

Dear Wilmington Families,

Welcome to the website of the Wilmington School District 209U, home of the Wilmington Wildcats! As a proud member of the Wilmington High School graduating Class of 1992, I am both humbled and honored to have the opportunity to begin serving the students and families of Wilmington as the new Superintendent of Schools of the Wilmington School District. Just like many others in the Wildcat family, Wilmington is simply home; my loyalty and devotion run very deep. My wife and I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to raise our two children in Wildcat Country; and there is not another district I would rather have the opportunity to serve in.

The teachers, administration, and school board members of the Wilmington School District are undoubtedly, extremely proud of the 2016 State Champion WHS Competitive Cheerleading program, our 2014 Wilmington Wildcat State Championship football team, the Wildcat Wrestling dynasty which has been built by Coach Murphy and his staff, earning three consecutive team State Championships from 2007-2009, along with the inspiring baseball state titles of a decade ago and a great number of individual state-wide recognitions earned by our student-athletes. We are also blessed to see the honors earned by IMEA Regional & State recognized musicians; and some unbelievably talented theatrical performers on stage and visual artists on display. It is truly amazing to see our Wilmington kids excel outside of the classroom! However, we must always remember that the Wilmington School District's core mission is grounded in the comprehensive education of our children. A tremendous amount of hard work and intense effort takes place on a daily basis by the talented students, dedicated teachers, and tremendous support staff & administrative team of the Wilmington School District with this main focus in mind.

The Wilmington School District, along with virtually every other district throughout the state and much of the country as a whole, has unfortunately been experiencing the financial pressures of the current economy and unpredictable political landscape; and we always seem to be continually dealing with the pressures of the required, high-stakes testing, revised learning targets, etc. While navigating the many, evolving challenges associated with public education in general, our ongoing commitment to the core mission of School and Community United for Excellence – a sincere devotion to providing the best possible educational experiences for each and every child of Wilmington – continues to produce student success inside the classrooms in each of our four schools. The teachers, support staff, and administrators of Wilmington 209U sincerely love and care for the young ladies and gentlemen who enter our schools each day. Everything that we do will continue to be aimed toward sharpening their skills, knowledge, and character; strengthening their confidence and

enhancing their future potential to serve well and make a positive difference in the world around them.

Wildcat Pride runs deep all throughout the Wilmington School District and the entire community of Wilmington. It is truly an honor to be given the opportunity to serve our kids and families as the Superintendent of Schools. Looking forward to an outstanding 2016-2017 school year!

Go Wildcats!

Matt Swick

Matthew W. Swick, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Wilmington School District 209u - Wilmington, IL
www.wilmington.will.k12.il.us
@WilmingtonLearn
815.926.1751
As Iron Sharpens Iron