



"Tomorrow belongs to the children"
-Carl Sandburg

Carl Sandburg Middle School

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Dr. Andrew Vondran, Principal

Mr. Dan Bryant, Assistant Principal

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Dear Carl Sandburg Middle School Families,

It is a great day to be part of the Carl Sandburg Middle School family! I am excited to share that our school has earned a "Commendable" designation on the 2025 Illinois School Report Card. This recognition reflects the commitment, effort, and growth of our students and staff as we continue building a culture of learning, growth, and connection every day. Our overall index score this year is 69.0 out of 100 points, placing us firmly within the *Commendable* range and just 12.9 points away from the state's "Exemplary" designation. You can learn more about our results by visiting the [Illinois School Report Card \(click the link or scan the QR code\)](#). Here are just a few highlights that make us proud:



Academic Growth: While our overall scores highlight areas for continued focus, our students continue to demonstrate strong academic growth in both mathematics and literacy. These gains reflect our shared belief that growth is just as important as achievement. On the IAR Math Growth indicator, 6th-grade students performed at the 62nd percentile, surpassing the state average of the 50th percentile. To go along with our strengths in Math, our ELA has a growth percentile for the met expectations which was 5.8% higher than the state average.

Dual Language Success: Our Dual Language Program continues to strengthen bilingualism and biliteracy. Nearly half (49 percent) of eighth-graders enrolled in the program achieved a passing score on the AAPPL (Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) Speaking and Listening components. This level of proficiency indicates these students are already meeting the benchmark required to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy at Mundelein High School.

Award-Winning Band Program: The CSMS Band achieved statewide recognition as the Superstate Concert Band Champions, showcasing the talent, discipline, and creativity of our students and staff.

Positive School Climate: Carl Sandburg Middle School outperformed the state average in chronic absenteeism, with a rate of 19 percent compared to the statewide rate of 25 percent. This achievement reflects the strong partnership we share with our families, whose commitment to consistent attendance ensures that students benefit from the high-quality instruction delivered by our teachers.

The incredible results we've achieved reflect the dedication, passion, and teamwork that define our school community. Our teachers, staff, and district partners support students in performing their best, and our families and community remain essential to our success. At Carl Sandburg, excellence grows through connection, collaboration, and shared purpose. With our outstanding students, staff, and families working together, we're confident the best is yet to come.

Live the Tiger Code,

Dr. Andrew Vondran
Principal, Carl Sandburg Middle School