

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GOAL:**

*To ensure student progress, we will increase the number of students meeting and exceeding their growth goals as measured by achievement indicators.*

## District 34 Students Continue to Achieve at a High Level on National Measures

Each fall and spring, students in District 34 take the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) tests along with students from across the country. On the most recent assessments, District 34 students again performed at levels above or equal to other high performing school districts across the nation.

### Assessment Results High

On the fall assessments in reading, math and language usage, District 34 students showed strong results in the 18 different NWEA grade level measures. In ALL 18 measures, District 34 students were either above or equal to the national high achieving targets. Additionally, on 11 of the 18 measures, the results were above the high achieving targets. Last spring, these targets were raised from an already high level.

“Once again these results show that our teachers and our system as a whole are working to reach each child and

improve their learning on a daily basis,” says Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement Phil Collins. “The focus will be to take the individual student data, analyze it, and figure out what the student might be struggling with and assist him or her in learning that concept. Additionally, the data can help us determine if a student has already learned the concept and what we are going to do to provide that student with opportunities to further his or her knowledge base.”

### Using Data to Improve Instruction

Teachers and school administrators will use the data to improve student learning and set targets for achievement growth that will be measured in the spring when the exams are administered again.

The NWEA exams are computerized so teachers and schools receive the results instantaneously and can begin to work on specific areas of need for individual students.



Students in District 34 continue to show high achievement results when compared to peers across the country.

# District ISAT Scores Remain Strong

*District 34 students again performed at a high level on the most recently reported Illinois Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT).*

**N**early 92% of our students exceeded or met state standards on the ISAT tests in the spring of 2009. In the spring of 2008, more than 91% of our students exceeded or met state standards on the test.

For the past two years, English Language Learner (ELL) students have been required to take this exam in English, which is not their native language. Approximately 15% of District 34 students are in the ELL program.

For the past four years, more than 90% of District 34 students have met or exceeded state standards on the ISAT.

## Strong Results a Point of Pride

“We have shown consistently strong results on the ISAT,” Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement Phil Collins says. “Given the diversity we have in District 34, we are proud of the fact that nearly 92% of our students have met or exceeded the state’s standards.”

ISAT scores and other testing measures are utilized by the federal government to determine if schools and districts are meeting strict federal mandates as a part of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). These standards, which increase each year, are titled Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). If schools and/or districts continually do not meet the requirements, penalties are enforced by the federal government that include offering school choice for parents at the District’s expense.

## Still Working to Reach All Students

Despite the high overall scores, again this year Hoffman School did not make AYP. The AYP requirement this year was that each subgroup of students evaluated by the state had at least 70% of the students meeting or exceeding state standards in reading and math. The percentage last year was 62.5%.

Racial and ethnic groups evaluated by the state include: white, black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American. Other groups include: Limited English Proficient students, students receiving free or reduced cost lunch, and students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), meaning they receive special education services. It was both the Hispanic students and students receiving free or reduced cost lunch that did not reach 70%.

## Expectations Continue to Increase

The AYP standard next year moves to 77.5% and despite our high achievement levels overall on the ISAT, our schools may not reach that goal.

“As a District, we will continue to work so that students who are struggling receive the support they need,” Collins says. “However, as the levels of achievement continue to rise, the reality is that, like most schools in the country, more and more District 34 schools likely will not meet the AYP standards.”

ISAT Test	NWEA Exam
State Measure aligned with Illinois Learning Standards	National Measure with State Goal Structure
Required by Law	Required by District
Paper and Pencil Test	Computerized Exam
Static Test – All students at a particular grade level take the same test with the same questions, making it difficult to determine how much or how little the student has learned.	Dynamic Exam – The questions change based upon the answers provided by the student, therefore providing a true measure of the student’s instructional level in a subject area.
Used to determine knowledge learned by groups of students at a set point in time	Used to determine knowledge learned and growth for individual students and groups from one exam to the next
Results typically available 5–11 months after exam	Results available the day after the exam

# District 34 Student Enrollment Continues to Climb

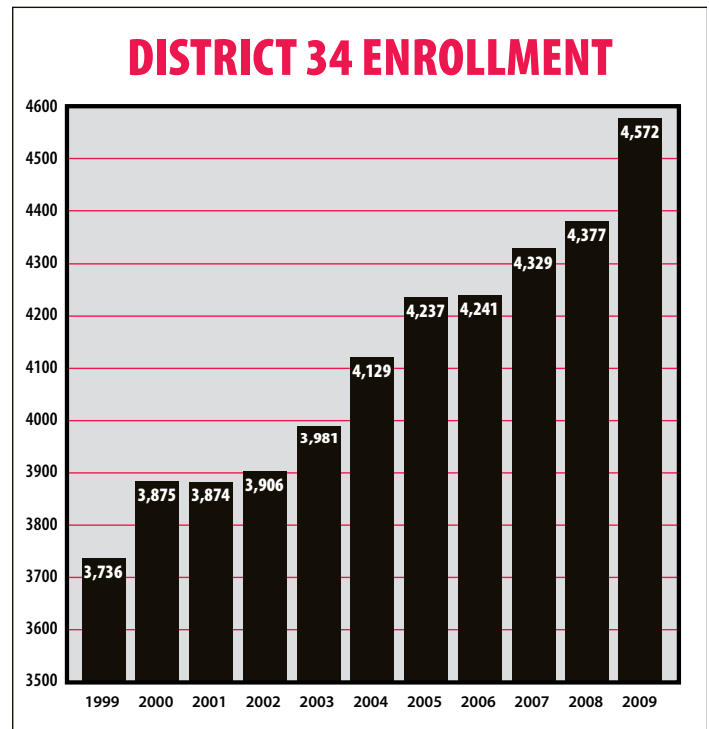
*In the past 10 years, the enrollment in District 34 has grown by more than 800 students. Over the past five years, the number of District 34 students has increased by nearly 450 students.*

This growth in student enrollment has been handled through several means, including additions to the intermediate buildings that opened last year and the use of mobile units. There are two of these structures at Henking and two at Westbrook this year for a total of eight classrooms in mobile units.

Currently, classroom space is at a premium in the District. There are two main reasons for the current space challenges. The first is simply a larger number of students in the District. The second is the Board of Education decision to lower class size at the K-5 level starting in the 2007-08 school year. This decision was based on recommendations that lower class size is a contributing factor to improved student achievement and to better match class size levels at other schools that send students to Glenbrook South and Glenbrook North high schools.

## Facilities Committee Seeks Overcrowding Solutions

Following a recommendation from the New School Task Force last year that indicated there is no need to build a new school based on enrollment projections at that time, the Facilities Committee will look at the growing enrollment and provide updated projections to the Board of Education. The group will look closely at the middle school enrollment given the large



number of students projected to reach the middle schools starting next year. Additionally, the committee will research mobile classrooms and the possibility of sharing administrative space with the Park District, Village or both.

The Facilities Committee will report its findings to the Board of Education in February of 2010.



## Attea Teachers Earn State Honor

The Global Language Team at Attea Middle School has received an award of merit in the 2009-10 "Those Who Excel" education award program from the Illinois State Board of Education.

The teachers on the team when it received the award included: Rhonda Lindner,

Amy Noonan, Mary O'Reilly, Ellen Rasof and Oscar Rodriguez.

The team earned the honor in part for its excellent work overall and specifically for instituting a Peer Tutoring program, which meets after school, to assist with the growing demands of the student population. The program targets both those who excel in language abilities (these students serve as peer tutors) and those who struggle.

## Consider Donating to the GEF

The Glenview Education Foundation has shifted its focus to an annual fund drive rather than a benefit this year.

To help the GEF support District 34 students, please consider donating. This can be done in one of two ways:

1. Online at [www.gef34.org](http://www.gef34.org) by selecting the "donate now" button. All major credit cards accepted.
2. Mail checks, payable to "Glenview Education Foundation," P.O. Box 373, Glenview, IL 60025



Glenview Education Foundation

# From the Superintendent

## Giving Thanks to the Glenview Education Foundation

Since Thanksgiving is right around the corner, I thought it would be appropriate to give thanks to an organization that has had a profound impact in the lives of District 34 students – the Glenview Education Foundation (GEF).

The GEF is a non-profit organization formed in the early 1990's and reconstituted in 2002. The GEF has raised more than a half million dollars that it has invested back into District 34 through educator grants.

One great example of how GEF makes a difference across our District is its recent \$80,000 investment in SMART Boards. Working closely with teachers and administration, GEF enabled our schools to advance quickly with this new technology. These interactive white boards, when coordinated with the right training for teachers, are able to increase student engagement. Studies have shown this leads to increased learning.

The GEF has provided 60 SMART Boards to District 34 classrooms at a cost of approximately \$2,000 each. On a daily basis, this technology is helping teachers reach students in subject areas such as mathematics, reading, language arts and science.

Thank you to the dedicated individuals who have donated thousands of hours to raise money, to raise awareness and to help raise student achievement. Anyone interested in learning more about the GEF and/or donating to the organization can visit [www.gef34.org](http://www.gef34.org).

Sincerely,  
Dr. Gerald Hill, Superintendent



### Our Mission

*Recognizing the needs of each child  
and believing all children can learn,  
the mission of Glenview School District 34  
is to empower children to be responsible learners  
and decision makers in a changing society.*

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