



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ILLINOIS ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES

Batavia High School

AS A SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION

The Illinois Art Education Association is pleased to recognize Batavia High School as a 2020 School of Distinction. This is the inaugural year of this award.

This recognition celebrates schools with rigorous art, design, and media education programs. To earn the School of Distinction Award Batavia High School evidenced practices directly reflecting the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards, the Illinois Fine Arts and Media Standards, and Social-Emotional Learning Priorities. [For how this award aligns with these markers, please follow this link.](#)

Participating in high-quality art, design, and media courses develops student creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication skills in valuable ways. Students in these programs gain social and emotional skills along with college, career, and citizenship readiness. Research indicates that schools with successful programs like that at Batavia High School experience increased student attendance, engagement, and academic performance when compared with schools that don't.

The IAEA is proud to honor Josh Casburn, Jennifer Carpenter, Jennifer Melendez, Andrea Schindlbeck, Kathleen Tieri-Ton, Andrea Schindlbeck, and Dawn Zalkus for the distinguished programming and the significant opportunities offered students. Batavia High School is led by Dr. Smith, principal, and Dr. Lisa Hichens, superintendent.