



River Forest School District #90
7776 Lake St.
River Forest, IL 60305

May 17, 2017

Dear Dr. Ed J. Condon,



The implementation of **Senate Bill 100** has led to a myriad of conversations regarding the complexity of reclaiming and ensuring educational opportunity for all youth. For nearly two decades, the **West 40 Regional Safe Schools Program** has served as a **partner** to school districts trying to answer the most complex questions regarding the balance between providing educational opportunity for all and ensuring safety for the school community.

In partnership with the school districts of West Cook, we again offer our services to partner with districts and serve as an extension of the mission to provide a strength-based environment of learning for students who may be suspended, expulsion eligible or expelled and readmitted.

Provided below are a couple highlights from our past year of service!

West 40 Regional Safe Schools Welcome State Superintendent. State Superintendent, Dr. Tony Smith, spent time with Safe School students in a restorative circle and participating in discussions which included his own message of how "trials" can turn to "triumphs."





West 40 Regional Safe Schools attend leadership training hosted by the Illinois Coalition for Educating At-Risk Youth (ICEARY) in Springfield. West 40 Safe Schools met with alternative education students throughout the state to learn leadership and communication skills. Students met with legislators and discussed issues relevant to the needs of at-risk youth.



West 40 Regional Safe Schools participate in service learning. West 40 Safe Schools students participated in service learning activities throughout the year. Whether making “healing blankets” for children in need or reading to young PAEC students, service learning is a foundational component of the Safe Schools.



West 40 Regional Safe Schools testify at the Illinois State Board of Education. West 40 Safe School students testified about their challenges, experiences and needs to the Illinois State Board of Education. These students spoke on behalf of thousands of young men and women who attend Regional Safe Schools throughout the State of Illinois.



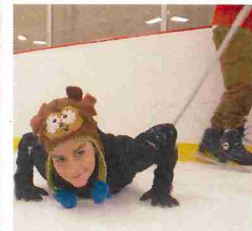
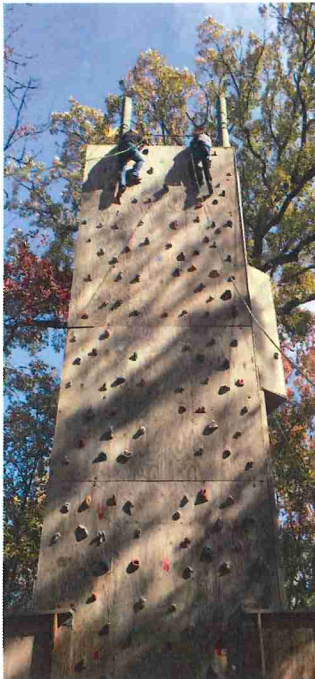
**Illinois
State Board of
Education**



West 40 Regional Safe Schools hosted an alternative education student Leadership Academy at Northern Illinois University. Safe School students and staff hosted the Illinois Coalition for Educating At-Risk Youth student spring leadership training for alternative education students on the campus of Northern Illinois University (NIU). Safe School students led in the creation of a day that focused on building self-advocacy skills, self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, decision-making and developing healthy relationships. Safe School students planned and served on the student panel. The day also included meetings with the placement office and presentations about a variety of NIU programs for first generation college students.



West 40 Regional Safe School engages in academics, family events, learning about everything from healthy risk-taking to how to find success! From celebrating the strengths of our families at monthly family nights to climbing rock walls, West 40 Regional Safe School students are asked to reclaim, restore and grow every day.



West 40 Regional Safe Schools - High School (HARBOR Academy) celebrates March graduates. In 2016-2017 we celebrate the accomplishment of another year of young people recommittting to their education. Students that had previously been unsure of their educational path were afforded the chance to try again.

Early graduates moving on...



- **Vince Kuczynski - East Leyden**
Enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp, reporting to boot camp in June



- **Jesus Cabrera - West Leyden**
Currently employed with plans to attend Triton in the fall.



More graduates will follow after May finals week; stay tuned for more...

Enclosed you will find the Intergovernmental Agreement for fiscal year 2018 between West 40 ISC #2 Regional Safe Schools Program and River Forest for the purpose of transferring students into the West 40 Regional Safe Schools Program. Please have a representative from your School Board sign both copies, and return one to West 40 ISC #2, 4413 Roosevelt Road, Suite 104, Hillside, IL 60162.

We thank you for your continued partnership to serve all young people and families. We stand ready to serve as an extension of your mission and look forward to our continued walk with you in service.

Sincerely,



Karen Tiemann

Director of the West 40 Regional Safe Schools



INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT 2017-2018

This Agreement is dated this first day of July, 2017, by and between the West 40 Intermediate Service Center ("West 40") and Board of Education, River Forest School District #90, Cook County, Illinois.

RECITALS

- A. In 1995, the Legislature adopted Article 13A of the Illinois School Code, the "Safe Schools Law" (SSL).
- B. Pursuant to Section 10 of SSL, West 40 is responsible for administering SSL programs within the Intermediate Service Center No. 2 Region.
- C. West 40 has submitted a "Regional Safe Schools Program Proposal for the West 40 Intermediate Service Center No. 2 Region" (the "Proposal"). A description of the Regional Safe Schools Program is set forth on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- D. All students participating in "Regional Safe Schools Program" in the West 40 ISC#2 Region shall be claimed by West 40 ISC #2 for General State Aid for the duration of the students' enrollment in the West 40 Regional Safe Schools program.
- E. All districts participating in "Regional Safe Schools Program" in the West 40 ISC #2 Region shall pay tuition to West 40 ISC #2 set forth on Exhibit "B" attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- F. West 40 Regional Safe Schools Program operate as established by 105 ILCS 5/13A of the Illinois School Code.

Program capacity is determined by evaluating safety and instructional needs. The program standard is one classroom instructor for every ten students. If enrollment exceeds the acceptable instructor/student ratio or creates a safety concern, then a waiting list may be created.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED BY AND BETWEEN WEST 40 AND DISTRICT #90, as follows:

Section 1: Incorporation of Recitals. The Recitals set forth herein above are incorporated herein.

Section 2: Agreement to Administrative Transfer of Students. District agrees to the Administrative Transfer of students to the West 40 Regional Safe Schools Program for the duration of the students' enrollment in the Alternative Program.

Section 3: Term. This Agreement shall run for the 2017-2018 school term as determined by the West 40 RSSP calendar. Dated this first day of July, 2017.

West 40 Intermediate Service Center No. 2
By: 

Board of Education, River Forest School District #90
By: _____



EXHIBIT "A"

West 40 Intermediate Service Center #2 Regional Safe Schools Program

HARBOR Academy High School

The West 40 Regional Safe School-High School, HARBOR Academy, provides academic instruction, academic and personal counseling, service-learning activities, physical education, and college and career directed instruction. These courses are created and taught by members of the West 40 Regional Safe School team. Alternative Education Plans, or AEPs, are created by students, parents and HARBOR staff. Social Services are provided by West 40 Regional Safe School staff and mental health partnership agencies.

West 40 Regional Safe School-Middle School

The West 40 Regional Safe School-Middle School serves students in sixth through eighth grade that fit the Regional Safe School guidelines. These students may be referred by any of the thirty elementary school districts and one unit district located in West Cook County. The West 40 Regional Safe School-Middle School Program provides academic instruction, academic and personal counseling, service-learning activities, physical education, and career development instruction. These courses are created and taught by members of the West 40 Regional Safe School team. Alternative Education Plans, or AEPs, are created by students, parents and Middle School staff. Social Services are provided by West 40 Regional Safe School staff and mental health partnership agencies.



EXHIBIT "B"

Tuition Schedule 2017-2018

West 40 Intermediate Service Center Regional Safe School Programs

Tuition: \$115.00 per day after initial enrollment

- The 2017-2018 school year constitutes 9.5 months; two weeks in August, one week in June and 9 full months (September through May) not to exceed 180 days.
- Tuition invoices will be calculated based on student enrollment dates.
- Tuition invoices will be sent on a monthly basis.