

District 303 E-NEWS

Administration Center
201 South 7th St.
St. Charles, IL 60174
331.228.2000
justask@d303.org



October 11, 2019

Connect with us!  St Charles District 303  @StCharlesD303

Students Tour Local Companies as part of Manufacturing Day

Students from St. Charles East and North High School toured six different companies in St. Charles as part of Manufacturing Day on October 4. District 303 would like to thank the Greater St. Charles Chamber of Commerce for their partnership in making the tours possible for our students.



North students touring Alps Wire Rope Corporation.

*"You don't see how ropes are made but you see ropes in the applications of real life and seeing the behind the scenes is cool."
-Ava, aspiring engineer*



East students at Labels and Specialty Products learning about the design and printing process of labels and signs.



East students were given hairnets and protective glasses before touring Olcott Plastics, a plant that operates 24-hours a day producing plastic jars and caps.





East students touring Smithfield were given hairnets, protective glasses, ear plugs, and food hygiene coats to enter the facility and learn about the process and packaging of sausages and meats.



North students at Tek Pak watched rolls of thermoform being fed into a heated machine that stamped out molds used for electronics, medical equipment, and food.



North students touring TIGER Drylac, one of the first companies to enter the previously unknown field of powder coating technology (which is used in automobiles, appliances, furniture, and sports equipment).

SCN Madrigals 2019

On November 21, 22 and 23, St. Charles North High School Madrigals singers will be holding a Renaissance-themed dinner where guests will be treated to an evening of music, laughter, and a gourmet meal from Tarragon Catering.

This event will take place at the Baker Church in downtown St. Charles, in the dining hall of a Medieval Palace as guests of the Kings Court.

[Tickets for this event will go on sale on October 15 at 8:00 a.m.](#)



The PLTW Cardboard Arcade

St. Charles East students in the Introduction to Engineering Design classes worked on designing and building their own midway/arcade games by applying the Engineering Design Process to replicate those classic games.

“One of the big things we’re trying to focus on is being creators and making things, not just buying and consuming,” said Thom Ringrose, PLTW and Residential Maintenance Teacher. “My goal is for students to have something tangible that they’ve created and designed themselves.”

For their project, students were encouraged to think like engineers, basing their decisions on objective information rather than their subjective preference. During the



initial part of the process, students decided which game to build based on the research and data they collected on a vari-

ety of games, determining five key factors that make a good game and choosing the one that fit the criteria.



They then began drawing their models paying close attention to the measurements and correct dimensions, documenting their process and changes as they worked along. Once their models were complete, students used cardboard, tape, string, sticks, and other recycled materials to build their games.

After a week of building and testing their models to make sure they worked properly, students welcomed other classes to the “PLTW Cardboard Arcade” in the LRC on October 4. Their classmates enjoyed playing skeeball, foosball, mini-golf, ping pong, pinball, a catapult game, and even the claw machine game, complete with candy and prizes for the winner.

Norton Creek Students Connect with their Global Read Aloud Partner

Norton Creek students in Mrs. Poelsterl’s 3rd-grade class connected with their Global Read Aloud partner through a “Mystery Skype” chat on September 26. Students had an opportunity to ask their partner class questions about geography, climate, and important cities to help them figure out what state they were from, and vice versa.

Some students were very clever with their questions, asking about capital cities and important monuments, as well as if they lived near mountains or oceans. After narrowing down the states, their partner class was able to figure out Mrs. Poelsterl’s class was calling from Illinois, just as they figured out their partner class was calling from North Dakota.

Students shared facts about their respective states and then asked each other questions about school and what they do for fun. They also shared how excited they were to start reading their Global Read Aloud book, *Front Desk*, by Kelly Yang, and how much they’re looking forward to connecting again after they read the book.



Students Learn About Heroes from Around the World

On September 26, Munhall Elementary students welcomed children's author, Miranda Paul, who shared with them the real stories behind the inspiring characters from her books and taught them important lessons about what it means to be a hero.

When asked what it means to be a hero, students were quick to answer that heroes are kind and good people, they help and protect others, and they know how to be good leaders. "Then if you think about it, anyone can be a hero and do heroic things," Miranda said.

Miranda shared stories from her childhood that illustrated how she saw ordinary people, like her mom, doing heroic things. "I also learned that heroes don't always get to succeed, but they practice and do better and keep trying until they do," she added.

Students were surprised to hear that many times throughout her life Miranda wasn't successful and ended up quitting on the things she loved like drawing and writing. However, her education and career led her to people from all over the world who were trying to make a difference. "They were doing heroic things even when people were making fun of them," she said. She then felt inspired to share the stories of those individuals with the rest of the world, realizing that she had to "un-quit" and start doing what she loved.



Despite the many times she got rejected, she shared with students how students will learn valuable lessons by persevering. To reinforce those lessons, she engaged students in a variety of activities and asked them questions that allowed them to reflect on their own failures and successes, encouraging them to never give up on the things they're passionate about.

Kick-A-Thon 2019

This is the 26th year that the St. Charles community has come together at the annual East/North football game to kick in support of those who are affected by cancer. Seventy-five dance team members from both high schools were partnered with parents, community members, dignitaries, and District 303 staff members, and raised money for the cause. After the elementary and middle schools walked around the track in the parade of banners, the 150 kickers faced the crowd in the bleachers and kicked 100 times in a ceremonious "kicking cancer" line.

Before the event, kickers and their dance partners were treated to a Taste of St. Charles that included food donated by the

following vendors: Kabobs; Smittys; Spotted Fox; Puebla; Riverside Pizza and Pub; Fox Valley Food for Health; Beef Shack; Coca-Cola; Starbucks; Jersey Mikes; and Buona Beef.



The final total of money raised will be unveiled at the East/North Basketball game in December.

Parent University

Parent University programming in St. Charles District 303 continues to evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of our families.

As a follow-up to the documentary LIKE, we are bringing in national digital citizenship speaker Josh Ochs in October. He will be spending time in both middle and high schools talking with students about their digital footprint. During his time with parents on October 30, Josh will show parents how to protect their children on 40+ apps. All District 303 parents will have access to Josh's own Parent University resources for the next year.

[Click here to register for the Digital Citizenship](#) presentation on October 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the Thompson Middle School Cafeteria.



'Vintage Red' by Alexandra Garcia; kanecountyconnects.com

Kane County Regional Office of Education 2019 Student Photography Contest

St. Charles North High School student, Alexandra Garcia's digital photo, "Vintage Red," takes the top spot in week two of the Regional Office of Education 2019 Photo Contest.

St. Charles East student, Phillip Nelson, with "Spotlight," and St. Charles North student, Giovanna Domma, with "Painted," were also recognized during week two of the contest. [Click here to see the photos.](#)

The St. Charles Education Foundation
Board of Directors cordially invites you to attend the

2019 Annual Meeting

as we recognize the 2018-2019 Grant Recipients

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Board Room in Administration Center
201 South 7th Street, St. Charles, IL 60174



We support projects and innovative ideas that will enrich D303's students' education. We look forward to seeing you!

The St. Charles Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization operating independently of District 303.

2019 Illinois Music Education Association Audition Results

More than 70 St. Charles East High School Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Vocal Jazz and Orchestra students participated in the Illinois Music Educator Association District 9 auditions on Tuesday, October 1st. Many of these students completed auditions in two or three musical areas, requiring the preparation of multiple sets of materials. The following students were selected through these auditions to participate in the District 9 Music Festivals in November, where they will rehearse and perform with the best high school musicians from the western suburbs under the leadership of top educators and professional musicians.

Choir

Andrew Biallas
Grace Bishop
Keira Denker
Liam McCarron
Maya Nair
Trinity Sanders
Stephen Torres
Autumn Womack

Vocal Jazz

Austin Aquino
Andrew Biallas
Grace Bishop
Liam McCarron
Addison Petrine
Maya Steinke
Jacob Stenstrom
Natalie Wiley
Autumn Womack

Concert Band

Sage Overstreet
Andrew Pahadi

Instrumental Jazz

Tom Edgar
Allison Edgar
Will Leidig
Taytum Newell
Michael Parchaiski
Henry Pierce
Austin Settipani
Madison Solomon
Lindsey Zauhar

Orchestra

Jason Bijonowski
Storey Childs
Trudie Childs
Lasey Emmerich
Harry Graham
Benjamin Hom-
mowun
Grace Jackson
Jacy Jacobus
Ayu Seiya
Nathan Throneburg
Ethan White

The following students from St. Charles North were selected through the 2019 ILMEA Auditions: Jack Morby, Band and Jazz Band; Maggie Kinney, Choir and Vocal Jazz; Chloe Kraut, Vocal Jazz; and Eliana Eng, Orchestra.

The following Thompson Middle School students were selected to be members of the ILMEA Orchestra: Derek Hibben, Grady Mellican, and Lucy Wilfong. Lucy was also chosen as the finest viola player and will sit first chair at the festival on Nov. 9 at Huntley High School.

The following Wredling Middle School students were selected through the 2019 ILMEA Auditions:

Concert Band

Caitlyn Carey
Alexa Cater
Abby Hayes
Clay Heilman
Daniel Jones
Lauren Martin
Devin Reder
Sophia Rubin
Arthur Sharaburyak
Nicole Vandermey

Jazz Band

Alexa Cater
Sophia Harp
Arthur Sharaburyak
Adam Turner
Joseph Weisner
Jamie Heuser



Thompson Middle School students, Orchestra



New Elementary School Day Think Tank Meeting

On September 23, 2019, members of the Elementary School Day Think Tank met for their first of three meetings. The group, comprised of parents, teachers, and administrators, engaged in discussions and activities centered around innovative learning in District 303, and reviewed and analyzed over 900 responses the District received from the community feedback form. The new 40-minute longer elementary school day will be implemented at the beginning of the 2020–2021 school year.

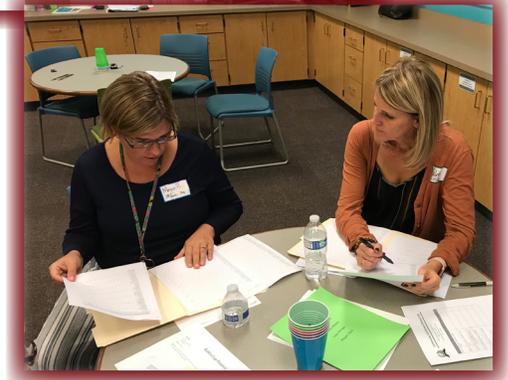
The feedback form provided stakeholders with the opportunity to rank 10 skills and competencies they would like students to know and be able to do. Based on the data, the skills and competencies were ranked in the following order of importance:

- Problem Solving
- Communication
- Teamwork and Conflict Resolution
- Decision-Making
- Initiative and Self-Drive
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Reliability and Accountability
- Planning and Organization
- Cultural Competence



The Think Tank analyzed the comments from the feedback form, which were placed in the following categories:

- Social/emotional and play
- Fine arts/specials
- Foreign language
- STEM/STEAM
- Team building
- Collaborative work



Additionally, we received comments related to recess and lunch, as well as concerns related to the longer school day schedule. These were analyzed for additional information that will guide our work on the extended day experiences.

Think Tank members are currently sharing information with stakeholder groups in the district to review and offer additional feedback.

Members will continue to meet to analyze additional feedback, provide input and guidance, and make recommendations.



Wredling
Middle School
proudly presents...



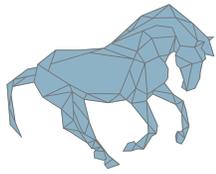
October 10th, 4:30 p.m.
October 11th, 7 p.m.
October 12th, 2 p.m.

Children 2
and under are
FREE

Tickets will go on sale one hour before showtime!
Concessions available \$1 each

Wredling Middle School, 1200 Dunham Road, STC

ST. CHARLES EAST HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS



The Glass Menagerie

On October 11-13, St. Charles East High School goes back to the 1930s on the Norris stage in the production of *The Glass Menagerie*.

This semi-autobiographical account of Tennessee Williams' early years in St. Louis is as heartbreaking as it is funny. *The Glass Menagerie* was Tennessee Williams' first successful play and won The New York Drama Critics Circle Award. It shot him to fame where he became one of America's major mid-20th century playwrights. His plays are not only among the most produced in the world, but they also influenced an entire generation of contemporary American playwrights.

Layered with poetic language and unforgettable characters, this memory play emphasizes the enduring but limiting nature of love and family. The students have studied and explored the inner world of memory and how our illusions can trap us.

Directed by Teresa Bundy the cast includes the following students: Elijah Groth and Devin Flores as Tom Wingfield; Sage Overstreet and Teagan Ditsworth as Laura Wingfield; Keelan Yarusso and Maya Steinke as Amanda Wingfield; and Ian McDunn and Liam McCarron as Jim O'Connor.

Performances will be held at the Norris Cultural Arts Center, 1040 Dunham Rd, St. Charles, on October 11 at 7:00 p.m., October 12 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and October 13 at 2:00 p.m. For tickets visit store.d303.org or call 331-228-5622.

This memory play is told from Tom Wingfield's perspective (Elijah Groth and Devin Flores). Tom recounts his last year with his family before he left to pursue his dreams of story and adventure.

Tom struggles with the hard-hitting reality of living in a city during the Great Depression. Tom's mother, Amanda (Maya Steinke and Keelan Yarusso) wants her daughter, Laura (Teagan Ditsworth and Sage Overstreet), to relive the life that she had during her early 20's of having gentlemen callers lining up every day. Amanda refuses to fully realize her current living situation, but instead lives in a fantasy like Laura with her glass menagerie and Tom escaping in stories and films.





Big Hearts of Fox Valley NFP is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to brightening the lives of underprivileged children in our community. We're committed to identifying and coming together to meet social, emotional and basic needs of those around us.

It was almost Christmas time and as we looked under our tree to see the piles of wrapped presents for our children, we thought about the little ones that wouldn't be opening presents on Christmas morning. We decided to reach out to our children's school social worker to see if there were any families that may need some assistance providing Christmas gifts to their kids. We, like many others, didn't realize there was a large number of families in need within our own community.

That's where this all started. In 2014, we were able to help provide Christmas gifts to kids in need within our own school.

Since 2014, we have been coordinating a Christmas gift sponsorship program to help the underprivileged children in School District 303 receive gifts from wish lists that each child personally creates. We work with School District 303 social workers who gather wish list information from families they feel may need some assistance providing Christmas gifts for their children. These wish lists are comprised of a few toy ideas along with clothing and shoe sizes. Many of these kids are in need of basic things like winter coats, boots, gloves, socks, etc. In 2018, we were able to provide gifts to 443 children from birth up to 8th grade. This year, we are excited to be expanding our efforts. We estimate that we will be able to support more than 600 children.

Each year we host a gift wrapping event at our Excel Automotive Repair shop. The entire community is invited to come together to wrap the donated gifts and to celebrate the magic of Christmas. With help from several local community sponsors, we always have plenty of food, drinks and entertainment for the entire family. This is a FREE event open to the public and is a great opportunity to show kids about the importance of giving back. In 2018, more than 600 people came together to wrap over 2400 gifts!



Big Hearts of Fox Valley Committees are in the process of creating a few other events that will happen in the upcoming years. We're excited to include an event to benefit high school aged kids as well. Our future goal is to partner with all community individuals and businesses in order to achieve our goal which is to make the lives of the children around us a little brighter.

We hope you will join us in our efforts,
♥ - The Mobley Family



info@bigheartsvf.org | 630.400.1602 | www.bigheartsvf.org

Making a difference in our community by providing needed items to local children.



Lunchroom Supervisors Needed!



District 303 is looking for candidates to serve as Lunchroom Supervisors for the 2019-2020 school year under Organic Life. The application form along with additional information about the required forms can be found online, <http://district.d303.org/employment>.

Contact Patricia Burton at 331-228-5242 or patricia.burton@d303.org to arrange for delivery of completed application. Please do not attempt to apply online, as application forms need to be printed.

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED!

Community Unit School District 303 is currently recruiting bus drivers for the 2019-2020 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.



Upcoming School Board Meetings

October 15

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.*

*Tuesday due to Monday Holiday

October 19

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting - 10:00 a.m.

October 21

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

October 28

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

October 29

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

November 4

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

2019-2020 Calendar Highlights

October 14

Columbus Day Holiday (No students, offices closed)

October 30

Parent University: Digital Citizenship

Thompson Middle School Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.

November 13

School Improvement Half-Day (No students afternoon)



High School Graduation Reminder



The graduation ceremonies for St. Charles East and St. Charles North High School will be on *Thursday May 21, 2020.*



Friendly Reminder!

Let's Talk! provides District 303 community members, parents, staff, and students a chance to use their voice.

Use Let's Talk! to share your questions, compliments, comments, and suggestions by visiting the District website.