

April 17, 2018



Dear Community Consolidated School District 93 Parent:

Here are two important pieces of information for parents regarding this week.

**Please Consider Contributing to Community-Wide Food Drive by 4/20/18**

Having the opportunity to take part in fundraising campaigns and donation drives helps our students learn crucial lessons in citizenship and social responsibility. A donation drive that truly makes a difference in our community is the Rotary Club of Carol Stream's Community-Wide Food Drive. According to a recent needs assessment, more than 65,000 residents of DuPage County live in poverty, and even more have trouble putting food on the table. Contributions to the Food Drive go a long way to help those within our community who need it most.

If you are able, I invite you to donate nonperishable foods or hygiene products at any of our schools or District Office by Friday, April 20. You can find a complete list of what is needed at [www.ccsd93.com/fooddrive](http://www.ccsd93.com/fooddrive). Donations will be given to food pantries that support all our local communities, including Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, and Hanover Park.

**A Note on School Safety Discussions & Student Demonstrations Scheduled for 4/20/18**

As you are no doubt aware, the school shooting tragedy in Parkland, Florida sparked a nationwide movement of students who are calling for change in school safety.

This Friday, April 20 is one of several dates inviting participants to join in demonstrations to show support for victims of school violence and the need for improved school safety measures. It was organized by the Network for Public Education and is being called the National Day of Action Against Gun Violence in School. It will be the 19th anniversary of the Columbine High School tragedy, and some are calling for student walkouts that day.

As I have shared with you, we at CCSD93 want our students to understand that they have First Amendment rights to assemble peacefully and express themselves freely. However, being an elementary school district, we have sought age-appropriate opportunities for student expression, and we must prioritize student safety while considering age, maturity, and cognitive and emotional level.

We have worked with student and staff leaders from throughout CCSD93 to examine ways to appropriately make April 20 a teachable day for our students and staff members. Thanks to this dialogue, our schools will take time during the school day on Friday to discuss school and campus safety, security, and all-around school culture, including the following:

- At the middle school level, students have had the opportunity to participate in problem-based learning (PBL) projects related to school atmosphere and safety. On Friday, they will each be invited to engage in 17 peer "walk-ups," one for each of the lives lost in Parkland, if they choose. Walk-ups encourage students to proactively engage with classmates who they may not otherwise connect with in positive ways, include others in conversations, compliment them, and speak kindly to one another with the goal of building a stronger community. Students will also have the option to participate in a moment of silence to honor those affected by school violence.
- At our elementary schools, staff will lead students in age-appropriate discussions and activities that will examine ways of keeping safety and security at the forefront.

We invite students and staff members to wear orange in support of school safety. We will have orange ribbons, put together by Carol Stream Education Association (CSEA) leaders and CCSD93 administrators, available for our staff members to wear. If students would like to participate and do not have orange clothing, there will be orange stickers on hand for them to wear if they so choose.

I thank our CSEA Co-Presidents, principals, and middle school student leaders for examining ways to appropriately make this a teachable day for our students and staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 630-539-3000 or [shieldw@ccsd93.com](mailto:shieldw@ccsd93.com). Thank you for your continued support.

**Community Consolidated  
School District 93**

230 Covington Drive  
Bloomingdale, Illinois  
60108-3106

Tel 630-893-9393  
Fax 630-539-3450

[www.ccsd93.com](http://www.ccsd93.com)

**William R. Shields, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

Early Childhood Center  
Carol Stream School  
Cloverdale School  
Elsie Johnson School  
Heritage Lakes School  
Roy DeShane School  
Western Trails School  
Jay Stream Middle School  
Stratford Middle School

Sincerely,

William R. Shields, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
CCSD93