



## Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103

Memo

**To:** Board of Education

**From:** Riya Dhondi and Jocelyn Jerome

**CC:** Dr. Scott Warren

**Date:** April 21, 2026

**Re:** Student Representative Report April 2026

---

### Graduation and Awards: May 28th

The 8th-grade graduation ceremony is a momentous occasion as Daniel Wright students transition from their lives in middle school to their beginning in high school. Some parts of the program consist of the Graduation speaker, the 8th-grade awards, and the scholarship.

First, there are four final 8th-grade award winners that were nominated by their peers and students for displaying exemplary qualities. Currently, there are nine nominees: Amulya Addala, Katherine Bahng, Clara Buckley, Ishaan Chilamakuri, Aaron Gil, Jocelyn Jerome, Kavya Pavle, Alice Swerkun, and Daksh Tyagi. On April 14th and 15th, they had an interview with a panel of 8th-grade teachers and will know on the day of graduation when their name is called, who the winners are. The awards are given to the people who represent Daniel Wright with leadership, integrity, involvement, service, and scholarship.

Next, there will be a graduation speaker who will present their reflection on their time at Daniel Wright and inspire the class of 2026. The option for the chance to become the graduation speaker was opened up to the entire grade, and they were asked to write a speech that was thoughtful, inclusive, and focused on leadership and growth. After the written speeches were reviewed by a committee, 3 finalists were chosen and were asked to take a video of themselves saying their speech to hear how the speech sounds when delivered. The committee used this to find a speaker who delivers the speech clearly, confidently, and with expression.

In addition, the Dawn Anderson Scholarship is an opportunity for the graduating class. This \$2,500 award recognizes 8th-grade students who excel in volunteering and community service. To apply, students must submit an application form and receive a recommendation from a

teacher and a community member with a deadline on April 24, 2026. The many possibilities to be featured and engage in the graduation ceremony has been exciting for the 8-grade class.

### 8th Grade Dance

The 8th Grade Dance is an exciting event which celebrates the end of the 2026 school year, and features many enjoyable aspects. Hosted by the PTO, the eighth grade dance is an event which assists in transitioning the 8th graders into high school. It is an amazing opportunity which allows students to have fun, socialize, and make lasting memories with Daniel Wright.

The dance will take place on Friday, May 15, 2026. Occurring from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Daniel Wright Cafetorium. The dance is exclusive to 8th grade students and volunteers, creating a familiar environment. The dance will serve light snacks and beverages, including a variety of options for the students to choose from. Students will have an entertaining time eating, dancing, and spending time with their friends.

Additionally, this year's dance will have the theme of Neon. The decorations and atmosphere will coincide with the theme of Neon bringing enthusiasm as students get to wear bright colors coming to the dance. This therefore makes the experience of the dance much more memorable as students get to express themselves through fun clothing and dance with their friends under eye-catching lights.

Overall, the 8th-grade dance is a really exciting event for students to relax, have fun, and celebrate everything they've accomplished in middle school. Many students describe themselves to be anticipating it, and already planning with their friends for the experience. It's a great way to end the year with classmates and create lasting memories as the Class of 2026.

### Musical: Addams Family

The 8th grade production of 'The Addams Family' musical has been a crucial part of the year for many students at school, especially for those passionate in music and theater. It was an opportunity for Daniel Wright students to showcase their musical talents, collaborate, and be involved in a fun activity towards the end of the school year.

To start off, multiple students contributed to the musical, whether it was as a performer or a part of the backstage crew. The performers had been diligently memorizing their lines and working on choreography while the crew had been working on setting up props and organizing light and organization on the set. Every student involved played an important role, and the musical portrayed how well students can work together in a team.

The popular musical, *The Addams Family* was a comedic and slightly creepy production which takes place with a conflict with the family about keeping secrets from each other. This combination of comedy and spookiness created both a funny and engaging atmosphere.

The students spent an enormous amount of time and effort into the musical, delivering an amazing performance filled with expression and dedication. Overall, the 8th grade musical was a really exciting opportunity for students to express themselves through various kinds of art and get involved with the musical community before the school year ends.