

**For Immediate Release**



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## **Lincoln Elementary School Celebrates 90 years**

March 11, 2019 – March 21 marks the 90th anniversary of the opening of Abraham Lincoln Elementary School. Located near downtown St. Charles, Lincoln is the oldest elementary school in District 303.

As part of the anniversary celebrations, students will take part in an assembly from 1:45 – 2:45 p.m. on March 21.

St. Charles Mayor Ray Rogina will begin the assembly by reading a proclamation. In addition, St. Charles resident and Lincoln Elementary School Alumnus Ray Kobald will talk to students about his experiences at Lincoln as well as his life as a world renowned sculptor. Kobald, whose bronze sculptures are familiar icons throughout St Charles, attended Lincoln from 1936-1941.

Lincoln students will sing a verse from the old East Side School song during the commemoration. For the remainder of the academic year, they will continue to participate in activities which engage them in the school's history, including book readings from guest alumni and class art installations.

President Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary Todd Lincoln will make a special appearance for the remainder of the assembly.

It was back in 1927 that the community voted to build a new school to replace the East Side School, which had been in operation on that site since 1856. The community wanted the new school to be less crowded and have better lighting and ventilation, but the architect, Frank B Gray, accomplished so much more. Learn more about this beautiful building and its story on the Lincoln School website <http://lincoln.d303.org/>.

The school is working with the St. Charles History Museum to collect artifacts that can be put in a display for this event and a community wide celebration being planned for May 16. If you have artifacts you would like to lend, please contact Alison Costanzo, Executive Director of the St. Charles History Museum at [director@stcmuseum.org](mailto:director@stcmuseum.org).

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