



**DUPAGE/WEST COOK BOARD
BOARD BRIEFS
4th QUARTERLY MEETING FY24
May 9, 2024**

BOARD MEMBERS

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Executive Director, LADSE

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Executive Director, CASE

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Executive Director, PAEC

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Student Services, SD 86
Representing Hinsdale School
Districts 86 & 181

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Academic & Accountability
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Oak Park Elementary SD 97

Elizabeth Dejewski, Director
Cicero SD 99

Andrea Neuman, Director
Oak Park River Forest SD 200C

Erica Ekstrom
Executive Director of Special
Education
Wheaton/Warrenville SD 200D

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Superintendent
J.S. Morton High SD 201C

Lisa Xagas
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Naperville CUSD 203

Dr. Christina Sepiol
Assistant Superintendent
Indian Prairie CUSD 204

Dr. Matt Rich
Superintendent SD34
Representing SASSED

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90,91, 98, 100

Sheleah Blisset, Director
Oak Lawn-Hometown SD 123

Stephanie Daly, Director of
Student Services
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PARENT

REPRESENTATIVES
Rachel Heneghan, DHH Parent

COORDINATOR

Matthew Layton, SASSED
Director

RECORDING SECRETARY

Chris Miller

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program Student Recognition & Highlights – Let’s Celebrate!

Language Development – “I Can” statements were used this year in EC with an explosion of words by the end of the year and lots of support and cheers as a group.

Sensory Regulation – CICO and Token Boards were used along with collaboration from the SASSED SIIS team to enable student success.

Participation in Extra Curriculars – Students have been participating in many clubs and activities this year: Band, Orchestra, Drum Line, Art Club, Stem Club, Gaming Club, Stage Crew, Track, Basketball, and Choir.

Special Events at North – The students watched the Eclipse along with fun activities for the day. Field Trips, Art Fair, Rich Laren Day, and Stem Day were also big events this year for the students at North School.

Special Events at Westmont Jr High – Students at WJH enjoyed many events this year: The Eclipse, Pizza Wars, Thanksgiving Feast, Deaf Advocacy Day, Rich Laren Day and Step Up Night.

New Experiences – Students were able to participate in Community based instruction this year along with visits from pet therapy friends which will continue next year.

Still to Come this Year! – 8th grade graduation, 8th grade dance, 5th grade trip to WJH, zoo trip, and tours for new students and families.

Vision Program Student Recognition & Highlights – Let’s Celebrate!

This was a great year with student participation in extracurricular activities. Some of those activities; Lego Club, Academic Club, Goalball, Youth & Government, Art Club, Cross Country, Cheerleading, Band & Choir and Best Buddies.

New Experiences & Achievements – Our Middle Schoolers went skiing at Wilmot Mountain and had a great time. It was 60 degrees that day! One of our high school students had the opportunity to travel to New York to perform as a soprano with the Honor Treble Choir at the world-renowned Carnegie Hall. Other experiences and achievements: an EC student piloting a new hands-free cane! Students at Addison Trail attending Prom, and the Transition Program students selling items they made at the AER Conference. This year we also had a sophomore student travel to Springfield, IL with Addison Trail High School’s Youth & Government Club as a legislative assistant and presented her own proposal about reducing recidivism (convicted criminals who reoffend). She ranked 4th out of 25 in the competition and she also served as a bill flow clerk.

Solar Eclipse – Our students at Salt Creek Primary used Oreo cookies for a tactual demonstration of the stages of the solar eclipse and even were able to eat them when they were done!





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Possibilities are Endless – Several students will attend College of DuPage (both in Transition and graduated), one student will be attending Elmhurst University after receiving a scholarship and another student who graduated in December and is now completing a successful first semester at SIUE.

LADSE/Hinsdale South High School DHH Student Recognition – Let’s Celebrate!

Student Accomplishments – Congratulations to our Deaf Advocate of the Year prize winner and to our LADSE Hinsdale South DHH Transition/Technology Center of DuPage students on receiving the Career Tech Elite Student awards for first semester. 4 students attended the Deaf Academic Bowl Regional at the Arkansas School for the Deaf this year and we had quarterly Breakfast Club Academic Acknowledgements for 5 of the students.

Cubs Care Deaf Softball Tournament (Chicago Park District) - The Chicago Park District sponsored the Cubs Care Deaf Softball Tournament this year and we had All Star Players with a 1st Place!

Deaf Volleyball Tournament (Chicago Park District) – The Chicago Park District sponsored the Deaf Volleyball Tournament again this year and we had 2 students receive Sportsman Awards with the GOLD Team winning 5th Place and the BLACK Team winning 2nd Place!

Special Olympics - Swimming, Soccer, Track, and Basketball - The Soccer Team will be going to Regionals this year. A 4th Place was received in Backstroke and a 5th and 6th Place in Freestyle, while another student received a 4th Place in the Butterfly. In Basketball we had 2 students receiving Best in Defensive Player, an MVP on the Transition Team, and an MVP on the High School Team. Our Transition Team placed 3rd at Regionals!

Events – Some other events this year have been the DHH Resource Fair, Advocate of the Year Banquet, Deaf SEED Conference and Student Leadership Event hosted by ISRC and Deaf Drama a series of short silly skits.

Job Placements – Included: Target, Walmart, McDonalds, Jewel Osco, and the Fairfield by Marriott.

College Acceptances – Students in the DHH Program have been accepted at College of DuPage.

Graduate Successes – We would like to celebrate 2 of our previous students, one of which is now a 1st grade EBD teacher and another whose story has been published in the Islamic Horizons Magazine.



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DWC Student Enrollment for Low-Incidence Programs

Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program

School	Student Total May 1, 2022	Student Total May 1, 2023	Student Total May 1, 2024
North School	35	36	45
Westmont JH	15	10	10
LADSE – HS	38	51	45
Total DHH Enrollment	88	97	100

Visually Impaired Program

School	Student Total May 1, 2022	Student Total May 1, 2023	Student Total May 1, 2024
Salt Creek Elementary	5	7	8
Swartz Elementary	11	5	6
Albright MS	10	9	8
Addison Trail HS	21	21	17
Total VI Enrollment	47	42	39

Transition Program

School	Student Total May 6, 2022	Student Total May 1, 2023	Student Total May 1, 2024
SASED Transition (Vision)	18	15	10
LADSE Transition Center	22	13	15
Total Transition	40	28	25
STUDENT TOTAL:	175	167	164

Quarterly Meeting Dates/Time/Place –

The quarterly meeting dates were approved as: September 19, 2024, November 14, 2024, February 13, 2025, May 8, 2025. All meetings will start at 10:00 am and be held at the SASED Administrative Center located at 2900 Ogden Avenue, Lisle, IL.

Governing Board Representatives' Terms

The Board terms FY24 were distributed & will be updated, as necessary. Resolutions were sent where applicable.

Service Recognition – DWC thanks Matthew Layton for his dedicated service.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Matthew Layton, DWC Coordinator at 630-955-8102 or m Layton@sased.org and/or Dr. Ellie Ambuehl, DWC Board Chairperson at 708-354-5730 or eambuehl@ladse.org