

SAUGANASH SCHOOL

6040 N. Kilpatrick Avenue | Chicago, IL 60646 | Phone: 773-534-3470
Principal, Sean Kennedy | sekennedy@cps.edu



Sean Kennedy - Principal's Report to LSC & School Community

March 9, 2026

2024 – 2026 Continuous Improvement Work Plan

Priority #1	Priority #2	Priority #3
Curriculum & Instruction	Inclusive and Supportive Learning	Partnership & Engagement
<p>Theory of Action:</p> <p>If we...have a school wide culturally responsive curriculum and pedagogy, reinforced by comprehensive professional development</p> <p>then we see...greater student and staff investment and participation in the curriculum through exposure to other cultures and diverse experiences.</p> <p>which leads to...enhanced relationships among all stakeholders and improved academic progress in all content areas and among sub groups.</p>	<p>Theory of Action:</p> <p>If we...develop an integrated team consisting of grade band representatives, special education teachers, EL endorsed teachers, related service providers and administrative representatives in order to identify student learning needs, set individual learning goals for students, and review progress monitoring (in conjunction utilizing Branching Minds as a platform to track student progress) data every five weeks.</p> <p>then we see...consistent implementation of MTSS interventions specific to each student's learning needs as determined by the Inclusion and Supportive Learning team as well as communication of strategies and supports across each student's teachers and service providers.</p> <p>which leads to... student tier movement in Star 360, improved grades, increased attendance, and eventual transition out of the MTSS program. Additionally, students who require further interventions and/or evaluation for more intensive services will be identified.</p>	<p>Theory of Action:</p> <p>If we... create a consistent structured behavioral system across grade levels with administrative, staff, parent, and student input that identifies accountability standards related to behavioral expectations and resulting positive and negative consequences that are transparent to families</p> <p>then we see...increased student respect toward peers and staff, increased student preparedness and on-task classroom behavior, increased student involvement toward incentives for positive behavior, decreased misconduct reports, increased parent involvement and communication regarding student behavioral progress</p> <p>which leads to... which leads to -increased on-task behavior and resulting positive learning outcomes (grades, test scores) -increased student and staff morale -positive and open relationships between staff, students and parents</p>

ILT/CIWP Team: Lauren Ackermann, Hallie Askovich, Emily Carroll, Krista Evans, Sean Kennedy, Katie Gragson, Matt Allore, Katie Styzek, Michael Tader, Dawn Arens, & Isabella Portelli

Sauganash Happenings: Teacher, Staff, Parent, Community & Student Recognition

Teachers & Staff

- Robotics Team - Memorable Season
- This Wednesday is our 2026 STEAM Night (5-6:30pm)
- Signing up for PTO Teacher Time activities

Community

- LSC Election March 18, 2026 (6am-7pm)
- Elections will take place in Conference Room 126

Field Trips

- 5/6th Irish American Heritage Center, PreK Chicago Children's Museum last Wednesday
- 4th Grade also attended Irish American Heritage Center on Friday "Number the Stars"

Athletics & Extra Curriculars

- Two 5/6th Basketball basketball teams are undefeated in Taft HS conference play
- 5-8th Spring Sports sign up concluded

Friends of Sauganash PTO:

- 2026 PTO Gala "Casino Royale" - Massive success with over 330 attendees

Domain 1: Organizational Leadership

Oversees systems, structures, and processes for continuous improvement

- A. Vision, Mission & Goals:** Collaboratively sets vision, mission, and goals that reflect high expectations for every student & ensures the vision, mission and goals to drive school decisions.
- B. Strategic Planning & Budgeting:** Facilitates the development, implementation, monitoring, and adjustment of school-wide plans and allocates resources strategically and equitably.
- C. Continuous Improvement:** Creates a continuous improvement cycle that integrates strategy development, implementation planning, data review, and practice fusing to achieve sustained high impact practices that uphold measurable improvement without burdening marginalized groups.

Instructional Teams:

- ILT team has transitioned to the CIWP Writing for 2027-2029
 - We met on 3/2 and 3/9 to move through the beginning parts of the Foundations and Priorities of the new CIWP. Root Cause Analysis to help identify areas of need.

March Budget Items:

Approve expenditures over \$2,500

- A. Scholastic - K-8 Scholastic Magazines & Digital Interface - \$12,437.62

- a. Funds to be transferred from IAMS Consumables account #26101 current balance is \$122,096.20 to budget line 124-53305-119035-002239
- B. Savvas - EnVision Math Workbooks & Licensing - \$32,345.89
 - a. Funds to be transferred from IAMS Consumables #26101 current balance is \$122,096.20 to budget line 124-53305-119016-002239

Revenue Sharing Check

- A. 1st Semester Disbursement Check from Right At School
 - a. July 2025-December 2025 - 7.5% School Usage Fee = \$12,708.55

Domain 2: Instructional Core

Ensures rigorous and coherent curriculum, instruction and assessments aligned to the needs of every student

- A. Courses & Content:** Ensures academic programing and curricula are culturally responsive, rigorously prepare students for academic and postsecondary success, and align to student and school needs.
- B. Instructional Strategies:** Ensures implementation of effective classroom instructional strategies and interventions aligned to student and school needs.
- C. Assessment Data:** Oversees use of quality assessments and disaggregation of data to inform equitable instructional decisions.

IAR Assessment Underway: Students are in the middle of completing the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). 3-8th will take 3 sections of ELA, with extended response writing, and 3 sections of Math. Great start to the testing window, students taking the process seriously.

Network 1 Rigor MOY Focus Walk

- We completed a middle of the year focus walk on 2/24 with the Instructional Empowerment tool.
 - N1 ISL and ILT will continue to look at the data to identify trends. (All data is stored in the tool in our school portfolio)
 -

High School Admission Numbers

- The class of 2026 has shown great raw acceptance numbers to some great schools in the area.

Lane Tech College Prep	16
Northside	6
Walter Payton	1
Jones	2
Whitney Young	1
Von Steuben Scholars	8
Taft IB	7

Domain 3: Culture and Climate

Ensures that organizational norms, routines and systems equitably promote the students' intellectual, social, and emotional development

- A. Family & Community Engagement:** Proactively fosters relationships with families, local school committees, and community members and helps them own and contribute to school goals.
- B. Connectedness & Well-being:** Creates a school climate that promotes social, emotional and physical health and ensures the safety, positive behavior, and well-being of all students, staff and self.
- C. Systems & Structures:** Effectively organizes and manages school logistics (communication, scheduling, space, procedures, etc.) to accomplish school goals and create a positive, inclusive school culture.

Kitchen, Cafeteria Health Inspection: We had our City of Chicago Health Department come and conduct a surprise health inspection on February 20th. Our report passed with Substantial Compliance rating. A copy of the health inspection report will be provided to our Local School Council.

University of Chicago - Middle Grades Professional Learning Community: We were invited to join a middle grades PLC hosted by Network 1 leadership and led by University of Chicago. Ms. Arens, Ms. Portelli, Mr. Chepulis, and Ms. Groulx will be our Sauganash representatives for this PLC

LSC Election 2026 LSC 2026 Election 3/18 (6am-7pm - Room 126)

- Parents and Community can cast 5 votes total between the two categories.
- Specimen Ballot was selected during the candidate forum on 2/23

Attendance: Sauganash's current attendance rate is 95.09%. (February 95.06%, January 95.37%)

Domain 4: Talent

Ensures identification, development, and retention of diverse talent and cultivates leadership

- A. Development & Evaluation:** Creates opportunities and structures for continuous growth of staff and self by ensuring they have equitable access to training, coaching and/or other development resources. Provides fair assessments of performance including timely feedback to inform development.
- B. Professional Culture & Retention:** Creates a collaborative professional culture in which staff of all backgrounds feel valued, respected, and want to stay and contribute to the school's goals.
- C. Leadership Teams & Development:** Creates and supports effective teams, distributes leadership roles and responsibilities, and develops leadership capacity of staff.

Talent & Hiring Updates

- We welcome some new staff since our last LSC meeting
 - Ms. Mitchell-Lopez (8th Grade Math TAT) - Transitioning to 1st Grade TAT in 104

Principal/AP Professional Learning: Monthly Network 1 principal/AP meetings on second or third Thursday each month.

- Illinois Administration Association Courses
 - Ms. Arens attended a 2 day training for Teacher Evaluator ReCertification
 - Mr. Kennedy attended Illinois Principals Association IAA Course
 - *Five Key Practices for Every Teacher That Works with ELs*

REACH Observations: Ms. Arens and I have completed 53 REACH observations (71%, February was 58%) so far. We started this school year with the PATs, or teachers going on leave, and moving into the Tenured Teachers.

***Note:** Every element of each competency may not be addressed every month. But, taken collectively all reports across the school year will address fully every element of each competency.

Sauganash Mission & Vision

The mission of Sauganash School is to provide a high quality educational program that meets the academic needs of our students through an integrated curriculum, differentiated instruction, and the use of technology. Sauganash School is committed to meeting the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs of our students. We are dedicated to fostering a positive school climate that enables all students' intellectual growth to maximize their potential and prepare them for college and career path readiness.

Welcome to Sauganash.... "Believe to Achieve...The Power of a Chief!"

Miscellaneous Updates

- We partnered once again with the Chicago Park District (Sauganash Park) for them to allow us to have our end of year grade level field days. This is a fun way for the kids to celebrate their amazing work all school year.
- We received an offer to purchase 4 upgraded 3D printers locally. Because this was not a vendor, our PTO stepped in to approve the purchase for \$600. Thank you!