



TALK205

ELMHURST COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

Talk205 January 10, 2022

New Items:

- 5Essentials Survey
- Onsite COVID Testing Available
- COVID Quarantine and Isolation Updates
- York Drama students and alumni in concert with renowned Broadway composers Richard Oberacker and Robert Taylor
- Exemplary Youth Service Award Nominations
- ISBE Assessment Survey
- Illinois Rental Repayment Program

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- 2022 Dukes of Distinction Nominations Open
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NEW ITEMS

5Essentials Survey [\(Haga clic aquí para leer en español\)](#)

This winter, students, teachers and parents across Illinois will participate in the annual Illinois 5Essentials Survey. The survey will be administered online by the University of Chicago on behalf of the Illinois State Board of Education.

This survey will allow you and your child (in grades 4 through 12) to share thoughts on important elements of school effectiveness at your child's

school. Reports will be sent to schools and districts in June 2022 and data will also be included in the Illinois State School Report Card.

The parent survey opens on January 11th. To take the parent survey, please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin. You will need to enter the county (DuPage) and school name. We need at least a 20 percent response rate to receive a report.

Your student will take the survey between January and March in grades 4 through 12. Details will be provided by each school. Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Act 20 U.S.C. Section 1232(c) (1) (A), you have the right to review a [copy of the questions](#) on the student survey. If you do not want your son or daughter to participate in the survey, download and fill out a [non-participation form](#) and return it to your child's school. Please be aware that student participation rates are one measure that the state uses in its [accountability system](#) for our schools.

For more information about the Illinois 5Essentials Survey, or to view previous years' reports, please visit <https://www.5-essentials.org/illinois/5e/2021/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 5Essentials Client Services at 1-866-440-1874 or 5essentials@uchicago.edu.

Onsite COVID Testing Available

As a service to our community, District 205 works with North Shore Clinical to provide voluntary onsite RT-PCR COVID testing for students and staff members. To enroll your child in weekly testing, [click here](#). Once you have enrolled in weekly testing, we will send an email confirmation. For those interested in enrolling in our test-to-stay/ symptomatic testing, please complete the [weekly testing consent form](#) and then we will send you a confirmation email allowing you to opt-in to the test-to-stay/ symptomatic testing.

COVID Quarantine and Isolation Updates

The [Illinois Department of Public Health \(IDPH\)](#) and DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) have announced that schools can begin to follow the [CDC guidance for schools](#) that was released on January 6, 2022. The primary change in guidance is related to isolation and quarantine. Click [here](#) to read more information regarding how D205 will be adopting these new guidelines.

Broadway duo Richard Oberacker and Robert Taylor to join York Students and Alumni

York Drama is proud to present its students and alumni in concert with renowned Broadway composers Richard Oberacker and Robert Taylor. The concert will be at York Community High School on Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m.; tickets are on sale now. Oberacker and alumni will perform pieces from the duo's newest works, and the cast of York's upcoming musical, "Ace," will present a preview concert.

Tickets are immediately available on the York Drama website: www.yorkdrama.org. Tickets are \$20; it is highly recommended that tickets be purchased ahead of the event as space is extremely limited.

Exemplary Youth Service Award Nominations

Do you know a student or student group that should be nominated for an Exemplary Youth Service Award? The service must have occurred between March 15, 2021 and the present, and the deadline to submit nominations is March 15, 2022. Click [here](#) to nominate someone today!

ISBE Assessment Survey

The Illinois State Board of Education is exploring improvements to the state assessment system. An important part of this process is collecting feedback from stakeholders across the state to help identify the priorities and potential options for moving forward. Click [here](#) for more information and to take the optional survey.

Illinois Rental Repayment Program

The [Illinois Rental Payment Program](#) provides financial assistance for rent to income-eligible Illinois renters and their landlords who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Illinois renters may be eligible for up to \$25,000 and 18 months of emergency rental payments under the program. This is a grant that does NOT have to be repaid.

PRIOR ITEMS

Foundation 205 Items

This year, the Foundation 205 Showcase will be held at Medinah Country Club on Saturday February 5, 2022 at 6 p.m. The event will feature host Kerry Sayers, comedy by Pat Tomasulo, live musical entertainment and the talents of students and teachers from District 205. Your ticket includes a plated dinner, dessert delights and an afterglow after party. Raffle prizes and an online and live auction are also part of the fun! To purchase event tickets, raffle tickets or to donate in support of Foundation 205, please [visit the Foundation 205 website](#).

Foundation 205 has opened the 2022 Thiems Grant applications. This program provides over \$100,000 annually to support ideas to expand innovation, excellence, creativity, diversity and inclusion in the District 205 schools. Students, parents, teachers, administrators, support staff and community members are encouraged to apply. Please view the [Grant Guidelines](#) before submitting your [application](#). Grants are due by February 11, 2022 and will be awarded in May 2022. The grant application and guidelines can be found [here](#).

Do You Know a Distinguished York Alum

Nominations are open for the 2022 Dukes of Distinction program. Please fill out this [form](#) to nominate your 2022 Duke of Distinction! Applications are open to anyone who is a graduate of 5+ years and who has distinguished themselves through significant and/or extraordinary accomplishments, service and/or an outstanding contribution to society.

Virtual Backpack

Looking for non-profit, community activities or information that is fun and educational for students? Check out the D205 [Virtual Backpack](#) page.