



To: Board of Education  
From: Amy Melinder, Director of Community Engagement  
Date: June 10, 2024  
Re: District Highlights

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Comments: **Green thumbs for healing garden**

During the last full week of school, Thomas Jefferson Junior High School student council members planted native flowers, grasses, and shrubs in the school's healing garden. The plants were funded and the work was assisted by The Conservation Foundation.

**Students, teachers recognize Siple crossing guard**

Siple Crossing Guard Tom O'Keefe was recently selected for an Honor Flight. Upon returning home, veterans receive a welcome home parade and receive a "mail call." In Tom's mail envelopes were letters, colored pictures and notes of gratitude from Siple students and families, Jefferson students and many others.

An Honor Flight is conducted by non-profit organizations dedicated to transporting as many United States military veterans as possible to see the memorials of the respective war they fought in Washington, DC, at no cost to the veterans.

**Director elected representative to state association**

Director of Special Education Dr. Anne Bowers was recently elected Region VII Co-Representative for the Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education. Region VII represents DuPage and western Cook counties. IAASE is a network of special education leaders working to empower members through professional learning, leadership, and advocacy.