



ETHS DIGEST

Evanston Township High School
District 202
Evanston, Illinois

*Popular Annual Financial Report
For the year that ended June 30, 2023*

Welcome to ETHS District 202

Supt. Dr. Marcus Campbell

Schools are places of celebration. Classrooms and teachers celebrate the daily successes of our students. We collaboratively rejoice over the achievements of our teachers and staff. We laud our sports teams and results from clubs, extra and co-curricular activities at every chance.

Evanston Twp. High School District 202, serving Evanston and part of Skokie, was created in 1883 after Illinois allowed for township-based school districts. Now we are on the verge of another milestone that we will celebrate throughout 2024-25.

ETHS at 1600 Dodge Ave. opened in September 1924. A large part of the building welcomed students that fall, and we have been doing so for 99 years. Now we can celebrate the prior 100 years and look forward to the next century.

ETHS is focused on three phases to commemorate this auspicious occasion. First, we will celebrate our students, our alumni, and our place in the Evanston/Skokie community. Secondly, we will narrate stories of the people who have walked the halls over the past century. And we will update

and sustain areas of the building to benefit future generations.

Over the past few months, a large school and community committee has been planning our Centennial celebrations. Led by retired Superintendents Allan Alson and Eric Witherspoon, and retired Asst. Superintendent/Principal and alumna Denise Martin, the committee will plan events that highlight the important role ETHS has in our community.

On September 14, 2024, we will hold a Centennial Carnivale in Memorial Stadium that will offer food, music, and time to greet people throughout the community. Two events in spring 2025 will focus on our Fine Arts alumni and current students as well as co-curricular and extra-curricular activities at ETHS.

As Superintendent, I am excited to see our students enter the 2nd century at this location as we strive to support everyone in ways that will help shape their future. ETHS has been a great place for a long time and will continue to be a leader in education for many years to come.



Snapshot of ETHS

Kendra Williams, ETHS Chief Financial Officer

This 12th annual **ETHS Digest: Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)** is designed to give Evanston/Skokie residents an overview of Evanston Township High School District 202—a snapshot of the district's finances for the prior year, as well as general information that highlights student achievement, academic initiatives, partnerships, and programs.

The selected financial information is taken from statements found in our audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the last fiscal year, a detailed report prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The PAFR, however, is unaudited and summarizes, in an accessible manner, the financial data reported in the ACFR.

For 10 consecutive years, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, which reviews this publication, has granted the *ETHS Digest* an Award

for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports. To receive this award, valid for one year, a government unit must publish a PAFR whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal. We anticipate this new *ETHS Digest*, which reflects FY2022-23, will continue to be honored by the GFOA.

The ETHS administration and school board firmly believe in public scrutiny and transparency of the district finances. Full copies of the district's financial documents, including the ACFR that contains detailed financial information, are available in the ETHS Business Office or at the district website: www.eths.k12.il.us. Call 847-424-7100 for more information.



Cover photo: The top finishers at the 43rd ETHS Bridge Building and Breaking Contest held January 27 were (L to rt.) Tora Gylling (3rd place), Kayla Strickland (1st place), and Emilie Viola (2nd place). The Math Department's annual contest allows students to apply math and science lessons by constructing small straw bridges that are weighed, tested, and scored for efficiency.

ETHS by the numbers 2022-23

Students and Faculty

- 3,690 students (2022-23)
- Student ethnic distribution: Am. Indian/Native Hawaiian—0.1%, Asian—5.2%, Black/African American—23.5%, Hispanic-Latino—20.3%, Two or more races—5.5%, White—45.1%
- Low-income enrollment – 32% (2022-23)
- Number of certified teachers – 279 (76% with advanced degrees) (2022-23)
- 4-yr. graduation rate – 94% (2022)
- 5-yr. graduation rate — 95.5% (2022)
- College enrollment rate – 79% (Class of 2021)

ETHS Class of 2023 Profile

- 9 National Merit Semifinalists, 4 Commended

District goals for 2023-2028

*Adopted by the School Board on Sept. 11, 2023.
The Board began working on new goals in 2022.*

GOAL 1 Equitable and Excellent Education

As an anti-racist institution, ETHS will increase each student's academic outcomes to realize post-high school success. We recognize that structural racism is the most devastating factor impeding the achievement of students. ETHS will eliminate the predictability of academic outcomes based upon race, and its intersection with gender, income, LGBTQIA+, disabilities, and emergent multilingual status.

GOAL 2 Student Wellbeing

ETHS will provide an environment centered on our students' wellbeing.

GOAL 3 Fiscal Accountability

ETHS prioritizes equity, integrity, and transparency in its financial stewardship by employing values based budgeting.

GOAL 4 Community Engagement and Partnerships

ETHS will strengthen family and community partnerships through communication and engagement.

Meet the ETHS Board of Education



(L to rt.) Mirah Anti, Elizabeth Rolewicz, Gretchen Livingston, Pat Savage-Williams (*President*), Supt. Marcus Campbell, Nicole Yao (*Student Representative*), Leah Piekarz, Monique Parsons (*Vice President*), Pat Maunsell—(based on results of the April 2023 election)

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Budget overview

2022-23 was a challenging year financially for many school districts, including ETHS. It continued to be one of having to do more with less. The long-term effects of the pandemic continue to plague many school districts. Other challenges have been the Evidence Based Funding program which leaves ETHS's state-aid funding flat with no expected increases (and possible future decreases), worldwide distribution problems, labor shortages, and inflation. The risk of a recession has caused all governmental agencies, including schools, to re-evaluate their budgeted expenses and to make plans for the unknown.

In addition, other financial threats to the district remain on the horizon. There have been a series of initiatives at the state level to reduce the property tax burden for Illinoisans which could have implications for taxing agents that largely depend on property taxes as a funding source. A lingering financial threat from the state is the potential pension reform issue, which would shift normal pension costs for certified staff to local districts, and could amount to over \$2 million in new costs annually for ETHS. In addition, tax-caps that don't keep up with increased costs of supplies, energy, services, health benefits, and employee compensation are still in place.

Despite these challenges, the ETHS school board adopted a balanced budget—for the 16th consecutive year—of nearly \$100 million in expenditures, 3.8% more than the FY22 budget. The operating revenue budget of \$86 million was up 3.5% over the previous year. Typically, the budget is 2-3% over the year before. The majority of the increase was due to salary and benefit costs, and planned transfers.

Balancing the FY23 budget required conservative budgeting and deliberate containment of personnel costs, most of which are determined by contracts. When considering

cost reductions, the school board and administration use Value-Based Budgeting, focusing cuts as far from the classroom as possible.

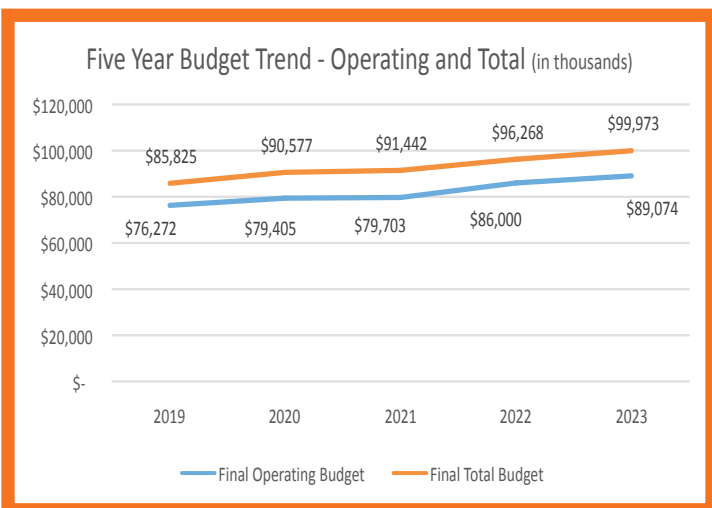
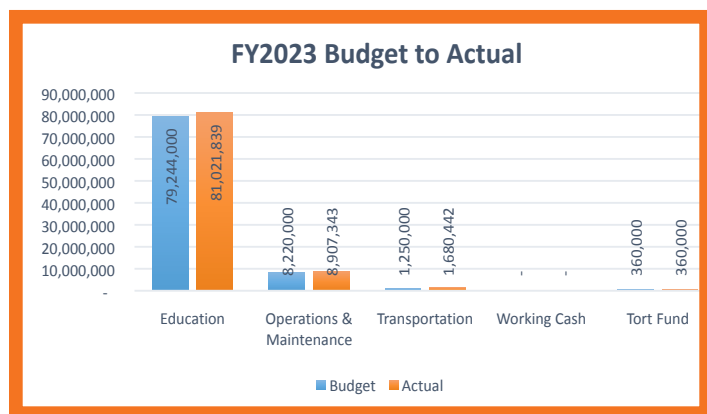
Due to careful financial planning up front and constant budget adjustments as the year unfolded, the budget reflected an operating fund surplus of approximately \$2.4 million by year's end. This is mainly due to the district receiving an unexpected increase in the Corporate Property Replacement Taxes. Other revenues were at expected levels but lagged a bit.

Cash reserves and fund balances continue to be within the District's acceptable ranges per the Fund Balance Policy.

Local revenues were up due to an increase in corporate personal property replacement taxes. Due to a FY21 lag in federal revenues, some revenues were recognized in the FY22 year leading to an increase in federal revenue that is higher than usual.

What continues to be of concern is not what is known but what is NOT known. We don't know what the legislature will decide about teacher pensions, whether a property tax freeze will be mandated, and how interest rates will react to the economic downturn. Our close monitoring of economic events and legislative decisions over the next year will continue to be critical.

The revenue and expenditure charts on these next two pages reflect final budget numbers for the 2022-23 school year. For more comprehensive information, see the district's audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) in the Business Office or online at the school's website (www.eths.k12.il.us under Business Services).



Where does the money come from?

ETHS District 202 receives funding from local, state, and federal sources. The operating budget includes the Education (General), Operations and Maintenance, Transportation Funds, and Working Cash Funds, as referenced in the district's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The district's operating budget makes up 90% of all revenues as well as 89% of all expenditures. The funds excluded from the operating budget are the Municipal Retirement, Debt Service, Capital Projects, and Fire Prevention Funds. The operating revenue budget of \$89 million was up 3.5% over the previous year. Increased revenues come from increases in the Consumer Price Index and from new property development, both of which cause property tax increases. Property taxes, at 83% of the budget, continue to be the largest source of revenue. The next largest revenue category at 6.7% is federal aid.

Property Taxes. Evanston property owners pay taxes to several entities, including District 202. ETHS's portion of the total property tax bill is just over 25%. This percentage has remained constant or slightly reduced over the past five years. For FY23, property taxes represented 83% of the total budgeted ETHS operating revenue. In addition, property taxes pay for the Bond and Interest Fund, which covers annual debt service on outstanding bonds, and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, which pays retirement benefits for non-certified staff. The Operations & Maintenance Fund and Transportation Fund are also partially supported by property taxes.

District 202 is subject to property tax caps, which limit the growth of taxes to 5% or the Illinois Consumer Price Index, whichever is lower. The district fiscal year straddles the current and previous years' levies (1.4% for 2021, 5.0% for 2022), so the dollars available for this budget were a blend of these rates. Property taxes for the operating funds were \$73.9 million for FY23.

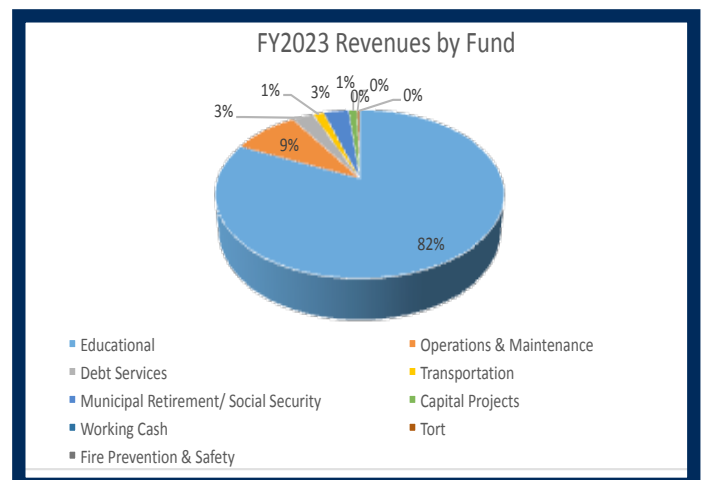
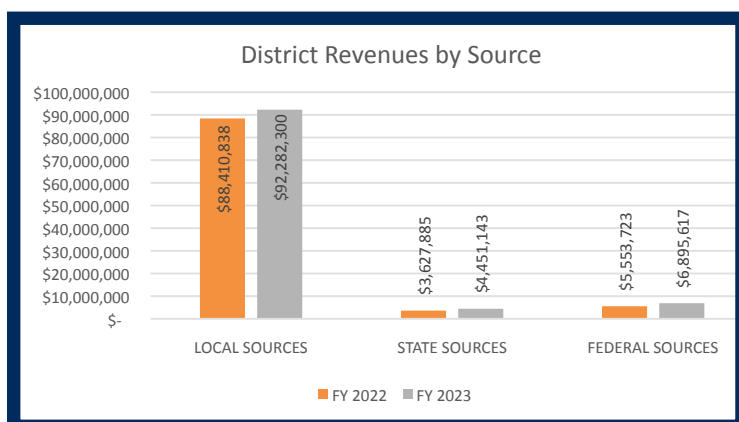
Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes (CPRT) are part of the state income taxes and generally reflect the state of the Illinois economy. The CPRT goes into the Education, Operations-Maintenance, and IMRF funds. District 202 received \$6.6 million for FY23.

Other Local Revenues come from tuition, interest on investments, food-service income, student fees, Tax Increment Financing revenue, and other local sources. ETHS received \$5.5 million in FY23 in Other Local Revenues, approximately 68% higher than FY22 and 48% higher than the FY23 budget. While the amount budgeted for other local revenues is line with pre-pandemic levels from FY20, the District received higher than anticipated revenue in investment income and donations made through the ETHS Foundation.

Evidence Based Funding has replaced **General State Aid** and incorporates general aid along with some former categorical aid payments. This revenue source remained flat for FY23. Future declines are possible due to the state's economy.

State Categorical Aid is aimed at specific needs and programs, including special-education personnel, transportation, bilingual programs, and others. FY23 categorical revenues were \$1,489,000 compared with \$669,500 in FY22. Revenues received were 33% higher than the FY23 budget, mostly due to a lag in special education reimbursements from FY22.

Federal Aid goes toward Title I, Title II, student meal subsidies. IDEA, and ETHS Health Center costs. Total funding for FY23 was \$6.9 million compared with \$5.2 million in FY22.



Where does the money go?

The operating expenditure budget proposed for District 202 in FY23 was \$89 million. This includes all the operating funds—Education, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, and Working Cash funds. This represents a 3.6% increase over FY22. For the operating funds, salaries and benefits continue to dominate the costs. Salaries represent 69% of the budget and fringe benefits are at 8%—therefore, approximately 77% of the budget is personnel cost-related. The next highest categories are purchased services at 8% and tuition represent nearly 7% of costs.

Salaries are mainly determined by negotiated contracts with the six labor unions in District 202. Actual salaries amounted to approximately \$63.1 million, up 7.9% over FY22.

Employee Fringe Benefits include health, life, and optional dental insurance, and Social Security, Medicare, and pension expenses. Total fringe benefits costs for FY23 were estimated to be \$7.3 million, similar to the previous year, and actual fringe benefits expenditures were \$7.7 million. Health claims vary from year to year.

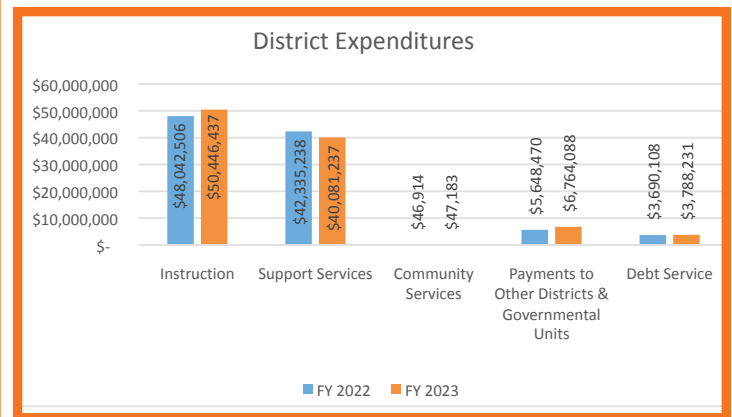
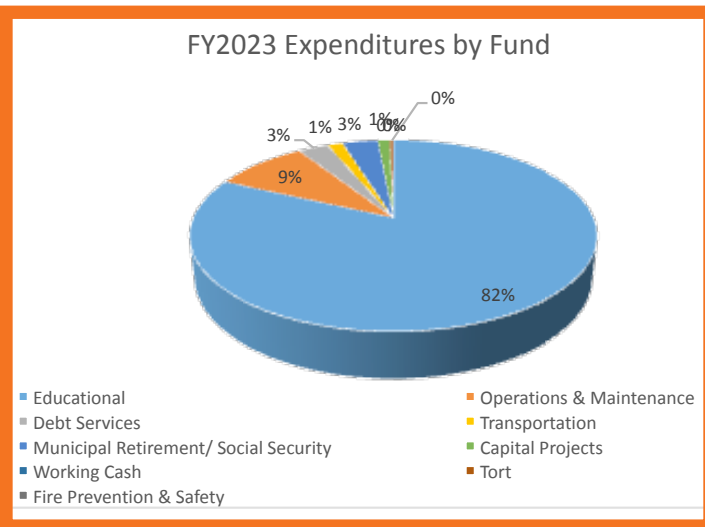
Purchased Services. Actual purchased services (excluding tuition which is discussed below) for FY23 amounted to \$8.1 million, a 10% increase from FY22. One contributing factor is the increase in transportation costs. The District makes every effort to maintain the significant reductions made here in previous years.

Supplies/Materials. These expenses are for office supplies and materials, and once again ETHS is trying to keep costs down. The total for FY23 was \$4.2 million, down about \$300,000 from FY22.

Capital Outlay. Capital outlay expenditures in the operating funds for FY23 amounted to \$1.77 million, a 20% increase from FY22.

Other Objects. Expenditures in the operating funds amounted to \$1.2 million which is similar to the previous year.

Tuition. Tuition increased by 28% to \$5.8 million for FY23. Tuition costs had been relatively flat in the last few years prior, but rising inflation has affected the rates charged by institutions.



Excellence awards for financial reporting

For the 15th year, the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International awarded ETHS its Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award for its FY22 *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* (CARF, annual audit), an award earned by fewer than 10% of Illinois school districts.

Also for the 15th year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S./Canada (GFOA) awarded ETHS its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting. To earn the award, a government unit must publish an easily readable

and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report, whose contents conform to program standards. This certificate is valid for one year only.

These GFOA budget honors are in addition to its renewed award to ETHS for the Popular Annual Financial Report (*ETHS Digest*).

ETHS has maintained its Moody's Aaa bond rating since 2008. This highest possible rating allows the District to borrow at the lowest possible rates.

National School Public Relations Assn. honors ETHS

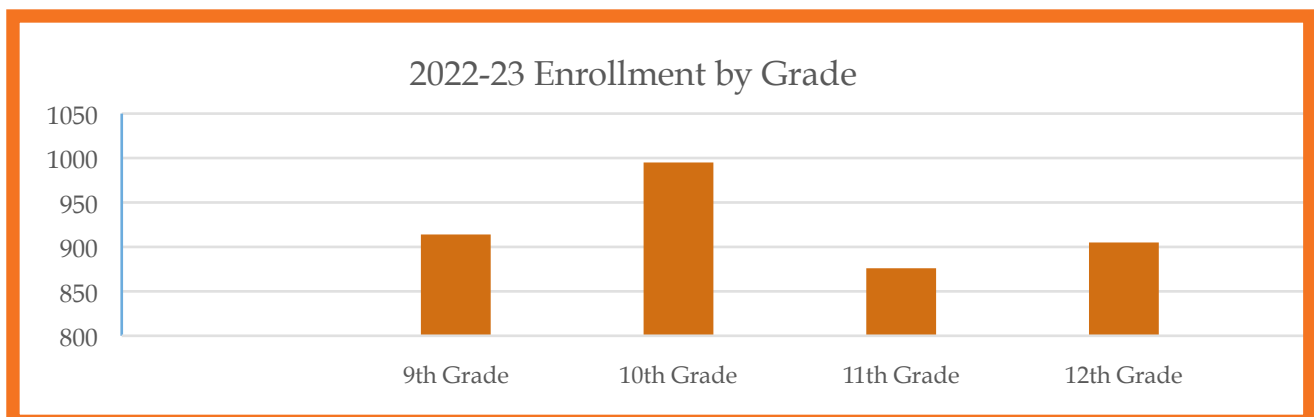
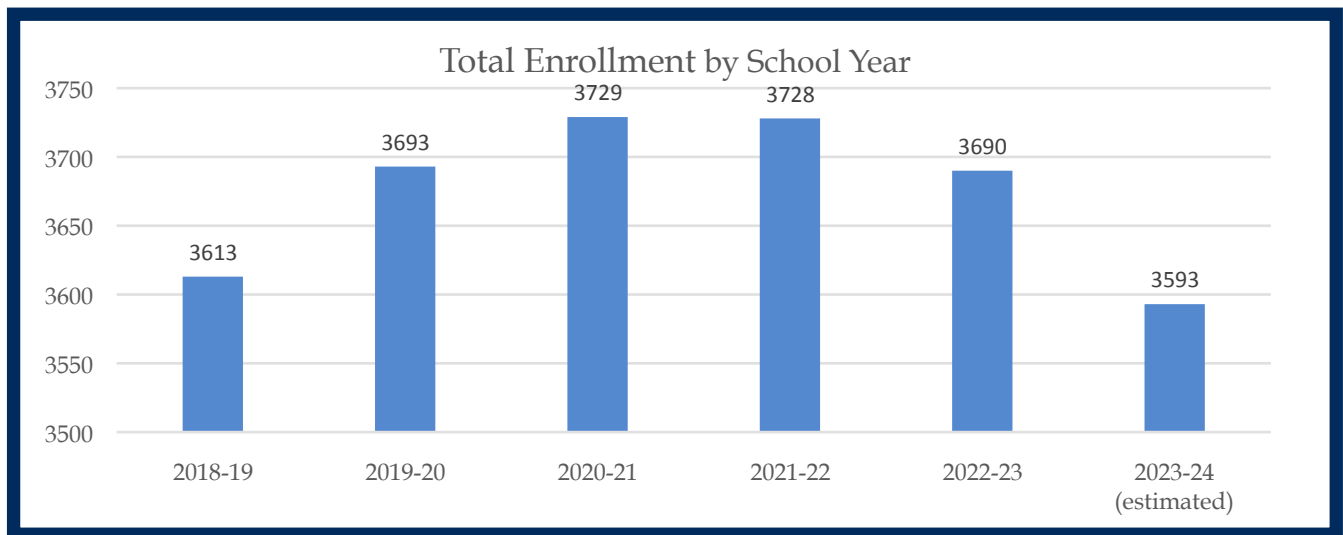
ETHS was recognized by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) with a 2023 Golden Achievement Award for its 2022-23 Superintendent Listening & Learning Series.

NSPRA's Golden Achievement Award honors outstanding, strategic work in all aspects of school public relations, communications, marketing, and engagement. ETHS was one of 95 school districts in the nation to receive a 2023 Golden Achievement Award out of more than 1,800 entries from school PR professionals across the country.

The Listening & Learning Series was a multi-phase campaign to introduce Dr. Campbell as the new superintendent of ETHS D202 and to provide community members a wide

range of opportunities to help shape the direction of the district moving forward. Through multiple programs and events, including Community TalkBacks, a Community Advisory Council, Wildkit Walkabouts with students, Talking Circles with staff, and the school's first podcast series (Wildkit Way), the Series explored forms of engagement authentic to Dr. Campbell's leadership style.

"It's exciting to see the dedication, innovation, and spirit of our school district being recognized nationally," said ETHS District 202 Superintendent Marcus Campbell. "This honor not only reflects our commitment to keep our community proximate to ETHS, but also it reflects our dedication to our students' success."



Geometry in Construction homes benefit moderate-income families

Summer 2023 was a banner season for ETHS's Geometry in Construction course. Now in its 10th year, this interdisciplinary course for freshmen and sophomores teaches them both geometry and construction skills while building an actual single-family home. And this summer, two new, two-story homes were placed on City-donated properties located near the high school.

GIC is patterned after an innovative program in Loveland High School in Colorado. In 2013-14, the Mathematics and Career and Technical Education (CTE) departments at ETHS launched GIC with 56 students that built a one-story, three-bedroom house—16-feet by 75-feet—in ETHS's back parking lot. Once the shell was constructed, the City worked with ETHS to move the house to a City-owned property on Jackson Ave. Once in place, contractors took over setting up the plumbing and electrical wiring.

Since the program's first year, students now enrolled in the course annually build a two-story, three bedroom, 2-1/2 bath residence. Both floors are built simultaneously, side-by-side, and moved in the summer. Start-up funds for the course came from the school, and donations, including major grants from the ETHS Foundation and the Evanston Community Foundation. Now profits from each house sale go back to ETHS to help pay for construction of a new house the following year. The ETHS Foundation funds the gap between the sale cost of each home and what it can be listed for as affordable housing.

Taught by Maryjoy Heineman (Math) and Matthew Kaiser (CTE), the course is a collaborative project with ETHS, the City of Evanston, and the Community Partners in Affordable Housing. The city finds a suitable lot for each house, which is sold by Community Partners to local low-income residents.

The class has two purposes. First, it gives students a chance to apply theoretical math concepts to real-life situations. Secondly, GIC provides a home for a moderate-income family in a city where housing costs are anything but moderate. First-time buyers are the target market, and there are income restrictions for eligible purchasers. Community Partners husbands the house sales over time to keep them permanently affordable.



Last summer the school held an open house on Emerson Street for the program's seventh completed home. Students built this particular home during the 2019-2020 year. It has three bedrooms and two bathrooms, along with a front and back porch.

The course has built eight facilities (eight houses and an athletic storage unit) over the decade. During the pandemic close-down year with remote, online learning, GIC students did construction-type projects at home such as building balsa-model homes on a smaller scale. But in fall 2022, GIC was back in business with in-person learning at school and needed a project to build. In the past, ETHS's retired CFO Mary Rodino had worked with the City to find empty properties that needed moderate-income family houses. But, that didn't happen during the Covid lockdown.

Instead, ETHS Athletic Director Chris Livatino suggested GIC construct a unit for storing daily Physical Education-class and sports-team equipment for track and field, soccer, lacrosse, football, and softball.

Funded by ETHS, the new building opened up to great acclaim...and GIC went back to building houses. Local independent architect DonnaLee Floeter designed the storage unit as well as the homes the students build.

GIC launched in 2013-14 with 56 students. That grew to 60 the following year, and according to teacher Kaiser: "We started 2022-2023 with 100 students! We are really excited." And it just keeps growing.



For the 8th house, both floors were moved from the Evanston campus last summer to Brown Ave. and hoisted into place by a giant crane. The interior of the house was to be completed later in 2023, and the affordable home was to be ready for a family to move in next year.

Sustainability keeps ETHS environmentally responsible

In May, the School Board learned how ETHS practices sustainability in running the school and keeping it environmentally responsible—and how these actions lower its overall budget. Kendra Williams, CFO, and John Crawford, Director of Operations and Sustainability, explained sustainability initiatives, and Kim Minestra, Director of Nutrition Services, highlighted the Farm to School program coordinated by Matt Ryan.

ETHS is a large, complex, one-building school district that has practiced maintaining an ecological balance of natural resources for decades. For example, the school has its own off-site power plant that heats and cools the building with low-pressure steam (and serves as back-up if any energy disasters occur). In 2008, ETHS installed underground retention tanks to divert rainwater to irrigate the numerous athletic fields, thereby not using (or paying for) water from the City of Evanston.

In 2014, the school began replacing fluorescent lighting with LED lights that reduce electricity costs and are more environmentally friendly. ETHS has received thousands of dollars in rebates from ComEd's LED replacement program and a \$50,000 matching energy efficiency grant from the state education office.

Working with Nicor Gas and ComEd, ETHS has used low- to no-cost initiatives that result in real energy savings and reduce the school's carbon footprint. Since the 2018 baseline year, natural gas use has been reduced by 31.3% and electricity use has dropped 20%, saving \$361,200+ in energy costs.

The administrators noted that whenever possible, the work is staffed by highly trained ETHS employees saving the district thousands of dollars in vendor costs.

A recent study recommended installing solar arrays on ETHS's current nine (of 159) roofs that can currently house them and replacing two gymnasium roofs with solar panels, together producing an 11% offset to the current electricity usage.



Part of the energy-friendly landscaping includes 29 automated robotic lawnmowers that whirl around the 65-acre campus. Like a household Roomba, each robot has a declared area to mow and when done, it returns to its base to recharge. They are satellite-driven and can be reprogrammed to cover any area that needs mowing. The students, of course, are fond of the robots, have given them names, and have decorated many of them with googly eyes.

Other upcoming initiatives include applying through ComEd for a public school carbon-free assessment; seeking American Green Zone Alliance certification for landscaping services that are now 100% electric, battery, or robotic; planting 20+ native trees and plants on campus that are pollinator friendly; and expanding composting to all five cafeterias, among other plans.

Reducing waste in student cafeterias is targeted. No styrofoam is used; reusable trays and self-serve condiment bottles are in place. ETHS was among 66 (out of 241 proposals) Illinois school districts to receive a \$21,000 state grant to install self-serve bulk-milk dispensers and replace milk cartons with 9-inch reusable cups. Other plans that included eliminating plastic water bottles and offering reusable flatware.

Farm to School Program

Following the Operations sustainability report, Minestra and Ryan described the unique Farm to School program that provides organically grown produce throughout the year to Evanston students, staff, and community members.

Since 2009, ETHS has daily served students and staff about 3,000 pounds of organically grown produce harvested from two school-owned lots, dubbed Edible Acre 1 and 2, across from the school, an orchard with Asian pears and apple trees, and a grape arbor. From August to November, and during summer school, school cafeterias offer home-grown lettuce, spinach, squash, cucumbers, peppers (four kinds), radishes, carrots, tomatoes (six varieties), beets, green beans, peas, eggplants, and other seasonal veggies. Beyond fall, ETHS must buy produce on the open market.

Annually, Minestra and Ryan, former Operations Manager for The Talking Farm, a local urban-agriculture organization, create a crop plan that maximizes the harvest from the two gardens and orchard. More raised beds were built in the Edible Acres, more crops were planted, and the school's greenhouse became a winter seedbed for lettuce, herbs, and other vegetables.

Continued on page 10

Sustainability—Continued from page 9

The Acres' harvest was large enough to share with the community. Minestra and Ryan launched a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, which allows people to buy local, seasonal food directly from a farmer—In this case, the “farmer” is ETHS.

The CSA program began in 2016 with 10 ETHS staff members that each invested \$250, and every Thursday for 10 weeks received a box of freshly picked vegetables. In 2023, the CSA expanded to 25 people and from 10 to 22 weeks for \$660 paid up front. Last year the program partnered with Village Farmstand in Evanston, a micro-warehouse community grocery store with an online marketplace that provides local eggs, meats, and fruits for an additional cost.

ETHS raises funds in other ways to help subsidize the Farm to School program. Village Farmstand buys some of the harvest and markets it under ETHS's name. Since 2019, ETHS also holds a seedling sale each spring to offer organic seedlings to ETHS students, staff, and the greater Evanston community. The CSA and Seedling Sale each raise about \$20,000.

The gardens serve as a classroom for students taking the Urban Agriculture course. During the school year, Ryan works once a week with each of the four Urban Ag classes in the garden(s) where the students get hands-on experience harvesting, weeding, watering, etc. The students also pack the CSA boxes each containing six to seven pounds of produce.

Other student partnerships include students in Community Service, Special Education, Senior Studies, Graphic Design,

and the Geometry in Construction class, which built a pergola to use as a grape arbor, and seedbeds for the program.

Since 2009, throughout the summer, students in the city's Summer Youth Employment Program are hired to work 15 hours per week to maintain the gardens and the orchard, to earn money, and gain career skills.



This grape arbor, built by the students in the Geometry in Construction class, is located near the football stadium, adjacent to the Edible Orchard. Members of local Boy Scout Troop 815 planted Concord grapes in June 2021 as part of an Eagle Scout project. They provide coverage of the picnic tables and grapes to harvest for jams, jellies, juice, and eating off the vine.

In the future, ETHS will continue to receive federal Supply Chain Assistance Funds to purchase unprocessed food locally such as rice and milk. Farm to School is also working with Village Farmstand to buy local produce directly from local farmers.

Going green has been a cost-saver for ETHS. By growing its own food, ETHS has annually saved at least \$15,000 in organic produce.

Centennial Planning Update

Planning for the 2024-25 ETHS Centennial has begun. The planning committee, co-chaired by Supt. Dr. Marcus Campbell, former Superintendents Dr. Allan Alson, Dr. Eric Witherspoon, and former Asst. Superintendent/Principal Denise Martin, and David Futransky, Alumni Assn. Executive Director, (both ETHS 1969 alums), have developed the general plans for three events during the 2024-25 academic year.



This yearlong program will celebrate ETHS's heritage for the past 100 years—in the fall of 2024, with an All-Year

Reunion; an Alumni Variety Show in winter 2025; and an Open House that will showcase current co-curricular and extracurricular activities in spring of 2025. It is hoped that all alums and community members will be able to

attend and participate in at least one of these celebrations.

There are numerous volunteer opportunities to help shape these events. If you are interested, contact David Futransky at 847-424-7704 or futranksyd@eths202.org.

2023 Distinguished Alumni Award winners

Last summer, the Distinguished Alumni Awards committee was faced with its annual daunting task of selecting from all of the nominations for the most prestigious recognition of ETHS alumni.

This year there are four living recipients of the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award and two alums who were honored posthumously.

- **Nichelle Campbell-Miller, 2011**, school social worker specializing in anti-bias/anti-racism mentoring and training.
- **Dr. Frank Ling, 1966**, nationally renowned physician (OBGYN), clinical professor, author
- **Dr. Kenneth Schaeffe, 1986**, actor, physician noted internationally, especially for his work in Uganda
- **Andrew Slavitt, 1984**, healthcare administrator for Obama, Biden presidential administrations, health think-tank founder

- **Sanderson Hicks, 1940**, first African American firefighter and Fire Chief in Evanston
- **Dr. Elizabeth Hill, 1916**, medical doctor, first African American woman named Chief of Staff (of Evanston's Community Hospital) in Illinois

The committee reviews the materials it receives every year. Nominations are kept on file for three years. If a candidate is among the finalists, but not selected, the nomination is held for an additional year.

Nominations are now open for the 2024 awards. You can use the form on the ETHS alumni website—www.eths.k12.il.us/Page/515. Nominations for 2024 are due June 1. If you have questions, contact the Alumni Office at 847-424-7704.

New Black Alumni Assn. to share Black experience at ETHS

"We are excited to announce the formation of the Black Alumni Association of Evanston Township High School!," said Nehezi Robert Maraayah '92, co founder of the new alumni organization with Joi Arceneaux '06. The association has been formed as a space for Black alums to network, socialize and share past and present experiences from their days at ETHS.

According to Maraayah: "As the association grows, we hope to give back to our beloved ETHS through community service, fundraisers, events and scholarships that uplift our youth and community as a whole. Please join us on facebook: Black Alumni Association of Evanston Township High School. You can also connect with us through email at ethsblackalumni@gmail.com! We look forward to hearing from you!"





SUPPORT to ETHS through the **ETHS FOUNDATION** is essential for the advancement of our campus and equitable resources. The Foundation is committed to creating dynamic educational spaces that increase student access, engagement, and achievement.

\$2M

In FY2023, the ETHS Foundation raised over \$2 million from the generosity of alumni, parents, and the wider Wildkit community through individual gifts and its Wild for ETHS Benefit.



NEW HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

The eagerly awaited opening of the donor-funded Health Science Center will take place in January 2024. This state-of-the-art facility is poised to serve as the central hub for health career pathway courses, dual credit courses, and basic nursing training.

EQUITABLE RESOURCES

Support for the Foundation enhances pivotal programs such as the Literacy Lab, Geometry in Construction, and iKit internships. Notably, the Music Lesson Scholarship fund enabled 30 students to sustain their engagement in fine arts offerings this year.



GIVE ONLINE: supporteths.org

For more information, please contact Joanne Bertsche, Executive Director at 847/424-7158 or bertschej@eths202.org.



Evanston Township High School
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YouTube:
youtube.com/ETHSWildkit