

WELCOME TO NETTELHORST!



LOUIS NETTELHORST

Our school is named in honor of the man who was serving as president of the Chicago Board of Education when our school was built in 1892. Louis Nettelhorst was a German immigrant who advocated for teaching physical education and German in Chicago's elementary schools because of the large influx of German immigrants like him in the late 1800s.



FINE & PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL

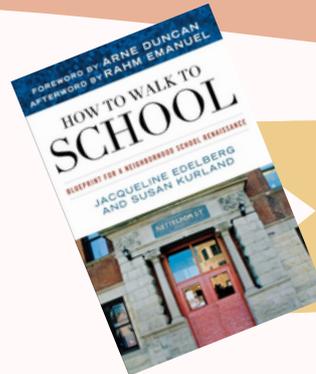
For more than 20 years, Nettelhorst has been designated as one of CPS's 54 fine and performing arts school. This means the district funds one full-time arts position in addition to our regular staffing, which enables Nettelhorst to have three full-time teachers dedicated to teaching visual art, music and drama whereas other schools only have one or two of these teachers.

As part of our designation, our teachers also incorporate the arts into the regular classroom curriculum. Nettelhorst students are also fortunate to have dedicated spaces where they take their art, drama and music classes, as well as an auditorium for performances and a large library and technology center.



Did you know?

Nettelhorst has such a rich history as a neighborhood school that a former principal and parent co-wrote a book about it. You can order a copy on [Amazon](#).



SPORTS PROGRAM



Season length: 8 weeks

Practices and games: Practices are held 1-2 times a week with 1-2 games per week after school.

Team configuration: Each sport is divided into a 5-6 grade team and a 7-8 grade team

Cost: \$50 per season to cover equipment, team gear, and league costs

Eligibility: No tryouts or previous experience required.

Nettelhorst offers a robust after-school sports program for 5th through 8th graders. Led by Coach Katie Hanna, it allows students to build skills, endurance, teamwork, and school spirit.

Sports offerings:

Fall: Girls volleyball, boys soccer, co-ed flag football, co-ed cross country

Winter: Girls basketball, boys basketball, co-ed cheerleading

Spring: Girls soccer, boys volleyball, co-ed track and field

OUR TWO BIG ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS

Helping Hands is our school's fall fundraising campaign in which the Nettelhorst Parent Teacher Organization elicits donations from families and local businesses to fund needs like additional teaching positions, building renovations, and tech upgrades.

The Stallion Stampede is our spring campaign in which students set up fundraising pages where family and friends can make donations to the school. The two-week campaign culminates in a walk-a-thon in May that builds school spirit.

Helping Hands



Why fundraise for a public school?

Few people know that CPS provides only 66% of the funding its schools need to adequately serve students. Rather than go without, Nettelhorst families fundraise to fill funding gaps so students have the materials, staffing, and facilities they need to thrive.





The NPTO and LSC

The Nettelhorst Parent Teacher Organization is a not-for-profit established by Nettelhorst parents. Its primary purpose is to support the school and build community through events, programs, and fundraising. It has a board of directors composed of parents and teacher representatives who meet monthly.

The Local School Council is a locally elected body that oversees the principal, the school budget, and the school's five-year strategic plan, officially known as the Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP). The 12-member council is made up of parents, community members, teachers, and the principal. They also meet monthly.

NETTELHORST'S RICH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Although Nettelhorst isn't officially designated as an international school, its location and offerings attract many international families from Europe, South Asia, West Africa, and Latin America. As a result, Nettelhorst families speak 46 different languages, which adds to the richness of our community.

International families say they are drawn to East Lakeview because of its family-friendly vibe and proximity to the lake and downtown. They also appreciate that Nettelhorst has a full-time English Language Learner (ELL) teacher to help their children acclimate to a new learning environment after moving here from abroad.

Nettelhorst also has a Bilingual Advisory Committee (BAC) comprised of families from foreign countries who meet regularly and organize multicultural events for the school.

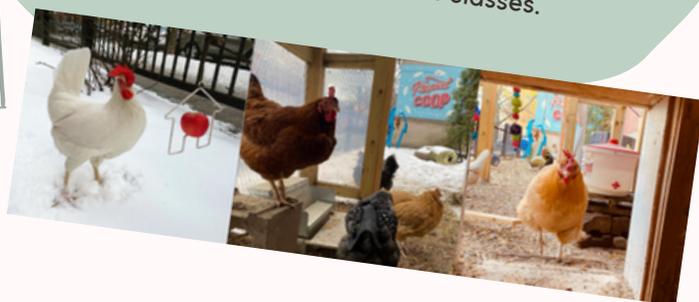
Did you know?

In June 2009, Nettelhorst became the first public school to march in Chicago's Pride Parade. The idea came from a gay parent who had a first grader at Nettelhorst and had marched in the pride parade with his child's previous school in San Francisco. About 50 Nettelhorst families marched in that first parade, and we've participated ever since.



THE NETTELHORST COOP

Another notable feature of our school is our chicken coop, home to nine hens that delight students and school neighbors alike. The coop was built in 2019 by teacher and community volunteers who wanted to bring a rural flavor to Nettelhorst's urban learning environment. Nettelhorst families volunteer to help maintain the coop and receive fresh eggs as payment. Students also care for the chickens in outdoor education classes.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOCUS

Our school has three behavioral health professionals dedicated to helping students develop the self-awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills so critical to academic and social success. Our full-time **school counselor**, **social worker**, and **psychologist** provide students of all abilities the support they need to learn and flourish. At Nettelhorst, social and emotional learning (**SEL**) is part of the school curriculum alongside math, science, and the Chicago Reading Framework.



Scan for more information about what makes Nettelhorst special.