



# FOCUS



Check your mailbox for the  
 District 303 FOCUS Newsletter

## Visit [d303.org/middleschools](http://d303.org/middleschools) for Info on Proposed Middle School Facilities Upgrades

We will be posting additional information about District Administration's proposal to upgrade middle school facilities on the District web site. Go to [www.d303.org/middleschools](http://www.d303.org/middleschools) to view the answers to questions asked at the community meetings and to view the PowerPoint slides from the presentation.

## St. Charles Education Foundation Schedules Annual Grant Award Meeting

The St. Charles Education Foundation will announce the awards for their 2016 grant recipients on **Wednesday, November 2** at 7 p.m. in the Little Theater of St. Charles East H.S. All community members are welcome to attend so that they can see firsthand some of innovative work being done by D303 educators. [Click here](#) for more information on the St. Charles Education Foundation and all their work to support the education of D303 students.



### Get the App!

The District 303 Mobile App is available for free download for Apple and Android devices. Search CUSD 303 in the App Store or Google Play to download the app. If you would like to see a short video about the App, watch the video in the Video Vault at [www.d303.org](http://www.d303.org)



## **D303 Middle School Facilities Community Meetings**

You are invited to attend either of the two remaining meetings at which District Administration will present the details of proposed improvements to our middle school buildings. The meeting schedule is as follows:

<b>Monday, October 24</b>	7- 8:30 p.m.	Wredling Middle School
<b>Tuesday, October 25</b>	7- 8:30 p.m.	Thompson Middle School

As requested by the community, the proposal contains details on attendance boundaries, timeline for construction, and transition plan for students. Below are a few important details of the proposal which will be addressed at these meetings:

- Phased in boundary changes for middle school students would begin with 6th graders in 2017-18
- No boundary changes for elementary schools or high schools
- A significant reduction in District 303 property taxes in 2018
- Annual savings of \$2.4 million by closing Haines Middle School after the 2018-19 school year
- Major improvements to Thompson and Wredling Middle Schools

The presentation at both meetings will be the same and there will be time after the presentations for questions and answers.

The Board of Education will consider the middle school plan at the following meetings:

Thursday, November 3	BOE Special Meeting	7:30 p.m at Thompson
Monday, November 14	BOE Regular Meeting	7 p.m. at North H.S.

***We look forward to seeing you there.***

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**WE'RE SOCIAL**

Connect with us at...



# North H.S. Student Organizes Event to Fight Hunger

St. Charles North H.S. senior Claire Miller is leading the effort to stage a community wide service event on **Sunday, November 6**. The entire District 303 community is invited to join together to fight hunger in the Make A Difference St. Charles Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack Event. Community members can support this MobilePack by making a donation to cover the costs of the meals to be packed, or by volunteering to package food at the event. The goal is to pack 100,000 meals. Each meal costs 22 cents, making the funding goal \$22,000. Donations are being accepted now.



To learn more, please visit [fmsc.org/MobilePack](http://fmsc.org/MobilePack). If you have questions please contact Claire Miller at [makeadifferencestc@gmail.com](mailto:makeadifferencestc@gmail.com).



## 2016 Creator Fair

The creator fair will be held at St. Charles East H.S. on **Saturday, November 12**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They are looking to recruit students/ teachers/ organizations/ individuals to come share the skill/passion/talent they have for creating and who are willing to demonstrate what they make in a public setting. They are hoping for booths where students are learning the STEM concepts behind the creations or art related projects.

Please contact Michael DeWees or Shannon Stone at St. Charles East H.S., to register for your booth or get more details.

[michael.deweese@d303.org](mailto:michael.deweese@d303.org) or 331.228.5568  
[shannon.stone@d303.org](mailto:shannon.stone@d303.org) or 331.228.5735



# D303 Seeking Nominations For Distinguished Alumni Award

District 303 in conjunction with the Distinguished Alumni Award Committee and the Greater St. Charles Education Foundation are proud to announce the opening of the nomination period for the 2017 District 303 Distinguished Alumni Award. The award will be given to selected nominees who have graduated from District 303 and have demonstrated a high level of achievement in their field of endeavor or in their contributions to their community.

Nominations for the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award are being accepted through December 1. Nominations should include the nominee's name, current address, phone, e-mail, high school the nominee graduated from and what year, along with details of the nominee's achievements and accomplishments. Those making a nomination are also asked to include their contact information.

The 2017 recipients will be recognized at the Greater St. Charles Education Foundation's Gala Event which will be held on April 8, 2017, at the Baker Hotel. Nominations can be submitted on the District 303 web site. [Click here](http://www.d303.org) to go to the nominating page, or visit [www.d303.org](http://www.d303.org).



## Additions to the Community Backpack

**Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra**  
2016-17 Season

# Hearts & Minds

The Power & Politics of Music

**Learn More**

EYSO Opens 41st Season, Hearts and Minds, The Power and Politics of Music

[Learn More](#)

**CONIC IMPROV**

WEDNESDAYS  
FROM NOW UNTIL FOREVER

10 - 7:30PM - 8:30PM

**Drop-In Improv**

Drop-In Improv

[Learn More](#)

**NOMAD THEATRE COMPANY**

Mermaid School

**Learn More**

Mermaid School

[Learn More](#)

**Moms Connected**

For Moms of Teens and Tweens

Date: October 27, 2016  
Time: 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
Topic: When Your Teen Says "My Life! My Choice!"  
Speaker: Jill Savage  
Cost: Free for first time attendees! Or, \$6 for mom only, \$4 for the \$2 for each additional child

Where: FRGC West Campus, 3425 Ridgeway Road, Geneva

Moms of teens and tweens are invited to Moms Connected at FRGC presents a Teen Says "My Life! My Choice!" At some point our kids may make a "big" amount that sticks us off of our feet. This practical workshop will equip moms with tools to navigate the rough seas as life choices become far more complicated. Whether you parenting a teen or preparing to, this session will equip you to release your anxiety that you are not parenting "best as you can" and learn how to build an open, trusting relationship with your teen. Learn how to raise the urge to let your child's choices and gain hope as you learn to navigate reality with your family.

Breakfast is provided!

**Learn More**

Moms Connected - When Your Teen Says "My Life! My Choice!"

[Learn More](#)

**Moms Together**

For mothers of young children

First Baptist Church at Geneva's (FRGC) Moms Together group will welcome **Kendra and John Smiley in November** as they present **Be the Parent: Seven Choices You Can Make to Raise Great Kids**. As parents, we can make deliberate and active choices so that we can do our best to raise our children to become the people God desires them to be. Be encouraged and equipped with practical tools, biblical wisdom, and renewed hope. Kendra and John Smiley are popular speakers and authors, leading marriage and parenting seminars nationwide and internationally. They have co-authored three books: *Journey of a Strong-Willed Child: Be the Parent, not the Victim*; *10 Keys to Parenting Your Teen*; and *10 Keys to Parenting Your Young Adult*. They also have a monthly column, *Home Front*, in *Prarie Farm* magazine. Named the Illinois Mother of the Year in 2005, Kendra hosts a daily radio show, *Live Life Intentionally*, heard across to over 250 stations and featuring John as a weekly guest. John is a retired USAF Reserve Colonel and now lives in central Illinois. They have three married sons and ten grandchildren ages 9 and under.

There will be three opportunities to host the presentation as Moms Together offers three identical morning sessions, which start from 9:15-11:15 a.m. on **Thursday November 3, Thursday November 10, and Thursday November 17**. **Moms Together** is held at the Church's West Campus located at 3425 Ridgeway Road in Geneva. The morning will include breakfast, time for conversation, and discussion groups. The cost is aimed at \$6.00 per person, \$8.00 for moms with one child, and \$10.00 for a mom with two or more children.

Moms Together is a program created to affirm and encourage mothers of infants through elementary-age children. For more information on the program or to register, please visit [fbg.com/mom](http://fbg.com/mom) or call 630-232-7068 ext. 137

**Learn More**

Moms Together - Be the Parent: Seven Choices You Can Make to Raise Great Kids

[Learn More](#)

[Click here to view more community events happening soon!](#)



# Halloween Safety Tips

*From the City of St. Charles*

Halloween is Monday, Oct. 31, and little goblins and ghosts will be going door to door, trick-or-treating. Please review the following safety tips to help make the occasion safe and enjoyable for trick-or-treaters:

- Official trick-or-treating hours are from 3 to 7 p.m.
- Young children should be accompanied by their parents or another responsible adult.
- If there is a chance children will be out after dark, at least one member of each group should carry a flashlight.
- Remind children to watch for traffic.
- Walk only on sidewalks and cross the streets at intersections.
- Fit costumes properly to avoid tripping hazards and ensure the child has clear vision.
- Choose light colored costumes or add reflective tape or reflectors so they are visible.
- Examine all candy before allowing children to eat it.

Drivers should be especially observant and watch for children out walking. All residents are encouraged to turn on outside lights for the safety of the trick-or-treaters. Thanks for helping us make this a safe and fun-filled Halloween!



## 2017-18 School Year Calendar

The District 303 Board of Education recently approved the 2017-18 school calendar. Here are some key dates:

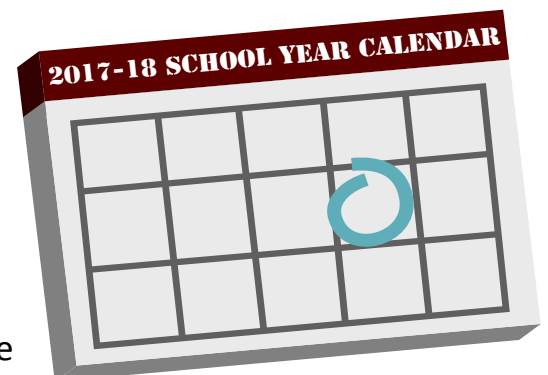
**First Day of Classes:** Wednesday, August 23

**Winter Break:** December 25-January 5

**Spring Break:** March 26-30

**Last Day of School:** Monday, June 4\*\*

\*\* (If no emergency days are used)



You can view the full calendar by visiting the District website [d303.org](http://d303.org) and choosing calendars under the "About Us" menu.

Look on the right side of the page for the printable copy of the full school year calendar.

# 2017 District 303 Board of Education Elections



Nominating petition forms for the April 4, 2017 Board of Education election in District 303 are now available. Forms are available online through the office of the Kane County Clerk's website [www.kanecountyelections.org](http://www.kanecountyelections.org). Tuesday, September 20 is the first day that residents of District 303 may circulate the nominating petitions.

A school board candidate's petition must be filed in the Kane County Clerk's Office, 719 Batavia Ave., Building B (North Entrance), Geneva IL 60134 no earlier than Monday, December 12 and no later than Monday, December 19.

Four seats on the seven-member Board of Education will be filled by the results of the April 4 election. Candidates elected will serve four-year terms expiring in April, 2021.

To be eligible to serve, a school board member must be, on the date of election, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, a registered voter, and a resident of the State of Illinois and District 303 for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election. The Board of Education election is nonpartisan and board candidates do not run under political party affiliation.

Illinois Law requires that any candidate seeking election to a board of education must file:

- Nominating petitions signed by at least 50 voters residing within the District.
- Statement of Candidacy.
- Statement of Economic Interest.
- Loyalty Oath – which is optional.

*Important dates for candidates are:*

**Tuesday, September 20, 2016** – First day candidates may circulate nominating petitions.

**Monday, December 12, 2016** – First day that prospective candidates may file nominating papers with the county clerk.

**Monday, December 19, 2016** – Last day to file nominating petitions with the county clerk. Also, last day for candidates to file receipt for Statement of Economic Interest to accompany nomination papers.

**Thursday, February 2, 2017** – Last day to file a declaration of intent to run for the school board as a write-in candidate in the April 4 election.

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017**- Election Day

For more information about the nature and duties of serving on a school board, visit the Illinois Association of School Board's website at: <http://www.iasb.com/elections/>.



**Like Us on Facebook, Follow Us on Twitter, Watch Us on YouTube**

District 303 has added Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to our community communications toolbox. In addition to [district.d303.org](http://district.d303.org), ParentLink and the FOCUS magazine, you can keep up with news from the District via Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. On Facebook, Like us by visiting our page and on Twitter follow us at @StCharlesD303. To check out our YouTube Channel visit StCharlesCUSD303 when you are logged into YouTube.



## 2016-2017 Special Education Parent Coffeehouse Schedule

**All are welcome to join the Special Education Parent Coffeehouse!**

**Tuesday, October 25:** Please join us to mingle and converse with families that have gone before you in the special education process through age 22. Exchange of information, as well as knowledge regarding a variety of topics, is always helpful as families enter each stage of transition. We believe that all members of an IEP team can learn from each other when great conversations take place. Join us Tuesday, 7-9pm, at St. Charles East High School up in the LRC in room B200C.

Any questions, please contact Megan Payleitner ([megan.payleitner@d303.org](mailto:megan.payleitner@d303.org))

For future meeting dates and descriptions view the flyer by [clicking here](#).

## D303 Alum Hosting Music Event with D303 Students

District 303 Alumni Mr. Ryan Carney will be performing alongside selected current District 303 students on **Saturday, October 22** at 10 a.m. at Kiss the Sky Records in downtown Batavia. Mr. Carney's "Master Class Cello & Bass" is open to the public and gives District 303 students a chance to perform with a professional musician who is a product of D303 schools.



## North H.S. Theatre Presents "Meet Me in St. Louis"

St. Charles North Theatre will present the non-musical version of "Meet Me in St. Louis" adapted by Christopher Sergel on **Thursday, October 27 through Saturday, October 29** in the North H.S. Auditorium. Showtime each evening is 7:30 p.m. This very popular, charming, and comedic play tells the story of a lower-middle class family excited for the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. As the family deals with a variety of situations, including love and money, they soon realize that their troubles may lead to the entire family missing the exciting World's Fair!

Tickets are \$5 students, \$7 adults, & \$3 senior citizens.

Purchase Tickets online here: <https://store.d303.org/?LALECT7775=LACV54KZWF>

**Watch the St. Charles North Theatre trailer here:** <http://youtu.be/5ebkC4QNdfQ>



# District 303 Choir Festival

The 9th annual District 303 Choir Festival took place at North H.S. on Thursday, October 13th. Over 250+ choir students from all 3 middle schools and both high schools participated in this event.



## Mark Your Calendars

### Friday, October 28

End of 1st Quarter for Middle and High Schools

### Friday, November 11

End of 1st Trimester for Elementary Schools

### Monday, November 21

K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No Classes)

### Tuesday, November 22

K-8 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No Classes)  
High School Teachers' In-service (No Classes)

### Wednesday, November 23

Non Attendance Day (Offices Open)

### November 24-25

Thanksgiving Break

## Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

### Thursday, November 3

Business Services Committee - 6:00 p.m.  
at Thompson Middle School

### Thursday, November 3

Special BOE Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
at Thompson Middle School

### Monday, November 14

Regular BOE Meeting - 7 p.m.  
at North High School

### Monday, November 21

Learning & Teaching Committee - 5 p.m.  
Community Relations Committee - *Immediately following Learning & Teaching Committee no earlier than 5:30 p.m.*



## Check Out Our Interactive Boundary Map

In addition to the boundary maps that are posted on our website, we now have an interactive map upon which you can enter an address and see the schools assigned to that address.

[Click here](#) to check it out!

(Please keep in mind all attendance area questions are officially determined by contacting the schools.)