

Warren Connection: Spring Is On The Way

March 19, 2021



Warren Township High School District 121 is asking voters to consider a referendum to provide revenue to maintain the academic, athletic and activity programming currently offered. Proceeds from the limiting rate referendum would also improve academic support and mental health services.

Please visit the WTHS website at www.d121.org/referendumapril2021 for information about the April 6, 2021, referendum question, including, but not limited to:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- The March 9 informational webinar recording
- The informational video
- Charts comparing WTHS with other Lake County high schools
- Details about how to join the March 30 community informational webinar

Learn more about the April 6 election and voter information, as provided by the Lake County Clerk's office:

<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4138/April-6-2021-Consolidated-Election>

- Election day is Tuesday, April 6, (6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- Early voting countywide is March 22 to April 5
- Vote by mail: Look for online link at www.lakecountyil.gov/343/Voting-Options

STAY CONNECTED TO WTHS



Warren's website, at www.d121.org, is a key link to staying connected with our current programs and projects.



Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WTHSDistrict121>

#WeAreWarren

PowerSchool



Please make sure your contact information on file is up to date. This will ensure you receive all communications in a timely manner.

PowerSchool can also be used to access student schedules, grades, attendance, and other useful student information.



Principals' Twitter

[Almond Campus Principal Twitter Account](#)

[O'Plaine Principal Twitter](#)



Principals' YouTube


[Almond Campus Principal YouTube Account](#)

[O'Plaine Principal YouTube](#)


Blue Devils:



**REMEMBER THE 3
W'S:**

 **W**ear a Mask

 **W**atch your
distance--6 Ft

 **W**ash your Hands

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Board of Education News

April 6 WTHS Referendum Summary & Voter Information



Community Informational Webinar – March 30 at 7:00 p.m.

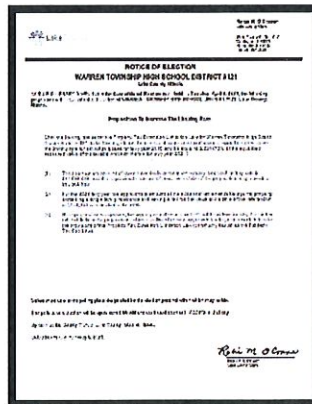
The District will host an informational webinar that will include opportunities for questions and answers. The virtual meeting link will be provided prior to the webinar on the District's webpage, at <https://www.d121.org/Page/745>.

View the Community
Informational Webinar
from March 9 at

<https://www.d121.org/Page/745>

Referendum Summary

- 35-cent limiting rate referendum
- Original proposal reduced by 40%
- Proposed use of limiting rate funds:
 - Maintain length of school day (8 periods)
 - Preserve curricular and co-curricular programs
 - Ensure full participation in career and technical education classes at the Technology Campus
 - Continue offering many Advanced Placement (AP) courses
 - Improve academic support and mental health services
 - Prevent the elimination or reduction of many activities and clubs, including band, drama, choir
 - Prevent the elimination of many athletic programs or levels within programs
- Maintain an adequate fund balance
 - Help protect the District's credit rating
 - Reduce the need for short-term borrowing



BALLOT QUESTION ON THE
APRIL 6, 2021 CONSOLIDATED
ELECTION

Election Details

- Election day is Tuesday, April 6 (6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- Early voting countywide is March 22 to April 5
- Vote by mail: Look for online link at www.lakecountylil.gov/343/Voting-Options



WTHS Board of Education

Paul Schulz, President
John R. Anderson, Vice-President
Bency Beals, Secretary
Katherine Blair, Member
Tony DeMonte, Member
Thomas Drake, Member
Jonita C. Wilson, Member

Recap of February 23, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

Presentations and reports were provided for the following items:

- Superintendent's Report, including monthly reports for February 2021
- Treasurer's Reports for January 2021
- Update about the Referendum Question on the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election
- Return to School Information and Related Information

The Board approved the following items:

- Personnel recommendations for 70 employees, coaches, sponsors and prospective candidates
- Payment of bills in the amount of \$3,783,850.37
- Regular and Executive Session minutes of February 9, 2021
- Approval of the FY22 Tentative Staffing Plan

Recap of March 9, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

Presentations and reports were provided for the following items:

- Public Hearing for Reduction in Force
- Curriculum Committee, March 10, 2021
- Department Report: Physical Development
- Superintendent's Report including monthly reports for March 2021
- Treasurer's Reports for February 2021
- Update about the Referendum Question on the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election
- Return to School Information and Related Information

The Board approved the following items:

- Personnel recommendations for 22 employees, coaches, sponsors and prospective candidates
- Payment of bills in the amount of \$4,366,521.85
- Regular and Executive Session minutes of February 23, 2021
- Approval of the Resolution for Honorable Dismissal of Teachers
- First and Final Reading of District Board Policy 6:300, Graduation Requirements
- Approval of Extension of Food Service Management Agreement beginning July 1, 2021
- Approval of Auditing Services beginning with the 2020-2021 School Year

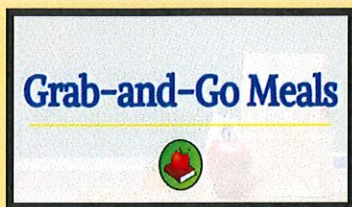
Superintendent's Corner

by Dr. John P. Ahlgrim, Superintendent of Schools



Grab-and-Go Meals

Over spring break, our Grab-and-Go meal distribution will be on Tuesday, March 23, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at the O'Plaine Campus ONLY.



Do you have questions or need more information about the WTHS referendum question on the April 6 ballot?

Call Dr. John Ahlgrim
at 847-548-7144
or email
jahlgrim@wthsh.net

Return to School Status

Detailed information about our hybrid learning model and health requirements can be found in the Return to School Plan on our district's website, at www.d121.org/returntoschool.

Hybrid and Remote Learners

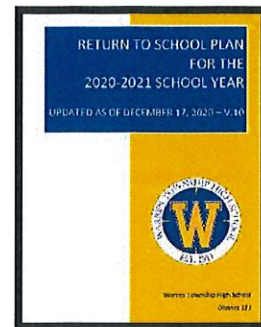
Thank you to our staff and students for a very safe and successful transition to in-person instruction using our 50% hybrid plan. We have a large number of students who will continue to complete their coursework for the school year in a fully remote status. Based on the actual number of students attending in person through our hybrid plan, we will be increasing the frequency of in-person learning days.

Beginning Monday, April 5, for students attending in-person learning, we will start our 100% hybrid plan. All hybrid students will be on campus for every blue and gold schedule day.

We are confident we can safely make this transition for the final stretch of the school year, provided we continue to be diligent in our mitigation efforts on campus and on school buses. We still expect six feet of social distancing in classrooms and general spaces. This plan will also allow us to make a smooth transition with the use of our hybrid blue and gold schedule for all students, while remaining focused on continued academic growth through the remainder of the school year.

Our building administration will send out additional information, including specific details about our hybrid schedule for students who will be attending in person, as well as any changes to expectations in mitigation requirements that have been recently announced by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

We encourage our parents to stay informed about their child's attendance and academic performance. Please reach out to your student's teachers with any questions regarding their academic progress. Let's keep our students strong as they near the end of the school year.



News from Instructional Services

by Christopher J. Geocaris, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services

State Testing Information

In April, all 11th grade students will be taking the SAT and the Illinois Science Assessment. Detailed information on these tests and the schedules and locations for our testing days will be shared in the upcoming weeks.

Our scheduled test dates for this spring are:

- Monday, April 12: Illinois Science Assessment for 11th Grade Students
- Tuesday, April 13: SAT for 11th Grade Students



On **April 12 and April 13**: All 9th, 10th, and 12th grade students will be assigned asynchronous work to be completed in lieu of scheduled class times.

We will return to our normal daily schedules on **Wednesday, April 14**. Please refer to the Hybrid Schedule Calendar on our [Return to School](#) webpage for further details.



For questions about the Illinois Science Assessment, please contact Peter Kupfer, Assistant Principal at the O'Plaine Campus, at pkupfer@wths.net

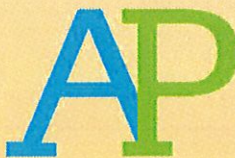


For questions about the SAT, please contact Matthew Jones, Assistant Principal at the Almond Campus, at mjones@wths.net

Advanced Placement Testing Information

The College Board has allowed school districts to shift the AP Testing window this year to allow for additional instructional time prior to the administration of AP Exams. Warren Township High School will administer the AP Exams from May 18 to May 28. Students who are registered for AP Exams will receive additional, detailed communication regarding their exam schedules.

If you have any questions regarding the 2021 AP Exams, please contact Matthew Jones, Assistant Principal at the Almond Campus, at mjones@wths.net



Student Instructional Support

<https://www.d121.org/domain/135>

Click the link above for information on:

- Technology help
- Health Office and COVID-19 information
- Materials for class
- Educational resources for parents and students
- Netiquette basics for online learning



News From Student Services

by Dr. Patrick W. Keeley, Associate Superintendent of Student Services



College and Career Information

Almond Campus	<p>Virtual College Visits have resumed! Juniors and seniors can access the Zoom link in Maia Learning under Universities, Visits. Students are only able to attend if the college visit is during their assigned lunch or study hall period. Click HERE for a video on how to sign up and access the virtual link.</p> <p>Test Prep Resources for juniors leading up to the April 13 SAT</p>
O'Plaine Campus	<p>O'Plaine students who missed the Scholarship Workshop on March 10 can view the presentation video and resources, which are in their WTHS email.</p> <p>College Virtual Visits have started! College representatives will be virtually visiting with interested freshmen and sophomores during their lunch or study hall period. Students must sign up by the end of the day prior to the visit here. Those who sign up will receive the meeting link prior to the visit.</p>

COVID Safety Protocols



Please make sure your child is making good choices during the break. As we increase the number of students entering the building, it is important that everyone does their part. Please follow the 3 W's:

Always **W**atch your distance, **W**ash your hands, and **W**ear a mask. If everyone does this, we will eliminate the need to quarantine and keep everyone safe.

We hope everyone will have a safe and relaxing break. Please make sure to discuss the importance of finishing the semester strong with your student. After spring break, the time available to improve grades will start to diminish quickly. Please make sure students finish the semester as strong as they started.

Attention Current Junior Students

All students entering 12 grade will be required to show proof of recent meningococcal conjugate vaccination (MCV). This vaccination will prevent your student from contracting a severe bacterial meningitis and other illnesses caused by the bacterium.

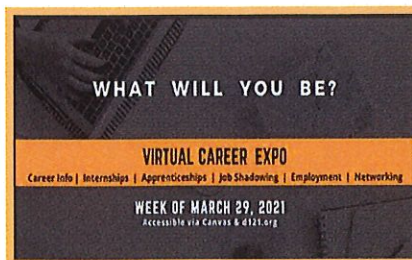
All 12 graders who received their first dose prior to their 16th birthday must have a second dose on or after their 16th birthday. If a child is receiving the first dose on or after their 16th birthday, only one dose is required.

- A letter or note signed by your healthcare provider identifying the date the MCV was administered.
- A printout from your provider's electronic medical record (EMR) that indicates the vaccine was administered.
- A current Certificate of Child Health Examination form, specifying the date the MCV was administered.
- A Certificate of Religious Exemption, signed by a healthcare provider, if parents or legal guardians object, for religious reasons, to their child being immunized.

Students without adequate proof of the meningococcal vaccination will be subject to exclusion from school, beginning with the first day of attendance, until proof of immunization is reviewed by the school nurse.

Virtual Career Expo – Week of March 29 – April 1

Warren Township High School and Grant Community High School have teamed up this year to host a virtual Career Week for our students. Students will have access to videos made by industry professionals from a variety of careers. Our goal with this event is to not only expose students to a variety of career paths and professions, but to also foster student excitement, engagement and interest. Some employers may also have internship, apprenticeship, job shadowing and/or employment opportunities for our students.



Whether or not you already know what you want to do for a future career, we hope you take full advantage of this opportunity! Additional details will be emailed on March 29 to all students and families on how to access the Virtual Career Week.

Principal's Corner at the Almond Campus

by Rob Parrott



Student Announcements

I encourage students to get involved in athletics and activities this semester. Students can see what is going on each day by checking the Student Announcement tab on the district website main page. Students should also watch the weekly announcements shared each Wednesday in Canvas. These are also located on my [YouTube Channel](#).



Students who need technology support, Chromebook repairs, etc. can [CLICK HERE](#) to submit a request for help from our technology staff.



Spring is just around the corner, and we are all filled with anticipation of brighter days ahead. This week marked the one-year anniversary of the start of "remote learning" at Warren Township High School. Although we have learned a lot in this process that we will carry forward and make us better in the future, there is no replacement for having students in person. We hope everyone has a great spring break and returns with the excitement that summer is near.

We have two valuable academic resources available to ALL STUDENTS:



Resource Rooms: English, Math, and Science help is available every Blue/Gold Day during lunch periods 3-6! Teachers are available in these virtual spaces to offer help for students. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the links.

Study Table: Homework help in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies is available on Tuesday and Thursday nights, b 6:30-8:30 p.m. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the links.



Our Hybrid Schedule has time for students between 9:20-9:45 a.m. to get extra help from teachers or to reach out to Student Services. If students would like to talk to a dean, counselor, social worker, or psychologist, they can complete a [request form](#) to do so. Please reach out if you have questions or need support.

I appreciate the collective responsibility of all students and staff in regards to the safety protocols we have at the building. Completing the self-certification, doing temperature checks, wearing masks, watching our distance, and washing our hands are expectations for everyone to keep each other safe. We will continue to follow safety mitigations at our campus for the health of all.



We will also continue to work hard and work together to have a great finish to the school year.

Thank you and, as always, Go Blue Devils!

Principal's Corner at the O'Plaine Campus

by Michele Bertola

Happy Spring! We are very excited to welcome more students back to the O'Plaine campus on April 5, 2021, as we move to our hybrid 100% model. We will continue to follow the 3W's to stay safe: Wear a mask, Watch your distance (6 feet), and Wash your hands. Students and families can access important return to school information on the d121.org website.

We have two valuable academic resources available to ALL STUDENTS:



Resource Rooms: English, Math, and Science help is available every Blue/Gold Day during every period of the day! Teachers are available in these virtual spaces to offer help for students. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the links.

Study Table: Homework help in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies is available on Tuesday and Thursday nights, 6:30-8:30 p.m. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the links.

Additional supports for ALL STUDENTS:



Student Service Support: Our Hybrid Schedule has time for students between 10:20-10:45 a.m. to get extra help from teachers or to reach out to Student Services. If students would like to talk to a dean, counselor, social worker, or psychologist, they can complete a [request form](#) to do so. Please reach out if you have questions or need support.

We will continue to work hard and work together to have a great second semester. Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at mbertola@wths.net.



Student Announcements

I encourage students to get involved in athletics and activities this spring. Students can see what is going on each day by checking the Student Announcement tab on the district website main page. Students should also watch the weekly announcements shared each Wednesday in Canvas by our Scratch Paper students. These are also located on my [YouTube Channel](#).



Students who need technology support, Chromebook repairs, etc., can [CLICK HERE](#) to submit a request for help from our technology staff.



News about Athletics

by Becky Belmont, Director of Athletics



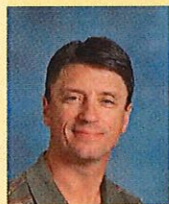
Summer Sports Seasons

Tryouts for Baseball, Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse, Girls' Soccer, Softball, Boys' Tennis, Boys' and Girls' Track and Field, and Boys' Volleyball start April 5, 2021.

Wrestling starts April 19, 2021.

All athletes must register and have a current physical on file in the Nurse's office to try out. Please visit our website to register:

<https://warrentownship-ar.schooltoday.com/home>



Congratulations to Coach John Stanczykiewicz on his 400th career win as a basketball coach!



NSC Winter Sportsmanship Award Winners

Badminton: Emily Creators
Boys Basketball: Joshua Leicht
Girls Basketball: Caroline Sharpe
Boys Bowling: Emilio Torres
Girls Bowling: Isabella Aguilar
Cheer: Brianne Diete
Devilettes: Maggie Lewis
Gymnastics: Payton Abraham
Boys Swimming & Diving: Dante Rinaldi

Warren Township High School District 121 is a member of the following athletic organizations:

Illinois High School Association (IHSA), which competes in phases of competition tournaments: sectionals, regionals and state.

North Suburban Conference (NSC), competes against eight nearby high schools throughout the season and ends with a conference tournament.



Watch online!

National Federation of State High School Association Network at www.nfhsnetwork.com

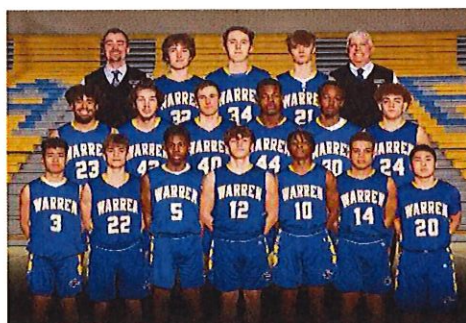
Competitions in the Almond Main Gym and the O'Plaine stadium can be live streamed at www.nfhsnetwork.com for FREE! All you have to do is create an account. Please visit the Athletic page on the District's website.

Congratulations to the Varsity Devilettes and coaches Brittini Tengler and Sarah Stepek for finishing 3rd in the IHSA Sectional and advancing to State. The girls finished 20th at the IHSA State tournament.



Congratulations to the Varsity Cheer team and coaches Alexa Kritikos and Wil Hansen on their 2nd place finish in the IHSA Sectional and 11th place finish in the IHSA State tournament.

Varsity Badminton had a strong showing at the North Suburban Conference Tournament. They finished a respectable 4th place as a team. Karen Kim and Huong Ho placed 3rd in Doubles #2. Sophia Luna and Keira Rodriguez placed 3rd in doubles #3. Madu Chandler and Pavneet Kaur placed 4th in Doubles #4. Ellen Corr placed 3rd in Singles #1. Molly Cummings placed 4th in Singles #2. Namoi Zeichel placed 4th in Singles #4.

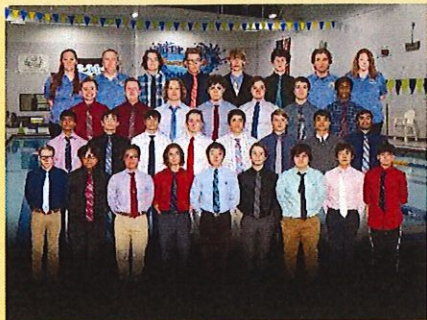


Panek added 11 points on the night with very balanced scoring. Congratulations to coaches Jon Jasnoch and Sean Benka.

The Varsity Boys' Basketball team finished their season with wins over Lake Zurich and Zion. Drew Dolan led Warren scorers in both games with 23 points in the Lake Zurich game and 18 points in the Zion game. Cooper Stacey added 21 point in the Lake Zurich game. Cooper Stacey and Gavin Cartwright each scored 12 points in the Zion game and Ryan

News about Athletics

by Becky Belmont, Director of Athletics



Boys' Swimming & Diving - This weekend was the NSC Meet. Blake VanderJuedt took 2nd overall and shattered the 10-year-old school record with a 490.7 score in the 11 dive meet. The Varsity team took 4th place overall. All swimmers and divers had lifetime bests and season bests. Congratulations to coaches Chris Bertana, Carly Wright, Kyle Ehemann, and Sam Korstanje.

Medal winners:

Medley Relay: 4th Place - Dante Rinaldi, Alex Carruthers, Even Berndt and Jake Snyder

100 Backstroke - Dante Rinaldi 4th place
100 Breaststroke - Evan Berndt 5th place and Alex Carruthers 6th place.



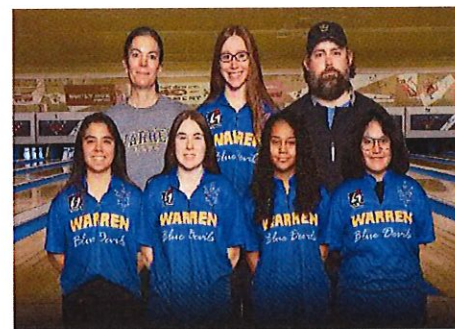
Congratulations to Tommy Matheson for making the IHSA All-Academic Team. Tommy is only the 2nd Warren athlete ever to earn this distinction. Nominees needed to possess a minimum 3.5 GPA, have participated in at least two IHSA sponsored sports or activities during each of the last two years and demonstrated outstanding citizenship.

Girls' Basketball - Warren defeated Mundelein 36- 12 in the 2nd game of the NSC Tourney. Senior Caroline Sharpe led with 10 points. Warren then defeated Waukegan 50-45 in the 3rd round of the NSC Tournament. The Blue Devils placed 5th overall. Junior Grace Lynch led with 20 points. Seniors Caroline Sharpe and Micilia Kline chipped in 10 and 9 points each. Varsity finished the season 7-8, 3-4 in Conference, 5th Place for season and Tournament. They ended the season winning 4 of the last 6 ball games. Congratulations to coaches John Stanczykiewicz, Ryan Skidmore, Jen Swanson, Ashley Arff, and Reggie McClure.



Boys' Bowling - Congratulations to Ethan Kailin for bowling and 300 and Jarrett Smith for bowling a 299 this season! The team took 3rd place at the NSC Tournament and was led by Emilio Torres who bowled a 646 series. Warren took 2nd place overall in the NSC for the season. Congrats to coaches Jim Voutiritsas and Jenna Charbonneau on a very successful season.

Girls' Bowling - The Varsity team finished the season by placing 5th in the NSC Tournament. Kayla Cameron led the Devils with a 506 series. Congrats to coaches KC Lange and Lucia Johnson.



Gymnastics - The team did an outstanding job at the NSC Tournament, placing 4th with their highest score of the season. Olivia Kaether placed 2nd on the vault with a 9.45. Senior Kayleigh Glickley finished her career as a Blue Devil gymnast with a career high all-around score. Congratulations to coaches Mary Kovak and Karen Kvaas on a fine season.

News about Activities

by Aimee Lonigro, Assistant Director of Athletics and Activities Coordinator

The Warren Varsity Scholastic Bowl team closed out the season by making it to the semi-finals of the regional, held at Libertyville High School. The team was led with great performances by seniors Emily Craig, Anushka Agashe, and Tommy Matheson. Warren defeated Zion-Benton in the first match by a score of 570 to 90, and then lost in the second round to the eventual Regional Champion Fremd High School.



Congratulations to the Science Olympiad team and coach Ryan Korah on their 4th place finish in the Illinois Regional competition. This placement clinched their 4th bid to State that will take place at the end of March. The following members of the team won medals at the Regional meet:



- Dhruval Bhatt - Gravity Vehicle (2nd), Protein Modeling (4th), Wright Stuff (1st)
- Aaron Engel – Boomilever (2nd), Dynamic Planet (5th)
- Casey Fong - Anatomy and Physiology (5th), Disease Detectives (5th), Dynamic Planet (5th)
- Benjamin Isaac - Astronomy (5th), Gravity Vehicle (2nd), Machines (5th), Wright Stuff (1st)
- Steven Isaac - Experimental Design (1st), Ornithology (6th)
- Vaibhav Joshi - Astronomy (5th), Codebusters (3rd), Machines (5th)
- Jonah Park - Codebusters (3rd), Designer Genes (2nd), Forensics (6th)
- Lindsey Prims – Experimental Design (1st), Fossils (1st), Sounds of Music (6th)
- Mohammad Samhan – Wright Stuff (2nd)
- Niharika Sapra - Designer Genes (2nd), Fossils (1st)
- Anusha Shah – Chemistry Lab (6th), Write it Do it (5th)
- Nidhi Shanmugam - Chemistry Lab (6th), Forensics (6th), Protein Modeling (4th)
- Marcus Steel - Boomilever (2nd), Codebusters (3rd)
- Kayla Tagudar - Experimental Design (1st), Sounds of Music (6th), Write it Do it (5th)
- Blaise Varughese – Disease Detectives (5th)
- Ifra Waris - Anatomy and Physiology (5th), Ornithology (6th), Protein Modeling (4th)



Congratulations to the 2021 Spanish National Honor Society Inductees:

Nooreen Ahmed, Taylor Beardman, Megan Berkey, Kiran Bhalla, Olivia Buccelli, Kacey Conner, Delaney Coombes, John Corelis, Maxine Elloian, Laura Flores, Sai Smriti Gogineni, Anantya Kasturi, Alexandria Kifer, Nithya Kommanaboyina, Parthivbabu Kommanaboyina, Gabrielle Kuklinski Josephine (Josie) Leibfried,

Kelly Lynch, Evette Mitkov, Erika Mladenova, Minahil Nadeem, Ava Palo, Priyal Patel, Cesilia Perez, Lindsey Prims, Melissa Ramirez, Allison Rebolledo, Mark Samonds, Yash Sharma, Ryan Stanciak, Luke Syverud, and Michelle Vazquez.



Thank you to our Almond Student of Service and sponsor John Hanlon! In February, S.O.S. members sorted food for veterans and the underprivileged in Lake County at the Cool Ministries in Waukegan.



Congratulations to the Mock Trial team and coach Brian Oberhauser on their inaugural season. Anika Jacob Agashe, Zachary Bromberg, Isabella Gibbs, Ayesha Mohammad, Minahil Raheel, Elijah Samuelson, Brittany Shephard, Mehtab Singh, and Ranveer Singh did a wonderful job in the Illinois State Bar Association Mock Trial Invitational.