



A WINSTON KNOLLS  
EDUCATION GROUP  
PROGRAM

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Advancing our Mission

The Extended School Year is well underway and as the students grow and learn over the summer, so too does the Winston Knolls Foundation.

July marks the beginning of the fiscal year and the start of the first full year of the Foundation. We've partnered with Clearbrook for a golf outing, received a lead gift for our playground campaign, and started planning great events for the coming year. The Foundation's mission of providing children with Autism every opportunity to achieve their best life, drives our planning. Be sure to follow our social media pages and stay connected through our emails to help us achieve our mission.

As always, we invite you to visit The Winston Knolls School at Hoffman Estate Campus to learn more about the other services and programs we offer.

Sincerely,

*Val Belmonte*

President & CEO



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**Robert Lee, Principal**

We hope everyone has been enjoying their summers!

It was a busy end to the regular school year and we are already working on preparing for August. RSY concluded with our annual Brookfield Zoo trip and graduation ceremony, in which we had four 8th grade graduates and our very first high school graduate! We are very proud of each student's accomplishments and very grateful to all the families for their support and the dedicated staff for their efforts.

As we enter ESY, we also welcome aboard some new team members: Iyla Margulius and Jamie Stortz comprise our Occupational Therapy department and Elise Hoogkirk is one of our new high school teachers. We are excited to have them part of the Winston Knolls team.

Sincerely,

*Robert Lee*



## Our First Dual Graduate!

The Winston Knolls School is proud to congratulate our first dual graduate, Jacob!

Jacob has been with Winston Knolls since 2002 and is the first student to graduate from 8th grade and high school with us.

Jacob loves WWE wrestling, DC super-villains, and Marvel superheroes. He loves animals of all sorts and learning about them. He likes to listen to music, specifically 90's R&B, 80's pop, 90's-00's country music, and classical music from Mozart and Vivaldi. Jacob likes funny jokes, watching skits and sketches from Saturday Night Live and clips from America's Funniest Videos. Jacob really likes pizza from Garibaldi's and chicken nuggets from McDonald's, though his favorite restaurant is Red Robin.

We're so proud of all you've accomplished Jacob!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Winston Knolls Foundation New Board Secretary



Winston Knolls Foundation Board of Directors President Val Belmonte announced the appointment of Dominic Belmonte to the Winston Knolls Foundation Board. Mr. Belmonte will serve as the secretary effective June 1, 2019.

Mr. Belmonte is the CEO Emeritus of the Golden Apple Foundation

and Distinguished Professor of Practice at National Louis University. Other roles at the Golden Apple Foundation included President and CEO and Director of Teacher Preparation. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the Academy for Urban School Leadership.

Mr. Belmonte is twice published and received the 2018 Pioneer Award from National Louis University for his decades-long drive to grow teachers and nurture them to excellence in the profession. This put him in the company of former U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan, who received the Pioneer Award in 2016.

Winston Knolls President and CEO Val Belmonte said, "We are thrilled to have Dom join us in a leadership role at the Foundation. With such an extensive background in foundations and education we know he will have a profound impact on the Foundation as we move forward."



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Winston Knolls School Adds New Related Services Staff

The Winston Knolls School recently increased their related services staff with the addition of a Clinical and Training Director and a board-certified behavior analyst.

Earlier this spring, Dr. Laura Hunt was named as the Clinical and Training Director of The School. Dr. Hunt currently serves as school psychologist at TWKS. She holds master's and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from Midwestern University.

Prior to spending some time in private practice, Dr. Hunt spent years working at a therapeutic day school. She has been looking forward to getting back to working amongst a team in a dynamic school environment. Dr. Hunt is excited to invest more time and focus into the program. Her priority is to nurture a healthy, respectful, collaborative culture for the school.

Dr. Hunt's entire career background is rooted in working with children in several different settings. She will remain as school psychologist in addition to her new duties.

The School also added board-certified behavior analyst Rich Wawrzonkowski in March. Mr. Wawrzonkowski started in Applied Behavior Analysis after graduating from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science in psychology.

After working with various organizations in both residential and outpatient settings, Mr. Wawrzonkowski was provided an opportunity to work in-home with children as a registered behavior technician. The immediate gratification of working in this context prompted him to apply to the Southern Illinois University graduate program in behavior analysis and therapy where he earned his Master of Science.

Mr. Wawrzonkowski has worked with learners of all needs teaching essential communication skills, promoting cooperation, and increasing tolerance to novel situations. He practices Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) in language-able learners and parents to reduce rigid behavior patterns and promote flexible behavior.

She possesses the knowledge and strengths to help our students succeed and we are privileged to have her on our staff.

# Brookfield Zoo

More summer fun photos  
on Facebook!  
[@winstonknollsschool](#)



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **END OF EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION – THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019**

A day for students, families, and the local community to join in on the fun of our students last day of summer session.

- **WINSTON KNOLLS FOUNDATION BENEFIT GALA – TBD**

Enjoy dinner, drinks, and networking while helping to raise funds and awareness for The Winston Knolls School and the ASD community.



*For any questions about our upcoming events, please contact:*

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