

# DISTRICT 303



## eNEWS



Connect with  
us!

Administration Center  
201 South 7th Street  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
331.228.2000  
[JustAsk@d303.org](mailto:JustAsk@d303.org)

November 30, 2018



## Parent Satisfaction Survey - *Available Dec. 3*



Annually, District 303 conducts a satisfaction survey that gives us meaningful feedback from our students, teachers, and parents. For the last decade, we have administered a local survey that has provided us with comparable data.

This year, as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) we will now be participating in the statewide Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.



You will receive an email communication on December 3 with the link to the 5Essentials Survey. We appreciate your participation in this anonymous tool used to gather information about our schools.



## Feed My Starving Children Event Totals

As part of Make A Difference St. Charles Day, students from St. Charles North High School coordinated the Feed My Starving Children Event at Aquascapes. Student groups from St. Charles North and St. Charles East, along with parents, students and staff members from around District 303 worked side by side on November 4 to pack meals that will be donated to needy children around the world. The event raised \$36,729.75 and the 700 volunteers packed 163,296 meals.



# On the Job Students Help Shoppers at Barnes and Noble

For the last several years, transition students from both St. Charles East and St. Charles North High Schools, who are part of the On the Job Training (OJT) program, have participated in a fundraising event at Barnes and Noble in Geneva Commons. The funds go to purchase items that students need for the jobs they hold throughout the community.

Customers who purchase books and other items can get them gift wrapped by student volunteers. National Honor Society students from both high schools volunteer their time during this event and support the OJT students.



Denise Luecker, who is the vocational coordinator of OJT, said that this event provides transition students with the opportunity to engage with the community and share their work experiences. Students also get to use the skills they have learned like shaking hands, making eye contact, and working with their peers.

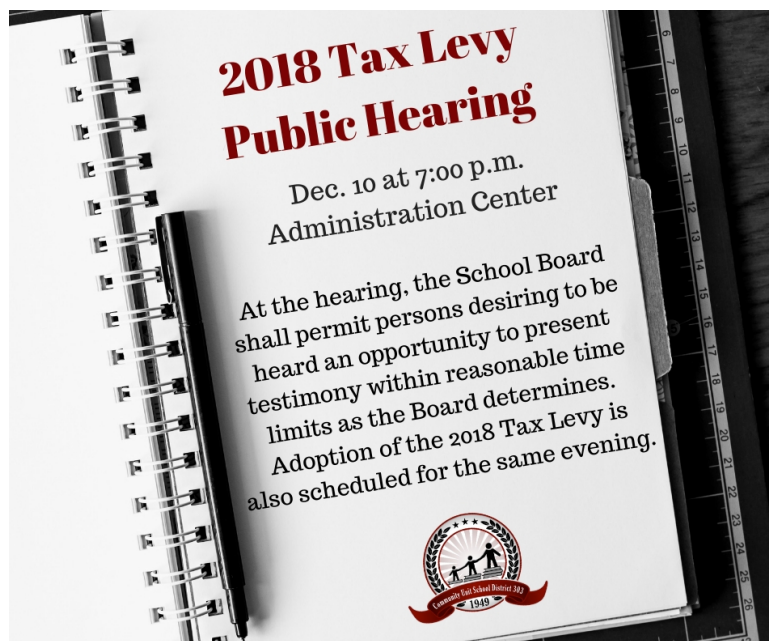


## Illinois State Scholars

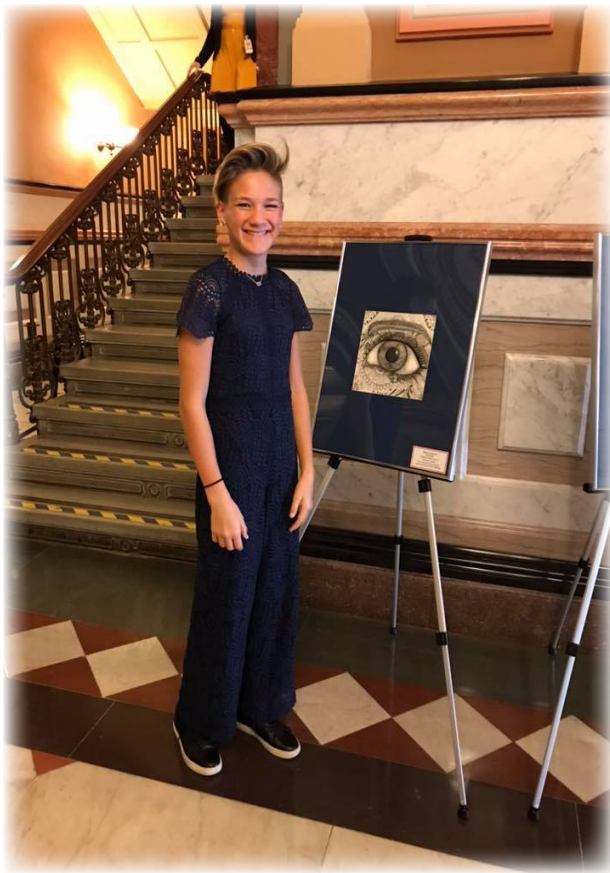
Congratulations to our St. Charles East and St. Charles North [Illinois State Scholars](#).



**HATS OFF!  
TO THE 2019-20  
ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS!**







## WMS Student's Art Displayed in Springfield

On November 28, Wredling Middle School student Marley Andelman and her mom, Dana, traveled down to Springfield to Advocate for the Arts. Marley got to see her art displayed at the Illinois State Capitol building in Springfield as well as set up appointments and meet with a State Senator and a Senator's Chief of Staff. The experience was capped off with an opportunity for Marley to speak in the rotunda of the capitol building about what art education means to her personally. We are so excited for the experiences art has given to this fierce young woman. Way to go Marley.



D303 High School students and their parents are  
invited to:

## Early College Credit Night

Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

St. Charles East High School Little Theatre

The event, held in partnership with Elgin Community College, will provide an overview of the multiple early college credit opportunities available to students, which include in-high school dual credit, part time and full time dual credit.

If you would like more information about this event, please contact Dr. Melissa Byrne,  
Director of College and Career Readiness at [melissa.byrne@d330.org](mailto:melissa.byrne@d330.org).

# District 303 Seeking 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations



**S**t. Charles Community Unit School 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 2019 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  
ARE OPEN

Nominations for the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award are being accepted through December 21. Nominations should include the nominee's name, current address, phone, e-mail, the high school from which the nominee graduated 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 2019 recipients will be recognized at the [St. Charles Education Foundation's Gala Event](#) which will be held on April 6, 2019, at Hotel Baker. Nominations may be submitted by [clicking here](#).



Attain Excellence ■ Learn with Passion ■ Live with Integrity



## 2018 Chicagoland 4X5 Art Exhibit



Congratulations to the four St. Charles North students that received Honorable Mentions at the [Chicagoland 4 x 5](#) High School Art Exhibition. The show had 1,077 pieces submitted for the exhibit.

Suzanna Strapoc - Drawing  
Margaret Goldsworthy - Digital Photography  
Makenna Sutherland - Digital Photography  
Dylan Cabrera - Analog Photography

We are proud of these students and their representation of the SCN Art Department.

## D303 United Team Receives Grant

District 303 United Special Olympics Team that is made up of students from District 303 elementary and middle schools recently received a \$1,000 grant from Target Corporation's Youth Soccer Grants Program. The monetary donation was given on behalf of the local St. Charles Target store and will be used to buy start-up equipment including uniforms, shin guards, soccer balls, and cones. D303 United hopes to begin playing soccer next spring and compete in Illinois Special Olympics tournaments. The team currently competes in basketball, bocce ball, track and field and bowling.

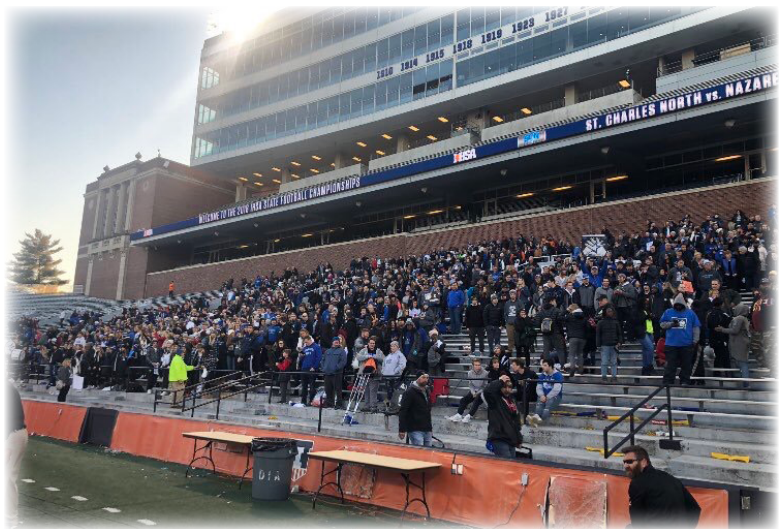




# *Congratulations North Stars!*



*#2nd in State*



*#Champions in our eyes*



# Regional Office of Education Photo Contest - Week 8

Congratulations to St. Charles East students Tessa and Sam and St. Charles North students Emalyse and Liz for having their photographs displayed in the Top 10 Photos from [Week 8](#) of the ROE Photo Contest. St. Charles North student Katie also had her photograph showcased in the Top 10 Photos from [Week 9](#) of the contest.



'Fish Gods' -Emalyse Gelhausen, North H.S.



'Untitled' - Tessa Miller, East H.S.



'Focused' - Katie Kurland, North H.S.



'Blue Wave' -Sam Wright, East H.S.



'Sunnies'-Liz Knutson, North H.S.



# MINDFUL PARENTING BOOK STUDY



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30**

Between school pressures, extracurricular activities, homework, and demanding careers, it's hard to find time just to get dinner on the table. In Mindful Parenting, child and family psychologist Dr. Kristen Race speaks directly to today's busy families who make up what she calls "Generation Stress" and presents an alternative – a mindful approach. Drawing on the latest research, she shows how mindfulness helps us – and our children – feel happier, healthier, calmer, less anxious, less stressed, and more focused. Come discuss the book with your fellow parents.

As part of the book study discussions, we will explore:

- How the brain works and why parents and kids today are more stressed, anxious, and angry than ever before.
- Practical solutions that parents can do to create a more relaxed and happier home.

Not able to attend the face-to-face discussions? No problem! We will be offering virtual discussion threads so that people can connect from home. Information about virtual discussion links will be sent to participants in January.

Can't come to all book discussions? No problem! Feel free to join any or all of the discussions.

All parents who register will receive a copy of the book. *Books may be picked up on December 10 in the Administration Center, 201 S. 7th Street, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 5:30-6:30 p.m.* If you are unable to pick up your book on December 10, please contact [Dr. Cindy Ruesch](#).

Book discussions will take place in both a morning and an evening session on the following dates:

## February 7

9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room  
(1 S 6th Ave, St. Charles, IL 60174)

6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC  
(1905 Tyler Road St. Charles, IL 60174)

## February 21

9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room  
(1 S 6th Ave, St. Charles, IL 60174)

6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC  
(1905 Tyler Road St. Charles, IL 60174)

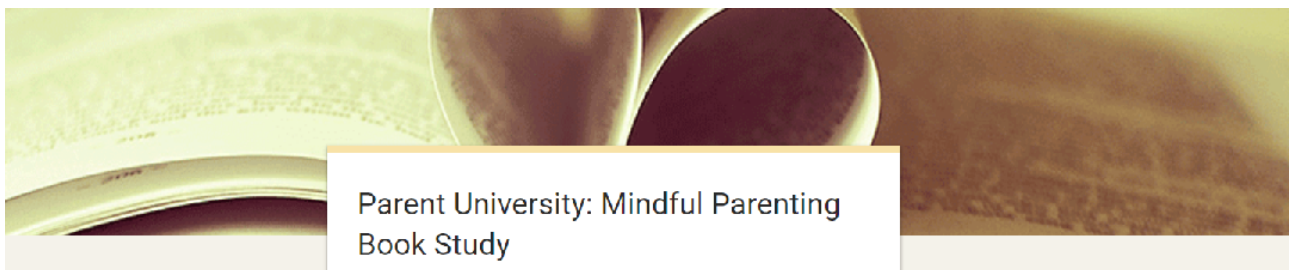
## March 7

9:15 a.m. St. Charles Public Library, Carnegie Room  
(1 S 6th Ave, St. Charles, IL 60174)

6:30 p.m. Fox Ridge LRC  
(1905 Tyler Road St. Charles, IL 60174)



[Click here to register](#)





## TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUG & ALCOHOL USE

12/4/18 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
North High School Auditorium

Research shows that when parents talk to their children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, and set expectations with open lines of communication, that children are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol.

On December 4, Matthew Quinn, Licensed Counselor from Rosecrance will be our guest at a Parent University program entitled, "Talking to your Child about the Dangers of Drug and Alcohol Use." Mr. Quinn will provide parents with information and resources that will:

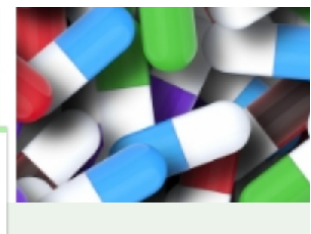
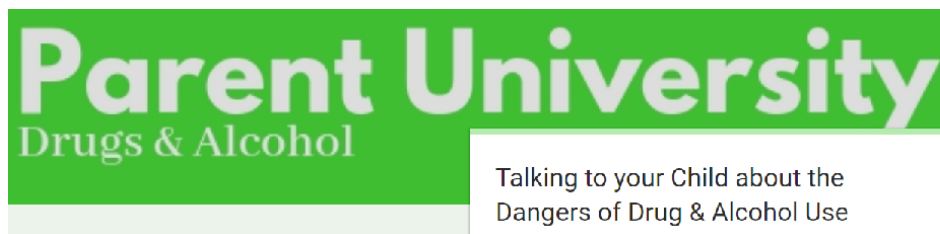
- Help them identify major risk factors for drug use among youth/adolescents
- Teach them the signs of drug use and appropriate responses
- Provide them with tools to implement practical steps that prevent children from gaining access to opioid drugs
- Increase awareness of trends and current terminology surrounding drug use
- Gain awareness of the long term health effects of vaping and e-cigarettes



The abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs are the leading cause of preventable accidents, premature death and disability among young people. While today's youth are among the most vulnerable in our communities for experiencing these adverse effects, research demonstrates that parent awareness and influence is critical in prevention and in getting the right help.

As part of this program, Nicole Cook, Mrs. America 2019 will share her personal story on how opioid abuse impacted her family in a tragic way.

[Click here to register](#)







## **FOLLOW-UP ANGST SESSION #2**

1/24/19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wasco LRC

Join us on January 24 to learn strategies to assist and respond to your child when they are feeling anxious. A representative from Riverview Counseling, along with D303 staff will offer insight on how to help your child deal with anxiety

### **FOLLOW-UP ANGST SESSIONS**

1/24/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wasco LRC



4/16/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Wild Rose LRC

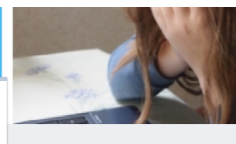
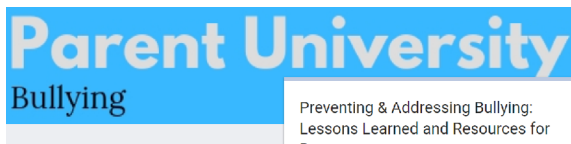
[Click here to register.](#)

*Registration link for 4/16 coming soon*



## **PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING BULLYING: LESSONS LEARNED & RESOURCES FOR PARENTS**

1/30/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Thompson 6th Grade Cafeteria



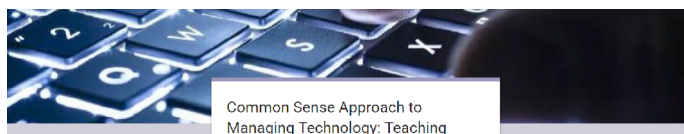
Faculty from the Psychology Department at Northern Illinois University will present practical information from their research and their work as part of a U.S. Department of Education training grant "Project Prevent and Address Bullying." Thompson Middle School is partnering with NIU on this grant project, bringing resources that will be shared throughout the district. The faculty will present helpful knowledge, tips, and resources parents can use when navigating bullying situations.

La interpretación en español estará disponible durante la presentación.

[Click here to register.](#)

## **COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO MANAGING TECHNOLOGY: TEACHING CHILDREN HOW TO BE GOOD DIGITAL CITIZENS IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA, GAMING AND SCREEN TIME**

2/20/19 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Wredling Middle School Cafeteria



Technology is a part of all our lives. From phones to laptops to video games, we are more "connected" or "plugged in" than ever. How do we help our children (and ourselves) find balance when it comes to the use of technology? During this Parent University we will share tools and strategies to help create balance and set boundaries. The night will feature a panel as well as opportunities for interactive discussion. Come "hang up, and hang out"!

[Click here to register.](#)





# Revised 2018-2019 School Calendar

As result of the Emergency Day used on 11/26, the last day of school is now June 4.

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

July

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

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

September

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

October

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		

November

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

December

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
31				

## 2018-2019 School Calendar

### AUGUST

Teachers' Institute Days (No Students) .....	August 20, 21
First Day of Classes .....	August 22
Teachers' Institute Days (No Students) .....	August 31

### SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Holiday .....	September 3
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### OCTOBER

School Improvement Day (No Students) .....	October 5
Columbus Day Holiday .....	October 8
End of 1st Quarter (Middle, High Schools) .....	October 26

### NOVEMBER

End of 1st Trimester (Elementary Schools) .....	November 9
K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students) .....	November 19
K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students) .....	November 20
High School Teachers' In-service (No Students) .....	November 20
Non Attendance Day (Offices Open) .....	November 21
Thanksgiving Break .....	November 22, 23

### DECEMBER

Last Day of School in 2018 .....	December 21
Winter Break .....	December 24 - January 4

### JANUARY

School Resumes .....	January 7
Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday .....	January 21
End of 2nd Quarter (Middle, High Schools) .....	January 17
Teachers' Work Day (Middle, High Schools No students) ..	January 18
Teacher Institute Day (Elementary Schools No Students) ..	January 18

### FEBRUARY

Presidents' Day Holiday .....	February 18
End of 2nd Trimester (Elementary Schools) .....	February 28

### MARCH

Teacher Institute Day (Middle, High School No Students) .....	March 1
Teacher Work Day (Elementary Schools No Students) .....	March 1
End of 3rd Quarter (Middle, High Schools) .....	March 22
Spring Break .....	March 25 - 29

### APRIL

School Resumes .....	April 1
K-5 Afternoon Parent/Teacher Conferences (K-5 in classes in AM) (K-5 ONLY-- No students in PM) .....	April 18
School Improvement Day (No Students) .....	April 19

### MAY

Memorial Day Holiday .....	May 27
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### JUNE

D303 HS Graduation Day .....	June 2
Last Day for Students with one Emergency Day used (11/26) ..	June 4
Last Day for Students if 5 "Emergency Days" used .....	June 10

January

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	

February

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	

March

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

April

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			

May

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

June

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





# Community Backpack




## Upcoming School Board Meetings

### December 3

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

### December 10

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

### December 17

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

### January 14

School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m. -Bell Graham

### January 22

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

### January 23

Community Relations Committee 5:30 p.m.

### January 31

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

## 2018-19

## Calendar Highlights

### December 4

Parent University: *Talking to your Child about the Dangers of Drug & Alcohol Use*

### December 24-January 4

Winter Break (No School)



### January 7

School Resumes

### January 17

End of 2nd Quarter (Middle & H.S. Students)

### January 18

Institute Day (No School)



### January 21

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (No School)

### January 24

Parent University: Angst Follow-Up Session #2

## We're Hiring Substitutes!

### Did you know?

We are ALWAYS hiring:

- Substitute teachers (college degree required)
- Substitute teacher aides (no college degree required)
- 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.

