

District 303 E-NEWS

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August 2, 2019

Connect with us! St Charles District 303 @StCharlesD303

PLTW On-Site Training for Teachers

As part of the District's ongoing Professional Development commitment, elementary teachers took part in a two-day Project Lead the Way Launch Lead Teacher Training on July 29 and 30.

PLTW trainers facilitated the on-site training experience at Corron Elementary, providing supplies and innovative lesson plans for teachers to attain the necessary credentials to be able to teach PLTW lessons in their buildings.



"The training provides teachers an opportunity to view the curriculum from a different perspective, taking the role of learners and seeing the lessons as students," expressed Melissa Byrne, Director of College and Career Readiness.

The in-person training fully immerses teachers in course content, allowing them to experience the core science curriculum by performing activities that are part of the lessons. In turn, they will help their students explore topics such as forces, the properties of matter, nature and natural disasters, all while applying the design engineering process to solve problems.

Share Your First Day Photos

The first day of school is an exciting time for students, staff, and parents. Whether it's your child's first day of kindergarten, or his or her first day of senior year, we would like to see the photos.

Email your scrapbook-worthy photos to communication.itscomm@d303.org with the name of your child's school and his or her grade and we will share them on the District Facebook page using the hashtag #D303FirstDay.





Back to School Information

Please visit the [Back to School Center](#) page of our website for helpful information relevant to the beginning of our 2019-20 school year.

The school supply lists for Elementary Schools can be found at the bottom of your school's website. For Middle Schools, the supply lists can be found under the registration tab on your school's website. High School students will be instructed by their teachers on their first day of school what supplies they will need for each class.

Home Access Center Reopening Dates

Thompson Middle School: July 26 at 5:00 p.m.

Wredling Middle School: July 30 at 4:00 p.m.

Elementary Schools: August 5 at 8:00 a.m.

High Schools: August 12 at 7:00 p.m.



THOMPSON OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

705 West Main Street, St. Charles, IL



District 303 invites the entire community to an open house at the newly remodeled Thompson Middle School. The renovation project, which began in the summer of 2017, added air conditioning, 31 new classrooms, 11 new science labs, a new auxiliary gym, an expanded cafeteria, and a new track and field area. In addition, the newly constructed bus drop off and pick-up area behind the school will improve traffic flow on Indiana and 7th Streets.

After a short ceremony at 5:30 p.m., eighth grade students from the Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) program will conduct tours of the new facility. Student performances will be held throughout the building, and historical artifacts dating back to Thompson High School will be on display.



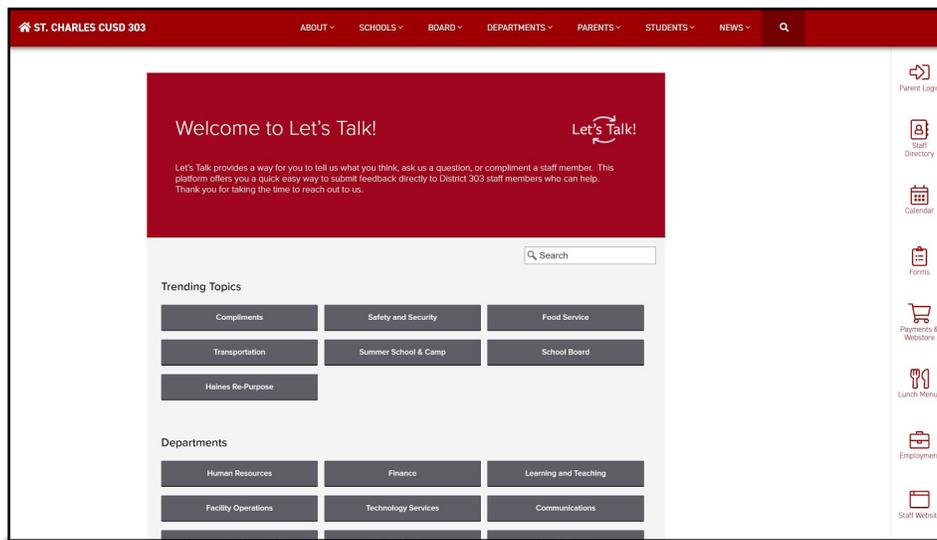
District 303 Welcomes you to Let's Talk!®

The newest customer service tool in District 303 launched on August 1. "Let's Talk!" provides a way for everyone – students, staff, parents and community members – to share their feedback, ask questions, make suggestions, or compliment a staff member.

"Let's Talk!" makes it easy to join the conversation about how to strengthen our schools and better serve our students. This platform offers a quick, easy way to submit feedback directly to District 303 staff members who can help.

You may find the Let's Talk! button on the front of the D303 website (district.d303.org) or on any school's website. At those locations, you will find buttons for hot topics, district departments, and schools.

When you submit a question, comment, or suggestion we will respond to you within two business days. We appreciate your feedback and look forward to hearing from you.



School Improvement Day on August 30

In January, the School Board approved the calendar for the 2019–2020 school year. Each year, there are days set aside that are used to provide our teachers with professional learning time. This year, our calendar includes both full day and half day institutes. We want to remind parents that the first half day institute takes place on **August 30**. While the arrival times are the same, students will be dismissed on the following half day schedule:

- **High School:** 7:20am–10:45am
- **Middle School:** 8:30am–12:10pm
- **Elementary School:** 8:40am–11:40am
- **Richmond:** 8:00am–11:40am

Important Bus Route Information

On Wednesday, August 14, schools in St. Charles Community Unit School District 303 will welcome over 12,000 students back for their first day of class. While it is an exciting time of the year for students, parents, and staff members, it is also a time when the volume of traffic on roads in and around St. Charles increases. For that reason, we are asking for your assistance in keeping all students safe while they travel between home and school.

The District 303 Transportation Department takes pride in its record of safety and service. Due to ongoing construction on roads within our district, we recommend that you encourage your child to ride the school bus, if that is an option. This will assist with traffic flow around the schools and ensure that students are dropped off in a secure location. Please only drive your student to school if it is absolutely necessary.

We ask that you remember the following items that will help keep our students safe during the school year:

- When you drive in the neighborhoods near schools while students are in session, please observe the posted speed limit signs - 25 mph in residential areas, and 20 mph in school zones.
- Please don't cut through neighborhoods as part of your route to or from our schools.
- Cell phone use is prohibited in school zones.
- Passing a school bus that is stopped and has its stop sign extended is a violation of the law, which can result in license suspension.



During the first week of school, additional student loading time is necessary to ensure that all students are safely on their buses after school. Because of the late departure times, bus routes may run 10-20 minutes late in the afternoon.

The bus routes developed by our Transportation Department during the summer are designed to maximize safety, and work as efficiently as possible. During the first two weeks of school, our drivers and transportation department administrators will gather information about the efficiency and timeliness of routes. After that time, any necessary changes will be made and parents will be informed. **We ask that you do not contact the transportation department during those two weeks.**

Elementary and middle school bus route schedules will be available on e-link at **noon on Wednesday, August 7**. High school bus route information will be available at **noon on August 12**. We encourage parents to check schedules again prior to the beginning of school to see if times have been updated.

Parents can access e-link by visiting the District website at www.d303.org. Within the "For Parents" menu choose Bus Routes e-Link and login using your Home Access Center (HAC) credentials. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

Summer Reading Program for K-5 Students



State Representative Dan Ugaste (R-Geneva) has launched a Summer Reading Program for all K-5th grade students who live in his 65th District, challenging them to read 8 books during their summer break. Once students complete their reading, they are encouraged to fill out a [Summer Reading Form](#) and send the list to his office to receive an invitation to a special party in the fall, where they will be awarded an official certificate from the Illinois House of Representatives recognizing their commitment to reading.

Anderson, Bell Graham, Corron, Davis, Ferson Creek, Lincoln, and Wild Rose K-5 students are welcome to participate.

Additional information and the program brochure can be found [here](#), and is **open until August 10, 2019**, when reading lists are due in Rep. Ugaste's District Office. Invitations to the party will be e-mailed to the student's parents or guardian. With questions about the program, contact Rep. Ugaste's District Office at 630-797-5530.

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED!

Community Unit School District 303 is currently recruiting bus drivers to fill 11 open positions for the 2019-2020 school year. Many of the open positions are due to a large number of retirements that occurred at the end of this school year.

Starting pay for the part-time positions that are 4-5 hours per day is \$19.36 per hour. Drivers are responsible for a variety of routes including student pick-up in the mornings and drop off in the afternoons. Special routes for field trips, extra-curricular activities and the Fox Valley Career Center are also scheduled through District 303 transportation.

The District will train qualified candidates who want to obtain their Commercial Driver's License. The process takes about 6 weeks so those interested should apply in the next few weeks to give them time to be trained prior to the beginning of the school year.

Interested individuals may apply online at <http://district.d303.org/employment>, visit the Transportation Office at 901 S. Peck Rd., or call the Transportation Office at 331.228.5180.



Community Backpack



Upcoming School Board Meetings

August 5*

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

August 19

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

August 26

Business Services Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

September 9

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

September 16

Learning & Teaching Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

**First Monday of the Month*

2019-2020 Calendar Highlights

August 14

First Day of Classes

August 30

School Improvement Day/ Half Day*
(No Students Afternoon)

**See page 3 for more information*

September 2

Labor Day Holiday (No Students, Offices Closed)

Want to stay current with D303?

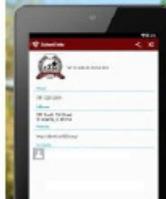
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FREE

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teachers & staff



Integrate with the
all-in-one calendars



Search St. Charles CUSD 303 to download

The official St. Charles CUSD 303 app gives you a personalized window into what is happening at the district and schools. Get the news and information that you care about and get involved.



COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 303
201 South 7th Street, St. Charles, IL 60174

**2019-2020
 School Calendar**

July

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

August

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

September

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

October

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

November

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

December

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

AUGUST

Teacher Institute Days (No Students) August 12-13
 First Day of Classes..... August 14
 School Improvement/Half Day (No Students Afternoon) August 30

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day HolidaySeptember 2

OCTOBER

School Improvement/Half Day (No Students Afternoon).....October 11
 Columbus Day HolidayOctober 14
 End of 1st Quarter (Middle, High Schools)October 18

NOVEMBER

End of 1st Trimester (Elementary Schools)..... November 1
 School Improvement/Half Day (No Students Afternoon)..November 13
 K-12 Parent/Teacher Conference (No Students).....November 25
 K-8 Parent/Teacher Conference (No Students).....November 26
 High School Teachers' In-Service (No Students).....November 26
 Non Attendance Day (Offices Open) November 27
 Thanksgiving Break November 28, 29

DECEMBER

Last Day of School in 2019..... December 20
 End of 2nd Quarter (Middle, High Schools)..... December 20
 Winter Break December 23 - January 3

JANUARY

Teacher Work Day (Middle, High Schools No students) January 6
 Teacher Institute Day (Elementary Schools No Students).... January 6
 School Resumes.....January 7
 Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday January 20

FEBRUARY

Presidents' Day Holiday February 17
 End of 2nd Trimester (Elementary Schools).....February 21
 Teacher Work Day (Elementary Schools No Students).....February 28
 Teacher Institute Day (Middle/High Schools No Students)..February 28

MARCH

End of 3rd Quarter (Middle, High Schools).....March 13
 Spring Break March 30-31

APRIL

Spring Break April 1-3
 School Resumes..... April 6
 K-5 Afternoon Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5 in classes in AM)
 (K-5 ONLY-- No students in PM) April 9
 Teacher Institute Day (No Students) April 10

MAY

School Improvement/Half Day (No Students Afternoon)..... May 6
 Last Day for Students if no "Emergency Days" used.....May 22
 Memorial Day Holiday..... May 25

JUNE

Last Day for Students if 5 "Emergency Days" used..... June 1

January

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

February

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

March

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

April

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

May

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

June

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			