



To: Board of Education  
From: Amy Melinder, Director of Community Engagement  
Date: May 18, 2026  
Re: District Highlights

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Comments: **Teacher selected to serve on National Board Standards Committee**  
Congratulations to Rhonda Jackson, kindergarten teacher at John L. Siple School, on her recent professional achievement. Ms. Jackson, a National Board Certified Teacher in Literacy: Reading–Language Arts, has been selected to serve on the National Board Literacy: Reading–Language Arts Standards Committee.

In this role, she will collaborate with educators from across the country to review and refine national standards that guide accomplished teaching in literacy. This recognition reflects her expertise, leadership, and commitment to high-quality instruction.

We are proud to have Ms. Jackson representing Woodridge 68 at the national level and thank her for her continued dedication to our students and profession.

**Assistant Superintendent honored with statewide advocacy award**  
Woodridge School District 68 is proud to share that Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO, was recently recognized with the Michael A. Jacoby Advocacy Award at the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) annual conference.

This prestigious award honors school business officials who have demonstrated a long-standing commitment to educational advocacy and legislative improvement, as well as dedication to the mission and collaborative efforts of IASBO and its Statewide School Management Alliance partners.



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Mr. Saindon's leadership and advocacy work reflect a deep commitment to supporting public education and strengthening school business practices across Illinois. IASBO's mission—to empower school business professionals through leadership development, advocacy, and collaboration—aligns closely with his contributions throughout his career.

Congratulations to Mr. Saindon on this well-deserved recognition.

**State Superintendent visits Woodridge 68**

Woodridge School District 68 recently welcomed Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Sanders for visits to Siple Elementary and Jefferson Junior High. During the visit, district leaders highlighted the district's Academic Transformation Plan and showcased a variety of innovative learning experiences, including financial literacy, science labs, virtual reality, and AI-supported writing instruction. The visit was a great opportunity to highlight the engaging and innovative work taking place across Woodridge 68, and Dr. Sanders was impressed with what he observed.

**Battle of the Books**

It was an exciting day of reading, teamwork, and friendly competition at the annual Woodridge 68 Battle of the Books! Teams from every elementary school put their reading knowledge to the test throughout the competition.

Congratulations to this year's champions:

- Goodrich: Grade 3 Division
- Willow Creek: Grades 4-6 Division