which is an enhanced form of the previous lockdown drills and stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate.

As a student, I can't thank the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team enough for its continuous efforts to keep our schools safe and for letting us be part of that ongoing process. That is why I'm excited to recommend the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team for a Those Who Excel award!

Sincerely,
Kaitlyn Fox
Willowbrook High School student (class of 2019)

Professional Biography

On Feb. 14, 2018, a school shooting took place at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. According to Education Week (<https://www.edweek.org>), there were 24 school shootings with injuries or deaths in 2018 alone. And the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School marked a turning point in school safety. No longer were the comments of “the victims are in our thoughts and prayers” and “we’re so sorry for this tragic loss” enough. The students stood up, banded together and used their voices to demand change.

The actions of these teenagers to become involved and engaged citizens created a ripple effect throughout the U.S. At DuPage High School District 88 (comprised of Addison Trail and Willowbrook high schools), students voiced their frustration and expressed their desire to walk out in protest of the recent school crisis incidents. Safety and security has always been the No. 1 priority at District 88, and school leaders took this opportunity to enhance the schools’ practices. They met with students to discuss what they truly wanted to accomplish. Through those meetings and discussions, the students and administration came up with the idea to host a School Safety Forum, where students from throughout the Chicago area could share their thoughts on local and national issues regarding this topic. The pupils also wanted to go one step further and speak directly with legislators, local dignitaries and area first responders.

To help meet these requests, District 88 worked with the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team, which includes the following organizations: The Village of Addison, the Village of Villa Park, the Addison Police Department, the Addison Fire Protection District, the Villa Park Police Department, the Villa Park Fire Department, the DuPage Regional Office of Education, state representatives and senators, Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from the Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND), Addison Trail

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social worker Jorge de Leon and Willowbrook social worker Erik Engel. And on March 12, 2018, the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team hosted a forum, where about 400 student leaders from 28 Chicago-area high schools came together at Willowbrook High School for a day of conversation and planning regarding school safety. Read more about the event at www.dupage88.net/SafetyForum2018.

To continue those efforts and the important conversation about school safety, District 88 took 14 of the students who participated in that event to Springfield on May 23, 2018, to visit legislators who participated in a panel during the forum. The pupils thanked the legislators and told them what more they've been doing to make schools safer. The senators and representatives applauded the students for their leadership and initiative. Those students then formed a Student Board of Communications to work with the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team on issues such as school safety and student health/well-being.

The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team strives to make sure school safety efforts are ongoing, so the team also hosted a Safety and Security Tabletop Exercise in April 2018. Nearly 60 people – including first responders, local dispatchers, students, administrators, Board of Education members, deans, teachers, student supervisors and buildings and grounds staff – attended this drill, which was an opportunity to reflect on and discuss what would take place during a crisis situation and how they would respond.

Members of the team also recently worked together and received a grant from the Department of Justice. With the funding from this grant, District 88 and Addison School District 4 have bought and are installing a rapid emergency response system through BluePoint Alert Solutions. This system includes pull stations similar to fire alarms, strobe lights and mobile panic buttons that will be placed throughout the schools and outside the buildings.

Contribution to Education

1. How has the team demonstrated excellence in the fulfillment of duties?

The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team demonstrates excellence in the fulfillment of duties through continuing to implement creative ideas that engage District 88 students and staff, as well as community members, and allow their voices to be part of the school safety conversation and process.

The team is comprised of DuPage High School District 88 (Addison Trail and Willowbrook high schools), the Village of Addison, the Village of Villa Park, the Addison Police Department, the Addison Fire Protection District, the Villa Park Police Department, the Villa Park Fire Department, state representatives and senators, Peg Agnos and Jen Figurelli from the Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND) and District 88 social workers Jorge de Leon and Erik Engel. There isn't a set list of responsibilities for the team to "check off," yet all members continue to come together and partner on initiatives to help enhance the safety and security of District 88's two high schools, Addison Trail and Willowbrook, and to make sure the buildings follow best practices.

2. How has the team demonstrated concern for children?

The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team exists because all team members share a concern for children. It can be disheartening and overwhelming to think about how prevalent school safety and security has become in education today – it's part of nearly every conversation and decision. Instead of worrying about academics when they enter a school building that should be a safe space, students are fearful for their life, and they are having conversations and training sessions no one could have fathomed 20 years

ago. The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team is constantly hosting/participating in drills, tabletop exercises and trainings and is always researching school safety best practices, as the group's concern for children truly is at the center of each discussion and initiative.

3. What positive effect has the team had on the school environment?

The positive impact resulting from the initiatives implemented by the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team can be seen in the school culture shift at Addison Trail and Willowbrook. While safety and security have always been the top priority at District 88, the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team has helped bring this important topic to the forefront. The team has provided outlets for students and staff to share their voices and thoughts regarding school safety and to take a more active role in the building's security measures. In March 2018, the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team hosted a School Safety Forum, where about 400 student leaders from 28 Chicago-area high schools came together for a day of conversation and planning. In April 2018, the Team hosted a Safety and Security Tabletop Exercise, where students and staff were part of a training drill and in-depth discussion. Pupils also have formed a Student Board of Communications to work with members of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team on issues such as school safety and student health and well-being.

Another positive effect the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team has had on the schools can be physically seen when walking through the hallways. The Addison Police Department, District 88 and Addison School District 4 recently worked

DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team

together and received a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for the School Violence Prevention Program. With the funding, District 88 and District 4 have bought and are installing pull stations similar to fire alarms, strobe lights and mobile panic buttons that will be placed throughout the schools and outside the buildings through BluePoint Alert Solutions. This provides another layer of protection and allows the schools to contact local authorities quicker in the event of an emergency.

A third positive effect put into place through the efforts of the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team is District 88's new procedures to ensure the buildings follow best practices with regard to school safety. The district worked with the Addison and Villa Park police departments at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year to implement ALICE Training (which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) for administrators, staff members and students.

4. How has the team shown leadership or inspired others to achieve?

The innovative ideas and practices put into place through the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team are truly at the forefront in this field. While it was nerve-racking to host about 400 students from 28 Chicago-area high schools during a School Safety Forum in March 2018, the team members were willing to be leaders and try something new to push school safety discussions, policies and procedures forward. Through that event, the team also inspired the pupils who participated in the forum to take a leadership role and let their voices, thoughts and feelings be heard.

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Members of the team also have been asked to speak about and share the group's initiatives at local meetings and state seminars/conferences, which has enabled the team to serve as a leader and inspire others to achieve.

5. How has the team gone above and beyond what would be expected in the fulfillment of duties?

While the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team has to meet and follow state and federal laws regarding school safety and security, the group continues to go above and beyond. District 88, the local police and fire departments and area legislators could choose to simply make sure the schools are in compliance with legal requirements. But the DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team continues to go above and beyond and come up with events, initiatives, procedures and best practices to advance the safety and security of District 88.

The team members meet frequently, are on a first-name basis and have established trust and rapport that allow them to have open, candid and sometimes difficult conversations about safety and security. The DuPage High School District 88 Learning Community School Safety Team truly exceeds expectations to maintain and enhance a safe and secure environment at District 88.