**December, 2016**

Happy Holidays to all of our families! This is the second of six **District 105 Newsletters** we will send throughout the year. This one page newsletter is another way we highlight the important district information we share on our website and through presentations and forums.

**Did You Know?**

We closely follow our former students to ensure that our District 105 programs and services prepare them for success in high school.

* The percentage of our students from last year’s Gurrie graduating class that was scheduled into advanced and honors courses at Lyons Township High School far exceeds any Gurrie graduating class since we began tracking this data in 2003. For comparison purposes, the results for the 2016 and 2003 classes are provided below:
	+ Honors/Accelerated English: Class of 2016 (65%); Class of 2003 (33%)
	+ Honors/Accelerated Math: Class of 2016 (59%); Class of 2003 (27%)
	+ Honors/Accelerated Science: Class of 2016 (51%); Class of 2003 (34%)
* We also monitor how our former students perform in their scheduled high school classes. Last year, the percentage of former District 105 students earning A’s or B’s in accelerated and honors classes at Lyons Township High School was the highest of any year since we began tracking this data more than 10 years ago.
* Seventeen of our former students who are seniors at Lyons Township High School were recently recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

**Lenzi Apartment Families**

Two-thirds of our Lenzi families have moved from their apartments with about half of these families relocating within District 105. The district has continued to work very closely with the Village of Hodgkins and social agencies to support this transition for our families. We are working closely with our Hodgkins School staff to continue our outstanding educational program as the school enrollment changes.

**5Essentials**

District 105 is participating this year in the state-wide 5Essentials Survey. This survey provides us with the opportunity to benchmark our staff, student, and parent satisfaction responses with other schools and districts across the state. We always use the feedback from our stakeholders to improve our programs and services and share responses with our entire community. Our teachers and students will be taking the survey during the period from January 4 to January 16. We will be sending links and promoting the survey to our parents during this same window of time. However, the survey is already available at <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/login/> for parents who would like to complete it at this time. The state requires 30% parent participation as a minimum to share survey results with the schools and district.

**District 105 Continuous Improvement**

District 105 established long range goals through the strategic planning process to focus our efforts for meeting our students’ needs. Each year we set targets for improvement in the goal areas we identify as our greatest areas of need. These targets are reflected in our district dashboard which is posted on our website. In January, we will be sharing a mid-year report with our community about the progress we are making toward our targets.

**District 105 Foundation**

Our District 105 Foundation is supporting 13 of our former students with renewable college scholarships. You can donate 5% of your purchase to the District 105 Foundation when you shop Amazon. Just follow this link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-4176601>, log into Amazon, and start shopping.