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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**West Chicago Park District cheer squad takes first place at state competition**

West Chicago, Ill. — The West Chicago Park District's fourth grade Cheer Squad won first place during the third annual Illinois Recreational Cheerleading Association (IRCA) and Pom State Championship at the Sears Centre, in Hoffman Estates, Ill. The competition took place the weekend of Dec. 3-4 with over 225 teams present from all over the state of Illinois.

The fourth grade squad won two bids to the competition by placing first in their category (Fourth Grade Small) during the Midnight Madness Competition held Oct. 1 and the Bill George Competition, held Oct. 15. This is the second time that the team has competed in the IRCA state championship. The team also won first place in their category at last year's Championship.

Team members included Grace Turney, Olivia Smiley, Anna Fortelka, Perrie Grynowicz, Felicia Guen, Sydney Milella, Juliana Arato, Alexis Cerda, Gabby Digiulio, Payton Foster, Delaney O'Malley, Ashley O'Donnell, and Josie Kotke. Coaching the team on to first place were Cyndi Grynowicz, Angela Cerda, and Tracy Kotke.

The squad's routine was judged on choreography, stunts, tumbling, jumps, formation and expression. West Chicago High School cheerleaders Ashley Gutowski, Kayley Johnson, and Alexis Lange worked on the choreography and with the squad throughout the season.

Follow the West Chicago Park District daily on Facebook and Twitter for up-to-the-minute information on programs, events, and happenings. For information on registration for the spring/winter session call 630.231.9474 or visit the West Chicago Park District's website at [www.we-goparks.org](http://www.we-goparks.org).