



# District Honors & Highlights

## July 13, 2026

**Community Support Highlight:** A special thanks is extended to Hills Bank for supporting the Linn-Mar School Foundation through their annual partnership and the Classroom Cash Program. Hills Bank recently presented the Foundation with a check for \$1,441.06 to support the program.



**Student Artist Highlight:** Congratulations to Bennett S. from Excelsior Middle School for earning first place in the Quad Cities 10th Annual Chalk Art Fest Youth Division.



**Robotics Highlight:** Congratulations to the Oak Ridge LEGO Blasters for earning the Core Values Finalist honors and placing in the top 3 out of 68 teams during the American Robotics Invitational in New Jersey!

**Girls Soccer Highlight:** Congratulations to Girls Soccer for their awesome season and for competing in the Class 3A State Tournament. Congrats also go out to Dreyka Kern for being named Iowa Gatorade Player of the Year!



**New Administrators Highlight:** We extend a warm welcome to our new administrators!

- Nathan Wear: Superintendent
- Chad Lang: Associate Superintendent
- Natalie Milke: Executive Director of Communications
- Lucas Ptacek: Director of High School Teaching & Learning
- Steven Starkey: Excelsior Middle School Principal
- Joe Behmer: Excelsior Middle School Associate Principal
- Candice Mullnix: Excelsior Middle School Student Dean-Activities/Athletics Director

