
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

**Field House Sports and Fitness Center Hosts
STEM Matrix Competition
Tuesday, May 31
8:30-4:30pm**

Waukegan, IL (May 26, 2016) – The Waukegan Park District Field House Sports and Fitness Center, 800 N. Baldwin Avenue, will host 300 fifth graders from 11 Waukegan Elementary Schools for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Matrix Competition on Tuesday, May 31, from 8:30am-4:30pm. The competition is designed to showcase what students have learned from a special school-based science enrichment program. They will compete in scientific challenges presented in a game-like format. The winners must come up with the best solutions for science problems involving all four STEM aspects.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 735 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 61 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and maintains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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