



November 2017

Illinois School Report Card

Earlier this month, schools across the state of Illinois received their annual report cards to assess overall performance in a variety of areas. The Illinois State Board of Education recently published its 2017 Report Cards online at www.illinoisreportcard.com.

Each report card highlights a school or district's strengths – including special programs, college and career readiness, student performance, educational environment – while at the same time identifying potential areas for improvement. This information helps to inform local discussion and school improvement planning. D118 is proud of its schools, and these results reflect the hard work and dedication from our entire learning community.

American Education Week

Parents play a vital role in their child's education and establishing a strong school-home partnership is paramount in successful schools. The observance of American Education Week began in 1921 with the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools and to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs.

Although much has changed since 1921 regarding how schools share their accomplishments with the public, the fundamental need for the community to support schools remains constant. This week, we invite parents in to celebrate American Education Week through various activities and events in our schools. A list of activities and events can be found on the district calendar. If your schedule does not allow for time to visit, don't worry, you can follow us on Twitter at **Charlie Cardinal @Palos_118** for highlights from the week.

Young Inventors Challenge

This school year, all 4th grade students in District 118 were provided the opportunity to participate in the annual *Young Inventor's Challenge* sponsored by the Chicago Toy & Game Fair on Saturday, November 18 at Chicago's Navy Pier.

Designing games requires a combination of various higher-level skills. Children must be able to brainstorm, write, revise, edit, use critical and strategic thinking, and incorporate artistic skills. Besides great prizes to be won, top toy and game industry representatives will be on hand to provide advice, recognition, and encouragement to all young inventors to dream big and discover the possibilities of play!

If you're looking for something fun to do this weekend, consider attending the Chicago Toy & Game Fair. Besides casting a vote for the game or toy of your choice, families can preview, play with, and purchase hot new toys and games from around the world, and meet the inventors who created them. It's really a great day for all! For more information, check out <http://www.chitag.org/>. The Chicago Toy and Game Fair offers free admission for educators & librarians (with ID), scouts in uniform, firefighters, police, & active military and military veterans (with ID).