



About Harrison School District #36

Harrison School District 36 is located in unincorporated Wonder Lake, Illinois approximately 60 miles northwest of the City of Chicago. Situated in central McHenry County and comprising an area of approximately 4 square miles, the District serves the eastern portion of Wonder Lake, an 880-acre man-made lake. The estimated population of the district is 1,030 with 488 residential housing units. The District operates one facility serving 473 students in grades PreK through 8.

The transportation network serving the area includes Illinois Routes 31, 47 and 120, along with U.S. Route 12. The location of Harrison School is on one of the two main roads of the District. It is approximately one mile from the business and residential areas of the community, adjacent to a conservation district on McCullom Lake Road. Although it is removed from the center of the community, the school is a primary community center. Because of its location, the students are bussed daily to and from school.

The history of Harrison School began about 1850 as Harsh School, which was a log building. The District included a dozen farmhouses. In 1870, the log building burned and a brick building was erected. It was an upgraded one-room school in which older boys attended only from November through March so they could help on the farms. The Harsh name was dropped in the late 1870's and the school was named Harrison, the name of the largest family attending.

Students graduating from Harrison School attend West Campus of McHenry High School District 156. McHenry County College completes the spectrum of the county educational institutions serving the Pre-K – 14 student populations.