

District 303 E-NEWS

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Administration Center
201 South 7th St.
St. Charles, IL 60174
331.228.2000
Let's Talk!

February 26, 2021



Wredling Students Sharpen their Stage Combat Skills

Even during a pandemic it is important for drama students to continue learning the art of performance. Wredling Drama Club students were fortunate to welcome professional stage combat choreographer Andrew Trygstad to lead their monthly Drama Club workshop. Andrew brings the art of safe yet believable stage combat to schools, community theatres, and professional theatre companies. He is a member of the Society of American Fight Directors and holds certifications in all eight weapon styles.

Mrs. Bach, Wredling's Director of Vocal Music and art teacher Mrs. Hubbs arranged for his participation in the workshop. "Although we're not doing any productions this year due to COVID-19, these workshops allow students to work on their overall skills, with the hopes that it will heighten their interest in theatre and improve their skills for future productions," said Mrs. Bach.

During the workshop, students learned:

- stage weapon safety and advocacy
- basic stage combat terminology
- proper hand/foot placement for single sword combat
- a short choreographed fight sequence using "single swords" (actually dowel rods, measured to ensure that all students stayed 6 ft. apart at all times)



The purpose of Drama Club is to give students the opportunity to learn from District 303 teachers as well as Chicago area professionals who serve as guest clinicians. Students meet every month and work on improving their overall knowledge and skill set in various aspects of theatre, both on and off stage.



Artwork by Wredling 8th grade student, Faith Brennan

Honoring Alvin Ailey with Art

Students in many District 303 schools are learning about the contributions made by African Americans to our nation. Wredling 8th grade student Faith Brennan and her classmates were given an assignment by social studies teacher, Mrs. Franklin, to research a person of influence and create a product to show their learning using the website, "44 African Americans Who Shook the World." Faith used her talent as an artist to highlight the life and achievements of Alvin Ailey, an African American dancer, director, choreographer, and activist. The vibrant colors, strong images, and musical notes of Faith's work visually describe the struggles, joy, and successes of Alvin's life.

We've all heard the story about how the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 was allegedly started by one of Catherine O'Leary's cows. But very few people know the story that's been passed on by her family through generations, and it's this same story that Mrs. O'Leary's great, great, granddaughter, Nancy Connolly, shared with all the 4th graders at Munhall on February 18.

Prior to the meeting, students researched the Great Chicago Fire and The World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 and how those events impacted present-day Illinois.

Having the opportunity to speak with Mrs. Connolly allowed students to learn about the family's perspective and what Mrs. O'Leary faced in the aftermath of that night.



Students sent Mrs. Connolly questions prior to the meeting which helped them with their research. The virtual interaction

helped students understand how important it is to find reliable sources of information, and helped them continue to develop their inquiry and critical thinking skills.

Students came to the conclusion that nobody really knew what happened that night or how the fire really started. They also learned how stories without solid evidence or rumors can cause great damage, so it's important to find out the truth and not judge others.



Although they were a bit saddened to learn that Mrs. O'Leary never spoke about the devastating incident, they were happy to learn that in 1997, Mrs. O'Leary's family was presented with a plaque by the Chicago City Council to signify her and her cow's exoneration.

The discussion with Mrs. Connolly spurred thoughtful discussions for students about how much of the growth and prosperity enjoyed by the city of Chicago started with the rebuild after the fire.

Remote Students Build Rube Goldberg Machines

By its very nature, Project Lead the Way encourages students to solve problems using items found at home or at school. Mrs. Hernandez knew how to get her 4th grade remote students excited about Energy Conversion by giving them permission to build Rube Goldberg machines with things they found in the kitchen, under their beds, in the recycling bin, in the garage or in the toy box. Some students used wooden building blocks and legos, others used books and cardboard as ramps and carefully laid out sports equipment and paper towel rolls in their designs. Part of the fun of Rube Goldberg machines is applying problem solving skills to revamp the machine after a failure or two. There is no better feeling than finally having the machine perform the desired task after changing a part, tweaking a design, or adding something new. [Watch for yourself and see the students' excitement!](#)



District 303 Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records

The temporary special education records of former students of Community Unit School District 303, St. Charles, are set to be destroyed. Students who graduated or transferred out of the district with a date of birth year of 1993–1994 records will be destroyed after March 1, 2021. If a parent or student has reason to believe that these records may be of continued usefulness, they are encouraged to contact the District 303 Department of Instruction, Instructional Interventions, at (331)228-6732 to obtain these records.

Special Education records may include: reports of psychological or social work evaluations, reports of multi-disciplinary planning conferences, reports of annual reviews, copies of individual educational programs, or other verified information of clear relevance to the education of the student. Copies of the Rules and Regulations to Govern District 303 Student Records are available for inspection at each school site and at the District Central Office.

Social-Emotional Resources for Families

In partnership with Riverview Counseling, District 303 has posted video resources that support the social emotional needs of families. The videos are found on the [district website](#) and cover topics such as supporting students with remote learning, strategies for structure and consistency, suicide prevention and awareness, and parent self-care.

All students have the opportunity to engage in optional learning experiences by visiting the [D303 Remote Learning Resources](#) page at any time. There are a variety of learning experiences in the areas of math, digital citizenship, English Language Arts, college and career, virtual field trips, STEM, and social emotional learning.



Call to Artists for SCAC 2021 STUDENT ART SHOW:
Elementary School thru College Students

Click [HERE](#) for information about our 2021 Student Art Show. Open to all students - elementary through college. DEADLINE TO APPLY: March 12, 2021

District 303 Technical Support Resources for Families and Staff

District 303 is committed to providing the most up to date information regarding classroom technology tools, services and trends in an easily accessible area for our families. Please [use this link](#) to access the information and support you and your students need for a successful remote experience.



An Inspiring Learning Activity

Anderson students were eager to start the Black History Month scavenger hunt around the school during the week of February 22. The goal? Learn as much as possible about the contributions of 24 notable African Americans featured on their doors with pictures and information about their lives, inspiring quotes and messages, and their accomplishments.

To get the entire school community to participate in this learning experience, LRC Media Specialist, Mrs. Majewski, provided teachers with resources and a list of individuals who could be featured. The individuals included athletes like Mo'ne Davis and Jackie Robinson; activists like Maya Angelou, Ruby Bridges, and Harriet Tubman; a ballet dancer like Misty Copeland; astronaut Ronald McNair; and Vice President Kamala Harris.

Each class created unique and interactive door displays featuring 3D elements, hand drawings by the students, Makey Makey circuits by the 5th graders, and even QR codes to access informational videos. Dr. Aiello's 5th grade students created a video of NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson. The recent landing of the Perseverance rover on Mars made students even more excited about having the opportunity to share information about Katherine Johnson and her work with others, especially the kindergartners.

After their scavenger hunt, students responded to reflection questions about what they learned from creating their classroom door displays and surprising facts they learned during this experience. This activity was highlighted in their new student newspaper, [*The Monthly Fox Den*](#). Students expressed how much they're looking forward to next month's interactive activities to help celebrate Women's History Month.



Conquering PE Remotely

For their Fundamental Movement Skills unit, remote students in Mr. Navis' PE class have been working on their Creative Dance lesson, learning about how every dance (from ballet to hip hop, to choreographies and even their own creative dances), uses the elements of "Awareness of Body" to create a routine. As part of the lesson, students created their own dance where they chose their own steps, selected their own music, and applied different elements from each Awareness: body shapes, locomotor and non-locomotor movements, space, and effort. Students recorded their dances using Flipgrid and shared them with the class.



"This lesson allowed students to see that no matter what the dance is, it can be broken down into the basic elements that we were working on, helping them realize how what they learn in class and create have great similarities with the dances they see on TV, YouTube, and even performances or shows," expressed Mr. Navis.

Although teaching PE remotely has had its challenges, Mr. Navis has found many creative ways to help keep students engaged and connected by working in collaboration with other PE teachers in the district. He's also found it very helpful to learn from other PE colleagues from across Illinois and the U.S. through social media and other technology tools.

"With the help of my favorite PLC partner, Elizabeth Navis (my wife and 4th grade

teacher at Richmond), the tech tools I have always used have become more efficient, more meaningful, and more impactful for student learning and engagement this year," he stated.

When remote students log in to their PE class, they usually begin with a warm-up using traditional bodyweight exercises in a game setting, such as Bingo Warm-Up and Coin-Flip Warm-up. Once Mr. Navis shares the plan for the day, he focuses on helping students use the core components of what they're learning, whether it be how to kick properly, basic dance components, or learning about the muscular system for future lessons.

Different tools such as Screencastify, Kahoot, and Flipgrid have made it possible for Mr. Navis to deliver his lessons efficiently, and encourage students to have greater ownership of their learning while providing them with essential feedback to improve their skills. This has also allowed him to respond to student needs while other students continue to work and collaborate.

"While this year has had some challenges, it has been amazing to see the growth these students have made, not just with the curriculum, but with the use of technology too!" expressed Mr. Navis. "When students go back to their home school (or to middle school), the students I have had the honor of teaching will be as prepared as their friends who had in-person instruction this year, and that makes me smile!"



The St. Charles Education Foundation Scholarship Deadline is March 10, 2021

Since 2003, the St. Charles Education Foundation annually awards scholarships to two graduating seniors at each of the two high schools, St. Charles East and St. Charles North. The monetary value of each scholarship will be a minimum of \$1000.00. To qualify, seniors are expected to further their education at a 2-year or 4-year college or university, vocational school or post high school institution of higher learning. The scholarships are a one-time non-renewable award which will be granted based on overall merit. The scholarship applications are available at St. Charles North and East High School guidance offices and <https://www.stcedfoundation.org>

Announcing the St. Charles Education Foundation Grant Application 2020-2021

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."

-Albert Einstein

The St. Charles Education Foundation is pleased to announce that 22 grants were funded totaling \$29,000.00 for the 2019-2020 school year. Click here to [view the list of recipients](#).

The goal of The St. Charles Education Foundation is to provide funding that allows talented professionals to utilize their abilities to educate today's students. To facilitate this goal, the Foundation is inviting educators and students to submit proposals for consideration in the 2020-2021 school year. There are a limited number of grants that can be funded so we are looking for the most innovative and first-time projects or programs that have the potential to expand in District 303. The Foundation typically funds projects that may not be able to be funded through conventional means.

The grant application has been modified to make it easier to apply and to keep the focus on exceptional ideas which enhance learning and teaching in our district.

[Making a Difference — St. Charles Education Foundation \(stcedfoundation.org\)](https://www.stcedfoundation.org)

BUS DRIVERS AND ASSISTANTS NEEDED!



- District 303 is currently recruiting bus drivers and assistants
- Starting pay for the part-time positions that are 4-5 hours per day is \$19.68 for drivers and \$15.61 for assistants
- The District will train qualified candidates who want to obtain their Commercial Driver's License
- Interested individuals may apply online at district.d303.org/employment, visit the Transportation Office at 901 S. Peck Rd., or call 331.228.5180

District 303 Meal Distribution Schedule

Breakfast and lunch meals are FREE for all children between the ages of 1 to 18 and can be picked up at any of the locations and times indicated below. No pre-ordering is needed.

Pick up your FREE meals on the dates below:

| <u>Pick-Up Dates:</u> | <u>Number of meals provided per child:</u> |
|------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, February 16 | 2 meals |
| Thursday, February 18 | 4 meals |
| Monday, February 22 | 3 meals |
| Thursday, February 25 | 4 meals |
| Monday, March 1 | 3 meals |
| Thursday, March 4 | 4 meals |
| Monday, March 8 | 3 meals |
| Thursday, March 11 | 4 meals |
| Monday, March 15 | 3 meals |
| Thursday, March 18 | 4 meals |
| Monday, March 22 | 3 meals |
| Thursday, March 25 | 4 meals |
| Monday, March 29 | 7 meals *Spring Break |

School Locations:

Time:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Elementary Schools | 2:00–3:00 PM |
| Middle Schools | 8:45–9:15 AM and 3:45–4:30 PM |
| High Schools | 7:30–8:00 AM and 2:45–4:30PM |

Neighborhood Locations:

Time:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Cumberland Green Apartments | 11:00AM–11:30AM |
| St. Charles Place Apartments (Intersection of N. 15th St. & Brook St.) | 11:45 AM–12:15PM |

Meal Schedule Updated 2/11/2021



Distribución de Comidas del Distrito 303

Los desayunos y almuerzos son GRATIS para todos los niños entre las edades de 1 a 18 y puede recogerlos en cualquiera de los lugares y horarios que se indican en la lista. No se necesita pre-ordenar. Venga a recoger sus comidas GRATIS en las siguientes fechas:

| <u>Fechas para recoger:</u> | <u>Número de comidas proporcionadas por niño(a):</u> |
|---|--|
| Martes, 16 de Febrero | 2 comidas |
| Jueves, 18 de Febrero | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 22 de Febrero | 3 comidas |
| Jueves, 25 de Febrero | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 1ro de Marzo | 3 comidas |
| Jueves, 4 de Marzo | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 8 de Marzo | 3 comidas |
| Jueves, 11 de Marzo | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 15 de Marzo | 3 comidas |
| Jueves, 18 de Marzo | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 22 de Marzo | 3 comidas |
| Jueves, 25 de Marzo | 4 comidas |
| Lunes, 29 de Marzo | 7 comidas *Vacaciones de Primavera |
| <u>Escuelas en las que puede recoger:</u> | <u>Horario:</u> |
| Escuelas Primarias | 2:00-3:00 PM |
| Escuelas Secundarias | 8:45-9:15 AM y 3:45-4:30 PM |
| Escuelas Preparatorias | 7:30-8:00 AM y 2:45-4:30PM |
| <u>Lugares en la comunidad donde puede recoger:</u> | <u>Horario:</u> |
| Apartamentos Cumberland Green | 11:00AM-11:30AM |
| Apartamento St. Charles Place (Intersección de N. 15th St. & Brook St.) | 11:45 AM-12:15PM |



Actualizado 2/11/2021

Seal of Biliteracy

February 25, 2021



Do you communicate in another language other than English? Are you enrolled in a world language course at STCE/SCN? If you answered yes to either of these questions, you may want to consider taking the Seal of Biliteracy exam.

Students who meet the state-approved proficiency level in speaking, listening, reading and writing, may receive the Seal of Biliteracy or Commendation distinction on their diploma and transcript. In addition, many colleges and universities accept the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to two years of foreign language coursework taken in high school and may provide college credit.

Please visit the [St. Charles East Website/North Website](#) to find out more information about the test, the associated fee, and registration for the exam. The test will be administered on Saturday, April 10. The deadline for signing up is **Wednesday, April 7th**.

¿Te comunicas en otro idioma en casa? ¿Estás inscrito en un curso de idioma del mundo en STCE/SCN? ¿Te gustaría poner tu dominio de ese idioma a la prueba? Si tu respuesta es sí a alguna de estas preguntas, considera tomar el examen de alfabetización bilingüe.

Estudiantes que demuestren comprensión de discurso, comprensión auditiva, lectura y escritura, a un nivel aprobado por el estado podrán recibir el Sello de Alfabetización Bilingüe o un reconocimiento distinguido en su diploma y en su expediente académico. Además, varias universidades y colegios aceptan el Sello de Alfabetización como un equivalente de dos años de un curso de lenguaje extranjero tomado en la preparatoria y pueden proveer crédito universitario.

Visita la página de [STCEast/STCNorth](#), para saber más información, cargos asociados, o para registrarte al examen. El examen será administrado el 10 de Abril. El último día para registrarse es el **miércoles 7 de abril**.





Tri-M Music
HONOR SOCIETY

*Thank
you!*

Any amount of support would be greatly appreciated by the underprivileged communities that Hungry for Music provides for. Even if you don't have anything to donate, help spread the word!

MUSIC DRIVE

HOSTED BY SCN TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY



hungry for music
established 1994

Donations may
include
instruments,
sheet music,
music equipment,
and music
accessories



**March 15th to March 26th, 2021
7:20am-3:30pm front vestibule at
SCN
Saturday, March 20th, 10:00 am-
1:00 pm back of SCN behind the
music wing**

In order to make a difference, we are partnering with **Hungry for Music**, a non profit charity that distributes any donations to underprivileged schools/organizations

2021-2022 Kindergarten Enrollment

IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE 5-YEARS OLD ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2021,
IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN.

DO NOT WAIT until summer to enroll your kindergarten student. Kindergarten enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year will be virtual for all District 303 elementary schools beginning January 19 through March 12, 2021.

Virtual Enrollment

The District 303 Kindergarten enrollment process for the 2021-2022 school year will be virtual! Between **January 19 and March 12**, families will be able to enroll their kindergarten-age children by visiting the Kindergarten Registration & Information page of the District website.

On the site you will find:

- The New Student Intake Form (Coming January 19, 2021)
- The Kindergarten Step-by-Step Guide for registration
- Health and Dental exams and immunization information
- Contact information for all elementary schools
- Information about Full Day and Half Day Kindergarten

2021-2022 Inscripción de Kindergarten

SI SU HIJO(A) CUMPLIRÁ 5 AÑOS EN O ANTES DEL 1º DE SEPTIEMBRE DEL 2021, ES TIEMPO DE INSCRIBIRLO A KINDERGARTEN.

NO ESPERE al verano para inscribir a su estudiante de kindergarten. La inscripción de kindergarten para el año escolar 2021-2022 será virtual para todas las escuelas primarias del Distrito Escolar de la Unidad Comunitaria 303, comenzando el 19 de enero hasta el 12 de marzo del 2021.

Inscripción Virtual

¡El proceso de inscripción para kindergarten del Distrito 303 para el año escolar 2021-2022 será virtual! Entre el 19 de enero y el 12 de marzo, las familias podrán inscribir a su(s) hijo(s) en edad de kindergarten al acceder a la página web de Inscripción e Información de Kindergarten en el sitio web del Distrito 303. En esta página encontrará:

- El Formulario de Admisión para Nuevos Estudiantes (Nuevo para el 19 de enero del 2021)
- La Guía Paso a Paso para la Inscripción de Kindergarten
- Exámenes de Salud y Dentales e Información de Inmunizaciones
- Información de Contacto de Todas las Escuelas Primarias
- Información sobre Kindergarten de Todo el Día y de Medio Día

Compass Academy Registration Now Open!

Compass Academy will open in the fall of 2021 at the Haines Center, but applications are now being taken for enrollment in this new District 303 program. The program, which is open to all incoming 9-12 grade students, offers flexible scheduling, project-based learning, and competency-based education.

Students interested in registering may complete the application found on the [Compass Academy webpage](#). The webpage also includes the Academy Information Guide, brochure, and Frequently Asked Questions document.

Students who attend Compass Academy will have the opportunity to take some classes and participate in extracurricular activities at their home high school. For more information, please contact Academy Director Sharon Stanley at Sharon.stanley@d303.org or (331) 228-3387.

¡Ya están abiertas las Inscripciones para Compass Academy!

Compass Academy abrirá en el otoño del 2021 en el Centro Haines, pero ya están abiertas las inscripciones para este nuevo programa del Distrito 303. El programa, que está abierta para todos los estudiantes entrantes del 9° al 12° grado, ofrece horarios flexibles, aprendizaje basado en los proyectos, y educación basada en la competencia.

Los estudiantes que estén interesados en inscribirse pueden completar la aplicación que se encuentra en el [sitio web de Compass Academy](#). La página web también incluye la guía de información, folletos informativos, y un documento de preguntas frecuentes.

Los estudiantes que asistan a la Compass Academy tendrán la oportunidad de tomar algunas clases y participar en actividades extracurriculares en su escuela preparatoria de origen. Para mas información, por favor contacte a la Directora de la Academia, Sharon Stanley, en Sharon.stanley@d303.org o (331) 228-3387.



HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY COVID-19?

13

**DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PAYING YOUR
RENT, MORTGAGE, OR UTILITIES?**

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- **ONE APPLICATION PER HOUSEHOLD IS ALLOWED.**
- **HOUSEHOLDS IMPACTED BY COVID-19: LOSS OF INCOME, LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT, OR CHILDCARE.**
- **MUST BE AN ILLINOIS RESIDENT.**
- **HOUSEHOLDS INELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL STIMULUS CHECKS AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS THAT HAVE NOT RECEIVED HOUSING FUNDS FROM PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE CARES ACT.**
- **LOW-INCOME, LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT (LEP) INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE NOT RECEIVED HOUSING FUNDS FROM OTHER PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE CARES ACT.**

**THE FAMILY FOCUS ILLINOIS WELCOMING CENTER (IWC)
CAN HELP YOU
RECEIVE FUNDS TO PAY RENT, MORTGAGE, OR UTILITIES!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO
SEE IF
YOU ARE ELIGIBLE,
CONTACT
SAMANTHA ZUNIGA
331-256-5065**



¿TE HA AFECTADO EL CORONAVIRUS? ¹⁴

**¿NECESITA AYUDA PARA PAGAR EL ALQUILER,
HIPOTECA, O LOS SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS?**

¿QUIÉN ES ELIGIBLE?

- **SE PERMITE UNA SOLICITUD POR HOGAR.**
- **HOGARES AFECTADOS POR CORONAVIRUS: PÉRDIDA DE INGRESOS, PÉRDIDA**
- **DE EMPLEO, O CUIDADO DE NIÑOS.**
- **LOS HOGARES QUE NO SON ELEGIBLES PARA LOS CONTROLES FEDERALES DE**
- **ESTÍMULO Y LOS BENEFICIOS DE DESEMPLEO QUE NO HAN RECIBIDO FONDOS**
- **DE VIVIENDA DE PROGRAMAS FINANCIADOS POR LA LEY CARES.**
- **PERSONAS CON DOMINIO LIMITADO DEL INGLÉS QUE NO HAYAN RECIBIDO**
- **FONDOS DE VIVIENDA DE OTROS PROGRAMAS FINANCIADOS POR LA LEY**
- **CARES.**

**¡EL CENTRO DE BIENVENIDA DE ILLINOIS (IWC) EN
FAMILY FOCUS PUEDE AYUDAR
RECIBIR FONDOS PARA PAGAR EL ALQUILER, LA
HIPOTECA O LOS SERVICIOS PÚBLICOS!**

¿QUIÉN ES ELIGIBLE

**PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y
PARA
SABER SI ES ELIGIBLE,
CONTACTE A
SAMANTHA ZUNIGA:
331-256-5065**



Upcoming School Board Meetings

March 8

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

March 15

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

March 22

Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

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

April 12

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

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

2020-2021 Calendar Highlights

February 26

Kane County Institute Day (no students)

March 26

School Improvement Day (no students)

Spring Break

March 29 - April 2

Classes Resume on April 5, 2021



We're Hiring Substitutes!

Did you know?

We are ALWAYS hiring:

- Substitute teachers (college degree required)
- Substitute teacher assistants (need a minimum of Associates Degree)
- RN certified nurses

NEW this year:

- The pay rate has increased to \$100 daily for teaching. There is also a loyalty bonus that increases the daily teaching rate to \$125 after 31 days.
- The pay rate has increased to \$140 daily for long-term teaching.
- The pay rate has increased to \$92 daily for Teacher Assistants.

Join Our Team!

If you are interested in substituting, please visit <https://bit.ly/2M4dU4Y> to view our substitute handbook or contact our District Substitute Coordinator at Julie.Wenger@d303.org for more details.

