River Forest
Public Schools

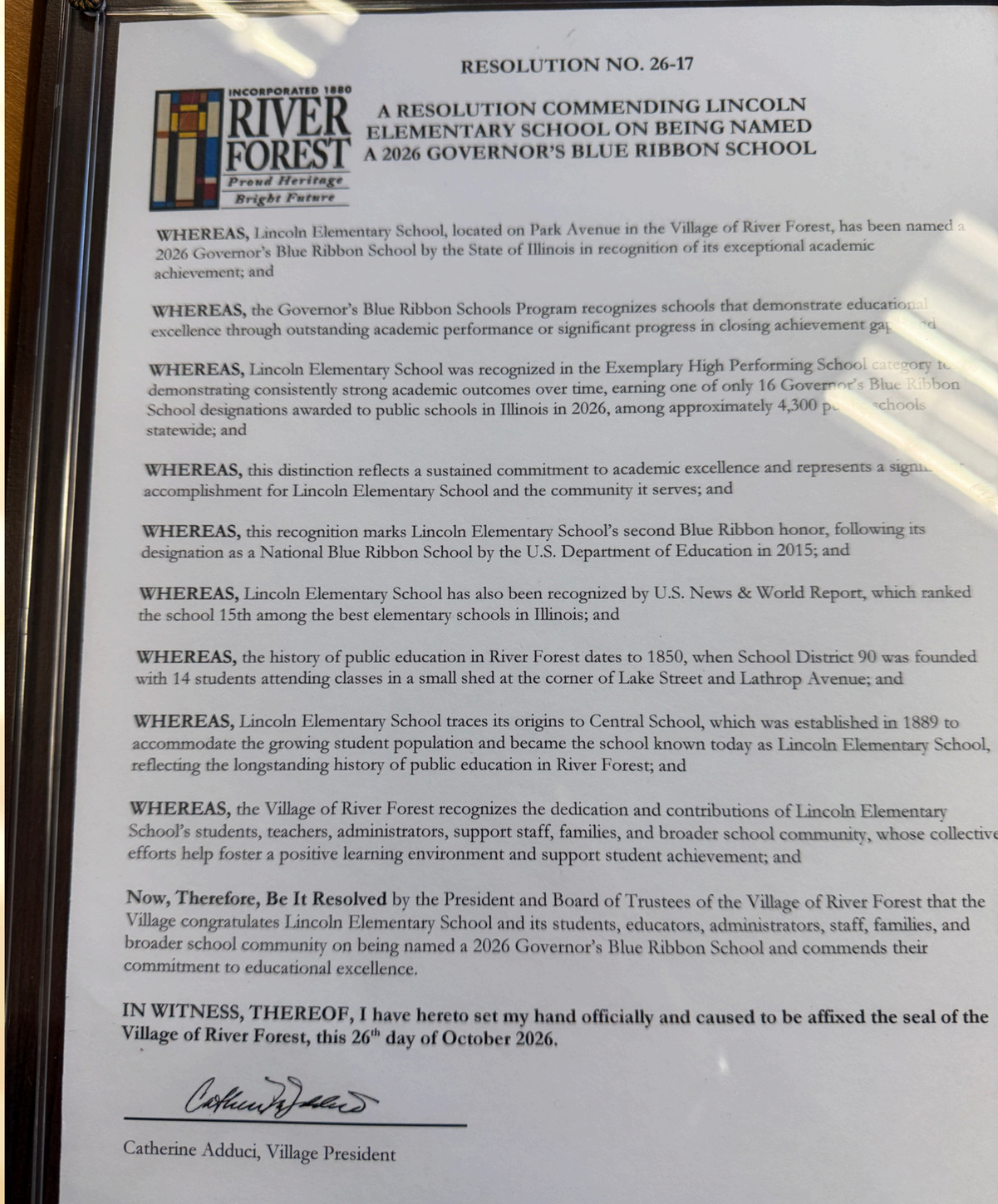
2026 Governor’s Blue Ribbon Press Conference



River Forest Village Meeting



Village of River Forest Resolution Honoring Lincoln School



RESOLUTION NO. 26-17

INCORPORATED 1880 RIVER FOREST Proud Heritage Bright Future

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON BEING NAMED A 2026 GOVERNOR'S BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

WHEREAS, Lincoln Elementary School, located on Park Avenue in the Village of River Forest, has been named a 2026 Governor's Blue Ribbon School by the State of Illinois in recognition of its exceptional academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools that demonstrate educational excellence through outstanding academic performance or significant progress in closing achievement gaps; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Elementary School was recognized in the Exemplary High Performing School category for demonstrating consistently strong academic outcomes over time, earning one of only 16 Governor's Blue Ribbon School designations awarded to public schools in Illinois in 2026, among approximately 4,300 public schools statewide; and

WHEREAS, this distinction reflects a sustained commitment to academic excellence and represents a significant accomplishment for Lincoln Elementary School and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, this recognition marks Lincoln Elementary School's second Blue Ribbon honor, following its designation as a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Elementary School has also been recognized by U.S. News & World Report, which ranked the school 15th among the best elementary schools in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the history of public education in River Forest dates to 1850, when School District 90 was founded with 14 students attending classes in a small shed at the corner of Lake Street and Lathrop Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln Elementary School traces its origins to Central School, which was established in 1889 to accommodate the growing student population and became the school known today as Lincoln Elementary School, reflecting the longstanding history of public education in River Forest; and

WHEREAS, the Village of River Forest recognizes the dedication and contributions of Lincoln Elementary School's students, teachers, administrators, support staff, families, and broader school community, whose collective efforts help foster a positive learning environment and support student achievement; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of River Forest that the Village congratulates Lincoln Elementary School and its students, educators, administrators, staff, families, and broader school community on being named a 2026 Governor's Blue Ribbon School and commends their commitment to educational excellence.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Village of River Forest, this 26th day of October 2026.

Catherine Adduci, Village President

Lincoln Elementary Blue Ribbon Application Team

Diana Neilson - 1st Grade

Joy O'Reilly - Instructional Coach

Kathryn Stasys - Kindergarten

Kim Briggs - 3rd Grade

Kristin Bailitz - Kindergarten

Meg Loughran - Special Ed.

Peg Donnelly - 1st Grade

Roxanne Bajo - 4th Grade

Shanna Castillo - Tech Specialist

Casey Godfrey - Principal

Lincoln School Community Blue Ribbon Event



Lincoln School Community Blue Ribbon Event



Lincoln School Community Blue Ribbon Event

