



# On the Bluff

A joint publication  
of the Village of Lake Bluff  
the Lake Bluff Park District  
and Lake Bluff School District 65

*On the Bluff* is a publication of the Village of Lake Bluff, the Lake Bluff Park District, and Lake Bluff School District 65 as part of ongoing efforts to cooperate, provide mutual support, and share services to increase efficiencies for our shared taxpayers. Please let us know what you think, and what you'd like to read about. Email or call any of the contacts listed inside.

## Village News

### Keep our waterways clean by utilizing the following landscaping tips

Fall has arrived and the leaves are falling fast. Homeowners are reminded that good lawn maintenance practices can help keep waterways clean and help reduce flooding during heavy rainfalls. Leaves and branches that make their way to the streets can clog storm drains and may ultimately end up in either Lake Michigan or the East Skokie River during rainfall. In addition, excess fertilizers applied to your lawn can also wash into waterways. Leaves and fertilizers can add harmful levels of nutrients to the water and harm the aquatic habitat.

To assist residents in the proper disposal of leaves, brush and other landscape waste this season, the Village offers the following disposal guidelines:

- ▶ Bundle or bag landscape waste in a Kraft-type paper bag (available at home

*continued on page 3*



## Park District News

### Park District earns Distinguished Agency Accreditation

The Lake Bluff Park District will soon receive formal notice of having achieved **statewide Distinguished Agency Accreditation**. Only 16 percent of Illinois park and recreation agencies have achieved this status.

On September 27, the Park District was evaluated for the accreditation program, a voluntary comprehensive evaluation process governed by the Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association. The goal of the Illinois Distinguished Accreditation program is to improve the delivery of recreation services to the residents of Illinois with the desired result of improving the quality of life for Illinois residents and recognizing those agencies that provide this quality service. Only 59 of 348 (17%) Park Districts, Conservation Districts, Special

*continued on page 5*



## School District News

### LBMS renovations finish on time and on budget

The Lake Bluff Middle School renovation and construction is complete. The project finished on time and on-budget before school began in September.

Lake Bluff now has a modern, well-equipped and effective place for learning. The project included:

- ▶ Renovation of the entire front entrance to make it accessible and ADA-compliant and to add a vestibule to increase building security;
- ▶ Complete renovation of the three Science classrooms;
- ▶ Major renovation and expansion of the Library/Media Center to make it the core of the building, and placement of the frontispiece from the original Lake Bluff School in a prominent location—see above;

*continued on page 6*



LAKE BLUFF SCHOOLS  
DISTRICT 65

# News from the Village of Lake Bluff

## Landscaping tips

*continued from front*

improvement stores everywhere) no larger than 32 gallon capacity or 50 pounds in weight;

- ▶ Individual pieces of brush and/or branches are not to exceed 6 inches in diameter;
- ▶ Bundle waste to ensure it does not exceed 2 feet in diameter and 4 feet in length overall or exceed 50 pounds;
- ▶ Ensure bundled waste is securely tied with only twine as plastic, metal or rope ties are prohibited at compost sites;
- ▶ Mulch leaves into your lawn, place them into flower beds or under shrubs rather than discarding them; and
- ▶ When participating in Village landscape waste collection days, place your landscape waste at the curb on the day of collection to lessen the chance of it finding its way into the street and storm drains.

Residents are also reminded to observe the Village's following landscape work hours:

- ▶ **Monday – Friday:** 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.;
- ▶ **Saturday/Sunday/holidays:** 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and
- ▶ **Maintenance performed by property owners:** In addition to the permitted hours of operation listed above, property owners performing landscape maintenance activities themselves on their own property may do so to dusk any day of the week.

The Village encourages residents who use professional landscapers for yard maintenance to share these guidelines and landscape hours of operation with the crew members. For more information on permitted landscape maintenance activities, please contact Village Hall at 847-234-0774, or visit [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org).

## Upcoming election information

**Nomination papers for the upcoming April 2017 Consolidated Election for Village President, Village Clerk, Village Trustee and Library Trustee may be filed at Village Hall from December 12 to December 19, 2016 during regular business hours. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., however, Village Hall will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on December 19th.**

## Village President's message

### Dear Neighbors,

Summer is over and colder temperatures are moving in. As we settle into the winter months I'm reminded of the beautiful Lake Bluff summer we enjoyed – the Fourth of July Parade, farmers' markets, downtown block parties and the Criterium race, which was exciting despite the rain. Using this time of year to reflect, please allow me to share with you some updates on the Village.

### Strategic Plan 2023

It has been five years since the Village last conducted its first contemporary strategic planning process, which yielded the Village's 2016 Strategic Plan. This document has become a blueprint helping to define our organizational direction and provide a framework for decision making and resource allocation for Village leadership. Again this fall, in the spirit of public transparency and community engagement, the Village began a process to complete a strategic plan for 2023. In August the Guidance Team, comprised of nine residents, was engaged for advice and guidance to enhance stakeholder representation throughout the process. The work by the Guidance Team set the stage for six resident interviews, and the selection of 40 individuals from a broad cross section of the community, to come together and share their vision for the Village in 2023. The large amount of data about our Village that was generated over these two workshops is now being synthesized into a Draft Strategic Plan for 2023. The Draft Strategic Plan will be made available to the community for comment in advance of an open invitation Community Dialogue. I encourage you to stay tuned for updates at [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org) and join us that evening to share your thoughts on the Plan before it's considered for adoption by the Village Board.

### Comprehensive Plan Update

Different from a strategic plan, which is focused on resource allocation to attain a community-wide vision centered around a more compressed timeframe, comprehensive plans are written to guide the public and private future development and growth of the Village for 10 to 15 years. As you may recall earlier this year the Village's existing Comprehensive Plan was amended to incorporate planning principles for the future redevelopment of Blocks Two and Three of the Central Business District. Although recently amended, the planning elements (i.e. transportation, housing, economic development, environmental resources, among others) that comprise the Comprehensive Plan have not been thoroughly updated since 1997. The Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals (PCZBA) is leading this endeavor where the Commissioners, with feedback from the community and the assistance of Village Staff and other professional experts, will gather data, analyze existing and future conditions, and formulate goals and objectives to accomplish the update to the Plan. The success of this update depends on participation from the community and I encourage you to attend meetings and participate in this community-building process. The PCZBA meets every third Wednesday, and may hold special meetings in the event agendas are full with zoning petitions,

## Village of Lake Bluff

40 E. Center Avenue  
Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044  
Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
847-234-0774  
[vlb@lakebluff.org](mailto:vlb@lakebluff.org)  
[www.lakebluff.org](http://www.lakebluff.org)

### Village Board of Trustees

Kathleen O'Hara, President  
Aaron Towle, Village Clerk  
Barbara Akenman      Steve Christensen  
Mark Dewart      Eric Grenier  
John Josephitis      William Meyer



## NORTH SHORE LIFE LAKE BLUFF STYLE

so keep updated by visiting [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org) for updates on the process and meeting schedule.

### Downtown Redevelopment

As you may have read, The Roanoke Group withdrew its petition to redevelop Central Business District (CBD) Block Three with a three-story, 16 unit condominium building. Although the proposed development project was withdrawn, the Planned Mixed-Use Development (PMD) regulations text amendment to the Zoning Code was approved giving the Village an additional tool in its land use planning toolbox. Please know that in response to public comments regarding three-story structures and scale of the CBD, the Village Board approved the text amendment with a limitation on the new PMD regulations height of any structure in a planned mixed-use development to 30 feet. The PMD regulations, just like regulations for planned commercial and planned residential developments, are what give the Village the ability to accomplish its goals for future growth and development outlined in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. In summary, the PMD regulations allow modifications from the traditional use, setback and bulk

regulations to promote thoughtful land use planning across different zoning districts (multi-family, single-family and downtown business district). Through the PMD's flexibility these sensitive locations in and adjacent to the CBD can be redeveloped using procedures and standards that provide opportunities for public input and affords the Village more control than traditional zoning.

### Household Waste Collection

The household waste collection contract with Groot Industries for the collection and disposal of refuse, recycling and landscape waste expires in February. The Village has solicited bids from various local waste hauling companies that allow the Village to focus on a) improving services and consumer choice and b) advancing the Village's goals and objectives related to sustainability. Stay tuned for more on this important Village service contract award.

### Property Tax Levy

On November 28th (at 7:00 p.m.) the Village Board is scheduled to conduct a public hearing to consider the 2016 property tax levy for the Village and Library. I and the Board encourage you to attend and participate in the discussion. Following the public hearing the Village Board will consider first reading of the Property Tax Levy Ordinance. Consistent with all public meetings, information such as the meeting packet materials, will be available at [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org) prior to the meeting. Additionally, questions may be addressed by contacting Finance Director Susan Griffin at 847-283-6890.

Wishing you safe and happy holidays,

*Kathleen O'Hara, Village President*

## Holiday household waste collection

### Thanksgiving:

- ▶ Refuse, recycling and yard waste collections will remain the same for Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd;
- ▶ The second collection day (Thursday or Friday) for those households receiving a la carte collection services will occur on Friday, November 25th; and
- ▶ Non-emergency Village offices will be closed on November 24th and 25th. Non-emergency Village offices will commence with regular hours of operation (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) on Monday, November 28th.

### Christmas:

- ▶ Residents receiving refuse, recycling and yard waste collections on Monday, December 26th will have household waste picked-up on Tuesday, December 27th;
- ▶ Residents receiving refuse, recycling and yard waste collections on Tuesday, December 27th will have their household waste picked-up on Wednesday, December 28th;
- ▶ The second collection day (Thursday or Friday) for those households receiving a la carte collection services will occur on Friday, December 30th; and
- ▶ Non-emergency Village offices will be closed on Monday, December 26th. Non-emergency Village offices will commence with regular hours of operation (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) on Tuesday, December 27th.

### New Year's:

- ▶ Residents receiving refuse, recycling and yard waste collections on Monday, January 2nd will have their household waste picked-up on Tuesday, January 3rd;
- ▶ Residents receiving refuse, recycling and yard waste collections on Tuesday, January 3rd will have their household waste picked-up on Wednesday, January 4th;
- ▶ The second collection day (Thursday or Friday) for those households receiving a la carte collection services will occur on Friday, January 6th; and
- ▶ Non-emergency Village offices will be closed on Monday, January 2nd and will commence with regular hours on Tuesday, January 3rd.

## Upcoming *It's a Wonderful Life* event

On December 3rd join friends and neighbors for Lake Bluff's annual **"It's a Wonderful Life ... in Lake Bluff!"** a day-long celebration in the holiday spirit sponsored by the Lake Bluff Downtown Merchants, Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Lake Bluff. Starting at 12:00 p.m., the downtown will come alive with the sights, sounds and tastes of the season along with in-store promotions and gift ideas for all ages. Be sure to catch the Gazebo Lighting celebration on the Village Green. Visit [BuzzOnTheBluff.com](http://BuzzOnTheBluff.com) for more information.

# News from Lake Bluff Park District

## Park District earns statewide Distinguished Agency Accreditation

*continued from front*

Special Recreation Associations and Forest Preserve Districts have achieved Accreditation. Accreditation process benefits include:

### Agency

- ▶ Recognizes that the recreation agency provides exceptional park and recreation services to its community
- ▶ Increases operational efficiency and effectiveness
- ▶ Offers opportunity for updating and clarifying policies and procedures

### Community

- ▶ Improves quality of life for community through delivery of exceptional park and recreation services
- ▶ Meets professional standards for facilities and services

- ▶ Acknowledges recreation agency as employing qualified professionals
- ▶ Recognizes agency as a leader in the State of Illinois in the field of parks and recreation

### Staff

- ▶ Recognizes that the recreation agency provides exceptional park and recreation services to its community
- ▶ Offers opportunity for updating and clarification of policies and procedures

### Board

- ▶ Acknowledges elected officials as effective and efficient guardians of the public interest in parks and recreation and of the public resources provided for recreation opportunities
- ▶ Forces board to address policy issues on an established timetable

On November 21, the Park District will receive formal approval for having achieved Accreditation status and on January 20 will be recognized for its achievement at the state conference, in front of 5,000 people including Legislators.

## Park District earns Certificate for excellence in financial reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the Lake Bluff Park District its highest form of recognition, the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

The recognition for accounting and financial reporting was given by the association of public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada for the fiscal year ending December 15, 2015. The GFOA has more than 18,000 members who are federal, state/provincial, and local finance officials deeply involved in planning, financing, and implementing thousands of governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions.

The recognition is a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

## Donations fund paddle court

The Lake Bluff Park District will construct an additional court at the Paddle Club. The addition of a new court will allow for expansion of the number of members and league teams. "As a three court facility, our club is restricted to the number of teams we may field," stated Ed Heiser, Superintendent of Facility Services.

Funding for the remainder of the project is from private donations, grants awarded by the Chicago Platform Tennis Charities and American Platform Tennis Association and event proceeds from the annual North Shore Kickoff Classic. Less than six-percent of the \$126,540 (\$7,500) project is being funded directly from the Park District

"This is a great example of a public and private partnership where our residents and members who wanted this project completed took it upon themselves to secure the resources to make it possible," noted Heiser.

## New at the Fitness Center

The Lake Bluff Park District Fitness Center, "Where Healthy Happens," would like to let the community know about many new "things" happening at our facility that should interest everyone who wants to develop a healthier, more active lifestyle!

**Lake Bluff Community Fitness Days:** One day every month is designated as LB Community Fitness Day! Anyone (13 and older) from Lake Bluff can utilize the fitness facility and/or participate in any of our regularly-scheduled group fitness classes for free! Upcoming Community Fitness dates include (2017 dates coming soon!):

- ▶ Monday, November 21st
- ▶ Monday, December 19th

**Youth Fitness programs:** The LB Fitness Center introduced our youth fitness programs this Fall. The initial schedule included Zumba, Yoga, Kickboxing Fitness and Strength Training.

**New membership plans with flexible options:** The Lake Bluff Fitness Center now offers a more flexible membership structure that provides options for individuals and families, including:

- ▶ Membership duration options – Monthly, Quarterly and Annual
- ▶ Membership types – Fitness Center, Group Fitness, Track, Combination (all 3 options)
- ▶ Daily Fee that is good for 24 hours and includes group fitness classes

**Free One Week Trial for Group Fitness Classes:** We are now offering a free, one week trial Group Fitness membership – the chance to check out our 35+ group fitness classes per week.

**ALED (Active Living Every Day):** This is a new wellness program being offered through the Fitness Center, for the "non-exerciser." Starts in January 2017. Contact the Fitness Center for more information!

**Fitness Center Open House – January 7: Join us for special membership deals, free classes, prizes and more!**

## Park District volunteers honored

**Jack and Kathy Sheppard** were awarded the Illinois Association of Park District's Illinois Outstanding Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award and Park Board Commissioner Kurt Gronau received achievement recognition for his twenty years of Park Board service at the Illinois Association of Park Districts "Best of the Best Awards Gala."

Longtime Lake Bluff residents, Jack and Kathy have contributed time, inspiration and leadership to the Lake Bluff Park District and Lake Bluff community.

As a founding member of the Friends of Lake Bluff Parks Foundation, Jack helped establish the groundwork for what has become a tremendous asset to the District. Most recently, the Friends Foundation donated \$50,000 to improve the facilities at Lake Bluff's beach.

Jack and Kathy embarked on a personal endeavor to positively impact the community. They started an annual skateboard tournament in memory of their son, for whom skateboarding was a passion. Donations raised through this event were put toward the improvement and maintenance of the skate park, and totaled over \$27,000. Kathy's organization and dedication to the event made it special for everyone involved.

**Kurt Gronau** has helped the Park District make tremendous strides and become a vital part of the community. Kurt has been a mentor to new Board Members and a terrific supporter of staff. He is innovative in his approach and always encourages value for programs and services. Kurt Gronau is the longest standing Board of Commissioner in the Park District's history.

His commitment and support through both prosperous and challenging economic times sets the standard for Board members. Kurt has sacrificed his time and provided knowledge to lead the Lake Bluff Park District to become the truly special place it is today. Kurt Gronau has made a difference and will step aside to let other residents lead the Park District after his last Board Meeting in May, 2017.

We hope you will join us in thanking them for their dedication as we acknowledge and applaud their efforts.

## Park Board President's message

Dear Lake Bluff Park District Residents:

Fall always represents a time of change and that accurately describes our work here at the Lake Bluff Park District.

Artesian and Blair Park Playgrounds have undergone extensive reconstruction this fall. The old playgrounds were completely removed and are in the process of being replaced with brand new equipment. The playground will be safer, modern and more fun. I look forward to seeing the children enjoy them when they re-open this spring. As responsible stewards, we donated the Artesian playground equipment to Kids Around the World. They refurbish and recycle playgrounds for re-installation all across the globe in countries affected by war, poverty, disease or natural disasters.

Aside from the obvious upgrades to our parks and facilities, we continually strive to improve our programs and services as well. Our Health & Fitness Center offers a wide range of new activities geared toward people of all ages. We want to provide ways for everyone in Lake Bluff to be healthy and have fun. Our Preschool, Enrichment Programs and School of Dance are just a few other services we provide that offer ways to improve body and mind.

As 2017 approaches, I take stock in everything I am thankful for: the support of our residents, the tireless work of our citizen volunteers, the dedication of the staff and the amazing community that is Lake Bluff. The Park District is grateful to be a part of this community, and looks forward to strengthening its spirit at every possible opportunity.

I wish you and yours have a very happy holiday season.

Best regards,

Rob Douglass, Board President



### New cross country ski trails:

This winter we will use a "Trakor" Cross Country ski trail groomer to make cross country ski trails on the Lake Bluff Golf Course! Watch our website for details.

## Lake Bluff Park District

355 W. Washington Avenue Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044

Phone 847-234-4150 • [www.lakebluffparks.org](http://www.lakebluffparks.org) • [info@lakebluffparkdistrict.org](mailto:info@lakebluffparkdistrict.org)

### Your Park District Board

Rob Douglass, President  
Brock Gordon, Vice President  
Bob Wallace, Treasurer  
Kurt Gronau  
Kauri McKendry  
Susan Ehrhard  
Chris Mosberger

Ancel Glink Diamond Bush DiCianni  
& Krafthefer, P.C., Attorney

### Park Board Meetings

The Park Board meetings are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month at Lake Bluff Park District Recreation Center at Blair Park, 355 W. Washington Avenue in Lake Bluff.

The public is invited to attend meetings. Please visit [www.lakebluffparks.org](http://www.lakebluffparks.org) for Committee meeting agendas and to view all regular Board meetings online.

# News from the Lake Bluff Schools

## Finance update

### Bond refinancing to save approximately \$1.4 million

In April 2016, the Board refinanced approximately \$8.8 million of outstanding 2008 bonds at a lower interest rate. **This will save taxpayers about \$1.4 million over the life of the bonds.** The Board is analyzing the refinancing of the remaining \$6 million of outstanding debt.

### Balanced Budget passed

**The annual Operating Budget for 2016-17, passed in late September, is a balanced budget.** The District's fund balance reserve is expected to end the year at 39% of annual operating expenditures, comfortably near the middle of the School Board's policy that calls for a range of 30 to 50%.

Operating funds from local property taxes are expected to increase by 1.7% – 0.8% contributed by existing property and 0.9% from the Target complex and other new property added to the tax rolls. **Included in this year's budget were also some very significant and generous donations from the Lake Bluff PTO, Lake Bluff Alliance for Excellence, and The Kiwanis Club of Lake Bluff & Lake Forest.**

**The Middle School additions and renovations project was completed on time and on budget.** When moving into a new facility there are always start-up expenses, and this year's operating budget contains a substantial amount of supplies, capital, and moving expense associated with occupying the new building. Because many of these expenses are one-time, non-recurring in nature, the District is in good financial shape heading into next year.

### Keeping an eye to the future

With the construction project completed, the District now has two relatively new buildings. **This year the District will be assessing its facilities, equipment and technology and creating a long term capital plan.**

More information on the bond refinancing and the District 65 budget can be found online at [www.lb65.org](http://www.lb65.org) or by contacting Jay Kahn at 847-234-9400.

## Middle School renovation report

*continued from front*

- ▶ Relocation of classrooms from the basement to the main floor, creating a wing for World Language classes. Fine Arts classrooms moved next to the Band room to create a Fine Arts wing; and
- ▶ Relocation of all Student Services classrooms to the main floor from the Library loft.

A community engagement process that began in 2014 drove design decisions. A key objective was

to expand the campus and create a modern, "future ready school."

The LBMS renovation made it possible for the District offices to move from an office building to the Middle School's lower level. The move saves approximately \$60,000 in lease expense per year, and brings the staff closer together to save time and streamline projects.



*The new LBMS STEAM Lab comfortably houses 24 students, with two at each computer. The lab and programs were made possible by the Lake Bluff PTO.*

## STEAM Lab prepares students for future

The new STEAM Lab at Lake Bluff Middle School opened this fall, and it is giving students hands-on, creative learning experiences useful in high school and beyond. STEAM refers to the deeply intertwined subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Creativity and Mathematics. Students benefit from a real-world, interdisciplinary approach to these fields.

The STEAM program encourages students to guide the learning process themselves, as opposed to listening to a lecture or doing assignments. Students choose a partner and begin work on three projects they select for the trimester. They quickly take ownership, practicing collaboration, problem-solving, creativity, time management, communication of ideas and self-direction.

There are endless possibilities for projects," explains Adrienne Olmstead, who shares STEAM facilitating duties with Daryl Beese. "A team might program a robot to travel through a maze or create a video." Mr. Beese adds, "Lake Bluff students are choosing areas of study they haven't experienced before. If they like film, we encourage them to try circuitry. Students who identify with science and engineering are urged toward graphic design or art." The program uses standards established by the International Society for Technology in Education.

"It's great to see our students persevere," says Ms. Olmstead. "They discover that 'It didn't work' is a starting point for problem-solving and learning and they just dig in more." Daily self-reflections and class presentations reinforce that the process can be more important than the final results. "Reviewing how they dealt with a challenge is part of the learning process, and helps students become more well-rounded."

To introduce the new Lab and its possibilities, every student is taking STEAM classes this year. Next year, STEAM classes will be a requirement for 6th grade students, and 7th and 8th graders can choose them as a Fine Arts elective.

## Update on Lake Bluff Elementary School's approach to reading and writing

Several Lake Bluff Elementary School teachers collaborated this summer during national teacher training by the highly esteemed Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Institute.

They came away with new understandings of reading and writing instruction to share with their Lake Bluff colleagues. Ideas included methods for instruction in a workshop model with mini lessons, independent practice, teacher conferencing and small group work with the teacher.

These efforts continue the District emphasis on reading and writing across all subjects, and foster a lifelong love of reading and writing.

Teachers at each grade level worked three days in late summer to learn more about the new practices. They planned a balanced literacy program that fosters a strong reading/writing connection, and organized classroom libraries to support the reading workshop model, a key component of the curriculum.

As the school year goes on, teachers' work will continue with staff meetings and early-release-day trainings organized for continued planning and development.

"Once again, Lake Bluff teachers have given the community reason to take great pride in their schools," says District 65 Superintendent Dr. Jean Sophie. "These brilliant, dedicated educators bring joy and rigor to their classrooms each day as they challenge every student to meet and exceed high expectations."



**LAKE BLUFF  
SCHOOLS  
DISTRICT 65**

## School Board President's message

Dear Fellow Community Members:

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. Despite the planned late start, by now all our students, families, teachers and staff are settled back into their academic routines.

Life at the newly renovated Middle School is bustling with excitement. The amount of energy created by the new layout is incredible. The smiles on all the faces of people seeing the new interior are a joy to observe. Every day teachers and students alike are discovering even more exciting ways to use all the new learning environments. The collaborative learning in all the open spaces is an inspiring glimpse into the future of education.

Over 100 community members came to the open house and tours in October, and your feedback to the Board has been very positive. We hope that you feel as though we have spent your money wisely. The project came in on time and under budget.

If you would like to tour the renovated facility, please don't hesitate to schedule a visit by contacting the District office staff at 847-234-9400 ext. 1603. Why don't you come in to see your new Middle School for yourself?

Thank you, and let's keep in touch.

All the best,

Mark Barry, Board President

## Let's connect!

- ▶ **Online:** Explore [www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org), [es.LB65.org](http://es.LB65.org) and [ms.LB65.org](http://ms.LB65.org) for school news, Board actions and meeting videos, District information and more.
- ▶ **Facebook:** "Like" **Lake Bluff Elementary District 65** to see photos and get updates on school news.
- ▶ **Twitter:** Follow **@LakeBluffSD65** or search for Search for **#LB65** for occasional updates, photos and reminders.

## Lake Bluff School District 65

121 East Sheridan Place Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044

Phone 847-234-9400 • [www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org) • email: [news@LB65.org](mailto:news@LB65.org)

*Excellence in Education, Enthusiasm for Life, Every Student, Every Day.*

### Your District 65 School Board

Mark Barry, President

John Marozsan, Vice President

Leigh Ann Charlot, Secretary

Julie Gottshall

Richard Hegg

Philip Hood

Susan Rider-Porter

### School Board Meetings

Regular School Board meetings are usually held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Committee of the Whole meetings are usually held at 7:00 p.m. on the Tuesday two weeks prior to the regular meetings of the School Board. Unless otherwise announced, meetings are held in the Lake Bluff Village Hall, 40 E. Center Avenue. Meetings are televised live within Village boundaries on Comcast Channel 19 and rebroadcast throughout the week. Videos of the meetings are available at [www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org) within 10 days.

Village of Lake Bluff  
Lake Bluff Park District  
Lake Bluff School District 65  
40 E. Center Avenue  
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

## News inside:

### Village of Lake Bluff

Tips for clean waterways  
Holiday waste collection  
2017 election information  
"It's a Wonderful Life ... in Lake Bluff!"

### Lake Bluff Park District

Park District honored with state Accreditation  
Volunteers honored  
Paddle Club adds court  
New at the Fitness Center

### Lake Bluff School District 65

Middle School renovations complete  
New LBMS STEAM Lab  
Finance update  
Reading and writing update

Postal Customer  
Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044

# On the Bluff

A joint publication  
of the Village of Lake Bluff  
the Lake Bluff Park District  
and Lake Bluff School District 65

## Village of Lake Bluff meetings and events

Please check [lakebluff.org](http://lakebluff.org) for  
agendas and cancellations  
847-234-0774

### November

24 Non-emergency offices closed – Thanksgiving  
25 Non-emergency offices closed – Thanksgiving  
28 Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.  
30 SEC Meeting 7 p.m.

### December

3 It's a Wonderful Life event  
6 Architectural Board of Review 7 p.m.  
12 Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.  
14 Historic Preservation Commission 7 p.m.  
21 Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals 7 p.m.  
26 Non-emergency offices closed – Christmas  
28 SEC Meeting 7 p.m.

### January

2 Non-emergency offices closed – New Years  
3 Architectural Board of Review 7 p.m.  
9 Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.  
11 Historic Preservation Commission 7 p.m.  
18 Plan Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals 7 p.m.  
23 Village Board Meeting 7 p.m.  
25 SEC Meeting 7 p.m.

Please know some newsletter recipients may not receive services, or qualify for programs, offered by the Village of Lake Bluff.

Visit [www.LakeBluff.org](http://www.LakeBluff.org) for an online calendar, Village news and more.

## Park District meetings and events

[www.lakebluffparks.org](http://www.lakebluffparks.org)  
847-234-4150

### Fitness Center Open House

On January 7th, 2017, come join us for some fun in fitness, special deals on memberships, and many more activities that date! Contact the Fitness Center for more information!

The Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, except as noted below, and regular meetings of the Board of Park Commissioners are held on the third Monday of the month as noted in the following schedule. Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center, 355 W. Washington Avenue, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

### December

5 Committee of the Whole Meeting  
10 Breakfast with Santa  
12\* Regular Board Meeting

### January

7 Fitness Center Open House  
9\* Committee of the Whole Meeting  
16 Regular Board Meeting

### February

6 Committee of the Whole Meeting  
20 Regular Board Meeting  
25 Daddy Daughter Dance

\* second Monday of the Month

See the online calendar at  
[www.lakebluffparks.org/meetings.html](http://www.lakebluffparks.org/meetings.html)  
for Park Board and Committee meetings.

## School District events and news

[www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org)  
847-234-9400

### November

23-25 Thanksgiving Break – No school  
30 LBMS Winter Chorus Concert 7 p.m.

### December

1 LBMS Winter Band Concert 7 p.m.  
8 Early Release: LBES 1:45 p.m./LBMS 2:10 p.m.  
13 Regular Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.\*  
19 Winter Break begins – through January 2

### January

3 Institute Day for Teachers – No school  
10 Board Committee of the Whole 7 p.m.\*  
11 Early Release: LBES 1:45 p.m./LBMS 2:10 p.m.  
16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school  
24 Regular Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.\*  
30 LBES Choral and Band concerts 6 p.m.

### February

8 Early Release: LBES 1:45 p.m./LBMS 2:10 p.m.  
14 Board Committee of the Whole 7 p.m.\*  
20 Presidents Day – No school\*\*  
28 Regular Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.\*

\* Unless otherwise announced, Board meetings are at 7 p.m. in the Lake Bluff Village Hall, 40 E. Center Avenue. See page 6 for details.

\*\*Emergency day if needed

Sign up at [www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org) for Superintendent's updates

See the online calendar at  
[www.LB65.org](http://www.LB65.org) for more Lake Bluff school and District 65 events