



MEET STOCKTON SCHOOL

We are proud to announce the newest Lyon/Pleasant Ridge community service initiative— SKOOL AID.

Skool Aid is a sister school partnership with **Stockton School** of the Chicago Public School System. This is an initiative through the Department of External Resources and Partnerships to build lasting partnerships with suburban schools to open new horizons for the students by offering them opportunities to interact and learn.

The Henking/Hoffman school cluster initiated a partnership last year with another public school with great success. We hope to continue spreading this unique learning experience within the Glenview community.

It is our hope that through this exciting new program, Lyon/Pleasant Ridge students will gain a unique learning experience through aiding students of the same age but of different backgrounds and situations. We hope to implement pen-pal programs, book club programs, a music and dance exchange project, and other opportunities to bring our children together with the Stockton students.

Stockton School is a K-8 grade school located on the Northwest Side of Chicago. Eighty three percent of the student body live below the poverty level and 20 families are currently homeless, living in a nearby shelter. This school is located just 15 miles from Glenview. Despite the challenges faced, Stockton is proud to report that 81 percent of the students meet or exceed state standards per the ISAT assessments.

We recently toured the school, met with their principal, Jill Besenjak, and delivered the school supplies that were collected last spring. The school is large and well kept but has budgetary limitations that make it difficult to properly serve the student body. To begin our exchange initiative, the student population has some specific material needs we'd like to help meet. Beginning Monday, we will collect gently used hats, coats, mittens, glove, boots, etc., for the winter to be donated to the students via their social worker. A labeled box will be located at both Lyon and Pleasant Ridge to drop your donations. These will remain at the schools indefinitely. Please take a few minutes to sort through your children's outerwear and see if you may have something to share with the students at Stockton. Many of these kids go all winter with no coats, hats or gloves.

Jill also informed us of a school family that was displaced by a fire in their home. They lost all their belongings in the fire. We will also be collecting donations, new or gently used, for these children. Items can be placed in the same collection box at both schools. Anything would be appreciated, especially games, age appropriate toys, books, etc. The children's ages are as follows:

- 1 8th grade girl
- 2 5th grade boy
- 3 Kindergarten boy
- 4 Pre-K boy

We will continue to keep you informed as we develop a student-to-student relationship between the schools. Additional collections may occur through the school year to help supply other needs within the school.

Please contact one of us if you have any questions or would like to get involved in this worthy program.

*Thank you for helping to get **Skool Aid** started.*

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